



PROJET ECO-CONSTRUCTION BÂTIMENT (PECOBAT) QUALITATIVE STUDY



Funded by
the European Union

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EVALUATION CONTEXT

Mauritania is a Sahelian country with poor climate conditions and overall low rainfall, therefore leaving low prospects for the development of many economic sectors.

The PECOBAT project implemented between 2016 and 2024 intend to contribute to the country's decent work programme, by implementing a labour-intensive approach in the building and public work sector. The project aims to improve the employability of young people and their integration in a promising employment niche: bioclimatic construction using local materials in the southern wilayas of the country. The project also aims to promote private sector and sustainable economic activities in the trades of earthen masonry.

More generally, PECOBAT aims to contribute to regional stability and a better management of migration by addressing the root causes of instability, of forced displacements and of irregular migration. The training provided are directed towards young people who receive training in a professional environment conducive to learning, insofar as it combines theoretical teaching and a strong practical component. Through

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT

From summer 2021, in order to accommodate initial training graduates and also professionals in the building and public work sector that were in need of further

QUICK FACTS

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

International Labor Office (ILO)

LOCATION

Brakna, Assaba, Guidimakha and Gorgol

METHODS

Fully Qualitative Study

TARGET GROUPS

Young people aged 16 to 35 with no education or primary education

FINANCING AMOUNT

3 200 000 EUR

this, the project aims to increase the opportunities for socio-professional integration of young people and SMEs in the target areas through the development of vocational training in the construction sector using local materials.

training opportunities, ILO shifted its focus from initial training to focus more on continuing training. This left fewer training spots for initial training candidates, who

were targeted by the initial evaluation design (descriptive quantitative study mixed with a qualitative study). Therefore, the quantitative component of the evaluation was dropped, and a purely qualitative design was adopted.

Between July and September 2022, qualitative data were collected with the following profiles:

- 14 Initial training beneficiaries in the course of their training
- 19 Beneficiaries of the first cohorts of the initial training
- 12 Beneficiaries of continuing training in the course of their training
- 2 Candidates who dropped out after the selection process
- 4 Youths with the same profile as that of the beneficiaries but without a professional training
- 5 members of the project team at ILO
- 6 members of the training staff
- 2 public authorities
- 1 partner company

BUILDING ON SOLID FOUNDATIONS

Qualitative content analysis is used to derive findings from the data collected in three steps: 1. Content analysis of each piece of data collected (i.e., examining each interview separately); 2. Deeper thematic analysis; 3. Comparison of the different interviews/qualitative material.

Qualitative content analysis provides a systematic way of extracting information from interviews and other qualitative data, while ensuring openness to unexpected outcomes. Each interview data is coded in

an iterative process that follows a coding structure developed on the basis of the evaluation questions and key themes outlined in the evaluation matrix. The evaluation team utilizes MAXQDA software to structure and systematize each step. Next, the coded extracts are subjected to in-depth content analysis to identify and explain patterns, trends, and discrepancies in respondents' views and behaviours, as well as meaningful relations between themes of interest under the evaluation questions.

TIPS FOR FUTURE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION

Prior to the intervention, conduct a proper needs assessment in order to determine areas of interest and avoid alterations to the project design.

Launch impact evaluation at the same time with the intervention to allow capturing effects and impacts from the first cohorts.