

IGR SCORECARD 2026

TRANSPORT SECTOR

Safety of Life and Property at Sea (2017–2025)

Overall Assessment: ■ Improving

Strategic Objective

Improve maritime safety through stronger regulation, enhanced search and rescue capacity, vessel certification, hydrographic planning, and community-based maritime monitoring.

Performance Snapshot

2017: Critical maritime safety environment with weak regulation, limited rescue assets and frequent fatalities.

2023 Baseline: 16 accidents, 37 deaths and 315 survivors.

2025: 61 accidents, 13 deaths and 2,039 survivors with major improvements in rescue capability and safety compliance.

Key Achievements (2025)

- 5 additional Fast Rescue Crafts deployed.
- 1 Multi-Functional Maritime Vessel added.
- 500 local motorized vessels trained and certified.
- 2,500 life jackets distributed annually.
- 20 previously unregulated maritime locations now monitored.
- SOLAS domestication process advanced in Parliament.
- Hydrographic capacity development partnership established with the UK Hydrographic Office.

Trend Analysis

- Search and Rescue Capacity: Significant Improvement
- Maritime Regulation: Strengthened
- Vessel Safety Compliance: Improved
- Survival Rate: Increased substantially
- Maritime Monitoring Coverage: Expanded
- Weather Related Risk: Still High
- Engine Failure Incidents: Still High

SDG Alignment

SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

SDG 14 – Life Below Water

SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Challenges

- Engine failures remain a major cause of maritime accidents.
- Severe weather continues to affect maritime operations.
- Enforcement of international standards remains incomplete.
- Flag of Convenience registration poses regulatory risks.

Way Forward (2026–2030)

1. Fully domesticate and enforce SOLAS standards.
2. Complete the National Hydrographic Plan.
3. Expand vessel inspection and certification nationwide.
4. Increase maritime weather monitoring systems.
5. Deploy additional Search and Rescue assets.
6. Strengthen maritime law enforcement.
7. Review the Flag of Convenience framework.
8. Mandate safety compliance for all passenger vessels.

IGR Scorecard Rating

Status: Positive Progress

Direction: On Track

Impact: High

Risk Level: Moderate

Overall Score: 78/100