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KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN MOROCCO IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19



after resilience, recovery



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after resilience, recovery

“Our work is not only to counteract the pandemic. It also aims to remedy its economic and social repercussions within the framework of a global prospective vision taking advantage of the lessons learned from the current period.”

“...we must seize the opportunity to re-prioritize, to lay the foundations for a strong and competitive economy and to build a more inclusive social model.”

“First and foremost, it is important to initiate an ambitious economic recovery plan to enable the productive sectors to recover, increase their capacity to create jobs and preserve sources of income.”

“Also, we consider that the time has come to launch, over the next five years, the process of generalizing social coverage for the benefit of all Moroccans.”

Excerpts from the speech of His Majesty King Mohammed VI addressed to the Nation on 29 July 2020 on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the Sovereign's accession to the throne of his glorious ancestors.



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



INTRODUCTION

BY

AHMED LAHLIMI ALAMI

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PLANNING

The national report on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is part of the application of the provisions of United Nations resolution 70/1 «Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development» and its invitation to the Member States of the United Nations, in paragraph 79 therein, to «conduct regular reviews of progress made in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals». It also complies with the provisions of Decree No. 2.19.452 of 17 July 2019 establishing the organization of the National Commission for Sustainable Development and Article 9 therein, which assigns to the High Commission for Planning the mission of preparing national reports on the SDGs in consultation with the latter.

For the year 2021, this national report, which I have the honor of presenting, focuses on our country's achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals at the end of this year. It was prepared on the basis of the ministerial departments assessments of their respective activities and the results of statistical work and studies carried out by the High Commission for Planning.

As we approach this stage of the decade since their adoption by the international community, I am reminded of the call by His Majesty King Mohammed VI to the United Nations General Assembly in 2010 to take a forward-looking approach that goes beyond the Millennium Development Goals, with the aim of consolidating their achievements and meeting the challenges of a more global, sustainable and inclusive development.

It was therefore natural for the Kingdom of Morocco to adopt in 2015 the SDG program, after having been actively involved in the work carried out by the United Nations for its elaboration, and that it has considered its components from the outset as levers to structure its development model and establish the basis for the construction of its society project.

Thus, after the advent of the reign of King Mohammed VI, a vast investment effort, of the order of one third of the country's gross domestic production, was to be mobilized annually since 2000 to strengthen, in the long term, the economic and social infrastructure, and nearly 40% of its general budget was allocated to reduce social and territorial inequalities in access to basic social services.

Between 2000 and 2019, this proactive policy resulted in economic growth averaging 4.1% per year, unemployment dropping from 13.4% to 9.2%, final household consumption increasing by an average of 3.9% with a 2.6% increase in purchasing power, poverty dropping from 15.3% to 1.7%, and vulnerability was reduced from 22.8% to 7.3%, while inequality has been trending downwards.

In the wake of this, sanitary conditions have improved significantly during this period. The maternal mortality rate declined to 72.6 deaths per 100 000 live births, and infant and child deaths declined to 22.2 per 1000 live births. Public education has been extended to pre-school, generalized in the primary cycle, and has achieved significant progress in secondary and higher education, with near gender parity in all cycles.

The progress made in the economic and social fields has benefited from a context marked by the institutional reforms provided for by the 2011 Constitution and the implementation of the mechanisms and bodies enshrined in its provisions, in the areas of competition and price freedom, human rights or the fight against corruption alongside others with a participatory vocation dedicated to the promotion of women's rights, child protection or assistance to people with disabilities.

Furthermore, on the High Instructions of HM King Mohammed VI and with His active personal commitment, the Kingdom of Morocco has adhered to international agreements on climate and in 2016 organized the COP22 in Marrakech whose work was marked by a dimension of South-South solidarity, particularly in favor of African countries. Internally, the adoption of a «National Charter for the Environment and Sustainable Development» has provided the framework for a national policy of mitigation and resilience in the fight against the effects of climate change with the National Climate Plan 2030, the National Strategy for the Management of Natural Disaster Risks and the National Determined Contribution (NDC) which provides for the reduction of GHG emissions by 45.5% by 2030. The ambitious program to improve the national energy mix, which began in 2009, demonstrates the environmental dimension of the national development model. Morocco has today an electrical power from renewable sources representing more than 34% of the national electrical capacity, with the prospect, in the long term, of achieving self-sufficiency in electricity production and strengthening its export potential for this energy.

In the context of a low rainfall supply and an exponential growth in demand for water consumption by households and businesses, particularly in agriculture, Morocco, with the benefits of its policy of large dams, has today an important hydraulic capacity of about 19 billion m³ with the mobilization in this field of non-conventional resources relating in particular to desalination of sea water, reuse of wastewater and the use of a resource-efficient irrigation system.

As a country that is itself heavily involved in South-North migration flows, the Kingdom of Morocco's policy in the field of migration has been particularly active in favor of the integration of migrants in its territory and an active contribution to international cooperation to improve the conditions of their mobility in its geostrategic environment. Several tens of thousands of migrants were regularized in Morocco between 2014 and 2018. At the initiative of HM King Mohammed VI, in charge of migration issues within the African Union, the African Migration Observatory, currently based in Rabat, was created in December 2020 and aims to help activate the continent's role in the development of an international policy for migrants.

In light of the national assessment of the achievements of the SDGs for the year 2021, the Kingdom of Morocco should have achieved several targets provided by the program adopted by the international community by 2030, mainly those relating to human capital. It should be well on the way to achieving some of the physical capital requirements. Others, relating to the fight against the effects of climate change, despite notable successes, should, with the actions programmed in this area, join the path and pace required to meet the 2030 deadline.

As was the case for virtually every country in the world, the Kingdom of Morocco had to face the shock of the Covid-19 pandemic, both on its domestic supply and demand and on its external demand, particularly from the European Union. However, it should be noted that Morocco was one of the most responsive countries in mitigating the effects of this pandemic by resorting to early confinement of the population, reducing the pressure on its

health system and significantly limiting the number of deaths. In application of the High Royal Instructions, important resources have been mobilized, within the framework of the special fund for the management of the Covid-19 pandemic, dedicated to covering the exceptional costs in the health field, support for business activities and support for the most vulnerable groups affected by the crisis, such as people who have lost their jobs or those operating in the informal sector.

Thanks to a broad vaccination program for residents on its territory, Morocco has had to deploy, as an extension of this approach marked by a concern for resilience, an active policy of economic recovery and human development, largely convergent with the SDG program. This recovery is now one of the challenges of its «New Development Model», the implementation of which is part of a «National Pact for Development», based on inclusive growth, creating decent jobs, reducing social and territorial inequalities, and eventually leading to a green economy that preserves natural resources and mitigates the effects of climate change. The new development model sets the social economy as a national priority on the basis of a profound reform of the education and health systems and the strengthening of the competitiveness

of its human resources. The purpose of the new development model is to consolidate the process of «advanced regionalization», an innovative organization of territories and the preservation of their natural resources, contributing to the emergence of a «Morocco of regions».

This report will, I hope, provide a detailed overview of the achievements of the SDGs in Morocco, in the context of the pandemic and the prospects for overcoming its effects. With its geostrategic position at the crossroads of the Mediterranean and the Atlantic, the international aura of HM King Mohammed VI and the plural culture of its people, the Kingdom of Morocco is determined to achieve, as of this year, collective immunity through the generalization of vaccination of its population and to implement the vast investment program, initiated in 2021, in its new development model where the SDGs are the main objectives. Morocco should be, as it was the case for the Millennium Development Goals, among the countries that will have achieved, by 2030, the main part of the international development program adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

Rabat, October 20, 2021

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN MOROCCO IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Morocco's progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and presented as part of the voluntary national review at the 2020 High Level Political Forum showed that before the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic, Morocco had been on a positive path to implementing these goals.

The pandemic has, however, impacted this dynamic despite the measures taken by government authorities to mitigate its effects on business activity and the living conditions of the population.

Thus, this report assesses, based on the results of studies and statistical surveys conducted by the HCP since the beginning of the health crisis, the impact of the pandemic on certain dimensions of the SDGs and identifies, by major area of sustainable development, the efforts made by the various ministerial departments to include their activities in the implementation of the SDGs by 2030.

1. Sustainable economic growth and decent employment

The scale of the COVID-19 pandemic and the speed at which it spread around the world caused a severe contraction of the global economy in 2020, disrupting supply and production chains and creating widespread unemployment as a result

of confinement measures to combat the spread of the virus. Morocco has not been spared this severe and unprecedented shock that has negatively impacted the national economic activity in 2020, accentuating the effect of two successive years of drought and thus leading to an economic recession, the hardest in over twenty years.

It is thus a double shock of supply and demand due to the heavy consequences of the total or partial shutdown of economic sectors, in particular the disruption of value chains, the restriction of labor mobility and travel and the closure of borders. To emerge from this crisis, the Kingdom of Morocco has been able, with the High Royal Directives, to relaunch its economic growth model through a more proactive public policy of industrial diversification. In this respect, the launch by His Majesty the King of the major industrial project for the manufacture of vaccines has the dimension of a most emblematic initiative.

Economic growth:

During the year 2020, marked by the occurrence of Covid-19, the national economy suffered, both the effects of the pandemic and of the drought, recording a contraction of 6.3% compared to a growth rate of 2.5% in 2019.

“Thanks to government aid, Morocco has strengthened its resilience against the effects of Covid-19 and has been able to maintain its performance in terms of poverty reduction.”



This contraction is the result of a decline of 5.8% for non-agricultural activities, 8.6% for the agricultural sector, 6% for domestic demand and 14.3% for external demand. Thus, the real GDP per capita in 2020 was established at 26 241 dhs, down 7.2% compared to 2019. This decline has brought per capita wealth creation back to the level recorded five years ago, in 2015, when it was growing at an average of 2% per year during the last five years before the health crisis.

Employment:

By 2020, the effects of the pandemic on the labor market were evident and compounded by the drought. The main indicators of the labor market as shown by the national survey on employment conducted by the HCP, have slowed.

Overall, the national economy lost 432 000 jobs, while it had created 165 000 jobs in 2019. The rural world was the most affected with a loss of 295 000 jobs (137 000 in urban areas). The “agriculture, forestry and fishing” sector was the most damaged with a loss of 273 000 jobs.

The unemployment rate has, thus, reached 11.9% at the national level compared to 9.2% in 2019. It stood at 15.8% compared to 12.9% among urban dwellers and 5.9% compared to 3.7% for rural dwellers. By gender, this rate was 16.2% for women and 10.7% for men, compared to 13.5% and 7.8% respectively in 2019. Young people aged 15 to 24 were the category most affected by unemployment, with a rate of 31.2% compared to 24.9% in 2019.

2. Human capital development

Poverty reduction:

In terms of poverty reduction, although the Covid-19 pandemic has slowed the pace of decline in this phenomenon, Morocco has been able, thanks to aids granted by the government during the confinement period, to maintain its performance in terms of reaching, almost ten years ahead of schedule, the target of the 2030 agenda calling for the halving of the poverty rate by 2030.

After 4.8% in 2014, the monetary poverty rate has, in fact, dropped to 2.9% in 2018 and then to 1.7% in 2019, before increasing under the effect of the health crisis to 2.5% during the confinement period in 2020. The rate of vulnerability recorded a decline from 12.5% in 2014 to 7.3% in 2019 to 8.9% during the confinement period in 2020. Public support has effectively mitigated the impact of the crisis on the incidence of poverty and vulnerability. Without government aid, poverty would have reached 11.7% and vulnerability 16.7%.

Hunger eradication, food security and nutritional status of children:

Food security and improvement of the nutritional situation of the population remain one of the national priorities, especially during periods of crisis such as the current one caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and two consecutive years of drought. Indeed, hunger is virtually eradicated in Morocco as undernourishment has, in fact, declined from 0.9% to 0.1% between 2007 and 2014. The prevalence¹ of moderate or severe food insecurity is estimated at 25.9% in 2020, and that of severe food insecurity at 2.6%.

¹ Assessed using the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

As for the nutritional situation of children under 5 years of age, the rates of underweight and emaciated children have decreased from 10.2% to 2.9% and from 9.3% to 2.6% respectively between 2004 and 2018. As for stunting, its rate is still at 15.1% at a time when the stated objective of the government, by 2030, is to reduce it to 12%.

The rate of coverage of food needs, particularly cereals, declined between 2018 and 2019, from 71% to 52%². To address this situation, Morocco has taken measures to ensure that people have access to sufficient and healthy food, including regular monitoring of food availability and prices, suspension of import duties on cereal and pulse products, and the provision of direct assistance to poor and vulnerable households. The country has also strengthened screening for nutritional disorders in women and children, implemented a strategy to combat child obesity (2018-2025) and launched a program to support the improvement of maternal and child health and nutrition.

Access to drinking water and electricity for the population:

To accelerate access to drinking water and electricity, and under the High Royal Directives, the National Program for Drinking Water Supply and Irrigation (PNAEPI) 2020-2027, was launched in January 2020. This program aims to accelerate investment in the water sector, expand the supply of drinking water and irrigation and strengthen the country's resilience to climate change. In the same sense, Morocco attaches great importance to the system of planning and management of its water resources through, in particular, the creation of basin councils at the level of the Water Basin Agencies, whose mission consists in examining and giving their opinions on questions relating to water planning and management, in particular, the Master Plans for the Integrated Development of Water Resources and the local water management plans.

Morocco is now self-sufficient in terms of electricity production, and has also become an increasingly important exporter, since the amount it exported rose from 180 Gwh in 2018 to 1 207.7 Gwh in 2019. The country's investment in renewable energy has resulted in a national renewable electrical capacity of more than 34% of the total electrical capacity.

Improved housing conditions:

The implementation of the national program "cities without slums" has allowed, by the end of 2020, more than 300 thousand households to benefit from decent housing. As a result, the proportion of the urban population living in slums has been reduced from 5.2% in 2014 to 3.3% in 2019.

Access to health services and sustainable management of health risks:

The maternal mortality rate is 72.6 deaths per 100 000 live births in 2018. That of neonatal mortality decreased between 2011 and 2018 from 21.7 to 13.56 deaths per 1000 live births. The infant and child mortality rate was reduced from 30.5 to 22.2 per 1000 live births and the infant mortality rate from 28.8 to 18 per 1000 live births.

In terms of communicable and non-communicable diseases, the number of cases of tuberculosis reported fell by 6% between 2019 and 2020 and the 2018-2021 National TB Strategic Plan, extended for 2023, aims to reduce TB-related deaths by 40% by 2021. On the other hand, non-communicable diseases, including cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and chronic respiratory diseases still weigh on the health system with a mortality rate attributable to these diseases of 12.4%.

The death rate from traffic accidents has decreased significantly in 2020, due in part to the restrictive measures taken under the state of health emergency to combat the Covid-19 pandemic. It decreased from 11 deaths per 100 000 population in 2016

to 7.6 deaths in 2020 and is expected to decrease to 5.6 deaths by 2025, following the implementation of the National Road Safety Strategy 2017-2026.

Universal health coverage is a priority of the national strategy for resilience and post-Covid-19 recovery through the generalization of social protection, which was launched by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist him, on 14 April 2021, and whose implementation was immediately enforced by the adoption of Law 09-21 on social protection, which stipulates the generalization of Compulsory Health Insurance by the end of 2022 for the benefit of an additional 22 million people.

Universal access to education and adapting the system to the challenges of future demand :

In addition to the generalization of primary education, enrolment rates in other cycles continue to improve, especially the preschooling rate of children aged 4 to 5 years, which has increased between 2019 and 2020 by 14.1 points, from 57.8% to 71.9%. Gender parity is practically achieved in all school cycles, with indices varying between 0.91 in preschool and 1 in primary school.

On the other hand, rural/urban parity, with the exception of the primary level where it has already been reached, is certainly evolving positively, but at a rather slow pace. In 2020, its index reached 0.79 in preschool, 0.83 in lower secondary education, and 0.51 in upper secondary education. The school completion rate declined between 2019 and 2020 from 95.9% to 91.4% at the primary level and from 64.7% to 61.4% at the lower secondary level, while it virtually stagnated at the upper secondary level (38.6% versus 39.0%).

Furthermore, quality is still one of the major challenges of the national education system. According to the 2019 TIMSS³ assessment results, Morocco achieved in mathematics for the 4th year primary pupils, a score of 383 points versus 377 in 2015 and for second year lower secondary students, a score of 388 points compared to 384 respectively.

The system of education and training has been, however, hit by the Covid-19, from the 2nd quarter of 2020, following the closure of educational and training institutions. The use of distance learning has certainly made it possible to ensure access to school services, but it carries the risk of accentuating the inequalities in access to education and the loss of learning quality from which the national education system is already suffering.

The results of the survey on the impact of the coronavirus on the economic, social and psychological situation of households, conducted by the HCP from 14 to 23 April 2020, showed that the proportion of households who said that their children could not, for various reasons, follow their distance learning courses regularly amounts, according to the educational cycle of the children, to 52% for primary, 49% for lower secondary, 31% for upper secondary and 44% for higher education.

² Performance projects for the agricultural sector 2020 and 2021.

³ Trends in Mathematics and Science Study, assessing the mathematics and science achievement of students in the fourth year of primary school and the second year of lower secondary school

The results of the second round of this survey, conducted from 15 to 24 June 2020, showed that 83.5% of preschool children did not attend distance learning courses for various reasons (79.1% in urban areas and 94.6% in rural areas).

As for the quality of students' learning, this survey revealed that 46.8% of students consider that difficulties in assimilation are one of the main drawbacks of distance learning. Also, 50.1% of the students, all levels combined, considered that distance learning did not allow them to fully cover the curriculum.

It should be noted that Morocco attaches great importance to education, sustainable development in general and environmental protection in particular. During her participation in the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, held from 17 to 19 May 2021, Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa highlighted the efforts made by the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment in developing and implementing "various programs aimed at reducing or eliminating the negative impact of Man on Nature", in particular the UNESCO Global Schools program for which "Morocco is one of the three countries in the world that is conducting a pilot experiment in this framework..."

