



Mauritania - Project Fiche 8

"Green Peace"-Building in Mauritania: Supporting Peaceful Coexistence between Young Men and Women from the Refugee and Host Communities in the region of Hodh Chargui

October 2023



Duration

Start Date: **17/12/2021**
End Date: **16/06/2023**

Budget

TOTAL: \$1,500,000
UNDP: **\$800,000**
UNHCR: **\$700,000**

Implementing Agencies



Partners

Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization (MIDEC)
Ministry of Social Action, Children and Family (MASEF)
Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Association of Women Mayors of Mauritania
Mauritania National Volunteer Programme (Ministry of Youth)
ADICOR
ACCORD
SOS DESERT
AU SECOURS

CONTEXT

Mauritania is affected by instability in the Sahel, and in particular, the conflict in Mali. In the region of Hodh Chargui, the prolonged presence of refugees in Mbera camp has also increased pressure on local water points, fuelwood and grazing lands, creating potential sources of tension between refugees and host communities. These interdependent vulnerability factors particularly affect girls, women and young men, whose access to and participation in local governance is very limited. In response to these challenges, UNHCR and UNDP submitted the project described here as part of the 2020 Gender & Youth Promotion Initiative (GYPI) call for proposals, which was approved for a period of 18 months.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the project are to:

- ▶ Strengthen the role of host and refugee women in local conflict prevention mechanisms.
- ▶ Reduce community conflicts through joint sustainable environmental management initiatives.
- ▶ Put women and youth in the driving seat through increased inclusion and participation.
- ▶ Manage natural resources in a sustainable and fair manner.
- ▶ Strengthen the conflict prevention and peacebuilding dynamics in the region.

KEY IMPACT AND RESULTS

Objective 1: Strengthen the role of host and refugee women in local conflict prevention mechanisms.

- ▶ Refugee and host women leadership program:
 - ▶ 465 women, including 55 refugees, benefited from literacy modules.
 - ▶ 375 women, including 195 refugee members of women's clubs benefited from a leadership programme.
- ▶ Awareness-raising and training on inclusive resource management and women's contribution to peacebuilding targeting refugees and host communities.

Objective 2: Reduce community conflicts through joint sustainable environmental management initiatives

- ▶ The project accelerated reforestation efforts: 35 hectares of degraded natural areas were identified through community consultations and more than 20,000 trees were planted in and around Mbera camp.
- ▶ The project involved local networks of women and youth: More than 500 young people and women volunteers from the host and refugee communities are actively participating in initiatives to regenerate vegetation in and around Mbera camp.
- ▶ The project contributed to the installation of an industrial biodigester to produce green gas from the treatment of waste and livestock manure for the supply of green gas to households as well as the production of fertilizers for market gardeners with a view to protecting the environment. 300 households directly benefiting from host and refugee communities have been identified.
- ▶ The project has had a significant impact in terms of social cohesion and peacebuilding bringing communities together around the sustainable management of natural resources:
 - ▶ Nine (09) school clubs and thirty (30) women's cooperatives received environmental education (e.g. trainings, school greening, community engagement in the rehabilitation of water points and pastures) in Mbera camp and 13 surrounding localities.
 - ▶ Thirty (30) young environmental volunteers, including fifteen girls, were trained and are now carrying out information, awareness-raising and training actions.

■ CATALYTICS EFFECTS

Financial:

ECHO 55,000 USD



un.org/peacebuilding

 United Nations Peacebuilding



[@UNPeacebuilding](https://twitter.com/UNPeacebuilding)



[@UNPeacebuilding](https://www.instagram.com/UNPeacebuilding)



[@UNPeacebuilding](https://www.facebook.com/UNPeacebuilding)



[UnitedNationsPeacebuilding](https://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsPeacebuilding)