

**THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF  
MAURITANIA**

**MINISTRY OF RURAL AND ENVIROMENTAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**SYNERGY PROJECT  
CCD/CBD**

## **REINFORCING THE MAURITANIAN LEGAL JURISDICTION BY IMPLEMENTING GLIN**

**GLOBAL LEGAL INFORMATION NETWORK**  
<http://www.loc.gov/glin>

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**October 2001**

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## **PREAMBLE**

This report has been developed thanks to funding from the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ). It is prepared within the framework of the effort to harmonize environmental laws.

It was prepared under the authority of the Ministry of Rural and Environmental Development and in collaboration with the Official Gazette, the World Bank and the United States Congress Library of Law (the founder of GLIN).

The report demonstrates how implementing GLIN in Mauritania could be an effective development tool for the country, especially in such areas as: law reform; applying RIO Conventions; fighting poverty; good governance and the use of new technologies.

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

GLIN, of which Mauritania is one of the founding members, is a computerized legal network. There are 46 members at present. It is a network designed to store legislative texts and to channel them to member countries in the form of the original texts together with their summaries and references.

From a historical standpoint, laws in Mauritania are by and large borrowed from the French legal system. With time and by recommendations from investors, additional laws were added, but not always in a coherent way. As a result, there are quite often incompatibilities between texts of law. Harmonizing the texts is therefore an absolute necessity, inasmuch as it paves the way for citizens and investors to have better access to the law texts and even to a radical application of such. For these are the basic conditions for legal security, a prerequisite to investment.

Mauritania is an ideal location for a project such as GLIN. In fact, the government has made Democracy and Good Governance its highest political pursuit. New technologies are of highest priority. These factors together pave the way for putting in place a computerized legal network.

Therefore GLIN can facilitate coherence and accessibility of law texts, safeguard the Mauritanian legal heritage, harmonize parliamentary work, and ad-vance the project for improving the legal system. It therefore creates a favorable setting for legal security, which is attractive to investors (as per CSLP's request) and development partners. In addition, having ratified the RIO Conventions, Mauritania should meet all the requirements made by the said Conventions.

So far, funding for GLIN is well underway. Additional fund raising is necessary. In order for GLIN to put into effect, institutional, analytic, and technical support is needed. A planning proposal has been elaborated as a result.

Implementing GLIN in Mauritania would facilitate:

1. Reform of legal texts,
2. Allow public access,
3. Reinforce the country's institutional and legal capacity,
4. Facilitate the work of civil servants,
5. Improve conditions for investors (Single Counter),
6. Improve the management of natural resources,
7. Contribute to Good Governance and aid the program for State Modernization, and
8. Increase Mauritania's visibility on the internet.

Point 1, 2 and 6 are in themselves sufficient to strongly recommend that the projects of Synergy Support; Implementation of Conventions for Bio-Diversity and the Fight against Deforestation (GTZ-CCD/CBD Project) should support the implementation of GLIN.

## PRESENTATION OF GLIN

GLIN (Global Legal Information Network) is a computerized legal system information network.

### Goals

GLIN is a tool that was designed to facilitate the work of legal experts. It is a network specialized in matters of law, with the basic role of storing and providing legislative texts to member countries. Each GLIN member country has access to the laws of associate countries. This facilitates legal comparative studies and research based on a common method.

From the standpoint of globalization, GLIN helps to understand other cultural legal systems; contributes to comparative legal system studies within and among member countries and gives access to effective and advanced legal systems. In other words, it advances development by providing a series of good legal models.

### Structure

The GLIN database is made up of:

1. Original texts in the original language such as the constitution, codes procedures, decrees, statutes, court orders, and statistics related to laws, parliamentary debates, etc.,
2. Law text summaries (in English and in a choice of other languages),
3. Law references (in English and optional languages), and
4. Thesaurus (in English and a choice of other languages).

The use of original documents is imperative as a means of guaranteeing reliability, security and authenticity of information channeled to GLIN. NASA is in charge of the processing and, above all, of the protection and transmission of the database. Anyone can currently view **summaries** and **references** of laws via the Internet. However, **the texts themselves** are solely accessible to members.

### History

GLIN is not a new idea; it reaches back to the 1950s. It took the development of new information technology to bring this important concept to life. The United States Congress Library of Laws developed this network, of which Mauritania is a founding member. GLIN is a union of countries from all over the world (America, Asia, Africa and Europe) that commit themselves to send their respective legal databases to a temporary server of the Congress Library in Washington D.C.

### Funding

GLIN is a non-profit entity. Various institutions such as NASA, the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank have contributed to its development.

## **Projects**

Member countries of GLIN, of which there are currently forty-six, can share their experience and therefore be part in the development of the project on a long-term basis.

At a future stage, the general public will be granted access to law texts rather than just summaries and references, as is the case at present. Furthermore, there are plans to make it available to all languages through use of new and more powerful software (XML) currently under study.

## THE MAURITANIAN LEGAL CONTEXT

### The Need to Harmonize Laws

From the historical standpoint, laws in Mauritania are by and large borrowed from the French legal system. With time and upon the recommendations of investors, additional laws were added, but not always in a coherent manner. As a result, there are in many cases incompatibilities between the texts.

### Access to Legal Information

To this very day, access to the texts and information is still restricted, despite the efforts of the Government in this behalf. There are several reasons for this. The primary cause is restricted – if not non-existent – access of the general public to the Mauritanian Official Gazette. Publishing of the Official Gazette in computerized form began only in 1996. It is still not done on a regular basis although the issues from 1996 to 2001 exist on floppy disk. Actually, from 1959 to 1989 (forty years), the Official Gazette was published in Toulouse (France). Publishing only started in Nouakchott in June 1991 and that twice a month.

***Shortcomings in the publishing of information relative to the laws; difficult access to the Official Gazette by relevant parties; and some incoherence in the legal texts – all of these have created an atmosphere of risks and legal insecurity that is inhospitable to investors and which stifles economic growth and development.***

### Legal Guarantees and Investments

It is important to note that as long as there is a hint of legal risk, investors will not commit themselves. In such an environment, they are either absent or they may only be prepared to operate on a short-term basis.

For instance, in the area of the environment, the fight against deforestation and for bio-diversity can only be done if natural resources are managed on a long-term basis. So reforestation, protection of watered areas (“tamourt”) etc., can only be attempted in the long term. They therefore require investments on a long-term basis and as such make legal security vitally necessary.

Another example, still in the area of environment: clearing a forest to produce charcoal requires scarcely any investment creates but profit on a short-term basis. On the other hand, sufficient investment in reforestation with the ultimate goal of producing and commercializing charcoal will only be possible on a long-term basis, and calls for legal security in the laws regulating use of public lands (“Code Domaniale”) and the forest code (rights to exploiting a forest). Farmers usually are hesitant to reforest their outlying fields because of legal insecurity.

We realize then that the concept of legal security is not to be taken lightly. On the contrary, it is the tool by which means economic and social experts and citizens gain access and insight into the law, and therefore are made aware of their rights and duties.

***More coherence between the texts; better access for citizens and economic experts to the laws; and more rational application of such laws: these are the fundamental requirements for legal security, and are deciding factors in attracting investors.***

## IMPLEMENTING GLIN IN MAURITANIA

GLIN is a tool whose potential has by and large remained untapped. One might ask why that is so. Let us take Mauritania as an example. Observing its orientation in recent years it can be noted that there is a clear need for such services as GLIN can provide.

### Harmonizing Laws

GLIN's first service to Mauritania would be to carry out a national review of all laws presently in effect. Such a step presents multiple advantages:

- Weed out contradictions existing between different texts,
- Eliminate redundancies that have accumulated over the years,
- Deliver easy access to sparse texts on a specific theme, and
- Facilitate comparisons of similar texts from other countries.

The main objective is to harmonize texts, namely:

- On the one hand, harmonize different law texts dealing with a particular theme. For instance, Oil mining (from research to commercialization) will involve several laws such as; Mining code, Water Code, Environmental Law, etc.). For obvious reasons of credibility, it is imperative to insure that there be no contradictions between texts, and
- On the other hand, in the Mauritanian context, emphasis should be put on harmonization between texts handed down by the French, the Shari'a, customs and internationally ratified conventions that present some legal obligations.

Such a publication can only be made possible by elaborating a thesaurus and creating the required summaries with clear definitions of the keywords.

***It goes without saying that nowadays a work of such importance as that outlined above can only be done with the support of intelligent software such as GLIN.***

### Legibility of the Corpus Juris

Current politics in Mauritania are undoubtedly good governance oriented. For such politics full access to legal texts and their transparency are a sine qua non condition.

Nowadays, relationships between individuals, organizations and society are becoming increasingly complex. One of the conditions to development is for each citizen to be informed of his rights and duties and have adequate knowledge of the scope of his freedoms and that of others. The same requirements apply to economic and commercial relations.

Having said that, it is necessary to praise the Mauritanian government's willingness to use new technologies (ref. "Advantages and Development of New Technologies) as an instrument for development. GLIN is the perfect tool to improve Mauritanian citizens' access to legislation. Thanks to GLIN, access to law texts will no longer be restricted to experts as it used to be.

Open access has the potential to improve the country's present situation significantly. Even though the Official Gazette's intention is to make the laws accessible to the public, such access remains limited. Yet the government is under the obligation to publish and to diffuse to the public the whole of the law texts. When obligations are well defined, there is always a way of meeting them.

Once GLIN is set up, it will make access to publications such as the Official Gazette available to any and all, therefore relieving the Government of a heavy load of major financial significance.

### **The Mauritanian Parliament and Legal Heritage**

Not least among the advantages of GLIN is its capacity for storing parliamentary debates (in audio visual or written form). As a matter of fact, parliamentary debates are of major relevance to democracy. To this effect, their storing is fundamental to elaborating and applying the laws. GLIN could therefore contribute to safeguarding part of Mauritania's cultural heritage in the country's legal memory.

Moreover, it is obvious that GLIN could play a decisive role in the government's project for improving the Mauritanian legal system.

### **Value to Partners in Development**

GLIN could be an ideal support to cooperation. Consider that it is much easier for partners in development to operate in a reliable legal context rather than in a seemingly confusing legal context. For instance, in quite a number of areas, the State's rights and duties, such as its decentralized services, are not clearly defined in relation to those of the communes. In such conditions, partners in development may ask themselves who is responsible for a certain project and its follow up. It might be possible in some cases to answer that question, as for instance regarding investments relative to common property infrastructures. But the answer gets more complicated and confusing when it concerns the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. Such a situation is even more untenable in that the law, clearly expressed, is the sine qua non condition for development projects.

### **Value of GLIN for the CCD/CBD Project**

An illustration for the previous chapters can be found in a project such as "CCD/CDB Synergy Project".

The Project for Supporting Synergy and Implementation of Conventions for the Fight against Poverty and Biodiversity (CCD/CDB) was created in order to relieve difficulties encountered in the field.

Among those difficulties, two resulted in the delay of the process for good management of natural resources. On the one hand, this was the result of incoherence and contradictions between a number of law texts, mainly those relevant to the respective competences of various parties, namely the decentralized services. On the other hand, it was the result of their misunderstanding and even ignorance of these laws. In Mauritania, as in the rest of the world, the environment has become a major economic factor. Its protection is only possible by careful and regular management by those who

benefit from its resources. The challenge for Mauritania is to make the relationship between economics and ecology obvious, and especially to act to the best benefit of the concerned population. Otherwise, the necessary hospitable conditions would not exist to attract both national and international investors. The project's purpose is to overcome such obstacles by means of harmonizing and popularizing texts related to environment. These steps are by large required by the RIO conventions ratified by Mauritania (CCD in 1995 and CBD in 1996).

***Therefore, Mauritanian legal texts could be highly improved, and legal security consequently increased.***

## **CONDITIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING GLIN**

Having evaluated the State's needs and the constraints upon the project's implementation, it becomes obvious that harmonizing the texts and rendering them more transparent will be subject to a set of conditions.

Mauritania presents the ideal setting for a project such as GLIN. There is no doubt that Mauritanian politics are on the track of good governance and democracy. In addition the country has clearly defined new technology as one of its priorities. In sum, the ground is laid for implementing a computerized legal network.

### **New Technologies**

The importance of new technologies in this context is obvious. To this effect, one must applaud the creation for a Secretary of State for New Technologies. Its aim is to reinforce the population's capacity (subsidiary principle).

Between now and 2005, the Secretary of State for New Technologies aims to establish a computerized government (e-government). There is therefore a plan to set up a large administration network, which provides access to legal information.

In the same way, the Secretary of State for New Technology is presently working on a "Mauritanian Gateway for Development" (or RIM Gateway) meant to provide various legal information on the country.