Advancement of the status of women and empowerment of women and girls:

In terms of promoting gender equality, Morocco has strengthened its legal framework for improving women's political participation through the adoption of laws aimed at increasing women's representation in the legislature, municipal councils and professional chambers⁴.

The Covid-19 pandemic has, however, had negative effects on gender equality, as revealed by the results of the household impact survey conducted by the HCP in 2020. The gap in access to reproductive health care between female and male-headed households in rural areas is 46 percentage points (17% vs. 63%), and the gap in access to pre- and post-natal consultations is 31.6 percentage points (36.9% vs. 68.5%). Female-headed households experienced more income loss than their male-headed counterparts, regardless of industry. The proportion of households with no income was 36.4% compared to 32.5% in agriculture, 58% compared to 53% in industry, 72% compared to 46% in trade and 41% compared to 33.4% in services. 15.9% of female-headed households reported receiving government financial assistance compared to 19.2% of male-headed households. The average daily time spent on housework has increased by 33 minutes compared to a normal day before the lockdown. With 4 hrs. 27 min. of daily housework, women spend six times more time than men (45 min.).

*“A new impetus
for female
participation in
decision-making.”*



⁴ Organic law No. 04.21 amending and supplementing Organic law No. 27.11 on the House of Representatives; Organic Law No. 05.21 amending and supplementing Organic Law No. 28.11 on the House of Councillors; Organic law No. 06.21 amending and supplementing Organic law No. 56.11 on the election of the members of the councils of the territorial communities; Law No. 11.21 amending and supplementing law No. 9.97 on the electoral code and organisation of the exceptional revision of the electoral lists of the professional chambers.

Under the combined effect of the drought and the pandemic:



- A contraction of the national economy of 6.3%



- And an increase in the unemployment rate to 11.9%.



3. Cross-cutting inequalities and wide disparities

Social inequalities:

Social inequality in Morocco, as measured by the Gini index, fell by one percentage point between 2014 and 2019, from 39.5% to 38.5%. The Covid-19 pandemic,

“Regional inequalities are still considerable, with only three regions accounting for 58% of national GDP in 2019.”

however, has amplified these inequalities. They would have reached 44.4%, but thanks to government financial aid granted to households, they have been reduced to the pre-crisis level of 38.4%. In order to accelerate the reduction of inequalities, Morocco has committed itself, under the High Royal Directives, to the reform of the social protection system, which places the poor and vulnerable populations at the top of its target populations and at the center of its operating methods.

Urban-rural disparities:

The rural world is lagging behind in several areas, compared to the urban one. For example, the maternal mortality rate was 111.1 per 100 000 live births, compared with 44.5 per 100 000 live births, and the infant mortality rate was 21.6 per 1000 live births, compared with 14.9 per 1000 live births.

Regional inequalities:

Reducing regional disparities in Morocco should be a major concern for the development of the country as a whole. An examination of the regional distribution in terms of contribution to wealth creation makes it possible, by way of illustration, to measure the extent of the disparities in this area. Indeed, only three regions account for 58% of the national GDP in 2019. Thus, the weight of the regional contribution to national GDP is spread

for the same year, between 31.8% for the region of Casablanca-Settat and 1.3% for that of Dakhla-Oued Ed Dahab.

4. Sustainable management of “Natural resources” capital and the fight against climate change

Sustainable water resource management:

The sustainable management of water resources is one of the major challenges of sustainable development in Morocco, given the imbalances between a decreasing supply and an increasing demand.

Thanks to its policy of dams, Morocco currently has an important hydraulic infrastructure composed of 275 dams with a capacity of about 19 billion m³. However, the share of water available per capita is constantly decreasing and will be 620 m³ in 2020, making Morocco one of the countries considered to be in water shortage.

Aware of these challenges, the government has adopted structural reforms, focusing on the adoption in 2015 of a new water law (Law 36-15) aimed at rationalizing the use of water resources, mobilizing new non-conventional water resources (seawater desalination and demineralization) and the reuse of treated wastewater, as well as strengthening participatory decentralized management.

Similarly, an urgent program has been set up to accelerate the generalization of drinking water supply and to strengthen water mobilization for irrigation.

These efforts should be doubled to address the constraints that weaken the supply of water resources and to develop appropriate responses for effective demand management, within the framework of a participatory, comprehensive and forward-looking approach.

Fighting climate change:

Morocco is committed to implementing mitigation, adaptation and resilience actions to address the impacts of climate change. Several measures have been taken to this end, mainly the upward revision of its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), the implementation of the National Climate Plan 2030, the adoption of the National Strategy for Natural Disaster Risk Management (SNGRCN), and the strengthening of climate governance through the institutionalization of the National Commission on Climate Change and Biological Diversity. In the same framework, the National Strategic Adaptation Plan (PNSA) is being completed.

“Climate change: an ambitious national commitment in terms of mitigation and adaptation.”

Sustainable exploitation of marine and fisheries resources:

Given the importance of their geostrategic, socio-economic and environmental roles, Morocco, with two maritime façades stretching over 3500 km, has always been particularly interested in the management and sustainable exploitation of its maritime ecosystems. Maritime fishing, with its three main types, coastal, artisanal and deep-sea, plays an important economic and social role, hence the need for the protection of fishery resources.

Preservation of terrestrial ecosystems and biodiversity:

The Moroccan forest, covering more than 9 million hectares, plays an important socio-economic and ecological role. It contributes strongly to the protection of soils, the regulation of the water cycle, the fight against desertification and the preservation of biodiversity. Thus, significant efforts are being made for the preservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests in particular and of all terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems.

Promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency:

Morocco has made a strategic choice to develop renewable energy and energy efficiency. In 2019, the installed electrical capacity from renewable sources reached 3 700 MW (710 MW of solar energy, 1 220 MW of wind energy and 1 770 MW of hydroelectric energy), which represents more than 34% of the national electrical capacity.

In addition, energy efficiency has been made a national priority. Primary energy intensity has fallen from 27.8 tons of oil equivalent to produce 1 million dirhams of GDP (toe/1 mdhs of GDP) in 2004 to 24.8 toe/1 mdhs of GDP in 2018.

The improvement of energy efficiency in Morocco is the result of the implementation of measures to reduce energy consumption in the main sectors, namely residential, transport, agriculture and industry. Other measures included a ban on the import of old vehicles, the introduction of the GMT+1 time system and the promotion of the use of energy-saving lamps (ESL).

“Renewable energy and energy efficiency: 34% of the installed electrical capacity is from renewable sources, but the rate of improvement in energy efficiency remains low.”



5. Institutions, state of law and citizen participation

Aware of the importance of peace and the quality of institutions in the implementation of the SDGs, Morocco is committed to building the state of law, protecting fundamental freedoms, and strengthening the effectiveness of institutions. It has launched a number of structural reforms concerning, in particular, public establishments and enterprises as well as the reform of the administration through the acceleration of the implementation of administrative deconcentration and e-administration, the simplification of procedures and administrative formalities and raising the moral standards of the public administration with the adoption of a new law governing the National Authority for Probity, Prevention and the Fight against Corruption.

6. Morocco's partnership strategy

International partnerships, especially with Africa:

Morocco is constantly strengthening its global partnership for sustainable development through its international cooperation policy, particularly South-South and triangular. Its economic, commercial and judicial relations with States are governed by several cooperation agreements and conventions. During the period 2015-2021, the Kingdom has signed several conventions and international agreements. These include 12 investment promotion and protection agreements, 9 of which are with African countries, 20 non-double taxation agreements, 12 of which are with African countries, judicial cooperation and anti-crime agreements, partnership agreements with the United Kingdom after Brexit and with the European Union in the field of sustainable fisheries.

“A policy of active international cooperation, especially with Africa.”

With regard to South-South cooperation, the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic is a central axis of Morocco's partnership strategy. It has provided medical aid to 30 African countries. Similarly, for migration management, an African Migration Observatory under the aegis of the African Union was inaugurated in December 2020 and will provide a platform for the collection, analysis and sharing of migration data among African countries.

In the field of the environment and sustainable development, some twenty cooperation agreements have been signed with countries of the South, in particular African countries, as part of the technical assistance and capacity building program for the countries of the South, with an overall budget of USD 900 000 covering the period 2018-2021. In terms of climate, Morocco has updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). It submitted on 22 June 2021 to the Executive Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) a new greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 45.5% by 2030, of which 18.3% is unconditional and achieved without support from international cooperation.

Moreover, Morocco's membership of China's "Belt and Road" initiative is likely to give a new impetus to numerous infrastructure projects, rail and maritime routes and to the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which will have a positive impact on the whole of Africa. The Link Up Africa project is also the first triangular cooperation project between Morocco, the EU and Africa, which offers an opportunity for the EU to support Morocco's cooperation efforts with its African partners.

WHAT RESILIENCE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

As soon as the first cases of the corona virus appeared worldwide, Morocco resolutely committed itself, in application of the High Royal Instructions, to an ongoing process of managing the crisis caused by this virus, focusing on two main dimensions: strengthening resilience against the pandemic and its socio-economic effects, and preparing for the post-Covid-19 recovery.

1. Building resilience against the pandemic and its socio-economic impact

Morocco has implemented a multidimensional strategy to control the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic and limit its economic and social impact. To this end, it has established a legal framework for the state of health emergency, governing the necessary provisions and preventive measures, while ensuring both

an attachment to the principle of legality and strict compliance with the provisions of the Constitution and international conventions, in particular those concerning human rights and fundamental freedoms. A total of 102 legal texts were enacted, dealing mainly with maintaining the state's budgetary balance and supporting its economy, in addition to measures taken to deal with the recession in the activities of companies, the liberal professions and some productive sectors.

Multidimensional strategy to control the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

It is supported by the following main axes:

- The implementation of a health crisis management system, composed of a steering committee, a scientific and technical committee and an economic monitoring committee.

The work of these committees has been accompanied by a communication and public awareness strategy on the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the measures taken to control the spread of the pandemic and mitigate its socio-economic impacts, and on the alternatives for access to public services;

- Measures to control the spread of the epidemic through, in particular, the confinement of the population;
- The creation of the Special Fund for the management of the effects of Covid-19;
- Strengthening the capacity of the health system to limit the human cost;
- Population and business support measures;
- The use of remote working and the promotion of online public services;
- Progressive relaxation of confinement measures from 11 June 2020, with a constant concern for a balance between the obligation to control the pandemic and the need to resume socio-economic activities;
- The revision of national sectoral priorities through the use of an Amending Finance Law for the year 2020.

With regard to this last measure concerning the use of the Amending Finance Law, the objective was to concentrate the efforts of the national community on economic recovery, the preservation of employment and the reform of the administration. To this end, a reallocation of public expenditure in favor of investment has been translated into a reduction in operating expenditure of 4.3 billion DH in favor of an increase in investment expenditure of 7.5 billion DH.

In order to revitalize economic activity, a series of measures have been undertaken, including, in particular, those relating to:

(i) the reinforcement of the business financing system through the implementation of complementary guarantee products, namely "Relance TPE" which consists of a 95% State guarantee for loans granted to Very Small Enterprises (TPE) and "Damane relance" which involves a State guarantee of between 80% and 90% of loans depending on the size of the company;

(ii) the optimal use of capital expenditures, in particular by reallocating them to priority development areas, such as guaranteeing access to drinking water for the population and combating the effects of drought, allocating payments only to projects already in progress, postponing new projects and reducing subsidies to public establishments and enterprises and payments to the Special Treasury Accounts;

(iii) the promotion of local production through the implementation of national preference mechanisms. The first mechanism concerns the obligation for contracting authorities to provide, in the context of public procurement, for a mark-up on the bids of foreign companies not exceeding 15% for the purpose of comparing them with the ones of national companies.

A second mechanism concerns the increase of import duties applicable to certain finished products from 25% to 30% or from 30% to 40% depending on their characteristics.

"A multidimensional strategy of resilience against the pandemic of Covid-19"

In terms of job preservation, steps have been taken to consolidate efforts to support households and businesses in the era of confinement. They concern, essentially, the progressive lifting of the lockdown, the continuation of the aids granted within the framework of the "Special Fund for the management of the Coronavirus pandemic" and the accompaniment, within a contractual framework, of the various sectors in order to encourage businesses to restart operations, to retain at least 80% of their staff declared to the CNSS and to immediately regularize the situation of the staff who are not yet declared.

In order to accelerate the pace of implementation of administrative reforms, major projects have been identified. They focus, in particular, on accelerating the implementation of the national charter of administrative deconcentration, simplifying administrative procedures and strengthening the process of digital transformation of the administration and the generalization of inclusive digital services.

Covid-19 vaccination strategy:

His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist him, launched on Thursday 28 January 2021 the national vaccination campaign against the Covid-19 virus. Thus, Morocco was one of the first countries in the world to have access to the vaccine and to have launched the vaccination strategy for which it was congratulated by the international community. This campaign was carried out progressively in stages and targeted all people aged 12 and over, with priority given to health professionals, public authorities, security forces and public education personnel.

2. The post-Covid-19 recovery strategy

As a concrete expression of its determination to implement the provisions of resolution 74/4 on the Decade of Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals, adopted by the United Nations on 15 October 2019, on the political declaration

of the high-level political forum for sustainable development, Morocco has embarked on structuring projects to revive the implementation of the SDGs.

The relaunch phase of the post-Covid-19 implementation of SDGs started with the Royal Speech of 29th of July 2020 on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of Throne Celebration. His Majesty King Mohammed VI has indicated that the national effort should not be limited to counteracting the pandemic, but also to remedy its socio-economic effects within the framework of a global prospective vision. In this respect, he emphasized the need to re-prioritize, to lay the foundations for a strong and competitive economy and to build a more inclusive social model.

In this context, he stated that "First and foremost, it is important to initiate an ambitious economic recovery plan to enable the productive sectors to recover, increase their capacity to create jobs and preserve sources of income." He also specified that

"...the time has come to launch, over the next five years, the process of generalizing social coverage for the benefit of all Moroccans." In application of the High Royal Directives, an economic recovery plan and a strategy to generalize social protection have been initiated.

Economic recovery plan:

On August 6th 2020, a pact for economic recovery and employment was signed, on the sidelines of the 9th meeting of the Economic Watch Committee (CVE), by the State, represented by the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform, and the private sector, represented by the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) and the Professional Group of Banks of Morocco (GPBM). The objectives assigned to it are to revive the economic dynamic, safeguard and promote employment and preserve the

"Structural projects for the post-Covid-19 recovery, focused on economic incentives and the generalization of social protection."

health of workers, accelerate the process of formalization of the economy and promote good governance.

In parallel to the measures common to all sectors, provided for in this pact, other measures specific to certain sectors heavily impacted by the crisis will be deployed through agreements to be concluded by the State with representatives of the sectors concerned. It is within this framework that the signing of the contract-program for the revival of the tourism sector in the post-Covid-19 phase, covering the period 2020-2022, is taking place.

To operationalize this recovery plan, Morocco will inject 120 billion dirhams, i.e. 11% of GDP, to deal with the difficulties caused by the current health crisis and to support the budgetary accompaniment of the sectoral recovery plans provided for in the Amending Finance Law. 75 billion dirhams of loans guaranteed by the State will be dedicated to all segments of companies including public enterprises most affected by the crisis and 45 billion dirhams will be allocated to a Special Allocation Account entitled "Strategic Investment Fund".

Moreover, the accelerated and effective implementation of this recovery plan constitutes, in accordance with the High Royal Directives, one of the priorities of the Finance Law for the budget year 2021.

Generalization of social protection by 2025:

The Covid-19 pandemic has not only had negative effects. It has clearly revealed the imperative need to generalize the social protection system to the entire population, especially for vulnerable categories. It has thus acted as a catalyst for the impetus, under the High Royal Directives, of a major sustainable development project, aimed at strengthening the country's societal resilience and achieving an inclusive social model. This is the reform of social protection, especially for the poor and vulnerable populations. Indeed, the framework law No. 09.21 on social protection was approved on 11 February 2021 by the Council of Ministers and adopted on 15 March 2021 by the Parliament.

This reform, whose budget is estimated at 51 billion dirhams annually, consists in generalizing in 2022 the compulsory health insurance for 22 million people and in 2024 the family allowance for 7 million school-age children.

It also aims to expand membership in the pension system to 5 million Moroccans by 2025 and to generalize compensation for loss of permanent employment by the same date.

The implementation process of this project was launched by His Majesty the King on Wednesday 14 April 2021 through the presidency of the signing ceremony of three framework agreements, on the generalization of the basic compulsory health insurance for the benefit of three categories of professionals.

The first framework agreement concerns the generalization of basic compulsory health insurance for the benefit of traders, craftsmen, professionals and independent service providers subject to the single professional contribution scheme, the auto-entrepreneur scheme or the accounting scheme, which concerns more than 800 000 members. The second framework agreement concerns the generalization of the basic compulsory health insurance for the benefit of craftsmen and professionals (about 500 000 members). The third framework agreement concerns the generalization of basic compulsory health insurance for farmers (approximately 1.6 million members).

As part of the same process, the Government Council adopted, on Thursday 29 April 2021, two draft laws in favor of professionals, self-employed and non-salaried workers exercising a liberal activity. This is draft law No. 30.21 amending and supplementing Law 15.98 on the Regime of Compulsory Health Insurance and draft law No. 31.21 amending and supplementing Law 99.15 on the establishment of a pension scheme for this category.

As part of this Royal Vision of relaunching and accelerating the process of implementation of sustainable development, several medium and long term sectoral strategies have been initiated. The National Human Development Initiative (INDH), with its third tranche 2019-2023, is, in this respect, an eloquent illustration. Mobilizing a budgetary envelope of 18 billion dirhams, this tranche is oriented towards the consolidation of the achievements recorded in the field of human capital development granting a strategic role for future generations. It is structured around four complementary programs devoted to job creation, professional integration, promotion of equal opportunities and early childhood development. In 2020, the INDH, given its cross-cutting and multidimensional nature, has contributed to the implementation of several SDGs, notably those related to the fight against poverty, the improvement of nutritional status and maternal and child health, the enrolment of disadvantaged children in school, the widening of the population's access to basic social services, the reduction of inequalities, the creation of decent jobs and the strengthening of the participatory and inclusive approach to decision-making, particularly in favor of women and youth.



PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE SDGs AND MITIGATING THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19



Thanks to government aid, Morocco has strengthened its resilience against the effects of Covid-19 and has been able to maintain its performance in terms of poverty reduction.

In recent years, the intervention of public authorities in the fight against poverty and social exclusion has accelerated significantly, enabling people suffering from precariousness and vulnerability to improve their living conditions and to integrate into socio-economic life. To this end, Morocco has put in

place a set of strategies aimed at combating precariousness and exclusion, expanding access to basic social services, developing the social protection system and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable populations against climate shocks.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

The Covid-19 health crisis undermined Morocco's performance in reducing poverty and vulnerability, and its effects would have been more severe if government aid was not provided to poor and vulnerable populations.

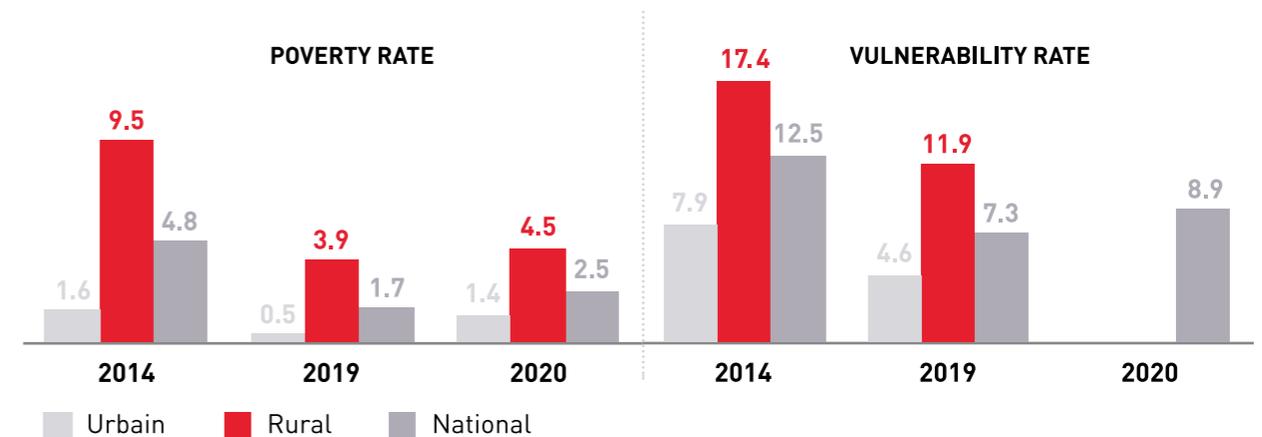
Fighting poverty and vulnerability and developing human capital:

Between 2014 and 2019, monetary poverty declined from 4.8% to 1.7%. Economic vulnerability has also seen a notable decline, from 12.5% in 2014 to 7.3% in 2019 nationally. However, in the absence of

government aid, the Covid-19 health crisis would have increased the incidence of poverty nearly sevenfold nationwide, from 1.7 percent before the crisis to 11.7 percent during the confinement period. Similarly, the vulnerability rate would have more than doubled from 7.3% before confinement to 16.7% during confinement.

But thanks to government aid, the absolute poverty rate was reduced by 9 points nationally, from 11.7% before the transfer of government aid to 2.5% after the transfer. The same trend is observed for the vulnerability rate, which was reduced by 8 points, from 16.7% before the cash transfer to 8.9% after receiving the financial aid.

Chart 1: Poverty and vulnerability rates at the national level and by area of residence (in %)



Source: HCP - 2020, Covid-19 Survey - 1st panel

In terms of human capital development, the INDH has given, through its three phases, a strong impetus to efforts to reduce the deficit at the socio-economic level. Within the framework of phase III, 2030 projects and actions have been carried out, covering all social categories in a precarious and vulnerable situation, including disabled people with no resources, women in a very precarious situation, hemodialysis patients with no resources, destitute elderly people, abandoned children, beggars and vagrants, mentally ill homeless people, etc.

Social protection and medical coverage

The rate of medical coverage reached 68.8% in 2019 instead of 52% in 2015, thanks to the expansion of the medical assistance scheme (RAMED), the establishment of compulsory health insurance (AMO) and social coverage schemes for the self-employed and the non-salaried.

In this context, in 2019, the total number of AMO beneficiaries reached 9.9 million people, 68.6% of whom correspond to the AMO-CNSS fund. Overall beneficiary enrolment grew 4.9% from 2018 to 2019.

2. Key challenges

Despite the progress made, challenges remain in terms of sustaining the gains and accelerating the reduction of poverty and vulnerability. These challenges mainly concern the reduction of poverty and vulnerability, particularly in rural areas, among women and in disadvantaged

In addition to these actions, the year 2021 will be marked by the promulgation of Framework Law No. 09.21 on social protection, which aims to generalize social protection, extend compulsory health insurance (AMO) and family allowances, broaden the base of members of pension systems and generalize compensation for loss of employment (IPE).

Resilience against natural disasters

In 2020, the number of people who died due to floods and landslides reached 11. Concerning the risk of forest fires, civil protection intervened in 367 forest fires that burned 5477 hectares in 2020. In order to strengthen the resilience of poor and vulnerable populations against natural disasters, the public authorities have put in place an action plan aimed at reinforcing the operational network to cover all risks through the creation of new additional rescue centers, the modernization and upgrading of existing priority infrastructures, the construction and equipping of the headquarters of the National School of Civil Protection (ENPC), the reinforcement of the means of intervention through the acquisition of mobile intervention vehicles, and the construction and equipping of the National Mobile Response Unit.

regions, the expansion of the middle classes through, among other things, the reduction of social, spatial and gender inequalities, and the strengthening of national and sub-national aid for vulnerable groups hard hit by the health crisis.

3. Progress of SDG 1 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2007	2014	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty worldwide (currently defined as living on less than \$1.25 a day)	1.1.1	Proportion of population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural) (in %)	3.9	0.1	-	-	-	0
1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	1.2.1	Proportion of population living below the national poverty line (in %)*	8.9	4.8	2.9	1.7	2.5	0.0
	1.2.2	Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions (in %)**	-	8.2	-	-	-	4.1
1.3 Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable	1.3.1	Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable (in %)	-	-	-	-	-	100
	1.3.1a	Rate of medical coverage (in %)		(2015) 52	(2016) 59	(2019) 68.8	-	100
1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	1.5.1	Floods/ Weather-related human damage			4	38	9	
		Deaths						
	People injured			7	30	4		
	Landslides	Deaths			1	15	2	
		People injured						
	Collapsed buildings	Deaths			0	0	1	
People injured				8	--	19		
Forest fires	Area burnt in ha			6	--	52		
				829	2709	5477		

(*) Monetary poverty

(**) Multidimensional poverty

Source: HCP, Ministry of Interior

2 ZERO HUNGER



Hunger is no longer a major challenge in Morocco

The issues of food security, nutrition and sustainable agriculture are of great importance to Morocco. Public efforts have made significant progress through a range of strategies and programs. However, many challenges remain, particularly in the context of Covid-19, exacerbated by two consecutive years of drought. Thus, while at the global

level, hunger and food insecurity are on the rise and malnutrition still affects millions of children, Morocco is not immune to the emergence of these phenomena. Faced with this situation, Morocco has put in place ambitious measures to mitigate the effects of the pandemic and to re-launch the momentum of the implementation of this SDG.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Hunger is no longer a major challenge

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the share of the population not meeting the minimum level of caloric intake, over the period 2007-2014, recorded a decrease from 0.9% to 0.1% at the national level, from 2% to 0.2% in rural areas and zero in urban areas. On the other hand, the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity, estimated at 25.9% in 2020, remains a challenge, particularly in the current health context. The prevalence of severe food insecurity, at 2.6%, reveals that the Moroccan population remains largely secure compared to that of low-income countries.

Nutritional status of children is improving

The nutritional status of children under 5 years of age recorded a notable improvement between 2004 and 2018, especially for the emaciated and underweight which decreased from 9.3% to 2.6% and from 10.2% to 2.9% respectively. However, stunting, despite a 3-point decline, combined with overweight and obesity and persistent micronutrient deficiencies, remains a real public health problem.

Improved availability of food products

Annual per capita availability has increased between 2008 and 2019 by varying rates, depending on the product. However, the drought in the 2018/2019 crop year has negatively affected grain availability.

Satisfying food needs

The coverage of food needs has improved between 2008 and 2019, from 98% to 100% for fruits and vegetables, from 97% to 100% for white meats, from 98% to 100% for red meats, from 94% to 98% for milk and from 93% to 94% for olive oil. However, the

coverage rate of cereal needs decreased from 71% to 52% between 2018 and 2019, while the coverage of animal products remained stable.

Strengthening the resilience and productivity of small-scale agriculture

In order to promote the situation of small farmers, efforts have been made, including the conversion of cereal crops to high value-added crops that are less sensitive to climatic hazards, the development of local products and organic farming in order to generate additional farm income, and the intensification of the animal and plant sectors through the supervision of farmers, enabling them to improve yields and enhance the value of production.

In addition, Morocco has adopted, in 2019, three laws establishing the right of soulaliyate women to the exploitation of agricultural land, as it has launched, in 2020, the program of transfer of collective land to the rightful owners.

In addition, agricultural activity provides an important source of income. Indeed, agricultural income contributes 10% of household income at the national level (36.7% in rural areas and 0.7% in urban areas in 2019; HCP; 2019/2020). Households headed by farmers and agricultural workers receive an average monthly income of MAD 7370, or an average per capita income of MAD 1415.

Promotion of sustainable agriculture

For a sustainable and resilient agriculture, several programs have been put in place including the equipping of about 635 000 hectares with water-saving irrigation techniques until 2020, the upgrading of agricultural sectors through the conclusion of 19 program-contracts between the State and professionals of the agricultural sector as well as the adoption of two laws on the optimization of the use of pesticides and fertilizers.

Significant progress in preserving genetic diversity

Morocco is among the first countries to ratify several conventions for the preservation of genetic diversity, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources. It is thus engaged in the conservation, characterization and evaluation of genetic resources, as well as in the promotion of research, training and technology transfer. In this sense, the conserved plant genetic resources have increased from 22 000 to 69 626 accessions between 2008 and 2020.

Strengthening international cooperation for sustainable agriculture

To attract more investment in the agricultural sector and promote its productive capacities, Morocco has continued to strengthen its cooperation with various international and regional partners. In this sense, Morocco is making continuous efforts in the framework of South-South cooperation for the development of sustainable agriculture, in this case the AAA Initiative.

2. Key challenges

Despite the progress made, a number of challenges remain in the immediate future as economies slow down and shrink from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. The aim is to ensure the food needs of vulnerable populations in order to fight against undernourishment and malnutrition, to mitigate the vulnerability of small farmers

Decline in the Agricultural Orientation Index of public expenditure

Public and private investments in the agricultural sector have increased from 5.6 billion dirhams in 2008 to 14.52 billion dirhams in 2019 and will decrease to 13.6 in 2020. Similarly, the Agricultural Orientation Index of public expenditure (AOI) improved between 2008 and 2019 from 0.4 to 1.20, falling to 0.89 in 2020.

Continued efforts to ensure the smooth functioning of agricultural markets

To ensure the smooth functioning of agricultural commodity markets, Morocco has set up an agricultural commodity price information system to promote rapid access to food market information.

and to maintain the fluidity of food supply chains. In addition, there are other equally important challenges, namely: (i) reducing social and territorial inequalities to ensure food security for all; (ii) consolidating the gains made under the new strategies; and (iii) reducing threats to the sustainability of genetic resources.

3. Progress of SDG 2 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2003-2004	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
2.1 By 2030, eliminate hunger and ensure that everyone, especially the poor and vulnerable, including infants, has access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food throughout the year	2.1.1	Prevalence of undernourishment (in %)	(2007) 0.9	0.1							0
	2.1.2	Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity, as measured by the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) (in %)								25.9	
2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons	2.2.1	Prevalence of stunting (height/age index less than -2 standard deviations from the median of the WHO child growth standards) in children under 5 (in %)	18.1					15.1		15.1	12*
	2.2.2	Prevalence of wasting malnutrition (weight/height index less than -2 standard deviations from the median of the WHO-defined child growth standards) in children under 5 (in %)	9.3					2.6	2.5	2.5	<5
	2.2.2	Prevalence of overweight malnutrition (weight/height index less than +2 standard deviations from the median of the WHO-defined child growth standards) in children under 5 (in %)	10.4					10.8	10.9		0
	2.2.3	Prevalence of anemia among women aged 15-49 years, by pregnancy status (percent)	Women of childbearing age (33% in 2000) Pregnant women (37.2% in 2000)								

*Target set in the national strategy

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2003-2004	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed	2.5.1	Number of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium or long-term conservation facilities			54590*	60028*	66043*	67000*	67970*	69 626*	
2.a Increase, including through enhanced international cooperation, investment in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, and the development of technologies and plant and livestock gene banks, in order to enhance the agricultural productive capacities of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries	2.2.1	Agricultural orientation index of public expenditure	(2008) 0.4			1.05	1.05	1.05	1.20	0.89	

Source: National Population and Family Health Survey (2004-2003); National Population and Family Health Survey (ENPSF 2018), Ministry of Health; National Survey of Household Consumption and Expenditure (ENCDM 2014-2013), HCP; FIES, 2020 HCP; Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests; National Institute of Agronomic Research (INRA)

(*) : These values are for plant genetic resources only. For animal genetic resources are not available.





The health and well-being of populations is one of the central goals in the process of sustainable development in Morocco

The health and well-being of populations is one of the central goals in the process of sustainable development in Morocco. Up to the end of 2019, progress continued to be made in many areas of health, including maternal and infant mortality targets. However, additional

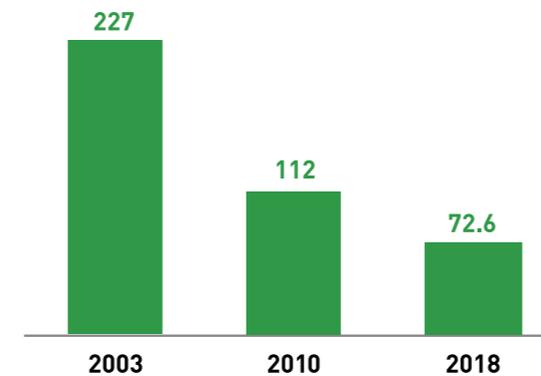
efforts are needed for crucial projects such as the universalization of medical coverage and the upgrading of the health sector, especially as the growing challenges imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic crisis.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Maternal and child health

The maternal mortality rate has been reduced from 112 maternal deaths per 100 000 live births in 2010 to 72.6 deaths in 2018, a 35% reduction. Progress was more marked in urban areas (with 44.5 deaths) compared to rural areas (with 111.1 deaths).

Chart 2: Maternal mortality ratio per 100 000 live births



Source: Ministry of Health

This decrease is due to the development of health services offered to women, including access to maternal health care services related to childbirth. Thus, the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel increased between 2011 and 2018 from 73.6% to 86.6% at the national level, from 92.1% to 96.6% in urban areas and from 55% to 74.2% in rural areas.

Under-five mortality rate has seen a significant 27% decrease between 2011 and 2018, from 30.5 to 22.2 deaths per 1000 live births. The neonatal mortality rate fell from 21.7 to 13.6 deaths per 1000 live births in the same period.

However, the Covid-19 crisis had negatively impacted on people's access to the necessary care they needed. The results of the national survey conducted by the HCP on the impact of Covid-19 in 2020 revealed that over a quarter (26.2%) of women who needed maternal health services were unable to access them and only 20.8% for reproductive health services. These percentages are higher in rural areas (32.8% and 26.7% respectively) than in urban areas (21.8% and 17.3%).

Control of communicable diseases

In terms of HIV, the number of new HIV infections remains low in general, at 0.03 per 1 000 uninfected population in 2019. The efforts deployed within the framework of the National Strategic Plan 2017-2023 of the AIDS response have made it possible to reach, during 2019, a proportion of 78% of People Living with HIV (PLHIV) who know their serological status, 90% of whom are on ARV treatment.

Regarding tuberculosis, the annual incidence of all forms, between 2015 and 2018, declined from 101 cases to 99 cases per 100 000 inhabitants.

A national strategic plan for the prevention and control of tuberculosis 2018-2021 has been put in place with the aim of attaining a 40% reduction in the number TB-related deaths in 2021.

For malaria, Morocco has not detected any indigenous cases since 2005, but it records an average of 450 imported cases. For viral hepatitis B, the incidence decreased from 12 cases in 2016 to 11 cases per 100 000 in 2019.

Fight against non-communicable diseases

In 2018, the mortality rate attributed to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) reached 12.4%. The national survey on risk factors for non-communicable diseases in the population aged 18 years and over showed that 29.3% are hypertensive, 10.6% are diabetic and 10.4% are pre-diabetic. The survey also revealed that 53% are overweight, of which 20% are obese, 10.5% have high blood cholesterol, 11.7% smoke tobacco, 1.7% drink alcohol, 21.1% are sedentary and 76.3% consume less than five portions of vegetables and fruit per day.

The suicide mortality rate decreased from 4.8 per 100 000 population in 2015 to 2.9 in 2017 (WHO estimate). Morocco recorded a total of 1104 deaths from suicide between 2016 and 2020. In 2020, the authorities responded to 1719 suicide attempts. In this sense, the process of developing a national suicide prevention strategy has been launched to reduce mortality from suicide.

Prevention and treatment of psychoactive substance abuse

With regard to mental health, priority has been given to developing the provision of psychiatric care through the establishment of 9 integrated psychiatric services in hospitals in 9 provinces, the purchase of psychotropic drugs and the provision of therapeutic interventions for drug-related disorders. In 2019, approximately 111 000 people with mental disorders are cared for in primary health care facilities and almost 41 000 people with addictive disorders are cared for in addiction centers.

Covid-19 has also had psychological effects on the population. The results of the national survey conducted by the HCP on the impact of the Covid-19 on the economic, social and psychological situation of households, showed that for 49% of households, anxiety is the main psychological impact of confinement. Moreover, 30% of the households

express a feeling of claustrophobia and 25% evoke a multiplication of phobias.

