


Simplified Operational Completion Report (OCR)

Signatures

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| UNEP Task Manager: Suzanne Lekoyjet | Date:  21.11.2025 |
| Portfolio Manager: Asher Lessels | Date: |

1. Project Identification

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| GEF ID: 9327 |
| Project Title: Enabling Activities for preparation of Mauritania's Fourth National Communication (NC4) to the UNFCCC |
| Executing Agency: National Programme on Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCPNCC) under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MDEDD) |
| UNEP Division: Climate Change |
| Country/Region: Mauritania |
| Actual Implementation Start Date: March 2016 |
| Actual Completion Date: June 2020 |
| GEF Focal Area: Climate Change |
| GEF Grant Amount: \$500,000 |
| Co-financing (if applicable): N/A |

2. Project Implementation

1. Brief description of activities, and its link to Convention obligations.

The **main objective** of the project was to assist Mauritania to prepare its fourth national communication (NC4) under the UNFCCC consistent with the guidelines for the preparation of NCs from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, contained in Decision 17/CP.8 while enhancing national capacity to meet reporting obligations under the Convention.

Mauritania's Fourth National Communication (NC4) was prepared between 2016 and 2019 through a comprehensive, multi-sectoral process coordinated by the National Programme on Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCPNCC) under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, with technical and financial support from UNEP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The activities included updating national circumstances, compiling greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories using IPCC guidelines, assessing mitigation options across key sectors, and conducting vulnerability and adaptation studies for climate-sensitive areas.

Additional components covered the development of policies and measures for emission reduction, analysis of technology transfer and capacity-building needs, and integration of climate change considerations into national development planning. The process also involved extensive stakeholder consultations with public institutions, private sector actors, and civil society to validate findings and ensure inclusivity.

2. Overview of implementation arrangements

Institutional coordination for Mauritania's Fourth National Communication (NC4) was led by the National Programme on Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCPNCC) under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. The process was supported by UNEP as the implementing agency through a GEF-funded enabling activity, which provided technical and financial assistance to strengthen national reporting capacity under the UNFCCC.

Project management was overseen by a National Project Coordinator, assisted by a support team comprising technical experts, administrative staff, and financial officers responsible for data collection and reporting tasks. Strategic oversight was ensured by a multi-stakeholder Steering Committee, which included representatives from key ministries such as Energy, Agriculture, and Water Resources, as well as national agencies and research institutions.

To facilitate technical work, five thematic working groups were established, focusing on: (i) National Circumstances and Institutional Framework; (ii) Greenhouse Gas Inventory; (iii) Mitigation Policies and Measures; (iv) Vulnerability and Adaptation; and (v) Constraints, Gaps, and Support Needs.

3. Delivery of outputs

The National Programme on Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCPNCC) under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development undertook all the activities and components as they had been outlined in the project document; and successfully completed and submitted NC4 to the UNFCCC on 16 September 2019. The report can be accessed through the following links: NC4: <https://unfccc.int/documents/200088>

4. Project Outcome

Mauritania's NC4 strengthened national capacity for climate reporting and mainstreamed climate considerations into development planning. Key outcomes included the preparation of an updated greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory using IPCC guidelines, identification of mitigation options across energy, agriculture, and waste sectors, and comprehensive vulnerability and adaptation assessments for climate-sensitive areas. The report informed national climate policy, contributing to the integration of adaptation and mitigation measures into sectoral strategies. It also enhanced the Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) framework and institutional coordination through the Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCPNCC) and sectoral focal points. Additionally, the process fostered stakeholder engagement and capacity building, supported by technical and financial assistance from UNEP under a GEF-funded enabling activity.

5. Stakeholders' involvement

Stakeholder engagement was broad and inclusive:

- The PSC, which functioned as the highest technical and policy decision-making body included representatives from government ministries, technical experts, and civil society.
- Government ministries responsible for energy, agriculture, water resources, forestry, and planning contributed sectoral data and policy inputs.

- National research organizations and universities provided expertise for GHG inventory, mitigation analysis, and vulnerability assessments.
- Five TWGs were established based on expertise to implement work packages covering national circumstances, GHG inventory, mitigation and MRV, vulnerability and adaptation, clean technology, cross-cutting issues, research and systematic observation, and database management. Each TWG was led by a senior expert and included specialists and sectoral focal points from relevant ministries, ensuring inclusiveness, scientific rigor, and transparent data management.
- Workshops and consultations ensured participation from academia, NGOs, and local communities. Gender considerations were discussed during the inception phase, though implementation faced limitations due to institutional capacity.

6. Financial Summary

| Source | (USD) |
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| GEF Grant | \$500,000 |
| Final Date of Disbursement | 20 May 2020 |
| Cumulative Disbursement <i>(as of final date of disbursement)</i> | \$482,000 |
| Co-financing , if applicable | N/A |

6. Lessons Learned

The preparation of Mauritania's Fourth National Communication (NC4) delivered several key lessons:

- Institutional strengthening was achieved by reinforcing the role of the National Programme on Climate Change Coordinating Unit (CCPNCC) and improving coordination among ministries and agencies engaged in climate action.
- Capacity building was prioritized through targeted training for national experts on greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory preparation, mitigation and adaptation analysis, and Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems, ensuring the sustainability of reporting processes.
- Policy integration was enhanced as NC4 findings informed national climate strategies and supported the update of Mauritania's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), aligning with commitments under the Paris Agreement.
- Finally, the project laid a strong foundation for future Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs), strengthening Mauritania's overall climate transparency framework.