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Mauritania Improving Education Quality, Results, and Access for All Operation (IQRAA) (P509243)

WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA | Mauritania | Education Global Practice | Requesting Unit: AWCF1 (6550) | Responsible Unit: HAWE2 (9250)
IBRD/IDA | Program-for-Results Financing | FY 2026 | Team Leader: Mouhamadou Moustapha Lo ; Co-Team Leader(s): Djiby Thiam

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1. PROJECT DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVE

1.1 Development Objective

Original Development Objective (Approved as part of Approval package on 17-Jun-2026)

To improve the quality of basic education and access to secondary education, with a focus on adolescent girls, and strengthen education service delivery in refugee-hosting areas

2. OVERALL RATINGS

Name	Current
Progress towards achievement of PDO	Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Substantial

3. KEY ISSUES & STATUS

3.1 Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The Improving Education Quality, Results, and Access for All Operation (IQRAA) is financed by an International Development Association (IDA) credit/grant of US$40.0 million and a Global Partnership for Education (GPE) grant of US$16.75 million. The Government of Mauritania (GoM) is contributing US$13.25 million in counterpart funding. IQRAA comprises two parts: a Program-for-Results (PforR) component of US$51.75 million and an Investment Project Financing (IPF) technical assistance component of US$5.0 million. IQRAA aims to: (i) improve the quality of basic education and access to secondary education, with a particular focus on adolescent girls; and (ii) strengthen education service delivery in refugee-hosting areas. The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved IQRAA on June 17, 2026. The IDA Financing Agreement and the GPE Grant Agreement were signed on August 25, 2026. The Operation is not yet effective. The National Assembly is expected to ratify the Financing Agreement during its October 2026 ordinary session. Some critical early years conditions

remain: the legal opinion, adoption of the Program Operations Manual, and recruitment of key Project Implementation Unit (PIU) staff. The GoM, with WBG support, is working to meet these effectiveness conditions by end-October 2026.
This is the first PforR operation in Mauritania's education sector, so the GoM and the WBG are prioritizing early preparation to meet the first-year disbursement-linked indicators (DLIs) on schedule. These DLIs include early childhood education quality standards and frameworks; design studies on the use of g education technology and artificial intelligence in literacy and numeracy teaching, play-based learning frameworks and learning measurement tools; and a learning assessment methodology aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Arrangements for the Independent Verificaiton Agency (IVA) to verify DLI results are also being set up. The GoM is also preparing to record all Program expenditures, including its counterpart contribution, in the 2027 program-based budgeting.

Implementation Readiness. No funds have been disbursed under the IDA Credit or GPE Grant because the Operation is not yet effective. Implementation readiness is progressing well: the Procurement Plan for the IPF component was approved on June 25, 2026, and preparatory consultancies are planned for the pre-primary cycle to develop a play-based learning pedagogical guide and tools for measuring early childhood education outcomes. The existing Project Implementation Unit (Direction des Projets Éducation-Formation, DPEF/PASEB) will lead implementation, drawing on its management of the Project Preparation Grant (E6050) and its experience under the Mauritania Basic Education Sector Support Project (P163143).

Next Steps :

- **Effectiveness**: The National Assembly is expected to ratify the IDA Financing Agreement during its October 2026 session. The GoM will also work to meet the others remaining conditions by end-October 2026, namely: the legal opinion, adoption of the Program Operations Manual, and recruitment of key PIU staff.
- **First-year DLI preparation:** The GoM, with WBG support, will prepare the terms of reference (ToRs) and launch the procurement process for the technical studies linked to the achievement of the first-year DLIs. These include the early childhood education quality standards, the education technology and artificial intelligence design studies, and the learning assessment method.
- **Independent verification**: The independent verification arrangements and protocols for DLI results, agreed during preparation, will be duly established by the GoM with WBG support.
- **2027 budget:** The GoM will confirm that Program spending and part of the counterpart funding are included in the 2027 budget under program-based budgeting.
- **First official implementation support mission in early November 2026** : The mission will review progress on these actions, agree on a detailed first-year work plan and timeline for achieving the first set of DLIs, and confirm that the implementation unit and the fiduciary, environmental, and social arrangements are in place.

The first official implementation support mission has been discussed with client and is planned for early November 2026. Discussions are undergoing with the Government counterpart on that considering the INSPIRE Academy and GPE in-country visit.