As for alcohol consumption, according to the WHO, it has decreased from 0.69 liters per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) in 2016 to 0.5 liters in 2019 (WHO Report 2019).

Deaths and injuries from road accidents

The prevention of road traffic accidents is a real concern in Morocco and significant efforts have been made to this effect. As a result, the death rate due to road traffic injuries per 100 000 inhabitants fell from 11 deaths in 2016 to 9.37 deaths in 2019 and 7.6 in 2020. This decrease is mainly due to restrictions related to the state of health emergency caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The government's objective is to reduce this rate to 5.6 deaths per 100 000 inhabitants by 2025.

Chart 3: Evolution of the death rate due to road traffic injuries per 100 000 inhabitants (2016-2020)



Source: National Road Safety Agency (NARSA).

Access for all to sexual and reproductive health care services

The proportion of women who benefitted from qualified prenatal consultations increased by 11 percentage points between 2011 and 2018 to reach 88.5%, while the proportion of births attended by skilled personnel increased from 73.6% in 2011 to 86.6% in 2018. The share of married women aged 15-49 using a contraceptive method increased from 67.4% in 2011 to 70.8% in 2018, while the adolescent birth rate (15-19 years) decreased from 32 births per 1 000 adolescents in 2011 to 19.4 in 2018.

Universal health coverage

In 2020, the medical coverage rate reached approximately 70% of the Moroccan population, taking into account the integration of new categories of liberal professions and non-salaried workers.

In order to strengthen equal access to health care for all citizens, and to stem the negative impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist him, officially launched, in April 2021, the generalization of social protection.

In this context, Law 09-21 pertaining to Social Protection was adopted. It constitutes a major societal advance which aims, among other things, to generalize Compulsory Medical Insurance during the first period 2021-2022, for the benefit of 22 million new beneficiaries of Basic Medical Insurance (BMI) and which covers the costs of medicalization, the acquisition of medicines, hospitalization and care. The overall cost of the generalization of social protection amounts to about 51 billion dirhams annually, including 14 billion dirhams for the generalization of Compulsory Medical Insurance.

Health care financing

The Government is strongly committed to improving the financing of the health sector in order to guarantee a quality, equitable and accessible health care offer to the whole population. In this context, the budget of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection has improved from 13.1 billion dirhams in 2015 to 19.77 billion dirhams in 2021, i.e. an increase of more than 50% during the same period. However, according to the National Health Accounts (2018), the total health expenditures is financed primarily by households at 59.7% in 2018.

Reduction of deaths due to ambient air pollution

According to the Department of Health, the mortality rate attributed to ambient air pollution is 28 deaths per 100 000 population in 2019.

Reduction of deaths and illnesses due to unsafe water and poor sanitation and hygiene

The mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation, and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services) is 1.9 deaths per 100 000 population in 2019.

Strengthening tobacco control

In 2018, more than 11% of Moroccans aged 15 and older were using tobacco. Morocco expects to reduce tobacco consumption among this population group by about 20% by 2029.

Access to vaccines and medicines

As a result of the national immunization program, Morocco has been able to maintain very high vaccination coverage rates. Thus, the proportion of children aged 12-23 months fully vaccinated has improved from 90.9% in 2011 to 94.5% in 2018.

In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, Morocco has adopted an anticipatory approach through participation in the third phase of clinical trials, the conclusion of agreements with laboratories aimed at diversifying its sources of vaccine acquisition, the development of the national strategy for vaccination against SARS-COV2, and the establishment of a scientific and technical committee for vaccination against SARS-COV-2, which has begun work on the development of the vaccination strategy against Covid-19.

In order to strengthen its health sovereignty from the outside world, Morocco has embarked on a strategic project to manufacture the anti-Covid-19 vaccine locally. Indeed, His Majesty King Mohammed VI presided on 5 July 2021 over the ceremony of launching and signing of agreements related to this project. With a cost exceeding 5 billion DHs, this project intends to start in the short term with a production capacity of 5 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine per month, which will allow the Kingdom to appropriate the field of the "fill & finish" industry and to make it a leading biotechnology platform on the African continent and the world.

In addition, the results of the national vaccination campaign against the Covid-19 virus indicate, as of 20 September 2021, that 21.2 million of the total population have received the first dose of vaccine, of which 17.59 million people are fully vaccinated.

In addition, to ensure the availability of medicines and health products accessible to the population in health establishments, the budget of the Ministry of Health dedicated to medicines has increased considerably from 670 million dirhams in 2001 to over 2 billion dirhams in recent years.

Human resource deficit

The human resource deficit remains one of the major challenges of the health sector. Medical density has increased from 6.7 per 10 000 inhabitants in 2017 to 7.2 in 2020 and paramedical density from 8.5 in 2017 to 9.8 per 10 000 inhabitants in 2020. This indicates that the medical and paramedical density hardly exceeds 1.7 per 1000 inhabitants at a time when the standard set by the WHO for the achievement of the SDGs is 4.45 per 1000 inhabitants.

Legal framework for health risk reduction and management

In Morocco, the legislation is favorable to health protection and risk reduction. It is largely aligned with regional and global priorities and commitments, including the International Health Regulations (2005). The degree of health emergency preparedness is 75% in 2020.

2. Key challenges

Consolidating the gains and improving the performance of the health system involves addressing some of the challenges to progress towards the health-related SDGs. It is essentially a question of ensuring the generalization of health insurance to the entire population by the end of 2022, the provision of the health sector with sufficient and qualified human resources, the reduction of regional disparities in terms of the distribution of health care and the mobilization of the necessary financing for the health system, etc.

3. Progress of SDG 3 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2011	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030	
3.1 By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100 000 live births (LB).	3.1.1	Maternal mortality ratio	112	-	-	-	-	-	72.6	-	-	Less than 70/100 000 LB	
	3.1.2	Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel	-	73.6	-	-	-	-	86.6	-	-	> 95*	
3.2 By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1000 live births and under-five mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1000 live births	3.2.1	Under-five mortality rate	-	30.5	-	-	-	-	22.16	-	-	25 12*	
	3.2.2	Neonatal mortality rate	-	21.7	-	-	-	-	13.56	-	-	12 7*	
3.3 By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases	3.3.1	Number of new HIV infections per 1000 uninfected population, by sex, age, and key populations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.03	-	0	
	3.3.2	Incidence of tuberculosis per 100 000 population	-	-	-	101	-	-	99	-	-	0 30*	
	3.3.3	Incidence of indigenous malaria per 100 000 population	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Incidence of imported malaria per 100 000 population	0	0	0	0.013	-	-	--	0	0	0	
	3.3.4	Incidence of hepatitis B per 100 000 population	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	11	-	0
	3.3.5	Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases (parasitic diseases)	-	-	-	-	9590000	-	-	-	-	-	-

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2011	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
3.4 By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being	3.4.1	Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (in %)	-	-	-	12.5	-	-	12.4	-	-	4.16
	3.4.2	Suicide mortality rate per 100 000 population	-	-	-	4.8	2.9	-	-	-	2.9(*)	2.6
3.5 Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol	3.5.1	Coverage of treatment interventions (pharmacological, psychosocial and rehabilitation and aftercare services) for substance use disorders (patients attended)	-	-	-	-	15168	-	-	-	-	-
	3.5.2	Alcohol per capita consumption (aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in liters of pure alcohol	-	-	-	-	0.69	0.74	-	0.5	0.5(**)	0.4
3.6 By 2020, halve the number of global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents	3.6.1	Death rate due to road traffic injuries per 100 000 population	-	-	-	-	11	9.37	-	7.71	7.6	5.5(***)
3.7 By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs	3.7.1	Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (in %)	-	56.7	-	-	-	-	58.0	-	-	70
	3.7.2	adolescent birth rate (aged 15-19 years) per 1000 women in that age group	-	32.0	-	-	-	-	19.4	-	-	-

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2011	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
3.8 Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all	3.8.1	Coverage of essential health services (defined as the average coverage of essential services based on tracer interventions that include reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases and service capacity and access, among the general and the most disadvantaged population)	-	-	-	-	59	-	-	68.8	70	100
	3.8.2-a	Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income (1) greater than 10%	-	-	13.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	3.8.2-b	Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income (2) more than 25% of household expenditure	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination	3.9.1	Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution (/100 000 population)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	-	-
	3.9.2	Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services)	-	-	-	-	1.9	-	-	1.9	-	1.4
	3.9.3	Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2011	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
3.a Strengthen the implementation of the World Health Organization Convention on Tobacco Control in all countries, as appropriate	3.a.1	Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older (comparative rate per age)	-	-	-	-	-	-	11.3	-	-	-
3.b Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines, in accordance with the Doha Declaration on the TRIPS Agreement and Public Health, which affirms the right of developing countries to use to the full the provisions in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights regarding flexibilities to protect public health, and, in particular, provide access to medicines for all	3.b.1	Proportion of the target population covered by all vaccines included in their national program (in %)	-	90.9	-	-	-	-	94.5	-	-	95
3.c Substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing states	3.c.1	Health worker density and distribution per 10 000 population	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		- Medical worker density per 10 000 habitants	-	-	-	-	-	6.7	-	7.2	7.2	-
		- Paramedical density per 10 000 population	-	-	-	-	-	8.5	-	8.9	9.8	-
3.d Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks	3.d.1	International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness (in %)	-	-	-	-	60	-	-	75	95	

[*] Target values for indicators in national plans and strategies.

[**] Country Profile, WHO in 2019.

[***] According to the national road safety strategy, the government's objective is to reduce this rate to 5.6 deaths per 100 000 population by 2025.

Source: ENPSF 2011 and ENPSF 2018, Ministry of Health, National Demographic Survey 2010-2009, HCP, National Survey of Household Consumption and Expenditures 2014-2013, HCP 2014, National Committee for the Prevention of Traffic Accidents (CNPAC).





Despite the progress made by the national education system, major challenges remain, particularly with regard to the quality of learning and secondary school completion

Morocco has made significant progress in the field of education in 2020, after the generalization of primary education, the achievements in terms of access to preschool education and the parity between girls and boys which is practically achieved in all school cycles. Despite these advances, there are still

important gaps to be filled in order to stem the widening gap caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and its impact on categorical and territorial inequalities in access to education and on the quality of learning.

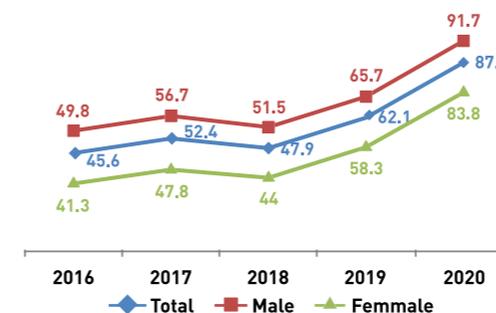
1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Access to education

The national education system has nearly 9 873 998 pupils and students in 2020, including: 8% are enrolled in preschool, 46% in primary school, 18% in lower secondary school, 11% in upper secondary school, 10% in university and 7% in vocational training.

The specific preschool rate for children aged 4 to 5 has improved significantly, reaching 71.9% in 2020 compared to 43.9% in 2016. For children aged 5 (one year before the official age of entry into primary school), this rate reached 87.8% compared to 45.6% respectively. In this sense, a national program for the development of preschool (2018-2028) has been launched for the generalization of preschool by 2028.

Chart 4: Evolution of the participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age in %)



Source: Department of National Education

For the primary education cycle, the generalization of access to this education cycle is almost complete. The specific enrolment rate for the 6-11 age group is 100%.

For lower secondary education, the specific enrolment rate for the 12-14 age group experienced a significant jump of 8.6 points between 2016 and 2020 from 85.6% to 94.2% respectively. Similarly, for upper secondary education, the specific enrolment rate for the 15-17 age group is 69.6% in 2020 compared to 64.9% in 2016.

Equity and quality of education

In terms of equity and equal opportunity, the gender parity index (W/M) has undergone a remarkable evolution over the last five years. In fact, parity in schooling between boys and girls has been achieved at the primary level and significant percentages have been recorded at both levels of secondary education. In 2020, the parity index reached a rate of 0.96 in lower secondary education and 0.97 in upper secondary education. This index also showed a significant increase in preschool education, reaching 0.91 in 2020.

The quality of education remains a persistent problem as evidenced by the reports and results of international assessment surveys (TIMSS, PIRLS and PISA). Namely, the results of the 2019 TIMSS assessment revealed that Moroccan students' scores remain below the international average.

In addition, surveys on the impact of the coronavirus on the economic, social and psychological situation of households, conducted by the HCP, have shown that 83.5% of those enrolled in preschool did not attend distance learning courses (79.1% in urban areas against 94.6% in rural areas). Also, 50.1% of the students considered that distance learning did not allow them to fully cover the curriculum.

School completion

The primary school completion rate stood at 91.4% in 2020. Girls had a higher completion rate than boys at 93.2% and 89.2% respectively. In addition, 61.4% of students completed lower secondary school, with the completion rate for girls far exceeding that for boys, at 68.0% and 52.0% respectively. At the upper secondary level, the national completion rate is 39.0%. It is clear that the gap between girls and boys is widening considerably, reaching 24 points with completion rates of 52.0% and 27.9% respectively.

Vocational training

At the level of vocational training, significant efforts have been made to strengthen the employability of young people and the socio-professional promotion of employees, namely:

- **The development of the capacity of the vocational training system:** The total number of public and private sector establishments reached 2042 establishments in 2020. The number of trainees was 397 974. Girls represent 40% of the vocational trainees.
- **Social and professional inclusion:** Structural projects have been carried out and important measures have been taken so that people with disabilities have access to training, according to their abilities and the type of disability. In 2020, the number of people with disabilities reached 417 trainees.

- **Vocational training for immigrants and refugees:** In 2020, the number of immigrants and refugees receiving training reached 647 trainees, 56% of whom are women.

Higher education

In higher education, continuous efforts have been made to expand access, promote equality and equity, improve quality, enhance employability, and develop scientific research. In fact, the total number of students increased by 18.2% between 2016 and 2020, from 854 339 to 1 009 596 students. This number is divided between 91.3% of students in university higher education, 3.4% in management training and 5.3% in private higher education.

In 2020, the total number of higher education institutions reached 409 institutions spread over the 12 regions of the Kingdom.

The post-baccalaureate higher education enrolment rate for the 18-22 age group increased from 33.6% in 2017 to 40.2% in 2020.

Gender parity is achieved in higher education. The percentage of female students increased from 48% to 50.1% between 2015 and 2020. Their share of graduates increased from 48.9% in 2015 to 50.7% in 2019.

In order to improve access to higher education and leave no one behind, the following measures were taken:

- The improvement of the quality of higher education and its outputs through the generalization of the use of information technology, the consolidation of pedagogical reform and the strengthening of scientific research, etc.;

- Broadening the base of scholarship holders to 394 907 in 2020 from 293 323 in 2017, an increase of 20%. Satisfaction of 84% of scholarship applications at the national level;
- Expansion of the number of student beneficiaries of the basic compulsory health insurance system to 230 000 by 2020;
- The reservation of 10% of the limited number of places in the first year in public universities with regulated access for the benefit of foreign students not resident in Morocco and the expansion of the intake capacity for foreign students: 21 000 foreign students were enrolled in 2020, 85% of whom came from African countries and 13 060 of whom were enrolled in public higher education institutions.
- The processing of applications for the granting of scholarships to foreign students residing in Morocco under the same conditions and selection criteria applied to Moroccans: 75% of students from sub-Saharan Africa receive scholarships from the Moroccan government (12 283 scholarship holders in public higher education institutions in 2020).

Traditional teaching

Morocco continues to make enormous efforts to upgrade mosque imams. An average of 45 700 imams benefit from this, including 31 990 imams in the rural areas and 13 710 imams in the urban areas. In addition, 1 447 ulemas are involved in mentoring the participants in this upgrading program. In addition, continuous efforts are being made to ensure quality education in traditional educational institutions in order to promote the quality of traditional school and terminal education through the implementation of the project of subsidising traditional educational institutions in material, financial and pedagogical terms.

Fight against illiteracy

According to the 2014 GPHC, the literacy rate of the population aged 10 years and older is 77.8% for men, 57.9% for women, and 67.8% overall. The literacy rate for the population aged 15 to 24 is 92.8% for males, 85.2% for females, and 89% overall.

In 2020 the number of beneficiaries of literacy programs has reached 1 200 295 beneficiaries (86% are women and 57% are rural) compared to 739 565 beneficiaries in 2016, with an average annual increase of 13%.

Global citizenship education

As part of the implementation of the school of citizenship, Morocco has launched the "Mowatana" project, which aims to disseminate and consolidate the values of citizenship, respect for the law and the fulfilment of duty, etc. This project has started its pilot phase, targeting 3 000 pupils during 2019, with the aim of reaching 10 000 beneficiaries within three years. Furthermore, as part of the implementation of the National Immigration and Asylum Strategy (SNIA), several measures have been programmed for the inclusion in school textbooks of the values of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity.

Infrastructure and learning environment

Major efforts have been made to build schools in both urban and rural areas. In 2020, the number of primary schools is 7 890 nationwide, of which 4 829 are in rural areas. The number of lower secondary schools is 2 042 nationally, including 897 in rural areas, while the number of upper secondary schools is 1 281 nationwide, 384 of which are in rural areas. The number of boarding schools has reached 985, 90% of which are in rural areas.

Efforts have been made to provide students with a comfortable setting and environment for learning. In this sense, the proportion of educational institutions connected to the drinking water network in 2020, exceeds 79% for all levels of education.

As for access to electricity, the proportion of schools with access to electricity in 2020 exceeds 97% for all levels of education.

However, the proportion of schools with basic infrastructure and materials adapted to students with disabilities reached 20.1% at the primary level, 32.4% at the lower secondary level and 35.8% at the upper secondary level in 2020.

