



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)

المنظمة الدولية للهجرة



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IMMIGRATION AND BORDER MANAGEMENT IN MAURITANIA

With a territory of 1,030,700 km² and only 3.5 million inhabitants, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania is a vast, largely uninhabited country. With only 47 border posts to cover more than 5,000 km of land border and 800 km of coastline, border control and security management is a significant task.

Given its location and environment the porosity of its borders, and the economic opportunities available in the country, Mauritania is subject to increasing migration inflows, transit flows and trans-border threats such as cattle thefts, irregular migration, terrorism and trafficking of arms, people and drugs.

IOM, in direct coordination with the Mauritanian government, the Ministry of Interior and Decentralisation and the Mauritanian Gendarmerie, and thanks to the funding of the European Union as well as other donors, implements various projects that contribute to reinforce national and regional migration and border management capacity. These projects are focused on three main objectives: reinforcing institutional capacities, enhancing border officers' capacity through trainings and developing operational capacities by providing necessary and qualitative equipment for border management.



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As the leading international organization for migration, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to uphold the human dignity and well being of migrants, to encourage social and economic development through migration and to assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management. Areas of work include border management, conflict prevention, community stabilisation, migration and development and counter trafficking. These activities take the form of direct assistance, capacity building and information sharing as well as awareness-raising. IOM's central objective is to improve and develop global, regional and country level responses to protect and assist migrants in need and to support governments to reinforce their migration management capacities.



Integrated Border Management - Involving the Gendarmerie

This on-going project is part of the European Union’s technical assistance to Mauritania for the implementation of the National Migration Strategy. Implemented in direct coordination with the Ministry of Interior and Decentralisation as well as the Mauritanian Gendarmerie, the project contributes to building the capacity of the National Gendarmerie and Border Police. The activities include reinforcing security and protecting travellers along the Mauritanian southern border, by addressing the challenges of border management and transnational threats to security. Support to the Gendarmerie includes the development, revision and realisation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) based on international practices; the construction of four border posts (in Hamod, Tenaha, Sagné and El Melgue) and a transnational coordination centre in Selibabi; the provision of technical equipment; and the organisation of capacity building and training sessions on border management.

Duration: 24 months
(January 2014 - December 2015)

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OBJECTIVE

Reinforcing border management capacity in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

1. The development of Standard Operational Procedures based on international standards to facilitate the implementation of effective, transparent and coherent migration policies
2. Construction, rehabilitation and equipment of 4 border posts and 1 transnational coordination centre in order to enhance government border management capacity
3. Strengthening of the Gendarmerie and the Police capacity to monitor and manage the flow of cross-border traffic at the border

ACTIVITIES

An operational manual (SOP) for the first line of control at the border posts is realised

A feasibility study on the management of border communities’ transnational movements is realised

4 border posts built and equipped

1 transnational and inter-services coordination centre are created

A survey on the perception of the public on the professionalism and attitude of police and gendarmerie at border posts is realised

200 border guards trained on border management and migration related topics

Funded by

Our sincere thanks to our donors