4. DATA ON FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

4.1 Disbursements (by loan)

Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Historical Disbursed	% Disbursed
IDA-80700	Not Effective	15.00	14.44	0.00	0.00	14.44	0.00	0%
IDA-80710	Not Effective	12.50	11.98	0.00	0.00	11.98	0.00	0%
IDA-E7130	Not Effective	12.50	12.47	0.00	0.00	12.47	0.00	0%
TF-D1944	Effective	16.75	16.75	0.00	0.00	16.75	0.00	0%

4.2 Key Dates (by loan)

Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval	Signing	Effectiveness	Orig. Closing	Rev. Closing
IDA-80700	Not Effective	17-Jun-2026	21-Aug-2026		31-Dec-2030	31-Dec-2030
IDA-80710	Not Effective	17-Jun-2026	21-Aug-2026		31-Dec-2030	31-Dec-2030
IDA-E7130	Not Effective	17-Jun-2026	21-Aug-2026		31-Dec-2030	31-Dec-2030
TF-D1944	Effective	17-Jun-2026	21-Aug-2026	21-Aug-2026	31-Dec-2029	31-Dec-2029

4.3 Program Action Plan

5. KEY DATES

Key Events	Planned	Actual
Approval	17-Jun-2026	17-Jun-2026
Effectiveness	21-Aug-2026	21-Aug-2026

Operation Closing/Cancellation	31-Dec-2030

6. SYSTEMATIC OPERATIONS RISK-RATING TOOL

Risk Category	Rating at Approval Approval Package - 17 Jun 2026	Proposed Rating
Political and Governance	Substantial	Substantial
Macroeconomic	Substantial	Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	Moderate	Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	Moderate	Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	Substantial	Substantial
Fiduciary	Substantial	Substantial
Environment and Social	Substantial	Substantial
Stakeholders	Moderate	Moderate
Other	Substantial	Substantial
Overall	Substantial	Substantial

7. RESULTS

7.1 PDO Indicators by PDO Outcomes

Improved quality of basic education						
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Value	Month/Year	Value	Date	Value	Month/Year
Grade 4 students mastering basic literacy and numeracy skills (Percentage) DLI	31.10	Dec/2024	31.10	Oct/2026	37.50	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
Transition rate from primary to lower secondary (Percentage) DLI	60.80	Dec/2023	60.80	Oct/2026	76.80	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
of which female (Percentage) DLI	60.50	Dec/2023	60.50	Oct/2026	77.00	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
In host community areas (Percentage) DLI			TBC	Oct/2026	75.00	Dec/2030

Improve access to secondary education, with a focus on adolescent girls						
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Value	Month/Year	Value	Date	Value	Month/Year
Transition rate from lower to upper secondary (Percentage)	35.10	Dec/2023	35.10	Oct/2026	48.50	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
of which female (Percentage)			TBC	Oct/2026	50.00	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
In host community areas (Percentage)			TBC	Oct/2026	42.00	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
Girls' completion rate for upper secondary (Percentage) DLI	25.00	Dec/2023	25	Oct/2026	33.00	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			

In host community areas (Percentage) DLI			TBC	Oct/2026	30.00	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			

Strengthen education service delivery in refugee-hosting areas

Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Value	Month/Year	Value	Date	Value	Month/Year
Refugee and host-community children enrolled in the national education system in refugee-hosting areas (Number) DLI	570,000	Mar/2026	570,000	Oct/2026	630,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
Of which host community children (Number) DLI			TBC	Oct/2026	40,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			
Of which refugee children (Number) DLI			TBC	Oct/2026	20,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with Gov national sector program, CPF, and priorities. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early november 2027			

7.2 Intermediate Results Indicators by Results Areas

Improve quality of basic education						
Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Value	Month/Year	Value	Date	Value	Month/Year
Five-year-old children enrolled in preschool (Number) DLI	15,000	Dec/2024	15,000	Oct/2026	100,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Of which refugee children (Number) DLI			0	Oct/2026	25,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Of which children from host communities (Number) DLI			0	Oct/2026	35,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Preschool teachers trained (Number)	800	Dec/2024	800	Oct/2026	3,300	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Preschools constructed or rehabilitated (Number)	39	Dec/2024	39	Oct/2026	80	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Teachers trained in the application of modern pedagogical approaches using the new hybrid model (Number) DLI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	12,500	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	7,000	Dec/2030

Teachers trained in remediation in core subjects (literacy and numeracy) (Number) DLI	Comments on achieving targets	This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.

Improve access to secondary education, with a focus on adolescent girls and strengthen education service delivery in refugee-hosting areas

Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Value	Month/Year	Value	Date	Value	Month/Year
Inclusive, gender-sensitive, and climate-resilient secondary schools constructed (Number) DLI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	40	Dec/2030
Of which in refugee hosting areas (Number) DLI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	20	Dec/2030
Girls benefiting from incentives to complete secondary education (Number)	0	Nov/2024	0	Oct/2026	30,000	Dec/2030
Secondary School Completion Exam (Baccalaureate) Pass Rate (Percentage)	32.04	Nov/2025	32	Oct/2026	45.00	Dec/2030
Students supported with better education, in early childhood education (Number of people) CRI	15,000	Dec/2024	15,000	Oct/2026	100,000	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim. Although approved on June 17, 2026 and signed on August 25, 2025, IQRAA is not yet effective and has no reportable PDO or IRI progress; its objectives remain achievable by December 31, 2030 and aligned with national, CPF, and World Bank priorities			
Students supported with better education, in early childhood education - Female (Number of people) CRI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	50,000	Dec/2030
Students supported with better education, in primary school (Number of people) CRI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	800,000	Dec/2030