Inclusive education and training

Morocco continues to implement the national program for the education of children with disabilities. In this context, a program to support the improvement of schooling for children with disabilities, in specialized establishments and integrated classes, has been set up within the framework of the Support Fund for Social Protection and Social Cohesion. Between 2015 and 2020, the number of children with disabilities from precarious backgrounds who have been able to benefit from this program is 61 150, with an overall budget of 680 million dirhams.

2. Key challenges

Despite the progress and the efforts made, challenges remain and require additional measures to achieve the envisaged goals. This involves the generalization of schooling in all school cycles, except primary, while ensuring the quality of education and the reduction of territorial, socio-economic and cultural disparities between the different regions, the fight against school drop-out and the retention of rural girls in the different educational cycles, the fight

against illiteracy and digital illiteracy, the reconfiguration of learning to learn better in a shorter period of time in order to make up for the learning deficit imposed by Covid-19 through more effective teaching methods, and more flexible and less restrictive governance geared towards pupils and students to fully complete their learning and the restructuring of courses of study to improve the employability of young people, modernize teaching programs, and develop more vocational training and put in place soft-skills.

3. Evolution of the indicators for SDG 4

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes	4.1.1	Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex (in %)	-						100
				a) i) reading: 36.0 a) ii) math.: 40.6 c) ii) math.: 40.7					
	4.1.2	Completion rate (primary education, lower secondary education, upper secondary education) (in %)		Primary school: 91.3 1st cycle of sec. educ.: 65.0 2nd cycle of sec. educ.: 34.2	Primary school: 93.1 1st cycle of sec. educ.: 64.0 2nd cycle of sec. educ.: 35.2	Primary school: 93.0 1st cycle of sec. educ.: 60.0 2nd cycle of sec. educ.: 32.1	Primary school: 95.9 1st cycle of sec. educ.: 64.7 2nd cycle of sec. educ.: 38.6	Primary school: 91.4 1st cycle of sec. educ.: 61.4 2nd cycle of sec. educ.: 39.0	100
4.2 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education	4.2.2	Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex (in %)		National: 5.6 Girls: 41.3 Boys: 49.8 Urban: 56.8 Rural: 31.1	National: 52.4 Girls: 47.8 Boys: 46.7 Urban: 61.9 Rural: 39.8	National: 47.9 Girls: 44 Boys: 51.5 Urban: 57.5 Rural: 35.2	National: 62.1 Girls: 58.3 Boys: 65.7 Urban: 70.9 Rural: 50.4	National: 87.8 Girls: 83.8 Boys: 91.7	100 100 R1

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university	4.3.1	Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex (in %)	-	-	15-24 years: National : 46.8 Girls: 42.4 Rural : 18.1 15 years and older: National : 15 Girls: 15.7 Rural : 9	15 -24 years: National : 47.5 Girls: 44.4 Rural : 18.4 15 years and older: National : 15.7 Girls: 17.2 Rural : 10	15 -24 years: National : 48.2 Girls: 45.7 Rural : 18.8 15 years and older: National : 16.1 Girls: 18.2 Rural : 10.2	-	100
4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship	4.4.1	Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill (in %)	-	-	-	a. Info. 15 -24 years: 83.7 >= 15 years: 51.1 b. connection 15-24 years: 60.2 >= 15 years: 38.8	-	-	95
4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations	4.5.1	Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict-affected, as data become available) for all education indicators		Parity by sex: Primary: 0.94 Lower secondary:0.87. Upper sec.:0.97 Parity by area: 1.13; 0.55 and 0.23 respectively	Parity by sex: Primary: 0.94. Lower secondary:0.88. Upper sec.:1.01 Parity by area: 1.13; 0.58 and 0.24 respectively	Parity by sex: Primary: 0.95 Lower secondary: 0.90 Upper sec.:1.05 Parity by area: 1.13; 0.60 and 0.25 respectively	Parity by sex: Primary: 0.95. Lower secondary:0.90. Upper sec.:1.08 Parity by area: 1.13; 0.60 and 0.27 respectively	Parity by sex: Primary: 1 Lower secondary: 0.96 Upper sec.:0.97 Parity by area: 1.08; 0.83 and 0.51 respectively	1.00
4.6 By 2030, ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy	4.6.1a	Literacy rate of the population aged 10 years and over (in %)	National: 67.8; Women [57.9] Men [77.8]	-	-	-	-	-	0 10% in 2026 R2

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
4.a Build and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.	4.a.1	Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic handwashing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions) (in %)	-	a) Primary: Total: 91.5 Urban : 97.5 Rural : 87.7 1st cycle of secondary education : Total: 94.9 Urban: 97.0 Rural: 92.0 2nd cycle of secondary education : Total: 95.8 Urban: 96.8 Rural : 93.0	a) Primary: Total: 92.6 Urban: 97.7 Rural: 89.4 1st cycle of secondary education : Total: 95.6 Urban: 97.6 Rural: 92.9 2nd cycle of secondary education : Total: 97.5% Urban: 97.9% Rural: 96.3% b) Primary : 78.7 1st cycle of secondary Education: 78.7 2nd cycle of secondary education: 85.9 c) Prim.: 77 1st cycle of secondary education: 84.5 2nd cycle of secondary education: 88.9 d) Prim:17.3 1st cycle of secondary education: 31.3 2nd cycle of secondary education: 36.4	a) Primary: Total: 93.9 Urban : 98.0 Rural : 91.3 1st cycle of secondary education : Total: 96.5 Urban : 97.9 Rural: 94.6 2nd cycle of secondary education : Total: 97.6 Urban: 98.0 Rural: 96.5 b) Prim : 79 1st cycle of secondary Education: 84.9 2nd cycle of secondary education: 86.5 c) Prim.: 77.2 1st cycle of secondary education: 84.9 2nd cycle of secondary education: 89.2 d) Prim : 17.3 1st cycle of secondary education :31.1 2nd cycle of secondary education: 35.9	a) Primary: Total: 100 Urban : 100.0 Rural : 92.6 1st cycle of secondary education: Total: 95.9 Urban 97.4 Rural 94.0 2nd cycle of secondary education: Total: 96.5 Urban 100.0 Rural 95.6	a) Primary: Total: 97.2 Rural : 94.2 1st cycle of secondary education: Total 98.9 Rural 97.1 2nd cycle of secondary education: Total 98.5 Rural 97.4 b) Primary : 82.8 1st cycle of secondary Education: 83.1 2nd cycle of secondary education: 84.3 c) Prim: 76.8 1st cycle of secondary education: 82.8 2nd cycle of secondary education: 85.5 d) Primary : 20.1 1st cycle of secondary education: 32.4 2nd cycle of secondary education: 35.8 e) Primary 79.3 1st cycle of secondary education: 92.7 2nd cycle of secondary education: 95.9 f) Prim: 91.1 1st cycle of secondary education: 94.3 2nd cycle of secondary education: 94.0. g) Prim: 83.8 1st cycle of secondary education: 92.8 2nd cycle of secondary education: 97.8.	
4.c By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States	4.c.1	Proportion of teachers with the minimum required qualifications, by education level (in %)		100	100	100	100	100	

Source: Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, RGPB 2014, HCP.

R1 Strategic Education Vision 2015-2030: Generalization of preschool by 2028.

R2 Literacy Programs: Reduce the illiteracy rate to 20% by 2021 and 10% by 2026 and eradicate illiteracy among young people aged 15 to 24.



The progress made has made it possible to promote the status of women, protect their rights and combat violence against them, and consolidate gender equality

Morocco has embarked on a process of promoting gender equality through constitutional, legislative and institutional reforms. The progress made in this regard has made it possible to promote the status of women, protect their rights and combat violence against them, and consolidate gender equality through the establishment of equality

and parity. However, despite the gains made towards gender equality, challenges remain to improve the situation of Moroccan women and to address the repercussions of the pandemic and gradually revive economic activity, access to education and health care and the empowerment of women and girls.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

A constantly improving legal framework in favor of parity

The legal framework in Morocco considers gender equality one of the pillars of human rights as universally recognized without distinction of race, age and sex. The Moroccan Constitution of 2011 reaffirms and commits to ban and combat all forms of discrimination against anyone, on the basis of gender, color, creed, culture, social or regional origin, language, disability, etc. Moreover, the Kingdom of Morocco has ratified all the conventions relating to women's rights and treaties that aim to establish the principle of gender equality and non-discrimination. Morocco is committed to revising all laws to harmonize the national legislative framework with international conventions.

Continuing this process, Morocco has put in place a series of laws since 2015 for the fight against discrimination against women, including:

- Law No. 27-14 of December 2016 on the fight against human trafficking, which criminalizes, among other things, and severely punishes forms of sexual exploitation, prostitution, forced labor, begging and slavery, etc.
- Law 19.12 of 10 August 2016, establishing the conditions of work and employment of domestic workers, which prohibits the requisition of these workers to perform forced labor or against their will.

- Law No. 79-14 ratified in 2017 on the fight against all forms of discrimination.
- Draft law No. 19.13 amending and supplementing article 10 of the Cherifian dahir No. 1 58.250 promulgating the nationality law, authorizing the foreign man married to a Moroccan woman to acquire the Moroccan nationality through marriage.
- Law 103-13 passed in 2018 on violence against women.
- Article 346 of the Labor Code prohibits wage discrimination between the two sexes for work of equal value.

As for affirmative action, many legal texts and mechanisms have been put in place to increase the political representation of women at the national and territorial levels, with a view to the 2021 elections, the most important of which are:

- The organization draft law No. 04-21 amending and supplementing organic law No. 27.11 on the House of Representatives, which aims at improving female representation, as well as the national list of women which will be broken down regionally, by replacing the national constituency with regional constituencies.

- The organization draft law No. 06.21 amending and supplementing Organization Act No. 59.11 on the elections of members of the Councils of Territorial Authorities adopted a mechanism to ensure the representation of women in these councils, by granting one third of the seats in each prefectural or provincial council to women. As a result of these changes, the representation of women at national level will increase from the current 21% to over 25%.

Fight against violence against women and girls

Morocco has come a long way in combating violence against women through the Constitution, the Family Code and other relevant legislation. In 2018, Law 103.13 on violence against women criminalizes any act of violence resulting from gender discrimination that harms the woman, such as refusing to return the expelled spouse to the matrimonial home, harming the integrity of the woman's body, dissipating or disposing of her property in bad faith, or as forms of sexual harassment or because of her status as a woman only. Thus, new protective measures have been adopted, such as the removal of the violent spouse, a non-aggression warning to the aggressor in case of threats of violence with a non-aggression undertaking, the replacement of the child with the mother who has custody, the prohibition of approaching the victim or her home, etc.

In this reform dynamic, Morocco has included the fight against violence against women in its government program for equality for the period 2016-2021. In 2019, the National Commission for the Care of Women Victims of Violence (CNPECFV) was established.

In addition, Morocco signed on 8 March 2020 "The Marrakech Declaration to End Violence Against Women". The Declaration includes a set of commitments to combat violence against women. Within this framework, national, regional and local commissions, as well as units for the care of women victims of violence have been set up. The network of institutional units for the care of women victims of violence has also been developed. There are now more than 96 units in the courts, 113 units in hospitals, and 440 units for the care of women

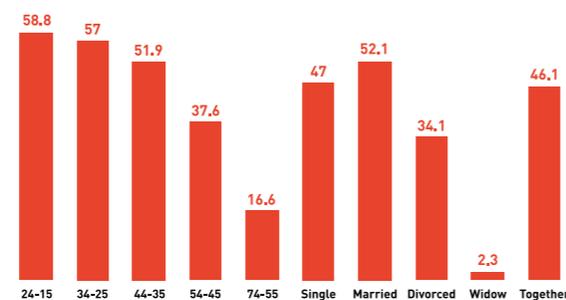
victims of violence in the National Security services, as well as dozens of units in the various services of the Royal Gendarmerie. The mission of these units is to welcome, listen, support, guide and provide medical and psychosocial support to women victims of violence.

Proportion of women victims of partner violence

Violence in the context of a marital or intimate partner relationship (all forms) during the past 12 months has recorded a prevalence rate of 46% in 2019. Married women experience the most partner violence. The prevalence of this type of violence is 52.1% among married women compared to 47% among single women who have or had a fiancé or close friend and 34.1% among divorced women.

Girls and women aged 15-24 years old are most affected by violence perpetrated by current or former intimate partners (58.8%), more so than young women aged 35-44 years old (51.9%). Women aged 45-54 and 55-74 years old have prevalences of 37.6% and 16.6% respectively.

Chart 5: Prevalence rate of partner violence (in %) by age groups and marital status of victims



Source: HCP, National Survey on Violence Against Women and Men 2019.

By form of violence, girls and young women aged 15-24 years are the most affected by psychological violence in the marital context (56.7%), followed by women aged 25-34 years (53.6%). However, women aged between 25 and 34 are mainly affected by physical violence and economic violence, with prevalence rates of 12.7% and 14.1% respectively.

Women victims of sexual violence by someone other than their intimate partner

The proportion of women and girls aged 15-74 who were victims of sexual violence in the previous 12 months in an extramarital context where the perpetrator could be someone other than the intimate partner is 8.5% of women. Urban women are more affected by this violence (10.5%) than rural women (4.8%).

By age, girls and women aged 15 to 24 are the most affected by this type of violence (18.1%), more than women aged 25 to 34 (9.7%). Women aged 35-44 and those aged 45-54 and 55-74 have prevalences of 7.3%, 3.5% and 0.8% respectively. By location of the facts, among all the acts of the sexual violence due to harassment sexual experiences suffered by women, 50% took place in public space (57% in urban areas and 34% in rural area). In places of study and training 10.5% of women and girls aged between 15 and 74 have been victims of this type of violence. In the context of work, sexual violence affects 2.7% of women, of whom 32.7% of the victims point to superiors, 30.1% to colleagues at the same level and 18.7% to colleagues with a lower hierarchical level.

Covid-19 crisis intensifies risk of violence against women and girls

Women are at greater risk due to the Covid-19 crisis. According to the survey on the impact of the coronavirus on the economic, social and psychological situation of households, conducted by the HCP in 2020, the results indicate that women are the most affected by the sense of overcrowding or lack of privacy during confinement (21% of women, against 16.4% of men). Furthermore, 28% of women and 22% of men have experienced conflict with the people with whom they have been in confinement.

Marriage of minors

Marriage records for minors declined from 30 230 in 2015 to 25 514 in 2018 or 9.1% of total marriage records. Marriage requests are more evident among girls under 18 than boys. In fact, marriage applications for girls under the age of 18 dropped from 39 757 in 2016 to 31 931 in 2018.

Women spend more time than men on unpaid domestic work

The results of the 2nd panel on the impact of the coronavirus on the economic, social and psychological situation of households, conducted by the HCP in 2020, showed that the average daily time allocated to housework at home is 4 hours 27 minutes for women who spend 6 times more time than men (45 minutes), an increase of 28 minutes and 40 minutes respectively compared to the normal day before the confinement. School accompaniment for children in the household lasts, on average, 21 minutes per day, 25 minutes by women and 16 minutes by men. This time is 4 times higher than before the confinement.

Women's participation in decision-making processes

Female representation in the House of Representatives reached 20.5% in 2016. Their weight in the House of Councilors reached 11.67% in 2015. This number is still below the minimum quota of one-third set by the United Nations. At the level of regional and other territorial councils, the presence of elected women in these councils is 21.18% at the communal level and 4% at the provincial level. As for the regional councils, their number is 255 elected women, bringing their weight for the year 2015 to 37.6%.

The overall rate of feminization in the public administration is 40% in 2020 and the rate of access of women to positions of responsibility is 24.61% in 2020. Their access to higher employment is 16.97% in 2020.

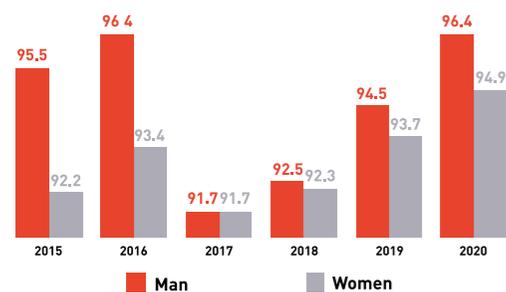
Strengthening women's access to ownership and control of agricultural land

In the context of promoting women's access to land ownership, particularly to collective lands, Morocco has made exceptional efforts to empower Soualiate women through the institutionalization of their rights in 2020 through the enactment of Law 62-17 on the administrative guardianship over Soualiate communities and the management of their property.

Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) as a means of empowering women

In terms of cell phone equipment in 2020, 94.9% of women aged 12-65 had a cell phone, while this proportion reached 96.4% for men.

Chart 6: Proportion of individuals equipped with a cell phone in % between 2015 and 2020



Source: National Telecommunications Regulatory Agency.

Gender responsive budgeting

Morocco has been able to crystallize a pioneering experience in the application and establishment of mechanisms advocating the virtues of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) in the design, implementation and assessment of the public policies. This implementation was reinforced by the publication of Organic Law No. 130-13 in the 2015 Finance Law, which emphasizes the

institutionalization of results-based management from a gender perspective. This process was reinforced in March 2020 by the dissemination of the circular of the Head of Government, which urged ministerial departments and Public Establishments and Enterprises to take into account the gender dimension in their three-year budgetary programming exercises for the period 2021-2023, by integrating their Medium-Term Sectoral Action Plans (PASMT) framing the implementation of their commitments made within the framework of the Governmental Plan for Equality (PGE II).

2. Key challenges

Morocco has been able to make considerable progress in the area of gender equality, but there are still challenges that have been amplified by the imbalances caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. These are essentially the integration of gender into the post-Covid-19 response and economic recovery strategies, the development of a chain of services for the care of women victims of violence that is effective and accessible in all regions, the enhancement of the contribution of women and girls to the economy and the establishment of mechanisms to reduce disparities between men and women in decision-making, and the management of change towards a more egalitarian culture and the fight against stereotypes and sexist prejudice, etc.

