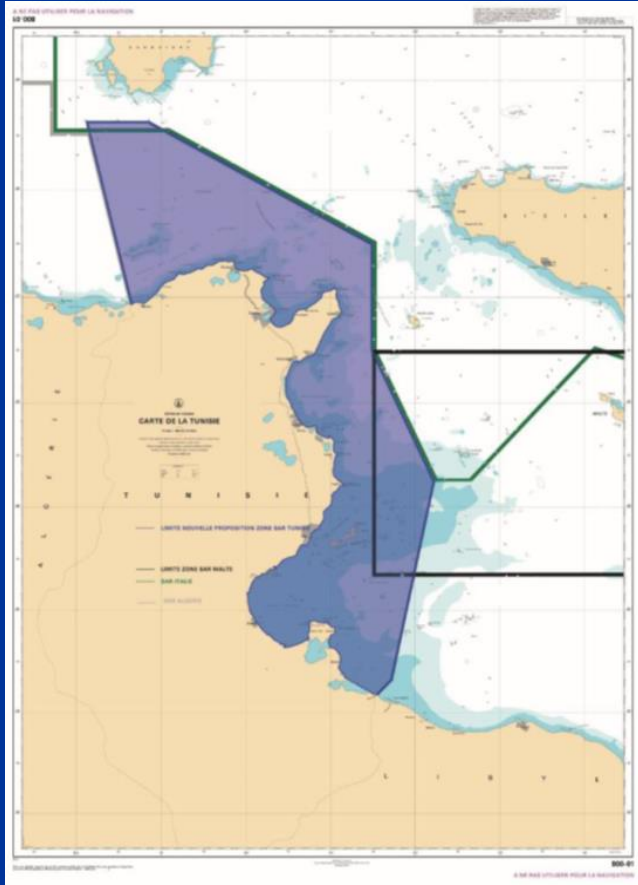


EU support to the Maritime Domain

Presentation for the 8th meeting of the European Contact Group on Search and Rescue
on 18 May 2026 at the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) Larnaca, Cyprus

18/05/2026

Tunisia – MRCC and SAR support



The Tunisian responsibility zone is defined in domestic law by Decree No. 2024-181 of April 5, 2024.

It was declared to the IMO on 13 June, 2024.

The SNSC (National Coastal Surveillance Service), under the Tunisian Navy is the national authority responsible for maritime search and rescue.

The MRCC is established in Tunis, assisted by 7 sub-centers, 3 of which are dependent on the Navy (Bizerte, Kelibia, Sfax), and 4 dependent on the National Guard.

Item	Description	Estimated delivery date	Beneficiary
SAR Vessels	Four 17-meter SAR vessels for the Navy Five 20-meter SAR vessels for the Coast Guards (GNM)	First batch of two SAR vessels for the Navy delivered in the summer 2025. Next three for the Coast Guard expected in Tunis this July. Last deliveries end-2027.	Tunisian Navy
MRCC	VHF/MF/FH system deployed at 28 sites along the Tunisian coast	Contract signing in July 2025, completion by summer 2027	Tunisian Navy
MRCC	Connection of 4 operational sub-centers of the Tunisian Coast Guard to the MRCC	2027	Tunisian Coast Guard
Coastal surveillance system Spare parts	The system should cover the entire Tunisian Coast. Spare parts and equipment for the Coast Guards	Tender to be launched in the next months. Significant effort, ended in December 2025.	Tunisian Coast Guard



MRCC – Tripoli

Under the SIBMMIL budget the EC funded the set-up of the Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre in Tripoli (MRCC), which is contributing to improve the Libyan capacity to communicate and conduct search and rescue operations at sea.

10 Modules for a mobile MRCC (Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre) were provided, which include one classroom container, one MRCC container, two office containers, one kitchen, one cold room and four accommodation containers. On the site there is as well a generator and a communication tower.



Libya– MRCC and SAR support

Type	Units	Beneficiary Agency
Rubber boats 12m (CLASSE 120 HDR). <i>Delivered in 2025 and 2026</i>	14	LCGPS (10) GACS (4)
Rubber boats 9m (CLASSE 900-MED DEFENCE). <i>Delivered 2023-2024</i>	6	GACS
SAR vessels (CLASSE 300). <i>Delivered in 2023</i>	3	LCGPS
Patrol vessels (CLASSE CORRUBIA) refitted. <i>Delivered in 2023</i>	2	LCGPS
TOTAL	25	

Support for the maintenance, which still ongoing.