Already Mauritania has received a loan from the World Bank to finance the "RIM Gateway". GLIN could provide the necessary legal information, making the task easier.

It is clear that the Gateway could not replace GLIN, which is a specialized medium with authentic, secure and up-to-date legal information. It goes without saying that cooperation between these two networks would be very useful and beneficial to Mauritania.

In the Mauritanian context, the tremendous potential of GLIN is not at present being tapped, nor can it be. GLIN can be employed within the framework of international exchange for research or comparative studies. It can also be used for the reform of the legal system that the Mauritanian government has in view. For this to happen certain conditions need to be met, for example: the introduction of Arabic and French in addition to English as primary languages. With the support of GLIN in Washington, such a step is quite feasible.

It is imperative that Mauritania develops a thesaurus in French and Arabic with summaries in French, English and Arabic. The complete texts must also be made available online (Ref. On annex "the importance of documentary work").

The present GLIN uses the PDF format that allows for storage and information searches. As a matter of fact, this format helps insure authenticity, reliability and easy access to files as well as providing rapid response search engines based on keywords defined in the GLIN thesaurus, which is at present available in English only. These constraints will be done

away with thanks to the XML format that is flexible, solid and easily adaptable. It has the advantage of being able to integrate Arabic characters, different from the Latin based languages. Any work done before in the PDF format would be convertible once the XLM format is installed.

### **The State**

In order to reach the above-mentioned goals, some preliminaries need to be provided by the Mauritanian government:

1. Public access to integral law texts. This leads to the second condition for implementing GLIN in a manner conducive to reform and easy access for the public:
2. Governmental assumption of the activity of the Official Gazette and GLIN, including their eventual additional running costs. The spin-offs of investment growth both nationally and internationally, given increased legal security, should amply justify an integral take over of the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

### **Funding**

GLIN goals are both ambitious and important. The task undertaken should not be that of a single project. Individuals and the community of investors should instead support it. It has become obvious to everyone that the environmental issue is at present inescapable, as much for the World Bank as for the BMZ (to mention only two), particularly when considered within the strategic framework of the fight against poverty. For this reason, the World Bank and the GTZ will be participating in the process of harmonizing the texts.

In the same spirit, the World Bank has already given its support to the Official Gazette as the legal component of the Private Sector Support (loan 2703-MAU). It would be helpful if the country could benefit from extra aid from that same institution, and even from other investors in order to develop GLIN. It is then necessary to study in what manner the CCD/CBD project can back up such an undertaking.

## **PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATION FOR IMPLEMENTING GLIN IN MAURITANIA**

Once the necessary conditions are in place, it is possible to affirm that the implementation of GLIN in Mauritania could be one of the pillars for the improvement of the country's legal security system. The areas in which GLIN would contribute are as follow:

1. Reinforce legal texts,
2. Give access to the laws,
3. Reinforce the legal facilities of the country,
4. Facilitate the work of civil servants,
5. Improve conditions for investment. (Single Counter),
6. Improve management of natural resources,
7. Contribute to Good Governance and the State modernization program, and
8. Increase Mauritania's visibility on the Internet.

Points 1, 2 and 6 are by themselves sufficient enough to strongly recommend that the 'Synergy Support Project and Implementation of Conventions for Bio-diversity and the Fight against Desertification and Poverty' support implementation of GLIN.

### **Institutional Support**

It will be necessary to first reinforce the human resources of the Official Gazette in order that they may effectively implement and manage this new tool. It goes without saying that introducing such a new instrument will require a different kind of staff profile and ability from the work of a traditional Official Gazette. It follows that there should be an internal reorganization of the Gazette. It should not be overlooked that implementing GLIN would require funding that far surpasses the budget of the Official Gazette (Ref. 'Logical Out-line', 'Planning' on annex).

### **Software**

Running GLIN requires analysis and indexing of texts, definition of keywords, elaboration of summaries in English, French and Arabic and the creation of a thesaurus in French and a thesaurus in Arabic. Already the PDF format is by and large sufficient for its integral functioning in both French and English as well as allowing for the introduction of texts in Arabic provided they are scanned. The adoption of the XML format, which is foreseeable, would allow the introduction of Arabic characters for both the thesaurus and the summaries. It is important to note that developing a thesaurus in Arabic could be facilitated through an eventual cooperation with Kuwait, which is currently working on an Arabic thesaurus. The similarity of the religious context and the ethics standards of both countries render this suggestion even more auspicious.

Note that a Mauritanian GLIN that should decide to create a French thesaurus version for GLIN Central (Non-existent at present) would obtain

from the later (this is its commitment) a computerized version of its thesaurus, which could be converted into a format with two columns respectively in French and English.

Once that work is done it will be transferred to a CD-ROM and sent to GLIN Central.

It must be highlighted that each member country should present its legal system in writing to GLIN Central before the end of November.

### **Hardware**

It is of fundamental significance to realize the scope of the technical steps to be undertaken in order to implement GLIN:

- Collect and store databases of the Official Gazette in a computerized form,
- Scan and process texts and cross-check their conformity under the oversight of the Directors of Legislation and Translation,
- Convert the PDF format texts (to be converted into XML format),
- Transfer database to GLIN Central,
- Secure databases on CD-ROM and transmit them to GLIN Central, and
- Update by e-mail or by connection to the GLIN Mauritania server, via a specialized line to GLIN Central in Washington.

To carry out such a task, it is important to complete the existing Official Gazette materials and guarantee the running of its internal computerized network.

Furthermore, GLIN must be connected to a specialized line of 64Kbps. At present, the cost of installing such a circuit would be 300.000 UM per month including a 150.000 UM connection charge. Given these investment costs, it would be expedient to use a government server or to benefit from facilities unique to GLIN Mauritania.

### **Making Laws Accessible to All**

The crucial step of making the law texts available to the public cannot be taken until the above-mentioned conditions for implementing GLIN are carried out.

Public accessibility would first of all require identifying the intermediaries (civil servants and private citizens) who are concerned and involved with the text of law, and who have the ability to communicate and make those laws accessible to the sectors of the population that they affect.

Avoiding exhaustive details, such a list would include:

- Members of Parliament, Senators, Mayors, Town Counselors,
- Judges, Civil Servants,
- Private investors,
- Partners in development,
- Imams and moral authorities, and

- Internet café owners.

