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About EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya (EUBAM)

On 22 May 2013, the Council of the European Union gave the green light for EUBAM Libya, a civilian Mission under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), to support the Libyan authorities in improving and developing the security of the country's borders.

On 4 August 2016, the Council extended the mandate of the planning mission EUBAM Libya until 21 August 2017.

This civilian Mission responds to an invitation by Libya and is part of the EU's comprehensive approach to support the transition to a democratic, stable and prosperous Libya. EUBAM Libya's initial mandate was for two years; it has been extended two times to run until 21 August 2017. The mission is currently located in Tunis and will deploy to Libya as soon as the security mission allows.

The budget of the Mission from 22 August 2016 to 21 August 2017 is €17 million.

Mandate

EUBAM Libya supports the Libyan authorities in developing border management and security at the country's land, sea and air borders. As a civilian crisis management mission with a capacity-building mandate, EUBAM assists Libyan authorities at strategic and operational level. The work is carried out through advising, training and mentoring Libyan counterparts in strengthening the border services in accordance with international standards and best practices, and by advising the Libyan authorities on the development of a national Integrated Border Management (IBM) strategy.

Mission activities

At the strategic level EUBAM has helped the Libyan authorities to set up a cross-ministerial body, Border Management Working Group (BMWG), to coordinate the response among naval, police, border guards, customs, and all the other agencies involved. The Mission has also taken the lead, in close cooperation with the BMWG, in coordinating international support in the field of border management.

The content of EUBAM Libya's training, advising and mentoring activities have covered all areas

of IBM, such as intra and inter-agency cooperation, risk management methods, optimal use of existing equipment and restructuring of agencies to increase effectiveness. The Mission has trained and provided border management advice in several locations, including Ghadames, Ra's Ajdir, Tripoli and Misrata. Training and advice has been delivered to hundreds of Libyan border management officials on aviation security, customs best practices, vehicle and passport checks, risk analysis, international and inter-agency cooperation and maritime search and rescue, among other topics.

Due to the political and security situation in Libya, EUBAM has been operating from Tunisia since August 2014. Because of the limited possibilities to advise, mentor and train its Libyan counterparts, EUBAM Libya was downsized to 17 international mission members on 14 October. With this limited capacity, the Mission has continued to support the Libyan Customs and Naval Coast Guard through workshops and seminars organised outside Libya.

Head of mission



[Vincenzo Tagliaferri](#) has been appointed Head of Mission, he will take up his duties on 1 September 2016. He takes over from [Antti Juhani Hartikainen](#)

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