Migration Partnership Facility

Mauritania Mixed-Migration Dynamics Study (3MDS)

Project completed

About the Project

The Atlantic migration route through Mauritania saw a significant increase in activity, driven by stricter controls along traditional Mediterranean routes through Libya, Tunisia, and Morocco in 2023 and early 2024. Despite this intensification of migration flows, available data on migrants in Mauritania remains scarce and fragmented.

Part of a larger intervention supporting the operationalisation of the Joint Declaration establishing a Migration Partnership between the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and the European Union, signed in March 2024, this Technical Assistance project addressed this gap by generating new, high-quality data that can support evidence-based policymaking and programme development.

Specifically, a quantitative study was conducted on the profiles and experiences of international migrants, migration factors, decision-making, aspirations, risks and protection needs along the routes to and in Mauritania. The research analysed mixed migration dynamics and trends along the Atlantic route with a focus on smuggling and base its findings upon the data collected and the local context.

Partners

This project was implemented by the Mixed Migration Centre (MMC) under the MPF Technical Assistance and Support Component.

Time frame

February 2025 – February 2026

Budget

EUR 85,000.00 (100% from AMIF)

Activities

Field Research

A total of 1,007 interviews were conducted across selected locations, including Nouakchott and Nouadhibou. The survey examined migrants' profiles, experiences, decision-making processes, protection needs, and questions related to smuggling of migrants.

Findings were summarised into a research publication offering an in-depth analysis of mixed migration dynamics and trends along the Atlantic route, with a focus on smuggling of migrants. This publication provided insights to support policy development and migration governance efforts in Mauritania and beyond.

Targeted Engagement

Once the research phase concluded, the project facilitated a series of discussions with relevant policymakers, practitioners, and relevant actors to discuss the implications of the findings for programming and policy responses.

Implemented by:

Mixed Migration Centre

The Migration Partnership Facility

MPF
Migration Partnership Facility

This project is implemented in the framework of the Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), an EU-funded initiative implemented by ICMPD in support of the external dimension of the EU migration policy. Through its grants and initiatives under the Technical Assistance and Services Component, the MPF facilitates the execution of projects to strengthen dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

Funded by the European Union

Contracted by ICMPD

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International Centre for Migration Policy Development