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المنظمة الدولية للهجرة
منظمة الأمم المتحدة للهجرة
Organisation internationale pour les migrations
L'organisme des Nations Unies chargé des migrations



STRENGTHENING BORDER MANAGEMENT, FOSTERING PROTECTION AND REINTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS IN MAURITANIA

EU – IOM INITIATIVE - *The EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa*

In the Sahel, the challenges linked to terrorism, human trafficking, drugs or arms smuggling as well as irregular migration present considerable threats that must be tackled in an integrated manner. Due to its location, Mauritania is a country of transit for migrants willing to reach Northern Africa or European borders, as well as a country destination for many others. Yet, the security forces in charge of integrated border management in the region lack human, technical and financial resources.

Migration routes through the Sahel are constantly changing and the security situation in neighbouring countries is volatile. Despite its efforts to strengthen the country's border management capabilities, Mauritania remains affected by the intertwined and complex nature of international migration.

Building on the ongoing partnership between the European Union and IOM, the project, funded by the EU, aims at improving the assistance and protection of migrants as well as migration management capacities in the region.

1 000 “en route” migrants will be assisted by IOM. The voluntary return of 200 migrants will be facilitated. The reintegration of 400 migrants in Mauritania shall also be ensured. Depending on the needs identified by the Government, IOM will facilitate the temporary return of qualified nationals and highlight their expertise for the development of the country of origin.

Furthermore, border management in the Southern border with Mali will be strengthened. Local cross-border communities are a key component of the integrated approach to promote co-operation and mutual trust between Internal Security Forces, local authorities and those communities



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BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

Funds: European Union

Duration: June 2017 – December 2020

Stakeholders: Government, Internal Security Forces (Gendarmes and Police officers), civil society and the Mauritanian diaspora

Budget: 8, 000, 000 €

Target regions: Nouakchott, Sélibaby in the Guidimakha region, Hodh El Gharbi, Hodh El Chargui and southern border with Mali.*

**Possibility of expanding to other regions.*

**THE OVERALL GOAL IS TO
CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING
THE GOVERNANCE OF
MIGRATION AND
THE SUSTAINABLE
REINTEGRATION OF
MIGRANTS IN MAURITANIA.**

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Component 1: Strengthening border management and engaging local cross-border communities.

- > Studies and analysis provide technical support to partners involved in border management.
- > Border crossing points as well as an interagency coordination centre (including Mali, Senegal and Mauritania), are built or rehabilitated and equipped.
- > Trainings are offered to 300 Internal Security Forces (Gendarmes and Police officers) in charge of border management.
- > Activities are implemented to engage communities in border management and ease the collaboration with the security forces.

Component 2: Fostering protection, voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of migrants.

- > Assistance and protection of 1 000 migrants in transit are ensured. The voluntary return of 200 migrants is facilitated, including financial support for 100 migrants from Sierra Leone and DRC.
- > The government shall increase the delivery of its services regarding reintegration assistance and protection of vulnerable migrants.
- > National and local authorities as well as partners collect data on the roots of migration, the flows and trends, in order to promote policies and development programs based on facts.
- > Mener des campagnes de sensibilisation pour alerter 30 000 migrants en route sur les conséquences et alternatives à la migration irrégulière.
- > Awareness campaigns are conducted to alert 30 000 “en route” migrants on the risks of irregular migration and the viable alternatives. Communication campaigns shall also target 200 communities of origin and host communities in areas where migration is high.

Component 3: Facilitating circular and temporary migration of the Mauritanian diaspora.

- > The temporary return of 20 qualified nationals is facilitated to meet the needs, identified by the Government.



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