


The current COVID-19 outbreak has affected global mobility in the form of various travel disruptions, restrictions and bans. On 15 March 2020, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania began to gradually put in place a series of precautionary measures to contain the spread of the pandemic - including the closure of the country's land, air and sea borders as well as the restriction of inter-regional mobility within the country, the introduction of a curfew, the temporary shutdown of all training and educational establishments, closure of restaurants, and bans on gatherings throughout the country's 12 regions. In order to better understand how these restrictions are affecting mobility in the country, the thematic pillar of the United Nations on the country's Points of Entry conducted a data collection **mapping the location, status and different restrictions imposed at Points of Entry (PoE)**, using the DTM methodology* of the international Organisation for Migration (IOM). The purpose of this assessment is to help national authorities, United Nations agencies, organizations and other key stakeholders identify and develop adequate pandemic preparedness and response interventions at PoE. This report presents information on the operational status as well as the public health measures that have been put in place at **27 PoE across the country**.

A distinction is made between:

- The country's **main official PoE** (11), namely Rosso, Nouakchott airport, Hamoud, Boghé, Nouadhibou (PK55), Kaédi, Gouraye, Douinkara (Fassala-Nere), Adel Bagrou., Gogui Zemal, and El Melgue (highlighted in turquoise on pp.3-4). Based on trends in pre-COVID-19 times, these PoE are those being used by the majority of travellers as well as by traders importing and exporting goods. In addition, 8 of these points of entry allow for goods to enter/exit.
- An additional **16 PoE** which were assessed, and which can be considered "secondary PoE" as they are used by less travellers and are currently closed for goods as well.

Status of assessed PoE

 0 open

 8 partially open (open for the transportation of goods)




 19 closed

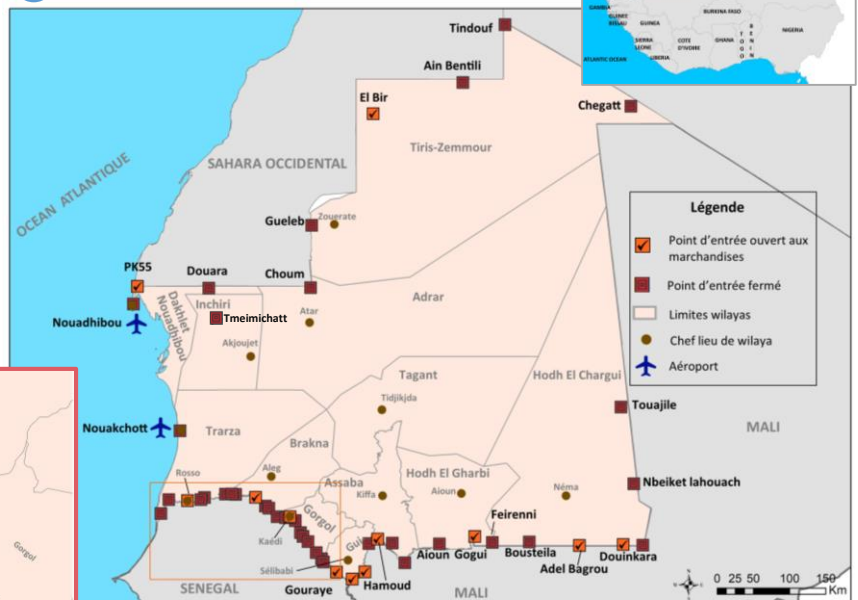
Most (19 out of 27) assessed PoE were **either closed or partially closed (i.e. open only for the transportation of goods)** at the time of assessment. 8 of the 11 key PoE have remained partially open to allow the **transportation of goods** from and to neighbouring countries.

Between 15 and 31 May, the number of cases within the country has grown from 8 to 530 cases. The growth in the number of cases has led among others to a renewal of movement and gathering restrictions as well as the continuation of curfews.