Students supported with better education, in primary school - Female (Number of people) CRI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	400,000	Dec/2030
Of which refugee students (Number)	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	50,000	Dec/2030
Of which students from host communities (Number)	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	150,000	Dec/2030
Students supported with better education, in secondary school (Number of people) CRI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	450,000	Dec/2030
Students supported with better education, in secondary school - Female (Number of people) CRI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	230,000	Dec/2030
Students supported with better education, in secondary school - Youth (Number of people) CRI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	230,000	Dec/2030
Of which refugee students (Number)	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	50,000	Dec/2030
Of which students from host communities (Number)	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	200,000	Dec/2030

Strengthen governance of the education system

Indicator Name	Baseline		Actual (Current)		Closing Period	
	Value	Month/Year	Value	Date	Value	Month/Year
Statistical yearbooks generated by SIRAGE, published on the Ministry's website, and used for sector planning and monitoring (Number) DLI	0	Dec/2024	0	Oct/2026	4	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			

Primary and secondary schools with functional SMCs (Number) DLI	740	Dec/2024	740	Oct/2026	2,240	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Of which in host communities (Number) DLI			0	Oct/2026	500	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			
Beneficiaries satisfied with Program delivered services and activities (Percentage)	0.00	Mar/2026	0	Oct/2026	70.00	Dec/2030
	Comments on achieving targets		This is an interim ISR. Baseline are maintained while waiting the mission in early November 2027.			

7.3 Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLI)

PBC Name		Baseline	Actual (Current)		Closing Period
			Value	Date	
1:Five-year-old children enrolled in preschool (Number) Not Due	Value	15,000	15,000	01-Oct-2026	100,000
	Allocated Amount	0.00			7,000,000.00
DLI allocation			7,000,000.00		
1.1:Of which refugee children (Number) Not Due	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	25,000
	Allocated Amount				0.00
DLI allocation			0.00		
	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	35,000

1.2:Of which children from host communities (Number) Not Due	Allocated Amount				0.00
DLI allocation			0.00		
2:Teachers trained in the application of modern pedagogical approaches using the new hybrid model (Number) Not Due	Value	0	0	01-Oct-2026	12,500
	Allocated Amount	0.00			4,500,000.00
DLI allocation			4,500,000.00		
3:Teachers trained in remediation in core subjects (literacy and numeracy) (Number) Not Due	Value	0	0	01-Oct-2026	7,000
	Allocated Amount	0.00			4,200,000.00
DLI allocation			4,200,000.00		
4:Grade 4 students mastering basic literacy and numeracy skills (Percentage) Not Due	Value	31.10	31.10	01-Oct-2026	37.50
	Allocated Amount	0.00			4,000,000.00
DLI allocation			4,000,000.00		
5:Transition rate from primary to lower secondary (Percentage)	Value		60.80	01-Oct-2026	76.80
	Allocated Amount				3,000,000.00

Not Due					
DLI allocation			3,000,000.00		
5.1:of which female (Percentage) Not Due	Value		60.50	01-Oct-2026	77.00
	Allocated Amount				0.00
DLI allocation			0.00		
5.2:In host community areas (Percentage) Not Due	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	75.00
	Allocated Amount				0.00
DLI allocation			0.00		
6:Refugee and host-community children enrolled in the national education system in refugee-hosting areas (Number) Not Due	Value	570,000	570,000	01-Oct-2026	630,000
	Allocated Amount	0.00			10,000,000.00
DLI allocation			10,000,000.00		
6.1:Of which host community children (Number) Not Due	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	
	Allocated Amount				
DLI allocation			0.00		
6.2:Of which refugee children (Number) Not Due	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	
	Allocated Amount				
DLI allocation			0.00		

7:Inclusive, gender-sensitive, and climate-resilient secondary schools constructed (Number) Not Due	Value	0	0	01-Oct-2026	40
	Allocated Amount	0.00			7,000,000.00
DLI allocation			7,000,000.00		
7.1:Of which in refugee hosting areas (Number) Not Due	Value	0	0	01-Oct-2026	20
	Allocated Amount	0.00			
DLI allocation			0.00		
8:Girls' completion rate for upper secondary (Percentage) Not Due	Value	25.00	25	01-Oct-2026	33.00
	Allocated Amount	0.00			3,500,000.00
DLI allocation			3,500,000.00		
8.1:In host community areas (Percentage) Not Due	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	30.00
	Allocated Amount				0.00
DLI allocation			0.00		
9:Statistical yearbooks generated by SIRAGE, published on the Ministry's website, and used for sector planning and monitoring (Number) Not Due	Value	0	0	01-Oct-2026	4
	Allocated Amount	0.00			3,000,000.00
DLI allocation			3,000,000.00		

10:Primary and secondary schools with functional SMCs (Number) Not Due	Value	740	740	01-Oct-2026	2,240
	Allocated Amount	0.00			5,550,000.00
DLI allocation			5,550,000.00		
10.1:Of which in host communities (Number) Not Due	Value		TBC	01-Oct-2026	500
	Allocated Amount				0.00
DLI allocation			0.00		