

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

Mauritania is a unitary republic with two tiers of elected subnational government. The country is divided into 13 regions and 219 municipalities.¹



Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Review (VNR).²

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

In 2016, the Mauritanian government elaborated the **Strategy for Accelerated Growth and Shared Prosperity (SCAPP) 2016-2030**. The 2019 VNR states that the alignment between the SCAPP and the SDGs is relatively robust overall but could be strengthened by additional work on the definition of national targets and indicators in order to better harmonize them with the SDGs. The SCAPP is operationalized through **five-year action plans**, the first of which ended in 2020.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The **Inter-ministerial Steering Committee (CIP)** is chaired by the Prime Minister and its members are the ministries and departments having the most important roles in the implementation of the SCAPP. The **Enlarged Consultation Committee** is chaired by the Minister of Economy and Finance. Among its members are: the Minister in charge of relations with civil society, the Minister delegate in charge of the budget, the Governor of the Central Bank of Mauritania (BCM), the Representative of Technical and Financial Partners (PTF), the President of the National Union of Mauritanian Patronage (UNPM), two representatives of NGOs, and the President of the Association of Mayors of Mauritania (AMM). The **SCAPP Coordination and Monitoring Committee (CCS-SCAPP)** is chaired by the Director General of Development Policies and Strategies at the Ministry of Economy. Among others, its members are the Chairs of Sectoral Development Committees (CDS), the Director General of the Budget and the Director General of the National Statistical Office (ONS). The **Sectoral Development Committees (CDS)** are formed from the sectoral themes of the SCAPP. They serve as a forum for discussion and exchange.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The **Inter-ministerial Steering Committee (CIP)** oversaw the 2019 VNR process, a **Technical Coordination Committee (CTC)** led the technical aspects of the reporting process, and a **working group** drafted the report. The data and information collection as well as the drafting process were participatory. Elected officials, development partners, representatives of civil society, private sector actors, unions, etc. participated. Two **field missions** were carried out, one on the North axis to Nouadhibou, the economic capital of the country, and the other to the regions of Brakna and Gorgol. The first focused on the marine environment and fishing, and the second on the terrestrial environment and certain projects dedicated to the most vulnerable social groups. A contribution from the civil society is included in the annex of the report.

1.3 MONITORING

The SCAPP has a **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan**. It is designed in an integrated manner to facilitate data production and collection, as well as the development of synergies in the design and implementation of policies, in particular between the different levels: national, sectoral, regional and local.

Although efforts have been made to ensure the cohesion of the statistical system and to internalize the SDGs in national surveys, significant gaps in terms of data availability persist. The national statistical system only partially meets the SDG monitoring needs. The lack of sufficiently disaggregated data is mentioned in the 2019 VNR as a major constraint.

1. See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/reports/SNGWOFI_2019_report_country_profiles_DEC2019_UPDATES.pdf

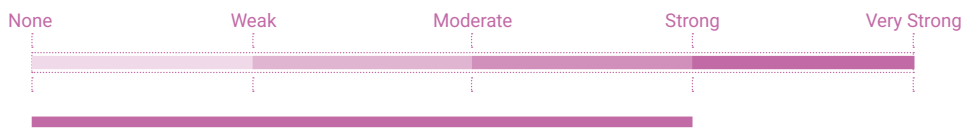
2. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23447Mauritania_REVISED_AS_OF_24JUNERevueNationalVolontaire_Mauritanie2_medium.pdf (2019)

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

The **President of the Association of Mayors of Mauritania (AMM)** is member of the **Enlarged Consultation Committee**. National coordination mechanisms for the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs are also accompanied by **Regional Development Committees (CRDs)**, chaired by the governor of the regions and of which are members: the Coordinator of the Regional Development Unit planning and monitoring, the decentralized technical services, the regional statistics service, elected officials, local civil society, the private sector and the technical and financial partners present in the regions. According to the 2019 VNR, local variations of the SCAPP and the national action plan for the acceleration of the implementation of the SDGs should be developed by mutual agreement with the recently created Regional Committees.

2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



2019

► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



2019

Comments: The Association of Mayors of Mauritania (AMM) participates on a regular basis (consultative). Meanwhile, the Mauritanian Association of Southern Communes (AMCS) reports a punctual participation and insufficient coordination (GTF Survey 2021).

This assessment is based on the information collected in the VNR and in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments' annual survey on the localization of the SDGs.

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

There is limited reference to LRGs in the 2019 VNR.

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

► Following the creation of regions and the obligation to integrate the concepts of climate change and sustainable development into various planning areas, the **Nouakchott Region** has embarked on an environmental resilience and sustainable development project.³

2.4 VOLUNTARY SUBNATIONAL AND/OR LOCAL REVIEWS (VSRs / VLRs)

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

The development of public-private partnerships has provided the country with an additional financing tool. The private sector should provide financing for 20% of the SCAPP 2016-2020 action plan.

3. UCLG, 2019, GOLD V Report, <https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/ENG-GOLD-V-2020.pdf>

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

The proportion of seats held by women in municipal councils was 35.11% in 2016 and 31.06% in 2018. Despite this slight decrease, the results of the municipal elections from 2007 to 2018 show that women exceed, and by far, the minimum quota of 20% defined in 2016 by ordinance n° 2006-029. However, they rarely access the function of mayor: there were 4 women mayors for a total of 216 municipalities in 2007, then 6 out of 218 in 2013 and 6 out of 219 in 2018.

3.2 COVID 19

Not applicable.

4. SDG INDICATORS⁴

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		31.4 (2018)
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		73.2 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		31.6 (2005, Nouakchott)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		74.1 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-

4. The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>. More information on the country's progress towards the SDGs here: <https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/mrt>