Assessment

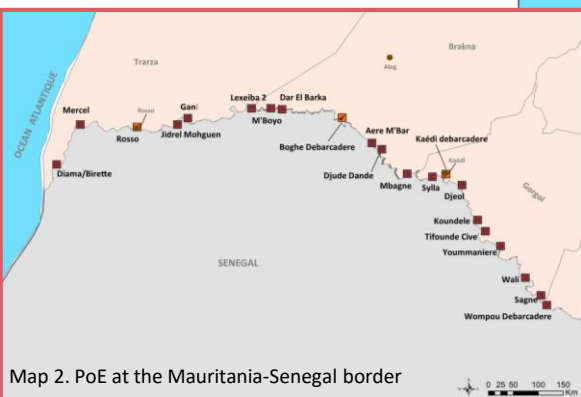
During the month of May 2020, data was collected at 27 PoE in the twelve regions of the country through phone interviews with a broad number of key informants. The assessed PoE included:

-  2 airports
-  1 internal transit points
-  24 land and blue border crossing points



Map 1. PoE in Mauritania

This map is for illustrative purposes only. Representations and the use of boundaries and geographical names on this map may include errors and do not imply any judgment on the legal status of a territory, nor official recognition or acceptance of these boundaries by IOM.



Map 2. PoE at the Mauritania-Senegal border

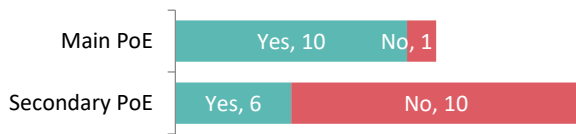
PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES IN PLACE AT THE ASSESSED POINTS OF ENTRY

Apart from capturing the operational status and identifying the types of restrictions / measures in place at each PoE, the assessment inquired about **preventive health measures** set up at these points since the start of the epidemic, or the lack there-off.

PRESENCE OF HEALTH WORKERS

Health workers are present at **10 out of 11 main PoE**, however, only at **38%** of the assessed secondary PoE (6 out of 16). These may include workers from the Ministry of Public Health or local health authority staff.

Graph 1: Presence of health workers at assessed PoE



RISK COMMUNICATION

Information about COVID-19, such as posters, leaflets and announcements on prevention, is available at **all (11 out of 11)** of the main PoE. On the other hand, at over half (56%) of the additional 16 assessed (secondary) PoE no information is available, namely in the regions of Trarza (5), Dakhlet-Nouadhibou (1), Guidimagha (1), Hodh El-Chargui (1) and Gorgol (1).

Graph 3: Information on COVID-19 is provided at the PoE

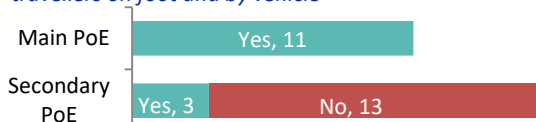


In 10 out of 18 PoE where information about COVID-19 is available, **travellers learn about the symptoms** of COVID-19 and at 13 out of 18 where to seek care when the symptoms worsen.

HEALTH SCREENING PROCESS AND REFERRAL SYSTEMS

A health screening process has been implemented at **all 11 main POE but is lacking at 13 out of the 16 assessed secondary POE**. At 11 POE with health screening, the temperature is checked by using a **non-contact thermometer** and at 3 POE (Hamoud, Boghé, and Nouadhibou PK55) a health declaration form is collected. Areas to ensure the **isolation** of travellers with symptoms are in place at 9 out of the 11 main POE (82%) but only at one (6%) secondary PoE (Nouadhibou port).

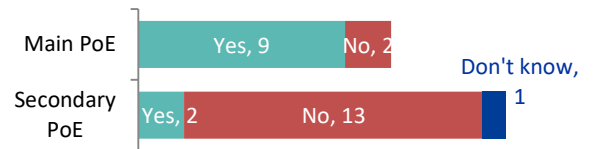
Graph 5: A health screening process is available at the site for travellers on foot and by vehicle



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

41% of the assessed PoE have developed and put in place SOPs for managing flows and to detect ill travellers. The proportion is higher for priority PoE where 82%, or 9 out of 11 PoE, have introduced SOPs, while only 2 of the secondary PoE have put in place SOPs. When SOPs are in place, the majority of staff on site have been trained on these SOPs (82%, or 9 out of 11 PoE).