Once these people have been selected, they will need to be trained to use GLIN by means of the Internet. Also, a media-based campaign would have to be launched to explain the existence, role, importance and function of GLIN.

## **LIST OF PEOPLE CONSULTED**

Dr H.-W. Wabnitz (World Bank)  
Dr D. F. Thies (CCD/CBD Synergy Project)  
Dr Janice Hyde (Program Officer, The Law Library of Congress)  
Dr R. Medina (GLIN Director, United State Library of Congress)  
Professor Steven D. Jamar (Professor of Law, Washington DC)  
Herve Gogo (ALL.M/Frankfort/Legal Consultant)  
Cheikh Ahmedou Ould Chiekh (Computer Scientist)  
Ab. Jaime Nogales Torres (CESC Chairman, GLIN Ecuador)

## **DOCUMENTS CONSULTED**

Global Legal Network; CHARTER Law Library of Congress; July 2001  
Norwegian Trust Fund (NTF) Proposal; World Bank Group; NTF-RIM-TFT;  
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Summary of Revised GLIN Bylaws; July 1999  
Procedure for Election of Executive Councilors and Board of Trustees; GLIN  
GLIN and the Global Gateway; Ideal Synergy World Bank November 2000  
Financing Request World Bank; Draft; May 2000  
Letters; Hans Wabnitz, September 2000  
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Land Law Reformation: RDI Program Component; Process and Prospect in  
Land Law Reform's China Program; June 2001  
Safeguard Mauritania Operation. HWW October 2001  
Strategic Framework of Poverty Reduction-Thematic Group 12 NTIC  
Information and Communication of New Technologies: Chairman Mahfoud  
Ould Brahim; Reporter: Fatimetou Mint Med Saleck; June 2000  
SETN; Strategy Mapping. June 2001

Poverty can only be decreased through economic development and/or a balanced sharing of common resources. As long as there is a legal risk, investments can be made only on a short-term basis or not at all. This applies not only to economic increase but to the environment as well. For instance, the production of charcoal on a forest site needs hardly any investment and will be profitable throughout the process. On the other hand, reforestation for charcoal production is only possible on a long-term basis and demands some legal security, essentially local services and the right to access public property. The scenario is the same with inheritance simply because the investments demand a certain period of time in order to realize profit.

The reason most farmers do not reforest their lands has to do with legal insecurity, for they are not sure they themselves or the generation to come will benefit from the input of their labor. Short-term vision, ignorance and lack of interest as far as environment is concerned should not be the reasons why investments are scarce.

One of the reasons why legal insecurity exists is the fact that the economic agents (those in development and/or trade) ignore the law. As the law becomes accessible to all, injustice will give way to general knowledge of the law. This gives both the population and the investors the capacity to know their rights and therefore defend themselves.

The fight against deforestation and the fight for bio-diversity can only be done through a long-term management of the resources. Basic accessibility to the laws is an absolute necessity if we expect investment on a long-term basis (reforestation, the protection of the watered zones of Tamourts, etc.).

## **GLIN AND THE REINFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS**

Most Mauritanian laws are based on the French jurisdiction system of the colonial era. Since independence, additional laws have been added throughout the different political regimes. As a result, laws that are not always compatible and are sometimes even contradictory exist side by side. The review of the entire system of laws currently in effect should be done stage by stage, with the help of summaries and a clear definition of key words. This will facilitate the work of comparing laws, which have different words yet express the same thoughts. In addition, emphasis should be put on the necessity to harmonize the wording codes of Napoleon with those of the *sharia* and the traditions and the conventions ratified by Mauritania. It is also necessary to adopt laws that can guide the various rules already in place to govern the environment in the various socio-economic and ecologic regions of Mauritania.

This is not only possible; it is easily facilitated through a computerized bank such as GLIN. Such a system is ideal; it is simple, economic, practical and useable.

## **ADVANTAGES AND EVOLUTION OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN MAURITANIA**

Mauritania strongly embraces the installation of a project such as GLIN. The government is determined to make new technologies a priority of its politics. For example, computer technology and the Internet have been developed rapidly within the country. In 1975, the Ministry of Finance created the Office of Computer Technology. Fifteen years later a body of consultants were formed to promote information and communication technologies. In the mid 80s the first PC arrived. In 1998, an Internet center was created to promote the use of computers in the administration. In 2001, the Secretary of State for new technologies was created.

It is impressive to see how the Internet is gaining ground. Organized popularization of new technology continues, with dozens of cyber cafes popping up all over the country to serve the rapidly growing number of Internet users. Starting from that first center in 1998, today more than 30,000 Mauritians use the internet with several hundred of websites Mauritanian.mr, Mauritania's official site, in addition to other sites of the label elsewhere (.com, .org, etc.). Meanwhile, the development of new infrastructures continues its explosive growth, with projects such as the future Nouakchott Technopole in cooperation with the

underwater Africa One cable connection of several hundreds of GBs (gigabytes) instead of the existing 3MBs (three-megabytes). The Internet is now available in every major city of the country. SETN **SPELL OUT ACRONYM** plans to develop Universal Access, leading into a computerized government by the year 2005. The government will set up an administrative network to provide access to legal information. Finally, SETN is currently developing a gateway to the Internet and a sophisticated network aiming at a maximum accessibility for all aspects economic and legal aspects of Mauritania. This will lead to the Mauritania Development Gateway (also known as the RIM Gateway) financed by the World Bank. All this provides a propitious environment for GLIN development in Mauritania; especially as the strategic settings for new technology development elaborated by the Secretary of the State has the same facilities. In fact, this last one is more than exciting, as we know that GLIN fits directly and perfectly in three of these seven previously adopted axis:

- The second axis, which deals with the modernization of the states
- The fifth axis, which deals with the visibility of Mauritania on the web/net
- The sixth axis, which deals with the reinforcement of legal jurisdiction of the country

The implementation of GLIN fits perfectly in the framework of the government program and provides ways to SETN to carry out some of its goals.

### **GLIN POTENTIALS AND APPLICATIONS: The interest of this tool**

The publishing of the laws through the Internet with GLIN first of all allows the increase of accessibility to the official newspaper, which so far has been printed and distributed in an insufficient number. Now, only the record office is available to help with the comparative analysis of laws. GLIN will tremendously lighten the heavy work of comparing the various laws and harmonizing their wording. This last argument is sufficient in itself to encourage the implementation of GLIN.