3. Progress of SDG 5 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2009	2012	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.	5.2.1	Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age (in %)	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	-	0
	5.2.2	Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence (in %)	4.3	-	-	-	-	-	8.5	-	-

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2009	2012	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation	5.3.1	Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 15						0.7 (Before age 15) 21.4 (Before age 18)			
		Proportion of women aged 20–24 years who were married or in a union before age 18									
5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate	5.4.1	Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location (in %)	-	Women: Nat: 21.2 U: 19.7 R: 23.4 Men: Nat: 3.3 U: 2.9 R: 3.9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life	5.5.1	Proportion of seats held by women in (in %):		a) 2011: 16.7		a) 2016: 20.5					
		a) national parliaments									
		b) local governments (in %) (At the level of regional councils)			b) 37.6						

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2009	2012	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
	5.5.2	Proportion of women in managerial positions (in %): Rate of feminization of senior jobs in the public sector	-	-	-	-	15.28	16.99	17.2	16.97	50**
5.6 Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights as agreed in accordance with the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of their review conferences	5.6.1	Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care (in %): Proportion of no singles women aged 15-49 years using contraception and percentage using modern contraceptive methods at the time of the survey.	47		-	-	-	70.8	-		100
5.b Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women	5.b.1	Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex (in %)	-	-	F: 92.2 M: 95.5 (Individuals aged 12-65 years)	F: 93.4 M: 96.4 (Individuals aged 12-65 years)	F: 91.7 M: 91.7 (Individuals aged 5 years and older)	F: 92.5 M: 92.3 (Individuals aged 5 years and older)	F: 93.7 M: 94.5	F: 94.9 M: 96.4	100

Source: Department of Administration Reform, National Telecommunications Regulatory Agency, Ministry of Interior, 2011 and 2016 Legislative Elections, 2009 and 2019 National Survey on the Prevalence of Violence Against Women, HCP.

* National Strategy to Combat Violence against Women and Girls by 2030.

** Department of Administration Reform



The management of water resources has long been at the center of public policy concerns in order to meet drinking water and irrigation needs

Morocco's hydro-climatic regime is characterized by its increased vulnerability. Water resources are quite limited, variable over time and unevenly distributed throughout the country. The management of these resources

has long been at the center of public policy concerns in order to meet drinking water and irrigation needs. These efforts are also accompanied by significant investments in improving access to liquid sanitation services.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Morocco is located in one of the regions most threatened by climate change. The intensity and spatial and temporal variability of precipitation (see figures below) are significant, generating more floods and more droughts. Thus, 51% of the water supply is taken up by the two basins in the north and north-west (Loukkos and Sebou) with an average annual rainfall of more than 800 mm in the most irrigated region in the north and between 400 and 600 mm in the central region.

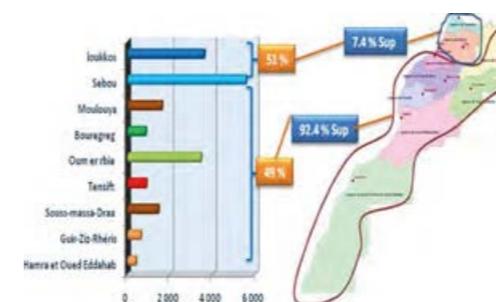
The seven other basins located mainly in the south and south-east of the Atlas, record 49% of the inputs with rainfall varying between minus 100 mm and 400 mm.

According to scientific projections, extreme events will become more pronounced in the future, causing more erosion and siltation of dam reservoirs.

The decrease and natural variability of water resources are combined with a growing demand, estimated at 16 billion m³/year⁵, the main components of which are agriculture with 87.3% and drinking water supply with 10.5%. The rest of the demand represents the needs of the industrial and tourism sectors (about 2.2%).

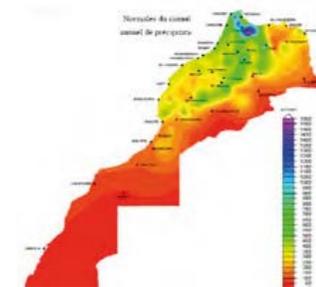
This situation generates a structural water deficit for the country of about 3 billion m³/year, often compensated by the overexploitation of groundwater up to 1.1 billion m³. This overexploitation concerns more particularly the regions with high agricultural potential such as Saiss and Chtouka.

Figure 1: Spatial distribution of surface water inflows in Morocco



Source: Water Department

Figure 2: Distribution of average annual precipitation



In order to meet the various water needs and mitigate the impacts of the scarcity and interannual variability of water supplies, Morocco has pursued an ambitious policy for the mobilization and management of this resource, based on the development of a consistent hydraulic infrastructure and planning by watershed. Major investments in hydraulic infrastructure (149 large dams and 133 small dams) have enabled it to reach a storage capacity of 19.1 billion m³, making it possible to absorb the very significant interannual variations in rainfall, which oscillate between 5 and 50 billion m³ /year. Morocco has also set up inter-basin transfer systems aimed at securing the availability of this resource for high-consumption centers such as Casablanca and Marrakech.

Furthermore, within the framework of good governance and with the aim of reinforcing the participatory management of water resources, and in application of the provisions of the new water law 36-15, the water basin agencies have begun to create councils for their basins. The latter are responsible for examining and giving their opinion on issues relating to water planning and management, notably the Integrated Water Resources Development Plans (PDAIREs) and local water management plans.

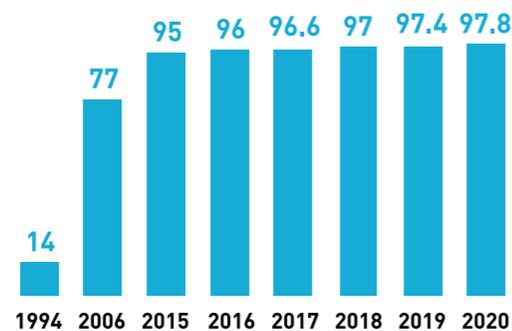
Access to drinking water for all

In urban areas, the efforts made by the various stakeholders have made it possible to provide access to drinking water to all citizens on a continuous basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The home connection rate increased from 97.5%⁶ in 2016 to over 98% in 2020.

In rural areas, the generalization of drinking water supply has undergone a remarkable evolution since the launch of the Grouped Drinking Water Supply Program for Rural Populations (PAGER) in 1995. The INDH, through its contribution to the Program for the Reduction of Territorial and Social Disparities (PRDTS) 2017-2023, has carried out more than 387 drinking water access projects for an investment of 397 MDH for the benefit of 294 thousand beneficiaries.

Thus, according to data from the National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water, the rate of access to drinking water in rural areas rose from 14% in 1994 to 95% in 2015, reaching 97.8% in 2020, with the hope of reaching 100% by 2030.

Chart 7: Access to drinking water in rural areas (in %)



Source: ONEE

Rationalization of water consumption

Efficient use of irrigation water is a prerequisite for sustainable agriculture that is resilient to climate change. Indeed, the control of irrigation water is a priority for the public authorities. Thus, three major structuring programs have been adopted, namely the National Irrigation Water Saving Program (PNEEI), the Irrigation Water Extension Program downstream of the dams (PEI) and the Public Private Partnership in Irrigation (PPP).

In 2020, the PNEEI has allowed the equipment of 35 000 ha with drip irrigation systems to reach a total of 635 000 ha since its launch.

Similarly, the cumulative achievements of the PEI reached 82 530 ha.

These irrigation programs have allowed the equipment of 873 049 hectares, an increase of 16.4% compared to 2019 for an investment of 36.6 billion dirhams for the benefit of 270 579 farms. They have also saved more than 2 billion m³ of water⁷.

In addition, efforts are being made to promote the mobilization of non-conventional waters, including seawater desalination, demineralization of drinking water and reuse of treated wastewater. The current total production capacity of the seawater desalination plants amounts to 156 470 m³/d: 6 stations to ensure drinking water needs and two stations to ensure the industrial needs of OCP Group (JorfLasfar and Laayoune) for a capacity of 26.4 M m³/year. 5 other stations are under construction: 2 stations for drinking water (Laayoune and Tarfaya), one station for the industrial needs of the OCP group in Laayoune, a shared station in Agadir for drinking water and irrigation of the Chtouka perimeter and a station for irrigation in Dakhla.

Furthermore, a study for the implementation of a seawater desalination project in the Casablanca-Settat region was launched by the Water Department in December 2018 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2021. This project will contribute to meeting the drinking water needs of Greater Casablanca by 2050, estimated at 300 Mm³.

As for the reuse of treated wastewater, the volume of wastewater treated and mobilized for reuse reached 71 M m³ in 2020.

Improving the efficiency of drinking water distribution networks is also on the agenda, especially in cities and urban centers. The efforts of the various operators in this area have resulted in an improvement in the national average yield rate from 73.5% in 2016 to 76% in 2019.

Access to improved sanitation services for all

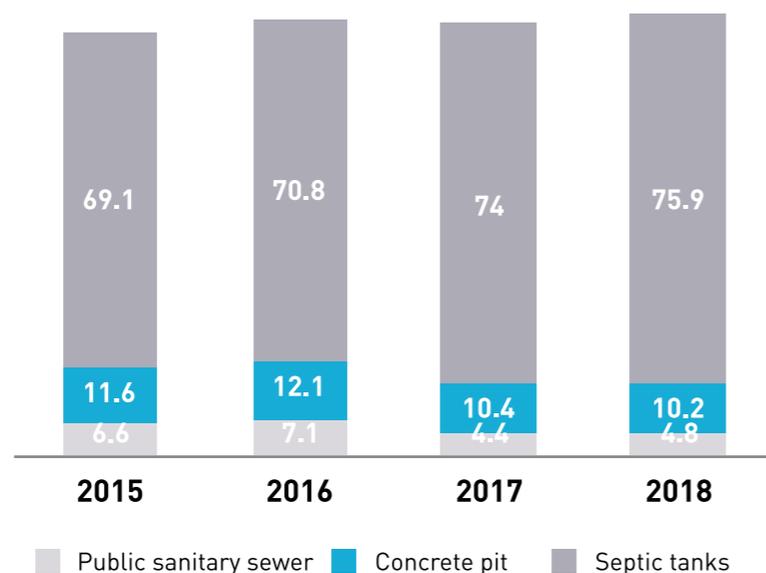
In terms of access to liquid sanitation services, concrete progress has been made through the shared liquid sanitation and treated wastewater reuse program (PNAM). Indeed, since its launch in 2006, the PNAM has made it possible to carry out several projects in 324 cities and centers, in partnership with the operators (ONEE, Autonomous Water and Electricity Distribution Boards and private delegates). These efforts have resulted in a national access rate to sanitation services, including the use of septic tanks, of 96.9%⁸ in 2019 compared to 96.5% in 2016; an urban liquid sewerage connection rate of 82%; a level of wastewater treatment of 56% compared to 7% in 2006; a fleet of 153 wastewater treatment plants and a reuse of a volume of 23.6 million m³/year of treated wastewater⁹ mainly for watering golf courses and green spaces as well as for industrial use.

However, in rural areas, the rate of access to improved sanitation services remains very low due to the nature of the terrain and the dispersion of dwellings, which complicate and make investment operations costly. This situation means that the use of septic tanks remains the most widespread solution with a proportion of over 75%.

⁶ High Commission for Planning
⁷ Ministry of Agriculture

⁸ High Commission for Planning
⁹ Ministry of Interior

Chart 8: Access to liquid sanitation services in rural areas by type of service (in %)



Source: HCP

2. Key challenges

In a context marked by climate change and strong pressure on water resources, the drinking water supply and irrigation sectors are facing several challenges that can be summarized as follows:

- The vulnerability of drinking water supply systems to the vagaries of the climate and mainly to the succession of drought years;
- Overexploitation of groundwater resources;
- The important need for investment for the generalization of structural systems of drinking water supply and irrigation;

- Sustainable water resource management;
- The multitude of distribution operators does not allow for efficient management and equity in the provision of drinking water services;
- The potential of natural water resources is very limited (620 m³/capita/year on average);
- The cost of mobilizing new water resources is becoming increasingly high in the face of growing demand;
- The low efficiency rates of the transport and distribution networks of drinking water in several cities, sometimes not exceeding 70%.

3. Evolution of SDG 6 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all	6.1.1	Urban		97.5	97.6	97.7	98	More than 98	100
		Rural		96	96.6	97	97.4	97.8	100
6.2 By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations	6.2.1	Proportion of population using (a) safely managed sanitation services and (b) a hand-washing facility with soap and water	95.5	96.5	96.2	96.9			100
6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally	6.3.1	Proportion of wastewater safely treated	(2006) 7	45	-	-	55.0	56.0	
	6.3.2	Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality	-	-	70.0	-			
6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity	6.4.2	Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources	61.0	-	-	-	-		-

Source: Ministry of Interior, Department of Water, National Employment Survey 2016 to 2019, HCP.



Renewable energy and energy efficiency: 34% of the installed electrical capacity is from renewable sources, but the rate of improvement in energy efficiency remains low

Energy is a pillar of development, the accessibility and availability of which is of great interest in order to satisfy the increasing needs

of the population and to guarantee an efficient and sustainable process of wealth creation at the national level.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

In 2020, the unprecedented recession in the world economy, a consequence of the Covid-19 crisis, caused oil prices to fall to a very low level (\$20 per barrel). Similarly, the slowdown of the Moroccan economy, due to this health crisis, has resulted in a considerable drop in demand for energy products; particularly during the sanitary confinement period.

The fall in international oil prices is an opportunity for Morocco, as an importer of energy products, to reduce its energy bill and increase its strategic foreign exchange reserves. However, this situation also reflects its vulnerability to the vagaries of the global energy commodities market, proving the importance of diversifying the energy mix.

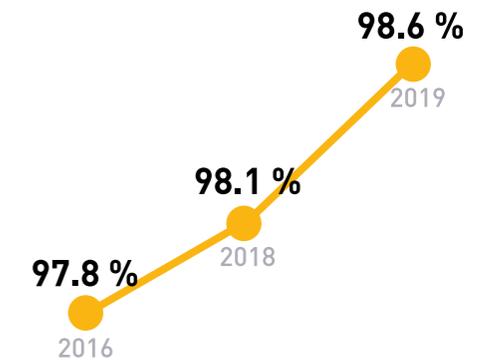
Renewable energy played an important role in reducing the vulnerability of the national economy to the vagaries of the energy market during the crisis, thus ensuring the stability of the national electricity grid. However, despite the trend towards "greening" the Moroccan electricity mix, the country's energy dependency rate remains high, at around 91%, and continues to weigh on the national trade balance.

Before the health crisis, the national energy consumption amounted to 21.7 million tons of oil equivalent (TOE) in 2019 and the net electrical energy called reached 38 852.7 Gwh against 13 942 Gwh in 2000, recording an average annual increase of 7.8%.

The proportion of the Moroccan population with access to electricity increased from 97.8% in 2016 to 98.6% in 2019. In fact, in 2019, 373 villages were electrified, providing access to electricity for 10 113 rural households, or approximately 61 000

inhabitants. In this respect, the National Initiative for Human Development has carried out more than 406 electricity projects, for an investment of 230 MDH to the benefit of 75 000 beneficiaries.

Chart 9: The proportion of Moroccans with access to electricity



Source: High Commission for Planning.

The total population that has benefited from access to electricity under the Comprehensive Rural Electrification Program (PERG) is estimated at 12.8 million. As a result, the rural electrification rate reached 99.78% by the end of 2020, compared to 99.72% in 2019 and 99.64% in 2018.

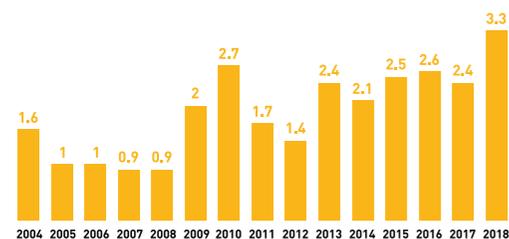
In addition to household electrification, PERG has enabled the development of income-generating activities, access to local social and administrative services and the integration of the populations of the targeted areas, the contribution to local development and the economic inclusion of rural populations through the creation of new activities and the improvement of the living conditions of the rural population through the improvement of the schooling rate and access to healthcare.

Morocco is moving massively towards renewable energy

Since 2009, Morocco had launched a new dynamic for the development of renewable energy in the framework of a national energy strategy. Thus, the installed electrical capacity from renewable sources reached 3700 MW in 2019, composed of 710 MW of solar energy, 1220 MW of wind energy and 1770 MW of hydroelectric energy, which represents more than 34% of the national electrical capacity.

Renewable electricity production represents 20% of total electricity production in 2019, instead of 16.5% in 2016 or 9.7% in 2012. In addition, the share of renewable energy consumption in final energy consumption reached 3.3% in 2018 compared to 2.6% in 2016; this reflects the improvement of the share of renewable energy in final energy consumption.

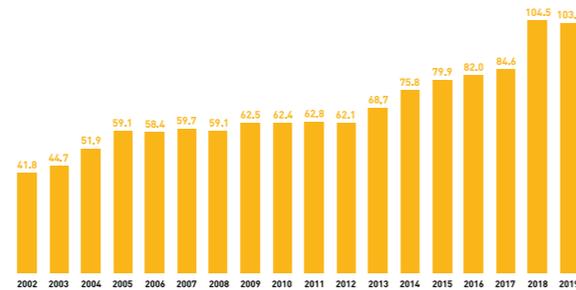
Chart 10: Share of renewable energy in final energy consumption (in %)



Source: Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment.

Similarly, the installed electrical capacity of the renewable energy stock per capita has improved as a result of several electricity projects. The chart below shows the upward trend in the installed capacity of renewable energy per capita; this positive trend is the result of Morocco's investment in the promotion of clean energy.

Chart 11: Installed renewable capacity (in watts per capita)

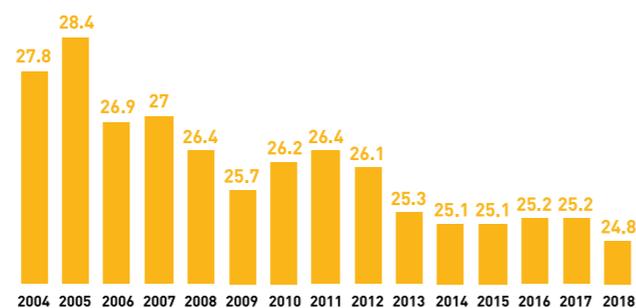


Source: Compiled by the HCP.