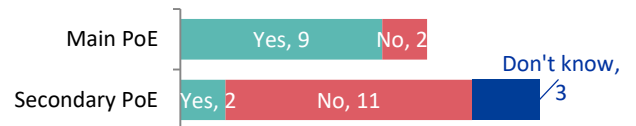
Graph 2: SOPs developed and put in place at assessed PoE



INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

At 11 of the 27 assessed PoE (41%), **hand-washing stations** are available. Hand-washing options are **lacking at two main PoE** and at at least 11 of the secondary points of entry. When hand-washing stations are available, **the majority (82%) are also equipped** with soap and water or chlorinated water.

Graph 4: Handwashing station on site



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as **disposable gloves and surgical masks are available for personnel at 9 out of 11 main POE (82%) and 2 out of 16 secondary POE (13%)**. It is important to note that PPE are consumable items, hence the availability of PPE might change rapidly at the different points.

NEXT STEPS

Conduct assessments at all other official PoE in Mauritania and share results with key stakeholders.

In coordination with stakeholders, identify PoE with main sanitary needs. Place a renewed focus on the "secondary" points of entry.

Develop and coordinate the roll-out of key activities to respond to the needs at PoE through the joint pillar working group on the points of entry.

COVID-19 Mobility Restriction Collection

Annex: Situation at the assessed PoE

	Is there a handwashing station at the site?	Is the handwashing station equipped with soap and water or chlorinated water?	Does an isolation space exist, for further evaluation of any suspect case away from crowds?	Is there a supply of surgical masks available at the site for suspected cases and companions?	Is the Ministry of health/local authority staff present at the site?	Operational status	Is there information about COVID-19 being provided at POE/site?
Adel Bagrou	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Boghé Debarcadere	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Douinkara (Fassala-Nere)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
El Melgue	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Gogui Zemal	No	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Gouraye Debarcadere	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Hamoud International Airport of Nouakchott	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Kaédi	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Nouadhibou (PK55)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Rosso (Bac)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Bousteila	No	TBC	TBC	No	Yes	Closed for entry and exit	No
Dar El Barka	No		No		Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Diana / Birette	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No
Gani	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No
Ghabou International Airport of Nouadhibou	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Jidrel Mohguen	TBC		No		Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Lexeiba 2	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No
M'Boyo	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No
Nouadhibou port	TBC		Yes		Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Ould Yengé	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Tifounde Cive	No		No		Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Tmeimichatt	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No
Touil	Yes	No	No		Yes	Closed for entry and exit	Yes
Wompou Debarcadère	No		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No
Yoummaniere	TBC		No		No	Closed for entry and exit	No

Are there SOPs in place at the site for managing flows, occupational health and safety of staff, and detection, registration, notification, management and referral of ill travellers?

	Do travellers know where to seek care if their symptoms worsen or if they develop symptoms and are at higher risk of severe symptoms	POE staff have been trained on how to manage flows during COVID-19 epidemic	Is PPE available for and worn by screeners (and all other workers) at the site?	Is there a referral system in place at the site?	Is there a health screening process at the site for travellers on foot and by vehicle?	Collection of a health declaration form?	Temperature check using non-contact thermometer?	Are there SOPs in place at the site for managing flows, occupational health and safety of staff, and detection, registration, notification, management and referral of ill travellers?
Adel Bagrou	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	TBC	Yes	No
Boghé Debarcadere	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Douinkara (Fassala-Nere)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	TBC	Yes	Yes
El Melgue	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Gogui Zemal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	TBC	Yes
Gouraye Debarcadere	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	TBC	Yes	Yes
Hamoud International Airport of Nouakchott	Yes	Yes	Yes	TBC	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Kaédi	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Nouadhibou (PK55)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Rosso (Bac)	TBC	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Bousteila	No	TBC	No	TBC	Yes	No	No	No
Dar El Barka	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Diana / Birette	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Gani	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Ghabou International Airport of Nouadhibou	No	TBC	No	No	No	No	No	No
Jidrel Mohguen	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Lexeiba 2	No	No	no	No	No	No	No	No
M'Boyo	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Nouadhibou port	Yes	TBC	Yes	Yes	Yes	TBC	Yes	TBC
Ould Yengé	No	TBC	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tifounde Cive	Yes	TBC	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tmeimichatt	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Touil	Yes	TBC	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Wompou Debarcadère	No	TBC	No	No	No	No	No	No
Yoummaniere	No	No	no	No	No	No	No	No