The benefits of GLIN are numerous. Given its present rapid growth, it will in the near future help citizens have access to the laws of their country. Through the channel of GLIN, examples of countries with advanced and effective legal systems are presently available. Examples and models of development of laws, in the context of globalization, can be studied, and additionally, GLIN provides access to authentic documents as well as comparative legal work. There are many other advantages, such as multilingualism. It allows for the understanding of different legal cultures between various member countries, such as the introduction of written legal jurisdiction, opinions, legal reports, and commentaries of international organizations, to name a few. Future plans mean to include parliamentary debates, which at once open up the why and how of the existence of specific laws. Peru has suggested that video films of parliamentary debates be included as support to printed matters. All this shows that GLIN has the ability and the goodwill to maintain focus on its specialization area which is legal jurisdiction.

### **FUNCTION OF GLIN**

GLIN has been created to serve not only professionals, but also the citizens of its 46 member countries. At present, anyone with access to the Internet can view summaries and legal references; however, the laws themselves are only accessible to members. Several countries in Latin America and Asia currently share responsibility for the training of future technicians and jurists from neighboring countries that have recently joined GLIN. Currently, GLIN of Central America receives all the information sent by member countries; however, soon they hope to have a server on each continent.

### **EVOLUTION OF GLIN**

The GLIN specialized information network is for the time being an archivist of the legislations and laws of the member states. Given the importance of these documents, it is crucial to guard them so that they cannot be modified in any way or form. The system is used by the majority of members as well as the United States; Acrobat Reader 5.0. NASA, who has just renewed its contract with the United States Library of Congress for a period of

five years, provides assistance in processing and protects transmissions of data. The original language and wording of the laws remain intact in the original languages, but summaries in English are attached.

The potential risk of losing documents is already being addressed. Documents are filed in several places, so that even if one copy were to be lost, several other copies would exist. Use of original documents is required; this guarantees the authenticity of the information.

The compulsory language of GLIN is English. However, French and Arabic are essential for Mauritania. Countries with Spanish or Portuguese as their primary language have added summaries in their own tongue to the English-language summaries; this would be an obvious solution for Mauritania.

GLIN remains in a perpetual quest for improvement. For instance, GLIN expects to move from the PDF system to the Legal XML, a new system that has yet to be made available commercially. XML is very flexible, multi-lingual, and secure; it will be extremely effective in this context.

## **OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT**

From purchase of computer materials to the setting up of GLIN stations, expenses will total \$10,000 US. (Please see Appendix for a list of the required materials.) In the case of Mauritania, two stations are needed because of the number of texts to be processed. An additional computer may be needed for filing, to ensure that the premises are fully equipped. The number of computers available for use will depend on need and could be financed by individuals or corporations in the legal system.

Training would naturally be required for the technicians and legal experts. This will take place at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC in May 2002. Trainees will be taught how the system functions and how to write proper documentary analyses. They should already have a base of computer knowledge and be fluent in English. Training expenses are covered by the Library's legal fund, but trainees will be expected to cover travel expenses as well as living expenses (room and board) during the session. To ensure the correct functioning of the system, each country is required to minimally send a technician and a legal expert. The legal expert should have experience and sufficient authority to authenticate the filed texts. The technician should have a strong base of computer science. It is strongly recommended that support personnel also be sent.

Each member country is required to connect their GLIN station to the Internet at a connection equivalent to 64,000bps, with the possibility of increasing that speed in the future.

## **MAURITANIA: THE GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER NETWORKS**

The Gateway or Global Development project was put in place by the World Bank with the aim of collecting all the information on development for a specific locality and making it available with a simple click of the mouse on the World Bank server. It was conceived for all those involved in development, whether communities, organizations or individuals, and provides them a place to gain information, share ideas and experiences, dialogue with each other, and gain partners in the fight against poverty. Gateways give a wide range of information, including legal.

Mauritania has just been given a loan from the World Bank to set up an RIM Gateway and GLIN will provide the legal aspect that will enhance the Gateway as a whole and give it a larger scope. The Gateway is not a replacement of GLIN, which is a specialized station with authentic information, updated regularly. However, the two entities can complement each other, and their work will profit the nation as a whole.

As a matter of fact, there are multiple legal networks available on the Internet such as the Canadian network that is bilingual (French and English). Though specific to Canada but consultable by other countries. It is however limited and monolingual.

It would also be expedient to simply publish environmental laws on the CHM (Clearing House Mechanism), which allows a full text accessible on widely-used operating systems such as Windows. Except that this network is not secure as it is the case with the GLIN through the assistance of the NASA.

### **GLIN: INTEREST FOR THE RIO CONVENTIONS**

GLIN contributes an increased transparency and knowledge of respective laws to those who are most affected by them. Up until today, access to laws in Mauritania has been very limited due to the general inaccessibility of the official gazette. Any technique with the potential to increase access to common laws, by socio-professional organizations, administrators, experts, and the civilian society will help guarantee that these laws will be kept. A developing country that empowers itself for the fight against poverty through an increase of its GNP should allow a share of the profit to certain areas and specialties. This is only feasible when there is a legal guarantee and when there is knowledge of the law by all those involved.

This will revolve around the comparative work of its thesaurus. In the future, GLIN will render its services not only to member countries, but also to legal professionals and intermediaries such as parliamentarians, eventually including business people. This provides a legal guarantee that GLIN's criteria are relevant to environmental and economic projects in perennial development. This goes beyond simply informing those involved in the law and being a work tool for legal reformation. It also is a tool for informing the general populace of their rights and duties. For developing countries, this aspect will be fundamental. The aim is to popularize in the true sense of the word the standards, rights, and duties of each citizen and resident, rather than making the laws only accessible to those who can afford them, either financially or professionally.

Mauritania has already created a Secretary of State for New Technologies (which has led to the installation of internet networks in most major cities). This reveals a political willingness to improve the general populace's access to the laws. It is obvious that GLIN would help immensely in this area, especially in legal reformation concerning environmental laws, transparency in the legal system, and the popularization of these laws.

Of immediate concern is the set up of GLIN Mauritania, specifically the required means for effective implementation. A partner is necessary. The environment has practically become an avoidable topic for the World Bank as well as for GTZ (SPELL OUT ACRONYM!), particularly in the strategic area of the fight against poverty. Therefore, the work ahead cannot just be that of one isolated project, but should be an initiative of the non-trading company and investors. Related to that, it is said that all the World Bank projects and those of ATZ (SPELL OUT) will be included in the process of text harmonization.

