



The Islamic Republic of Mauritania

# Voluntary report on the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) in Mauritania



September 202



Mauritania is among the 152 countries who have signed the United Nations intergovernmental negotiated agreement the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) on December 2018.

Since then, the country has taken several initiatives to meet the 23 objectives of the GCM:

- Mauritania is the first country in West Africa to have a national policy on Migration (SNGM) since 2011. The SNGM is a great advantage to the implementation of the GCM since this migration policy considers already several dimensions of the GCM.
- In December 2018, the Government of Mauritania, through the Ministry of Interior and Decentralization, and in collaboration with the IOM Mauritania has launched the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) initiative, which resulted in the issuance of a country migration profile, produced with the Economist Intelligence Unit in December 2019.

This MGI profile is a significant advancement in the implementation of the GCM, since it provides the country with enlightening data on its current migration governance structures and on the areas with potential for further development.

Identified areas of improvement were data collection and analysis on migration as a basis for effective evidence-based policy, as well as protection and assistance of migrants and increasing support to diaspora temporary or permanent return.

- During 2019, the Government of Mauritania, in collaboration with the IOM mission and the EU delegation in the country, has organized several workshops to discuss the review of the SNGM action plan, involving all the migration stakeholders present in the country in the debate.

As a conclusion of these workshops, a taskforce of governmental officials has been mandated to oversee the review of the SNGM action plan in light with the latest data collected on migration in Mauritania and toward its further alignment with the GCM framework and the SDG goals.

- In February 2020, the first steering committee for the review of the SNGM AP has gathered under the lead of the Mauritanian government and the coordination of IOM Mauritania. This meeting had for result the approval of the roadmap previously developed in the governmental workshop of September 2019 and the planning of further actions.
- In February 2020, the system of the United nations in Mauritania, under the presidency of the Resident Coordinator, has launched the UN Network for Migration in Mauritania to support the government in the implementation of the GCM.

IOM and the Office of the Resident coordinator in Mauritania are the co-coordinators of the Network while IOM also maintains the role of the secretariat.

A total number of 7 UN agencies present in Mauritania are active members of the UN Migration network in Mauritania, which will have as key task the support to the revision of the SNGM.

Members of the UN Migration Network will take a co-leading role in the different working groups that will be put in place in relation to their respective mandates and comparative advantage.

- Linked to the above-mentioned developments, since 2018 the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in cooperation with IOM and other UN agencies has engaged in a robust and inclusive reform of its two bills on trafficking of human beings and smuggling of migrants. The revised texts recently approved in Parliament (July 2020) are fully in line with the relevant GCM objectives and take into account the evolving migration profile of Mauritania (from origin, to transit and destination country).