Morocco's commitment to energy efficiency

Morocco has made energy efficiency a national priority for several years. As a result, the primary energy intensity in Morocco fell from 27.8 tons of oil equivalent to produce 1 million dirhams of GDP (toe/1 mdhs of GDP) in 2004 to 24.8 toe/1 mdhs of GDP in 2018. This development is the result of the exploitation of the great potential for energy efficiency and the policy of electricity decompensation, which has pushed large consumers to rationalize their consumption.

Chart 12: The primary energy intensity (in toe/1 MDH of GDP)



Source: Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment

The improvement of energy efficiency in Morocco is the result of the implementation of measures to reduce energy consumption in the main sectors, namely residential, transport, agriculture and industry. These measures mainly concerned the ban on imports of old vehicles, the improvement of thermal regulations applicable to new buildings and the sensitization of Moroccans, as well as the introduction of the GMT+1 time system.

2. Key challenges

Despite the importance of the measures put in place, certain challenges persist in the energy sector, notably those related to the following dimensions:

- Reducing external energy dependency;
- Mitigating the still predominant share of fossil fuels in the national energy mix;
- Resilience to global fuel price volatility; linked to the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis;
- The satisfaction of the increased energy demand by the energy-intensive sectors, in particular, transport and industry;
- The development of investment in research and development to keep pace with the accelerating pace of innovation in this field;
- The attractiveness of more foreign investments which remains sensitive to the international economic situation;
- Climate action, particularly on the availability of water resources as sources of hydroelectric production.

3. Progress of SDG 7 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030
7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services	7.1.1	Proportion of population with access to electricity (in %)	97.3	97.8	97.8	98.1	98.6	100
7.2. By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix	7.2.1	Share of renewable energy in final energy consumption (in %)	2.5	2.6	2.4	3.3		-
7.3 By 2030, double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency	7.3.1	Energy intensity [ratio between primary energy and gross domestic product (GDP) gross domestic product (GDP)]] (in toe/1Mhd of GDP)	25.1	25.2	25.2	24.8		12.5
7.b By 2030, expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services for all in developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their respective programs of support.	7.b.1	Renewable electricity-generating capacity (in watts per capita)	79.94	82.00	84.59	104.51	103.44	-

Source: Ministry of Energy, Mining and the Environment, National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water (ONEE), National Employment Survey, HCP.



The combined effect of the drought and the pandemic is a contraction of the national economy by 6.3% and an increase in the unemployment rate to 11.9% in 2020

Morocco has made the promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth a national priority. It has undertaken efforts to accelerate the modernization and diversification of the national production system, the development of infrastructure and the strengthening of human capital. However, the 2020 Covid-19 pandemic has brought about

profound changes, slowing down the national economy with adverse impacts on the labor market. Urgent action has been taken to boost business activity, stimulate labor demand and preserve existing jobs, in order to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

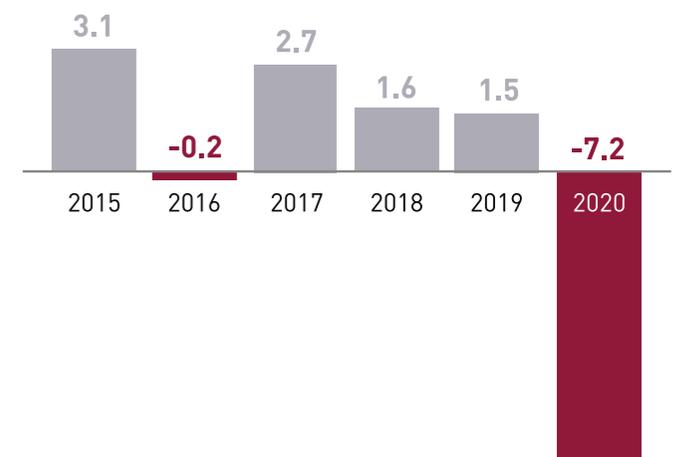
Economic growth

The Covid-19 crisis has significantly affected the global economy, resulting in the deepest international economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s. Morocco reacted relatively early to mitigate the effects of this crisis through a number of measures, including confinement, international flight bans, etc.

Nevertheless, the Kingdom experienced a brutal economic recession in 2020, the worst in more than two decades, caused by both the country's drought and the spread of the pandemic. According to the results of the national accounts, the national economy contracted by 6.3% in 2020, due in particular to an 8.6% drop in the value added of the agricultural sector and a 5.8% drop in that of non-agricultural activities.

In the same vein, the annual growth rate of real GDP per capita recorded a recession of around -7.2% in 2020 compared to a growth of 1.5% in 2019. This result was mainly attributed to the Covid-19 health crisis and the unfavorable climatic conditions marked by low rainfall and poor temporal distribution of precipitation.

Chart 13: Change in the annual growth rate of real GDP per capita (in %)



Source : HCP, 2021.

Tourism, which plays an important role in the Moroccan economy, accounted for almost 7% of GDP and 19% of exports of goods and services in 2019. But in 2020, the tourism sector in Morocco is one of the economic activities most affected by the new Corona pandemic, due to the significant impact on supply and demand following the suspension of flights by a number of countries, the closure of borders, the freezing of transport activities, handicrafts, as well as the closure of restaurants, hotels and tourist sites, which has resulted in a significant drop in tourism and travel activity. Indeed, the tourism sector has experienced heavy losses: arrivals at border crossings have seen a drastic decline of -79% in 2020 compared to 2019 with only 2.8 million tourists.

Similarly, overnight stays at classified establishments have shown a downward trend from 25.2 million in 2019 to 7 million in 2020, a decline of -72% between the two years. At the same time, travel receipts for 2020 stood at 36.4 billion dirhams, registering a loss of -54% compared to those for 2019.

Employment and decent work

The implementation of the National Employment Promotion Plan has produced satisfactory results which can be summarized as follows:

- The creation of 660 000 jobs: 486 435 jobs in the formal private sector over the period 2017-2019 (the number of new people registered with the National Social Security Fund without counting adjustments), and 172 148 jobs in the public sector for the years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020, which represents 55% of the expected target of employment opportunities, estimated at about 1.2 million opportunities, in various strategies and sectoral plans;
- Improving the employability of 770 000 job seekers by December 2020, a success rate of 77% against the target of improving the employability of 1 000 000 job seekers;
- Support for the salaried employment of 406 000 job seekers by the end of December 2020, i.e. a success rate of 81% compared to the target of 500 000 job seekers (development of the achievements of the active employment programs, exceeding the ceiling of 100 000 insertions per year (108 953 and 118 308 in 2018 and 2019 respectively).
- Support for the creation of 13 000 economic units by the end of 2020, which constitutes 65% of the rate of achievement of the expected objective.

However, in a context marked by drought and the health crisis linked to the Covid-19 pandemic, during the year 2020, the situation of the labor market deteriorated, characterized by a destruction of jobs, a fall in the hourly volume of work and an increase in unemployment and underemployment.

The reduction in economic activity results in a loss of about 432 000 jobs in 2020 compared to a creation of 165 000 jobs in 2019. This loss affected both areas of residence (295 000 in rural areas and 137 000 in urban areas) and all sectors of economic activity. The services sector lost 107 000 jobs, "agriculture, forestry and fishing" 273 000, "industry including crafts" 37 000, and construction 9 000.

In addition to the loss of jobs, the number of hours worked per week dropped by 20% from 494 million hours to 394 million hours, which corresponds to 2.1 million full-time jobs¹⁰. The average number of hours worked per week decreased from 45.2 to 37.5 hours.

In the same context, unemployment stands at 1 429 000 people at the national level, with an increase of 322 000 people making the unemployment rate rise from 9.2% to 11.9%, at the national level, from 12.9% to 15.8% in urban areas and from 3.7% to 5.9% in rural areas. The unemployment rate increased by 2.9 percentage points for men, from 7.8% to 10.7%, and by 2.7 percentage points for women, from 13.5% to 16.2%. The rate of unemployment among people with diploma increased by 2.8 percentage points, from 15.7% to 18.5%, and among young people aged 15 to 24 by 6.2 percentage points, from 24.9% to 31.2%.

The underemployed population reached 1 127 000 in 2020 compared to 1 001 000 a year earlier. The underemployment rate rose from 9.2% to 10.7% at the national level, from 8.3% to 10.1% in urban areas and from 10.4% to 11.6% in rural areas.

Moreover, the category of NEETs (neither in employment, nor in education and training) constitutes a great challenge for Morocco in terms of education, training and socio-professional integration. The NEET rate among young people aged 15-24 decreased from 29.3% in 2017 to 26.6% in 2020. This rate is particularly high for women, at 39.7% compared to 13.9% for men.

On another side, Morocco has adhered to international conventions on this subject and has taken up the fight against all forms of violence against children. Morocco's action for the elimination of child labor is part of an integrated public policy for the protection of children, which includes measures for prevention, support, assistance, control and punishment.

The legal and regulatory arsenal has been enriched by laws and implementation texts that have been promulgated in recent years, notably, Law 27-14 on the fight against human trafficking (2016) prohibits forced labor, criminalizing any person who forces men, women and children to perform work. In addition, Law No. 19.12 Establishing the Conditions of Work and Employment of Domestic Workers (2016) ensures the protection of underage women and girls from economic exploitation and violence in the workplace, etc.

On the other hand, the results of the 2020 National Employment Survey indicate that 147 000 children are economically active among the 7 469 000 children aged 7 to 17. By area of residence, this number is 119 000 children (3.8%) in rural areas and 28 000 children (1%) in urban areas. The share of all children in this age group in the workforce fell from 3.3% in 2018 to 2% in 2020. This kind of work affects boys much more than girls and its share decreased from 4.6% to 3.0% for boys and from 1.8% to 0.8% for girls.

Levels of access to banking services

Morocco has put in place a financial inclusion strategy to promote "equitable access for all individuals and businesses to formal financial products and services for use according to their needs and means".

The number of bank branches decreased slightly to 6 367 in 2020, compared to 6 406 in 2019. In addition, the number of inhabitants per ATM has increased from 5 500 in 2019 to 5 600 by the end of 2020. The bancarization rate in Morocco stood at 78% in June 2020, compared to 79% at the end of December 2019.

2. Key challenges

To improve Morocco's employment prospects, it is essential to address the challenges of reviving national economic growth after the combined effects of Covid-19 and the drought. It is also a matter of taking advantage of the demographic dividend by putting in place appropriate public

policies, particularly in the fields of education and training, employment and health, integrating the informal sector into the formal sector in order to promote decent employment and inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and achieving professional equality between women and men, combating child labor and reducing the number of NEETs.

¹⁰ Considering that a full-time work week corresponds to 48 hours

3. Evolution of SDG 8 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
8.1 Sustain per capita economic growth in accordance with national circumstances and, in particular, at least 7 per cent gross domestic product growth per annum in the least developed countries	8.1.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita	2.5	1.2	3.1	-0.2	2.7	1.6	1.5	-7.2	-
8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labor-intensive sectors	8.2.1	Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	2.6	2.5	4.2	1.4	3.7	2.1	1.1	-2.4	-
8.3 Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services	8.3.1	Proportion of informal employment in non-agriculture employment, by sex	-	(2013) 36.3							

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value	8.5.2	Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	9.1	9.9	9.7	9.9	10.2	9.5	9.2	11.9	(2025) 3.9(**)
8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training	8.6.1	Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training (NEETs) (in %)	-	28.9	27.9	27.5	29.3	27.5	26.5	26.6	-
8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labor in all its forms	8.7.1	Proportion and number of children aged 5–17 years engaged in child labor, by sex and age (in %)	-	-	-	-	-	3.3	-	2.0	
8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products	8.9.1	Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP and in growth rate	-	6.7	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.9	7.1	-	
8.10 Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all	8.10.1	a) Number of commercial bank branches per 100 000 adults	20.8	24.1	24.6	24.8	24.9	24.9*	24.6*	-	
		b) Number of automated teller machines (ATMs) per 100 000 adults	19.7	25.0	26.3	26.8	27.2	27.8	28.6*	-	

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance and Bank Al Maghreb, National Employment Surveys, HCP.

(*) Data from the World Bank

(**) According to the national employment strategy and according to a voluntary scenario, this strategy foresees an unemployment rate of 3.9% by 2025 (Source: Report of the national strategy for employment of the Kingdom of Morocco, summary document, 2015, Ministry of Employment and Professional Insertion).



The transportation and manufacturing sectors were heavily impacted by Covid-19, despite efforts to build resilience

The shock of Covid-19 has put the manufacturing sector under great pressure, just like other national activities. However, the manufacturing sector has been more resilient and, in particular, has demonstrated adaptability to the pandemic under the leadership of the regulatory authorities. As a result, it has been quick to respond to the new needs of the pandemic, thanks in part to improved innovation in the sector. Funding has proven to be one of the key variables during the

confinement and post-confinement period to cushion the impact of the pandemic.

The transport sector was heavily impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, particularly the passenger segment, as a result of severe travel restrictions. Investment in transport infrastructure also slowed down in 2020. However, their revitalization is planned from 2021, thanks to the support of the Mohammed VI Investment Fund.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Transportation infrastructure

Following the example of several sectors, the transport activity has suffered a lot from the Covid-19 sanitary crisis, following the confinement measures applied by our country as well as the fall in exports due to the decline in foreign demand addressed to Morocco. Thus, passenger rail transport, maritime transport, traffic in Moroccan ports and passenger air transport have experienced a decrease in traffic and a significant loss of activity due to the effects of the crisis. Under these conditions, the value added of the transport sector would have fallen by 25.8% in 2020 after an increase of 6.6% in 2019.

The aeronautics sector, which is an engine of economic development, has probably suffered the biggest decline in its history. During the period 2016-2019, air traffic recorded remarkable growth from 18 237.272 passengers to 25 059.840, representing an average annual growth rate of 11.17%. However, with the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, air traffic declined significantly in 2020 [-71.47% compared to 2019].

The crisis has also had an impact on public investment, which has slowed down as a result of budgetary restrictions, particularly for transport infrastructure.

However, beyond the proven impact of the health crisis on the sector (job losses, company closures), the sector has shown a strong resilience, manifested by the securing of supplies and the pursuit of major projects such as the new road and motorway connections to the ports of Nador

and Safi, the Tiznit-Laâyoune-Dakhla expressway, as well as other sections aiming at reinforcing the transport infrastructure in the southern provinces in preparation to boost the international transport of goods to sub-Saharan African countries.

Efforts are continuing to open up the rural population as part of the program to reduce territorial and social disparities launched in 2015. The accessibility rate of rural roads is currently about 80%.

For the logistics sector, the steps and actions aimed at the development of logistics zones continued. However, the sector is called upon to overcome the effects of this crisis by becoming more integrated into the new global supply chain trends and to join the process of smart logistics which is based on the digitalization of operations to improve domestic and international logistics performance.

Manufacturing sector

During the year 2020, the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic and the confinement established by the authorities to limit the spread of the virus caused substantial negative effects on several industrial sectors. The first HCP¹¹ business survey on the effects of Covid-19, conducted from 1 to 3 April 2020, showed the first consequences of the pandemic. The textile-leather and metal and mechanical industries were the most affected. The proportions of companies that reported having permanently or temporarily stopped their activities were 76% and 73% respectively. All other manufacturing sectors were affected with intensities close to the national average (57%). Only the agri-food sector recorded less damage, with a share of 34%. The second part of this survey¹² during the month of July 2020 highlighted the worsening of the impacts of the pandemic: the rates of cessation

¹¹ See details at: https://www.hcp.ma/Principaux-resultats-de-l-enquete-de-conjoncture-sur-les-effets-du-Covid-19-sur-l-activitedes-companies_a2499.html

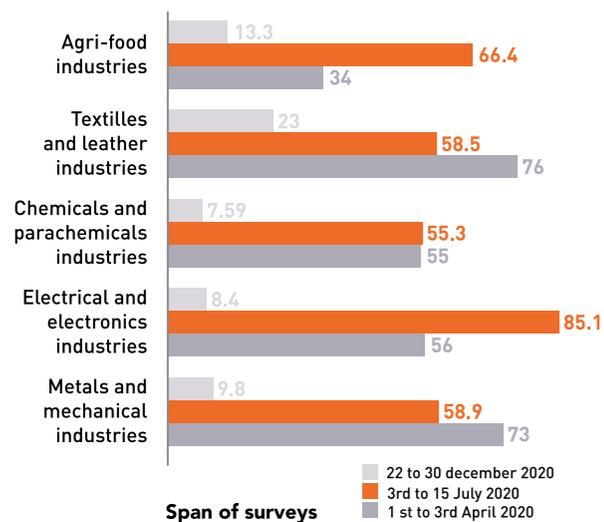
¹² See details at: <https://www.hcp.ma/file/217089/>

of activity (definitive or partial) varied between 99.4% for the textile-leather sector and 78.1% for the agri-food sector. As one of the leading sectors of the Moroccan industry, the automotive sector produced only 277 474 vehicles at the end of 2020, which is a 30% decrease compared to 2019.

In this context, exports were impacted, with a significant slowdown during the confinement, but the situation improved after the opening of major international markets. On the employment side, the lay-off rate peaked (43%) in May 2020, before falling back to 20% in June, which coincided with the launch of deconfinement. The textile and leather sector was the most affected sector in this respect.

The support of the Government, both on the demand and supply sides, has allowed a gradual return of activity. This is reflected in the third survey conducted by the HCP in December 2020. The study showed that only 23% of textile and leather companies were still in temporary or permanent shutdown. This rate did not exceed 12% for the other industrial branches. Furthermore, statistics from the Ministry of Industry show that 96% of industrial jobs had been recovered by the end of October 2020.

Chart 14: Proportion of industrial companies permanently or temporarily closed in response to the impact of Covid-19



Source: High Commission for Planning.