World Bank support for Mauritania will not be immediate, because the Bank has already awarded support to the Official Gazette as a legal component to the private sector (loan 2701-MAU). However, as GLIN begins its initial function with environmental laws, Mauritania could receive aid from the World Bank and other investors and organizations. Ecuador, for example, was able to set up a GLIN station and run it through an NGO, without needing any public funding. It is worth examining how a CCD/CBD project could facilitate such a work, and at what cost.

### **EXISTING IN MAURITANIA: Implementation in Mauritania**

Four computers are already available to the GLIN Mauritania network (DELL OPTIPLEX 5400). One of these needs to be set aside for the director and connected to the organization's internet center, serving as a local network. This network has a defective cable so the Internet connection is poor. The second computer is for the assistant director and has

a printer. The remaining two is dedicated to research (DELL OPTIPLEX 5400 GMT). A training based on a text database took place in 1996.

At present, the research system is as follows: Any person who needs information on a law will come in and have his request sent to the file keeper, which will retrieve the legal document he requested.

From 1959-1988, the Mauritanian "Official Gazette" was published in Toulouse then sent to Nouakchott. In June 1991, publication was moved directly to Nouakchott. From 1996 to 2000, it was published in computerized form, but that was discontinued. Gazettes from this time period are available on a diskette. Since 1998, the Gazette has been published twice a month.

The CCD/CBD synergy project has financed a filing unit with software capable of processing Arabic, antivirus software, and a scanner with an automatic power supply option.

Expected: An engraver, an Acrobat Writer 5.0, and software for created web pages. The project has also financed training for people entitled to use these materials. Other trainings are planned, on topics such as how to create PDF documents with Acrobat Writer. One of the major risks today is losing documents in the filing process due to a computer infected with a virus. This needs to be dealt with. Another problem is the area of key words and the lack of a thesaurus. So far, there has been consensus in choosing the principles of key words, and GLIN is certainly the most radical and effective solution to this.

A web site has been attempted already, and texts from the year 2000 are accessible on it.

## **IMPORTANCE OF THE WORK OF DOCUMENTARY ANALYSIS**

Of vital importance to the effectiveness of GLIN Mauritania are the documentary work, and therefore the quality of the workers themselves. They need to be well acquainted with the work behind a thesaurus; the summing and indexing of topics and the choosing of key words.

Documentary analysis aims to represent the document's context in simplified form. This facilitates consultation at a further stage, since the original documents are lengthy and complex. Its mission is more or less to give birth to a second document.

Primary methods are indexing of key words and summary. Indexing aims to carry out an effective representation of the concepts contained in the documents by extracting them through analysis. These key words are descriptors, authorized terms to be used in a thesaurus to the exception of any others. Summarizing condenses the document to its essential information, which is easily useable. Each summary must be technically accurate.

It is important for GLIN to have a filing clerk as well as a jurist to assist in these documentary works.

There are several types of summaries:

- Title summaries
- Descriptive summaries: 10-30 words; processed matters; major divisions of the document; key ideas
- Indicative summaries: 50-200 words; more detailed than descriptive summaries; disciplines; parties
- Informative summaries: 100-300 words
- Abstraction: 300+ words; parts of the document
- Digest: reduction of original by about 50%; 300+ words

In the framework of GLIN, the most appropriate types of summaries will be descriptive, indicative, and informative. No matter the type of summary, certain rules must be followed:

short phrases, active forms, no abbreviations or repeating of titles, use of third person, etc. This underscores the importance of proper training for the workers at GLIN Mauritania. The thesaurus is a words/idiom dictionary. This elaboration requires the use of strict techniques and therefore cannot be entrusted to a simple filing clerk. It applies to a particular area of knowledge and needs to be protected from common speech mistakes such as synonyms and words that sound alike but have different meanings. The putting in place of key words will help it to avoid much repetition. The thesaurus is alphabetically arranged terms for analyzing and classifying documents. GLIN's thesaurus is small but can be modified to meet current needs. It divides all law-related items into 100 categories. It is vital to facilitate the research of legal documents.

So far, no French or Arabic thesaurus exists, although fellow GLIN member Kuwait (glinkt@moj.gov.kw) is working on an Arabic one. GLIN Mauritania will eventually want to have both in place, to ensure that the traditions and *sharia* are taken into consideration.

### **ADVANTAGE OF A GLIN MAURITANIA**

Mauritanian legal texts will be given a much greater security with the creation of GLIN Mauritania. The creation of this computerized storage system will safeguard Mauritania's legal historic heritage, with its intact record of laws even after they have been repealed. Another advantage is that the judicial system will be improved, if Mauritania pursues the decision to publish in writing all court judgments. GLIN is contemplating the addition of new categories such as parliamentary debates and integral court decisions. GLIN will be a pre-eminent tool to bring about a new era of jurisprudence.

Gateway Mauritania will not be a real competitor, because it will not measure up to GLIN. It will not be able to ensure the reliability or the authenticity of legal information, and won't be updated as meticulously as GLIN. The eventual reworking of GLIN into the XML format, which is more sophisticated and flexible than the currently-used PDF format, will tremendously ease trade and communication in the global legal community.

## **SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATION**

### *UTILITY OF GLIN IN MAURITANIA*

#### **REINFORCEMENT OF THE STATE OF RIGHTS**

There is no doubt that Mauritanian politics are on the track of good governance. One of the pillars of good governing is the state of rights. In this area, transparency and availability of legal texts are of the utmost importance.

#### **IGNORANCE OF THE LAW NO EXCUSE**

In a developing society, relationships between individuals, organizations and society as a whole can get more and more complex. The basis for this development should include informing each citizen of his rights and duties. He should acquire a basic orientation to guide him in the appreciation of his own freedom as well as other's freedoms. Commerce, production and the economy of any country in general are principles worth developing.

#### **LEGIBILITY OF THE CORPUS JURIS**

The reason for the existence of the Official Gazette is to make the laws accessible to the public. The state holds the responsibility to publish these texts at its own expense. The willingness of the Mauritanian government to use new technologies as instruments to fulfill this responsibility, when put into the framework of globalization, points to the usefulness of GLIN to help it carry out its duty to improve access to legislation for Mauritanian citizens.