Trainings: since the beginning of the support, over 200 officers (both LCG and GACS) have been trained through the SIBMMIL programme (158 GACs and 70 LCG officers).





Egypt – SAR support

On the procurement side:

The EU (CIVIPOL) equipped Egyptian Navy with essential SAR capabilities through the procurement and delivery of three SAR 17-meter vessels, associated spare parts and safety equipment, and by advancing procurement processes for SAR drones.

The acquisition of a 50-meter SAR vessel is ongoing. The provision of floating jetties is also envisaged for the safe mooring of 1700 SAR boats.

CIVIPOL further trained naval crews on operations and maintenance, supported warranty and repair actions, and initiated work on port infrastructure needs to ensure vessel docking capacities. Furthermore, acquisition of surveillance equipment with potential use including SAR operations for Border Guard is in progress.

Egypt – SAR support

IOM strengthened national SAR capacities through the training of more than **280 officers** from the Navy, Air Force, Border Guard and Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) through over ten SAR specific courses and other courses (relevant to maritime borders, Integrated Border Management (IBM), International Migration Law (IML) and including protection modules).

In parallel, the EU (IOM) supported the institutionalisation of learning through the development of specialised curricula, contributions to Arabic SAR e learning materials, and delivery of thematic modules on gender, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), crisis response, and migrant centered protection.

Study visits were also organised to Cyprus, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Poland in order to familiarize partners with best practices on SAR and maritime border management. .

Dedicated multi-agency SAR-focused simulation exercises were conducted in Egypt as well as jointly with Cypriot authorities at the Cyprus Center for Land, Open-seas, and Port Security (CYCLOPS).



Morocco

Between 2021-2024 the EC contracted EUR 193 million under the NDICI Global Europe Instrument.

This amount includes EUR 152 million for a Budget Support programme, whose main objective is to strengthen the EU-Morocco cooperation and dialogue on migration, including on border management.

Under the same funding a programme of EUR 15 million on supporting Moroccan institutions in anti smuggling and anti trafficking is currently ongoing, implemented by FIAP (Spain) and Civipol (France).

The Multi country Migration Package (2025–27) for the Southern Neighbourhood foresees a €160 million for a new budget support for Morocco, to keep supporting migration dialogue and national policies. This programme is currently under negotiation with the Moroccan authorities.



Lebanon

In Lebanon, we have an ongoing EUR 6 million contract “*Disaster Management, Port and Maritime Reform for Economic Recovery*” implemented by UNDP, with SAR being a priority topic of intervention. We are working on legal framework, have equipped Jointed Rescue Coordination Center (JRCC) in the Navy base, trained staff of all LB stakeholders involved in SAR and organised a study trip to the JRCC to Cyprus, with another study visit to Cyprus planned later this year. The Lebanese Armed Forces also signed an MoU with CY JRCC to deepen cooperation.

A EUR 25 million border management package is currently under negotiation and will include a component to support maritime border management and possibly SAR operations.



Türkiye

- 56 boats of different vessel classes provided until May 2024; 12 of which (Coastal Patrol Boats) in 2023 & 2024) to the Coast Guard (42) & Customs Enforcement (14), ranging from Rigid Hull Inflatable Boats (15) and Coastal Patrol Boats (26) to Search & Rescue Boats (15); funded from IPA, incl. also ICSP funds;
- 13 more (instead of initially planned 15 – price hikes!) SAR vessels will be delivered in 2027 & 2028 (contract concluded in December 2025; funded from NDICI);
- 10 mobile radars (mounted on vans) for the Coast Guard delivered (in 2021) & operational (FAC in December 2023).



SAR Boats – 3 Contracts (Batches)

- **1st Contract (Batch)** of (Aug.) **2016** (€20 million): **6 SAR vessels** handed over in 2017;



- **2nd Contract (Batch)** of (May) **2019** (€30 million): **9 SAR vessels** delivered in 2020 & 2021;



- **3rd Contract (Batch)** of (Dec.) **2025** (€58 million): **13 SAR vessels** to be delivered in 2027 & 2028;



Impact Statistics – Previous batches

Cruising hours (2017-2026)

- Total: 111,784 (Batch 1 & 2 combined)

Saved Lives

- Total irregular migrants rescued: 27,255
- 1 survivor per 4 operational hours



Warranty period breakdowns

- Batch 1: 163
- Batch 2: 46
- Total: 209

Operational availability

- Batch 1: 92,5%
- Batch 2: 99% +

