

HDPN Progress Snapshot

This document is produced as a background document for the Peer-to-Peer workshop on strengthening collaboration across humanitarian, development and peacebuilding sectors. This document serves to provide a baseline snapshot of in-country progress towards strengthening the humanitarian development nexus, the so-called new way of working. All data is based on self-reporting from members of the Humanitarian Country Team/UN Country Team.

Operational Context:

Mauritania is confronted by a wide range of chronic vulnerabilities. Due to food deficit, the country must import 70% percent of its food. Environmental degradation and the adverse effects of climate change affect rural productivity; the country is regularly exposed to acute humanitarian needs, including high levels of food insecurity (often over 25%), as well as malnutrition exceeding the emergency thresholds of 2% SAM and/or 10% MAM. The protracted presence of over 53,000 refugees from Mali compounds the range of humanitarian needs¹.

I. Shared Vision:

In the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and the World Humanitarian Summit, and in consultation with the Mauritanian government, the UNS in Mauritania has engaged with NGOs and other partners in an integrated planning process that began in 2017. This process provides the basis for a more structured humanitarian-development integration in the Partnership Framework for sustainable Development (CPDD, 2018-2022). Specific reasons for this integration in Mauritania are of two types. First, strategic considerations: Mauritania faces chronic and recurrent vulnerabilities with acute humanitarian needs (in terms of malnutrition and food insecurity for example): these imply a critical need for immediate humanitarian response to assist the most vulnerable. However, a humanitarian response alone is not enough to change the context and "shift from assistance to the elimination of needs": the integration of a humanitarian / development approach is therefore very necessary. The second basic reason for the integration of the two planning processes is the need to improve the efficiency, also considering the limited human and financial resources available. It is imperative to minimize duplication and maximize efficiency, one of the key indications of the World Summit on Humanitarian Action.

To ensure the impact of development actions on the reduction of vulnerability, it is necessary for the UNS to work with the Government to ensure coherence of policies and programmatic frameworks with the analysis of structural and cyclical risks and vulnerabilities. Any action should focus on strengthening local capacity to reduce direct interventions and parallel systems. This notion implies joint work towards collective achievements and a synergistic use of added value by the different actors.

While sectoral policies, particularly regarding economic growth and human capital development, will address some of the structural causes of the chronic vulnerabilities, coordinated action in disaster and risk management will seek to put in place preventive measures, strengthen national and local preparedness for cyclical shocks. Resilience at the decentralized level (both of communities and institutions) will be supported by these efforts. This will be achieved through accompanying

¹ NWOW Progress Update

measures to economic empowerment, improved food security conditions, improved access to basic social services, capacity-building activities in different areas, including disaster preparedness and response management. It is essential to ensure more effective coordination in mobilizing resources / sources of funding as well as strengthen partnerships.

II. Joint analysis:

A Common Country Assessment (CCA) was conducted as part of the Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (2018-2022) process. The CCA was completed as Mauritania was finalizing the National Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity (2016-2030). It therefore considers the work carried out in this framework to update the analysis of the situation as well as data available at sectoral and global level. It also considered the efforts made by the partners (World Bank, European Union, IMF), and had inputs from NGOs.

The analysis was also informed by the elements of humanitarian needs overviews and response plans of recent years that defined the levels of need for direct assistance for the poorest people (about 15% of the Mauritanian population), particularly in terms of food security, malnutrition and access to essential basic social services.

This first stage of the process has made it possible to identify the structural causes underlying certain acute vulnerabilities, and to ensure that development activities help to fill the gaps in terms of measures to reduce in the medium and long term the need for humanitarian assistance.

The need to implement more programmes at local and household levels, as well as the need for more coherence between humanitarian and development actions in the planning and programming emerged in a Resilience Systems Analysis workshop. The OECD and the UNCT in Mauritania conducted this workshop in April 2017 in order to help inform the new United Nations development strategy. The [outcome report of this workshop](#) identified the major risks in-country as: rising unemployment rates particular of women and youth; social anxieties linked to poor governance; uncontrolled and rapid urbanization; human and animal health (particular the risk of epidemics); and food security.

III. Joint planning/ Joined-up Programming:

In February 2018, the Government of Mauritania and the UN signed the Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development (Cadre de Partenariat pour le Développement Durable, CPDD) 2018-2022, replacing the UNDAF. The CPDD contributes to respond to both humanitarian and development challenges, fully integrating the two planning streams. While signed between the Government and the UN, it also includes as essential partners most of international NGOs. The CPDD also includes a strategy to strengthen peaceful coexistence and self-reliance for refugees and host communities in Mauritania's border areas. The CPDD purports to strengthen coherence and humanitarian/development/peacebuilding integration based on a common analysis and understanding of risks and vulnerabilities in Mauritania. It includes a definition of common outcomes that address acute needs requiring humanitarian assistance, while addressing the structural causes of vulnerabilities faced by part of the population.