## **FINANCIAL ADVANTAGES**

Financial advantages are at two levels: a direct advantage for the Official Gazette and an indirect advantage through investments:

1. Expenses reduction. The obligation of the Official Gazette to guarantee access to legislation can be assessed by the number of people who have access to it. If the Gazette is written and printed traditionally, higher numbers will equal higher cost, in printing, dispatch bills, copies, organizations, etc. The advantage of GLIN is that anyone who needs to can have access to the publication without interference of any kind. This means that citizens, members of parliament, judges, professional organizations, and communities can all have access to the information, allowing the State to fulfill its obligation without spending any extra money. The simple cost of producing enough Official Gazettes to inform all the communities and parliamentarians, which is the minimum requirement, is far beyond the initial investment and running costs of a GLIN station.
2. Investment. Investments are done on the basis of profit-earning and potential risks. The more the risks, the higher the rate of profit earning should be. The basic factor determining potential risks is legal security, which is in turn determined from what percentage of investors can commit themselves. A high risk would be 150% or more, and a low risk, as in the case of Europe, would be around 50%.

Legal security depends, in part, on the transparency and accessibility to laws and on coherence between legal texts. Contradictions between laws can lead to contradictory interpretations. This does not inspire legal security and therefore does not encourage investors.

Mauritania's government has understood the perspective offered by new technologies, and guaranteed their accurate use by creating a Secretary of State for New Technologies. One outcome of this good handling of the situation is the flow of investments. GLIN is an application of new technologies, offering information and communication, and is a useful component for transparency as well as harmonizing laws.

## **LEGAL GUARANTEE: LEGAL SECURITY**

### **GLIN UNIT FOR PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT**

A handicap out of many of a successful development project is its setting conditions. Legislation is a fundamental pillar, both for the project itself and for its relationship within the community. For example, in sectorial texts that predate decentralization, there is no hint as to the role of the community. In quite a number of areas, the rights and duties of the community are not clarified. Which leads to the question: Who is responsible for the project and the after-project? This can be made clear during investment on aerial infrastructures, but it is much less clear in the area of private development. GLIN will be an ideal support for decision-making for general operation.

### **INTEREST OF GLIN FOR CCD/CBD PROJECT**

The CCD/CBD project, which involves the implementation of conventions for biodiversity and the fight against deforestation, was created to deal with difficulties encountered by projects in the field, which are often the direct result of a lack of good management of natural resources. This lack is often justified by the incoherence of certain legal texts, specifically between centralized and decentralized services. Without going into details, it is a fact that a country like Mauritania cannot afford to not protect her natural resources. This is only possible by managing those who use the environment, which implies the need to bridge economy and ecology. As a matter of fact, investment in the area of natural resources would rarely reach more than five percent (reforestation, protection of the Tamourts, wells, dykes, etc.) as observed in the paragraph dealing with investment. In order for this to happen, there needs to be harmonization within the legal texts and communication of those texts to those involved.

These are required by the RIO convention, which was ratified by Mauritania (CCD in 1995 and CBD in 1996). GLIN will facilitate this.

## **STRUCTURE OF GLIN**

In the context of Mauritania, GLIN's enormous potential is not used or fit for use. For the time being, GLIN can be served for research in international comparative studies. Once the thesaurus and summaries are in place, however, it can be used as an instrument to inform the public, publishing and popularizing legal texts and helping the State fulfill its obligations in this area. The thesaurus and summaries should be put on the web.

The official language of GLIN is English. However, it is well worthwhile for Mauritania to pursue adding additional languages such as French and Arabic.

GLIN currently uses the PDF format to stock and access information. This format ensures the authenticity and readability of the documents and provides an easy-to-use card index with research based on key words defined in the thesaurus, which is also in English. It would be an excellent set-up for Mauritians if only the linguistic barriers could be removed. The weaknesses could be compensated for by integrating languages with different characters into Latin script and, eventually, with the adaptability of the XML format presently under study. When adopted, XML will be able to convert all PDF files.

This coverage well meets current needs, such as the need for public access and communication required by the RIO convention and the CCD/CBD project. This access will be available to all government workers, communities, members of parliament, NGOs, and non-trading companies, rather than limited to a few experts. Moreover, Mauritania has the willingness and the means through her network to give full access to the public to the laws. GLIN does not allow member countries to publish the laws of other member countries.

GLIN is an excellent tool for popularization in itself, and will only become more effective as it develops further. It is a tool that will contribute greatly to the economic and social development of Mauritania.

## **THE STATE**

In order to reach these end-results, the state of Mauritania will need to provide some preliminary agreements.

1. The public should have full access to the laws in all their integrity.
2. The take-over of the running of the Official Gazette newspaper and the running costs of GLIN, including staff salaries. This indirectly implies that it will be impossible to commercialize even a portion of the Gazette, since most people will not buy a paper that can be found free on the Internet. However, this loss of potential income will be more than made up for by the increase in investments, both national and international, as a result of the improvement to legal security.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The implementation of GLIN Mauritania would greatly improve legal security; however, this will be possible only if the required conditions are adopted:

1. Reformation of legal texts.
2. Popularization of laws.
3. The implementation of good governance and the modernization of the state program
4. Contributions to make Mauritania more visible on the internet
5. Reinforcement of legal and institutional strength
6. The easing of work for elected officials
7. Improvement of basic conditions for investments
8. Improvement of management of natural resources

Only points 1, 2, and 8 would be sufficient in themselves to uphold the implementation of GLIN and the CCD/CBD project. To guarantee a right process of this implementation, the support should be done on an institutional, analytic and technical basis.

## **INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT**

First of all, the human resources of the Official Gazette need to be reinforced, to enable it to meet the new technology. In fact, there may need to be some movement of personnel, since the work will differ significantly from that of the traditional paper. That implies, of course, a reformation of the internal organization. GLIN itself calls for funds beyond the budget of a traditional paper. (See logical framework, planning on Annex)

## **SOFTWARE**

GLIN setup requires software capable of the following: analysis, indexing, choice and definition of key words, elaboration of summaries in English, French and Arabic, and the creation of a thesaurus in French and Arabic.

Until the adoption of XML can introduce Arabic characters into GLIN, the PDF format will be sufficient to carry out the work in English and in French. In the meantime, it would be advisable for Mauritania to work closely with Kuwait, which is in the process of developing an Arabic thesaurus. This not only diminishes the cost to Mauritania, but strengthens the possibility of a comparative legal work between Arab-speaking nations. In other words, it would be advantageous to partner with countries that share a religious context and ethical standards.

