

## CSSF PROGRAMME SUMMARY

<b>PROGRAMME TITLE: Migration – Central Route</b>			
HMG Partners (LEAD in bold)	<b>UK Border Force (UKBF)</b> , Foreign and Commonwealth Office		
COUNTRY/REGION:	Central Mediterranean and Aegean Seas, various training locations		
PROGRAMME DURATION:	April 2017 – March 2020		
TOTAL BUDGET:	ODA: £7.19m	Non-ODA: £0.50m	
<b>PROJECT/COMPONENT</b>	<b>LEAD DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTING ORGANISATION</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>
Border Force Cutters	UKBF	UKBF Maritime Command	£7.19m
EUNAVFOR Med Operation SOPHIA	FCO	Operation SOPHIA OHQ	£0.50m

### WHAT SUPPORT IS THE UK PROVIDING?

The UK deployed UK Border Force (UKBF) cutters and associated crew provide immediate protection and humanitarian assistance through humanitarian search and rescue (SAR) operations in the Central Mediterranean and Aegean seas in support of operations by Frontex, the European Border and Coast Guard Agency.

This programme also funds the UK contribution to EU Naval Force (EUNAVFOR) Operation SOPHIA (Package 2), specifically the training of the Libyan Naval Coastguard.

### WHY IS UK SUPPORT NEEDED?

The Central Mediterranean is considered to be the deadliest migration route in the world, with more than 14,500 deaths recorded in this area since 2014. The response is coordinated by Frontex. The UK and other EU partners support its operations, deploying vessels where the need is greatest.

In June 2015 the European Union launched EUNAVFOR Med Operation SOPHIA, whose mission was to disrupt the migrant smuggling networks that facilitate the flow of irregular migrants towards Europe. In June 2016, Operation SOPHIA's mandate was expanded to include the training of the Libyan Naval Coastguard. The training, which began in October 2016, aimed at improving the capabilities of the Libyan authorities to control their borders and counter the activities of the migrant smugglers.

### WHAT RESULTS DOES THE UK EXPECT TO ACHIEVE?

The aim of BF cutter deployments is to maintain an effective response to irregular migration in the Central Mediterranean and Aegean seas, with our partners, thereby continuing to save lives.

The aim of the Coast Guard training is to increase Libya's ability to secure its own borders,

focusing on rescue activities and disrupting people smuggling by training Libyan Naval Coast Guard (LNCG) and Libyan Navy senior officers (Captains and Commodores) in areas including maritime legal aspects, Human Rights, gender aspects, as well as Search and Rescue operations.