The CPDD is articulated on 3 Strategic Priorities and 10 outcomes. Within these, four were selected as “common outcomes” sitting at the humanitarian/development/peacebuilding nexus. The common outcomes focus on two broad areas: 1) improving food security and nutrition conditions, reinforcing livelihoods, broadening inclusive access to economic opportunities, and 2) improving equitable access to quality basic services and social protection. Outcome 1.2: access to livelihood, to decent jobs and to economic opportunities is strengthened, and food security is improved. Outcome 1.3: Institutions and communities contribute to sustainable management of natural resources, and to anticipate/respond to crises and to the effects of climate change. Outcome 2.2: vulnerable populations have access to adequate/durable services for health, nutrition, WASH. Outcome 2.3: Institutions, civil society and communities ensure improved protection against different forms of discrimination. This “commonality” will be further articulated at the level of Outputs and Indicators, and specific 5-year targets will be set in agreement among all partners, as part of the Annual Work Plan formulation process.

An adequate and diligent humanitarian response to populations in need requires anticipating the evolution of the situation and its possible degradation and adjusting the interventions planned at the beginning of the year to take account of this development. This flexibility will be ensured within the framework of annual work plans (AWPs), which can be adjusted during the year to adapt to changing needs.

IV. Leadership and Coordination:

The CPDD will be implemented under the overall coordination of a Joint Steering Committee (JSC) which will provide strategic advice and oversight of the overall program. The JSC will be co-chaired by the Minister of Economy and Finance and the United Nations Resident Coordinator.

The CPDD will retain a specific level of flexibility on an annual basis, linked to the planning of Annual Work Plans. In the context of AWP planning, products, activities and budget can be adapted to the specific needs of the year under consideration; this flexibility will be exercised in coordination between and with the approval of the various partners of the CPDD.

In the exceptional case of acute and unforeseen humanitarian needs, which would exceed the planned flexibility thresholds in the CPDD, all humanitarian actors in Mauritania can resort to the activation of traditional humanitarian mechanisms.

Inter-agency outcome groups are the key mechanism to support the implementation of the CPDD. They are responsible for developing CPDD's annual work plans, in consultation with relevant implementing partners. Moreover, given the nature of some of the development initiatives to reduce the need for humanitarian assistance, these groups need to monitor the implementation of the common achievements between humanitarian and development action, as identified in this CPDD. To this end, the group presidents encourage the participation of the main humanitarian actors according to the commitments made in the results matrix as well as the partnership agreements that will be identified during the implementation of the CPDD.

V. Current Financing and Funding Flows:

Recipient country
Mauritania

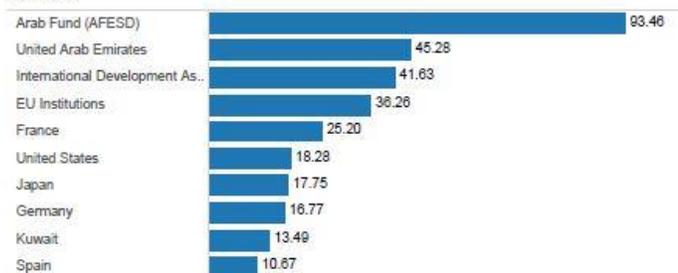
Receipts for Mauritania

	2014	2015	2016
Net ODA (USD million)	260.7	318.0	290.9
Net ODA/GNI (%)	5.0	6.8	6.4
Gross ODA (USD million)	324.1	388.0	367.1
Bilateral share (gross ODA) (%)	38.7	45.2	38.8
Total net receipts (USD million)	300.7	346.5	200.8

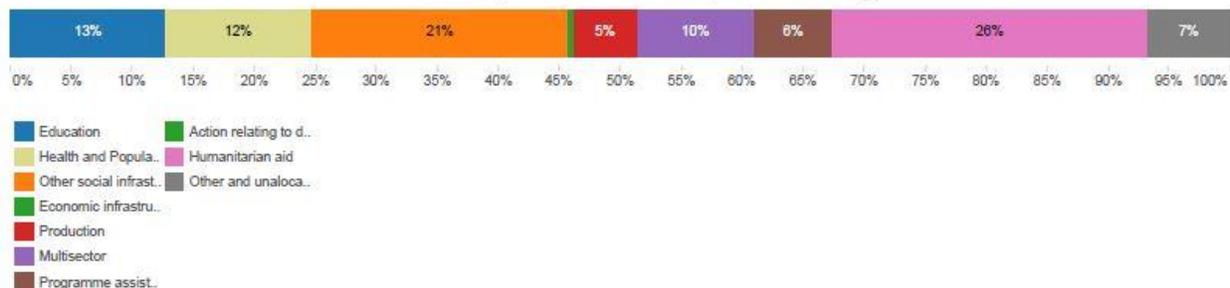
For reference

	2014	2015	2016
Population (million)	4	4	4
GNI per capita (Atlas USD)	1,380	1,230	1,120

Top Ten Donors of Gross ODA for Mauritania, 2015-2016 average, USD million



Bilateral ODA by Sector for Mauritania, 2015-16 average



Source: OECD - DAC : <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/aid-at-a-glance.htm>