If Mauritania were to produce a French version of the thesaurus, that would not only be a great help to Central GLIN but also a testimony of willingness on Mauritania's part that would be greatly appreciated by the U.S. Library of Congress. However, it would be important to follow the format of the existing English thesaurus, including specific terms and association relationships. Uruguay did this when it created a Spanish thesaurus. Central GLIN would provide a computerized version of their thesaurus that could be put into a two-column format, with English on one side and French on the other. All this can be done with a standard version of Microsoft Word. It is absolutely necessary for the thesaurus to be completed by professionals, because the analysis, the indexing (including key word options), and the summaries depend on the thesaurus. If it is not done well, the accessibility of GLIN Mauritania is compromised. Once the work is completed, it should be transferred to a CD-ROM and sent to Central GLIN.

N.B. By the end of November 2001, each member country is asked to make a presentation of its legal system. This would include the system of hierarchy. This provides Mauritania with a great opportunity to express her strong desire to set up GLIN.

## **HARDWARE**

It is important to realize the level of the technical process needed for GLIN:

- Collection and storage of a data base of the Official Gazette
- Scanning and data collections

Control of conformity under the responsibility of the Director of Legislation and the Transtation (??) Director

- Conversion into PDF format (and later to XML)
- Transfer of data base from the server to Central GLIN; and/or
- Securing of data on CD-ROM and conveying that to GLIN
- The ability to update via email or internet connection to the GLIN Mauritania server via a specialized line from Central GLIN.

To succeed at this, it will be necessary to complete the Official Gazette material and to ensure a good quality local network. GLIN should be connected to a specialized line of at

least 64,000bps at the rate of 300,000UM per month (equal to the system used by the Provider and cyber-cafes) with 150,000UM for connection costs. It would be expedient to study the possibilities of a link with a state server, if one can be found, or of working it out with GLIN.

## **POPULARIZATION OF LAWS**

This crucial stage will not be taken of until GLIN is operational under the above listed conditions. First of all, intermediaries with an interest in law will be chosen. Then, government officials and others in the community who depend professionally on these laws will be selected to communicate these laws to the population.

Without making this an exhaustive list, they would be:

- Elected officials; members of parliament, senators, mayors, town officers
- Judges, government officers
- NGOs, OSPs
- Private investors, partners in development
- Imams, etc.

Once these people are identified, they will be trained to use the internet (possibly in cyber cafes) and in the use of GLIN. Parallel to this will be a media campaign on the existence and usefulness of GLIN.

## ANNEX 1: PLANNING PROPOSAL

Project goal: Implementation of GLIN with the aim to facilitate the harmonization and accessibility of laws (an initiative of TFT)					
Results	Activities	Leaders	Partners	Indicators	Conditions
Implement GLIN to facilitate harmonizing and accessibility to laws		Official Gazette		(1) Research with GLIN-Mauritania, (2) Research by private investors	(1) State guarantee of GLIN openness, (2) Include laws in their integrality
<b>Institutional support</b>					
Reinforcement of human resources	Elaborate staff profile for implementing GLIN		CCD/CBD & BM		
	Official Gazette	Official Gazette			
	Comparative evaluation of the existing Official Gazette staff and required profiles	Various Directors	CCD/CBD & BM & GLIN Washington		
	Elaborate lacking profiles in the Official Gazette	Various Directors	CCD/CBD & BM & GLIN Washington		
	Existing Official Gazette staff training for special jobs	GLIN Washington			
	Supplementary staff recruitment in case of need				
	Job description and work system organization	Official Gazette		Functional work	
	Put databases on CD-ROM and submit to GLIN. Actualize and transfer by email or through GLIN-Mauritania connection server via special line to Central GLIN (USA)			Database published to GLIN	
Fund raising	Budget development		CCD/CBD & BM		
	Permanent staff + Running + Training + Material		CCD/CBD & BM		
	Project request development intended for investors capable of supporting the TFT initiative				
<b>Software</b>					
Mauritanian legal system presentation		Official Gazette	CCD/CBD	Report	
Analytical software development	Indexing analysis (definition of key words)	Legal Director	Legal expert		

<b>Results</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Leaders</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Conditions</b>
	Summary elaboration in French, Arabic and English	Legal and Trad. Director		Summaries	
	Creation / Conception of French thesaurus	Legal and Trad. Director		Thesaurus	
	Creation / Conception of Arabic thesaurus	Legal and Trad. Director	Cooperation with Kuwait	Thesaurus	
<b>Hardware</b>					
Database processing	Save Official Gazette databases already existing in computerized form		CCD/CBD		
	Scan and process texts		Env. CCD/CBD	CD-ROM	
	Proofread (Director of Legislation)	Directors of Legislation and Translation			
	Transform on PDF & XML		Env. CCD/CBD		
	Transfer of database to the GLIN server			Database published on GLIN	
	Engrave database on CD-ROM and transmit to GLIN and actualization transferred by E-mail to GLIN Mauritania connection server via specialized line to Central GLIN (USA)	Official Gazette		Database published on GLIN	
Logistic support	Implementation of necessary infrastructures				
	Purchase of reader/writer ZIP Purchase of alphabet recognition software Others				
	Maintain and run the local network				
Communication	Public access to laws				
	Select middlemen and individuals involved with the legal process: (1) Judges, (2) Government workers, (3) Mayors, (4) NGOs, (5) OSP, (6) Imams (religious leaders)		CCD/CBD & BM		
	Training of middlemen (in Internet Cafés)		CCD/CBD & BM		
	Media coverage of GLIN		CCD/CBD & BM		

	2001				2002				2003				2004			
Implement GLIN to facilitate the harmonizing and access of laws																
<b>Institutional support</b>																
Reinforcement of human resources																
Fund raising																
<b>Software</b>																
Mauritanian legal system presentation																
Analytical software development																
<b>Hardware</b>																
Database processing																
Logistic support																
<b>Popularization of laws</b>																
Communication																

## **ANNEXE II**

### **GLIN Central Presentation**

## **ANNEXE III**

### **GLIN Stations' Annual Reports**

## **ANNEXE IV**

### **GLIN Teams**

## **ANNEXE V**

### **GLIN Directors**

## **ANNEXE VI**

### **GLIN System Considerations**

## **ANNEXE VII**

### **Opening Remarks 8<sup>th</sup> Annual GLIN Directors Meeting**

## **ANNEXE VIII**

### **8<sup>th</sup> Annual GLIN Directors Meeting Program**

## **ANNEXE IX**

### **Dié Invitation**