Despite this recovery towards the end of 2020, this year remains exceptionally difficult for Moroccan industry. At the aggregate level, the value added produced by the sector fell by 5.3% during the year. The latest statistics published by the HCP on industrial production show that the drop in activity (-6.3% for the whole of industry) is almost generalized in industrial sector with the exception of four branches which have been able to improve their production: the chemical (8.6%) and pharmaceutical (2.9%) industries, and to a lesser extent, the paper and cardboard industry (2.1%) as well as the food industries (0.9%)

This situation has had an impact on the indicators used in the monitoring of the SDGs. In fact, the value added per capita fell from 4 826 dirhams in 2019 to 4 628 dirhams in 2020, a decrease of 4.1%. As a result of the sharper decline in GDP, the share of industrial value added recovered somewhat to 15.3% in 2020 from 14.9% a year earlier.

Furthermore, it should be noted that Morocco has succeeded in mobilizing its industrial infrastructure by reorienting certain activities towards meeting new needs made important by the pandemic. This mobilization enabled the production of protective masks (the number of producing companies rose from 2 in March 2020 to 118 in June 2020), hydro-alcoholic gels and medical equipment. Innovation has not been left behind, as the country has also produced its own artificial respirator and the first 100% Moroccan medical bed.

As concerns funding, Maroc PME (national agency for the promotion of SMEs) has set up targeted programs adapted to each phase of the covid-19 pandemic. The first phase of the crisis saw the launch of the "IMTIAZ Technology Covid-19" program to encourage investment in the equipment needed to deal with the pandemic. Phase 2, coinciding with the resumption of activity, was characterized by the launch of a Covid-19 consultancy and technical expertise offer to support SMEs in managing the difficulties caused by the pandemic and preparing their business recovery plans. Phase 3 of the recovery was accompanied by the launch of the new generation of more advantageous and accessible support programs.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the dynamics of the Industrial Acceleration Plan (IAP) continued into 2019. This is evidenced by the development of the two ecosystems of the automotive sector (Renault-Nissan and PSA), with a production of more than 394 thousand vehicles in 2019, 89% of which is intended for export (more than 74 destinations), the creation of nearly 3250 direct and indirect jobs. The aeronautics sector has seen the signing of the agreement (Spirit Aerosystems and SABENA) and the establishment of an industrial project dedicated to the dismantling of aircraft. In the textile and leather sector, 19 investment agreements have been signed with an amount of nearly 650 million DH in parallel with the revision of the free trade agreement with Turkey via an increase in customs duties of 90% of the common import regime. Other investment projects have also concerned other industrial sectors, such as the agri-food, chemical and paracheicals, metal and mechanical industries. The various investment projects implemented under the IPA have created 504 953 jobs between 2014 and 2019, exceeding the IPA target one year before its completion.

In addition, efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions continued. The manufacturing sector accounts for 14.7% of Morocco's total GHG emissions in 2018, i.e. 13 387.3 Gg CO2 eq. As a result, manufacturing industry emissions decreased by 0.1% over the period 2010 and 2018.

Access to financing for SMEs

Very small enterprises (VSEs), small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which play a central role in the creation of wealth and employment, represented, in 2018, 99.5% of all businesses in Morocco, of which 94.3% are VSEs and 5.2% are SMEs¹³. These VSEs and SMEs generated 36.7% of the overall turnover, employ nearly 73% of the declared workforce and contribute up to 90.1%, to job creation. At the level of manufacturing industries, the participation of industrial VSEs and SMEs in the creation of total industrial value added reached 26% in 2018.

The Ministry of Industry, Trade, the Green and Digital Economy has reconfigured its ISTITMAR and MOWAKABA programs, with more attractive levels of support and more flexible access and payment conditions. The number of projects that have benefited from investment support in 2020 under the ISTITMAR program has increased by 50% to reach 229, generating a total investment of 2.8 MMDH and 25 357 direct and indirect jobs. The number of VSEs/SMEs benefiting from the MOWAKABA technical expertise and consulting support program has risen to 590, an increase of 58% in 2020.

In addition, actions have been deployed through the Morocco SME Agency in 2020 to cope with the pandemic. They have focused on 77 investment projects in equipment monitored by national VSEs/SMEs, having received financial support, which has generated a total investment of 544 million dirhams and 4 325 direct and indirect jobs. In order to support VSEs/SMEs in the resumption of their post-confinement activities, 624 other support actions in the form of advice and technical expertise have also been deployed.

Particular attention is paid to supporting the informal sector towards integrating the formal sector, with the introduction of the status of self-employed entrepreneur (with an adapted tax system, as well as dedicated social coverage, support and financing). At the end of 2020, the number of self-employed entrepreneurs registered in the national register reached 286 020 people, after reaching 130 000 registered at the end of 2019, an increase of 120%.

Innovation and new technologies

The Covid-19 crisis has given a boost to innovation and scientific research. This acceleration has indeed become more necessary than ever to anticipate changes and increase resilience to this major crisis.

Several innovations have been developed by the private sector and university research centers, such as the 100% Moroccan artificial respirator called "Sircos" or the intelligent mask for automatic remote detection of Covid-19, called "Midad". Other examples include the 100% Moroccan Covid-19 diagnostic kit and the hygiene bag to ensure compliance with sanitary measures.

In addition, many efforts have been made during the 2019-2020 academic year to promote, develop and enhance scientific research and innovation, including: The funding of 53 projects in the first phase and 88 projects in the second phase of the program to support multidisciplinary scientific research in the fields related to Covid-19 launched in April 2020 with a budget of 10 million DH; The announcement of a call for projects under the "Alkharizmi" program, in partnership with the Ministry of Industry, Trade, Green and Digital Economy, to finance research projects in the field of Artificial Intelligence and its applications, with an amount of about 50 million dirhams and the encouragement of the submission of patents which reached 108 applications submitted during the year 2019 out of a total of 192.

In the field of ICTs, the efforts made aim to generalize access and reduce the digital divide. As a result, there is good telecommunication network coverage and widespread access to mobile telephony. Under the effect of Covid-19, the year 2020 has seen an acceleration of the use of digital in Morocco, particularly the internet, in order to ensure the continuity of services, daily activities and transactions (remote working, virtual delivery of key services such as education, health, social services, etc.)

This year was therefore marked by the growth of the Internet customer base, which reached 29.80 million subscribers, an annual increase of over 17% and a penetration rate of 83%¹⁴. Mobile Internet leads with 27.74 million subscribers, followed by ADSL (1.60 million) and fiber optic technology (218 035). Mobile network coverage (2G/3G/4G) follows the same upward trend with 99.8% of the population covered by 2G, 99% by 3G and 98.8% by 4G.

The year 2020 was also marked by the further preparation of the deployment of Internet of Things and 5G technologies, whose possible launch is planned for 2021, the preparation of technical specifications for the digital development of new areas with telecommunication means and equipment as well as the development of very high-speed telecommunication infrastructures and services, in order to ensure the coverage of douars and remote and white areas.

2. Key challenges

Transport infrastructure sector

The conservation of infrastructure assets is still the main challenge to be overcome due to the magnitude of the financing needs which often remain from public sources. These needs would be further amplified by the effects of climate change on transport infrastructure.

The other challenge of the sector is that of the logistics market which is still struggling to be structured in Morocco. The persistence of the informal sector, the lack of land for logistics zones, and the lack of skills, constitute obstacles to the growth of the sector. Logistics costs remain too expensive compared to other countries, which impacts the competitiveness of the Moroccan economy.

Manufacturing sector

Several challenges that Morocco has undertaken to take up in the framework of its industrial policy, however, still remain. Despite the achievements, it is clear that our manufacturing sector continues to suffer from its lack of competitiveness and its inability to win back new international markets.

To better benefit from industrial policies, it is essential to improve the local integration of Moroccan industry, especially in the newly installed activities that are part of Morocco's Global Professions. It is also a question of doubling the efforts for a training more adapted to the new requirements and a fluid integration of the informal sector.

These challenges are more acute at the level of small and medium-sized enterprises, which constitute the majority of the industrial infrastructure. Indeed, SMEs continue to face a range of problems, hindering their development and reducing their contribution to industrial value added. Their modernization, both in terms of management and the use of modern technologies, remains a major challenge, as does the financing of their activity and access to quality human resources.

Innovation and new technologies sector

With the pandemic, Research & Development and innovation have become essential and have proven to be survival and crisis exit factors. Today it is more necessary than ever to establish better governance of the research and development system; to place research with better quality as a priority in university training; to diversify funding sources; and to strengthen the teaching staff.

¹⁴ ANRT, Analysis of the evolution of the telecommunications sector in Morocco at the end of December 2020

3. Progress of SDG 9 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2005	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all	9.1.1	Proportion of the rural population who live within 2 km of an all-season road	54	-		79	79.3	79.6	80		
		Passenger and freight volumes, by mode of transport:									
		Rail Transport (Million passengers-km)				5208	4923	4475	4803		
		Rail Transport (Million tonnes-km)				3831	3888	3485	3069		
		Maritime Transport (Million tonnes)				121.06		137.5	153.15		
		Maritime Transport (Million passengers)				4.97		5.37	5.32		
		Air Transport (Million passengers)					20.36				
9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and, by 2030, significantly raise industry's share of employment and gross domestic product, in line with national circumstances, and double its share in least developed countries	9.2.1	a. Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita (in %)	-	16.5	16.1	15.7	15.7	15.7	14.9	15.3	
		b. Manufacturing value added per capita (DH/h)	-	-	4672	4606	4788	4933	4826	4628	
	9.2.2	Manufacturing employment as a proportion of total employment	-	-	11.2	11.3	11.7	12.0	12.0	12.1	
9.3 Increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets	9.3.1	Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added	-	-	-	-	-	26	-	-	
	9.3.2	Proportion of small-scale industries with a loan or line of credit	-	-	-	-	-	5.2	-	-	-

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2005	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities	9.4.1	CO2 emissions per unit of value added	(2010) 15.2		-	11.9	-	14.7			-
9.5 Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending	9.5.1	Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP	-	0.8	0.79	0.79	0.78	0.8			
	9.5.2	Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants		1024	-	1074	1800	-			-
9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries, including by ensuring a conducive policy environment for, inter alia, industrial diversification and value addition to commodities	9.b.1	Proportion of medium and high-tech industry value added in total value added		21.6	22.4	23.3	22.6	24.3			-
9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020	9.c.1	Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology	2G	97.5	99.2	99.2	99.6	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.8
			3G	-	80.0	80.0	95.0	96.0	98.0	99.0	99.0
			4G	-	-	45.4	68.0	93.0	96.0	98.8	98.8

Source: Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water, Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training and Employment Higher Education and Scientific Research, ANRT.



Social and spatial inequalities in Morocco are still considerable and will tend to increase due to the effect of Covid-19

While working to promote the diversification and structural transformation of its economy, our country considers the reduction of social and spatial inequalities as one of the major dimensions of its public policies, and several advances have been made in this regard. Despite the upheavals inherent in the advent of the

Covid-19 pandemic, building societal resilience and reducing inequalities impose themselves as a priority choice. Thus, in addition to the urgent measures to respond to the effects of the pandemic, our country has had the merit of initiating structural actions that can contribute to reducing inequalities.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Inequalities in living standards

Despite the significant improvement in household living standards, inequalities, as measured by the Gini index of household consumption expenditure, has for a long time shown a strong downward resistance. Nevertheless, from 2007 onwards, these inequalities began a clear downward trend, from 40.7% to 39.5% in 2013 and then to 38.5% in 2019, thus attesting to the relevance of public policies to combat poverty, vulnerability and inequality.

However, as a result of the pandemic, this downward trend in inequalities could have been reversed and the situation could have worsened to 44.4%. Nevertheless, proactive public intervention and urgent measures taken by the country have favored the fight against the worsening of social inequalities to reach 38.4% after transfers of public aid, i.e. a reduction of 6 points.

The reduction in social inequalities is reflected in the increase in the per capita standard of living of the 40% most disadvantaged households at a more pronounced rate than that of the population as a whole (3.6% and 3.8% over the periods 2001-2007 and 2007-2014 for the former, compared with 3.3% and 3.6% respectively for the latter). By area, the improvement in this proportion of the most disadvantaged households is more marked in rural areas than in urban areas (between the same periods, from 3.5% to 3.9% for rural people and from 3.5% to 3.7% for urban people).

Income inequality

The results of the direct household survey on the apprehension of income distribution, carried out for the first time by the HCP from the first of December 2019 to the end of March 2020, revealed that income inequality is higher than expenditure inequality, while the Gini index reached 38.5% for the latter, it is 46.4% for the level of income inequality, thus exceeding the socially tolerable threshold (42%).

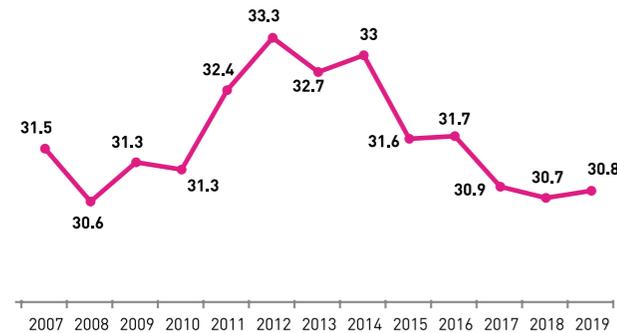
By income source, wage inequality contributes most to overall income inequality, as measured by the Gini index, with a share of around 40% in 2019. It should be noted that the proportion of people living on less than half the median income, according to the expenditure approach, reached 11.7% in 2014 (compared to 12.6% in 2001), with a higher proportion in rural areas, amounting to 22.1% against only 4.7% in urban areas.

Furthermore, the share of labor in GDP, including wages and social transfers, reached 30.79% in 2019, almost the same level recorded a decade earlier (30.62% in 2008).

Spatial inequalities

On the economic front, only three regions captured 58% of the national GDP in 2019, namely Casablanca-Settat, Rabat-Salé-Kénitra and Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceima with 31.8%, 15.3% and 10.9% respectively. The weight of the regional contribution to national GDP varies for the same year, between 31.8% for the region of Casablanca-Settat and 1.3% for Dakhla-Oued Ed Dahab. In terms of human development, the average annual increase in the HDI of the regions, between 2004 and 2014, shows disproportionate levels oscillating between 1.3% in the Southern regions and 2.3% in Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima.

Chart 15: Evolution in the share of labor in GDP in %



Source: HCP.

While the effect of the health crisis, combined with the period of drought, could have worsened unemployment to 11.9% in 2020 instead of 9.2% in 2019, it is worth noting that the difference in the unemployment rate between regions has increased from 10.9 points in 2019 to 13.8 points in 2020. The general proliferation of unemployment has been particularly detrimental to the Oriental region (20.7%), the southern regions (19.8%) and Casablanca-Settat (13.4%).

Moreover, according to the HCP's income survey, rural areas, whose households account for only 26.5% of total income, are more vulnerable than urban areas, and this vulnerability could have been exacerbated during the period of confinement without public aid. Thus, poverty would have risen to 19.8% in rural areas against 7.1% in urban areas and vulnerability would have reached 20.2% against 14.6% in urban areas.

Gender disparities

In terms of participation in economic activity, the female activity rate has fallen further to just 19.9% in 2020 (compared to 70.4% for men). In terms of schooling, despite the notable improvement in the enrolment of girls, as shown by the evolution of specific rates between 2008/2009 and 2018/2019, the fact remains that these rates are still lower than those of boys, particularly for children aged 12-14, with a specific enrolment rate of only 89.3% compared to 94.2% for boys.

Also, female-headed households¹⁵ appear to suffer more than their male counterparts during confinement, particularly in terms of access to health services, distance learning and activity. For example, in rural areas, the gap with male-headed households reaches 46 points for access to reproductive health care and 31.6 points for antenatal and postnatal care services.

Migration policy

Morocco has moved from a phase of regulating foreigners in an irregular situation, benefiting nearly 50 000 migrants in 2014 and 2017, to a phase of integrating migrants and refugees in order to allow them access to public services in the same way as Moroccans. Thus, the 2019-2020 school year was marked, in particular, by the enrolment of 3 207 migrant children in formal education and 302 in informal education.

In terms of integration into the labor market, in addition to opening up access for foreigners to certain regulated professions (nurses, midwives, doctors), Morocco has taken care to facilitate the granting of visas for foreigners' work contracts by exempting regularized migrants and refugees from the requirement to provide a certificate of activity, and by setting up 6 proximity counters (271 foreign work contracts targeted in 2020).

Concerning the refugees¹⁶ in Morocco, and due to the confinement as a result of the pandemic, 87.1% of employed refugee heads of household stopped working during the confinement, only 6.1% of them received assistance from the employer or the government. Overall, 78.4% of refugees received at least one transfer from various sources, mainly from UNHCR.

In terms of access to medical services, 62.8% of refugees with chronic illnesses and 73.8% with transient illnesses accessed health services during this period.

2. Key challenges:

Despite the progress made by public authorities in reducing social and spatial inequalities, it must be acknowledged that several challenges need to be addressed, including:

- The mobilization of the resources necessary to finance social protection, estimated at 51 billion dirhams annually, in a difficult context marked by uncertainties about the pace of the post-pandemic economic recovery at both national and international levels;
- Accelerating the implementation of the single social register mechanism for better targeting of the population eligible for public social programs;
- The strengthening of public policies aimed at reducing social and spatial inequalities, as one of the dimensions of the new development model capable of meeting the aspirations of equitable social justice;

- Accelerating the social upgrading of disadvantaged regions and consolidating their economic structures in favor of the inclusion of their population and the optimization of their potential and assets;
- Capitalizing on the opportunity of the Covid-19 pandemic to accelerate the process of advanced regionalization by enhancing the role of local authorities and civil society in strengthening territorial planning mechanisms while ensuring the convergence of regional development programs with sectoral plans and the rapid implementation of the deconcentration reform;
- Accelerating the establishment of emerging centers in rural areas to provide various services to the rural population and thus limit the effect of crises that could generate waves of exodus.

3. Progress of SDG 10 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2007	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030
10.1 By 2030, progressively achieve and sustain income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a rate higher than the national average	10.1.1	Growth rates of household expenditure or income per capita among the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population	3.6	3.8	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.2 By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status	10.2.1	Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	-	11.7	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.4 Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality	10.4.1	Labor share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers	-	32.99	31.63	31.67	30.9	30.67	30.79	-

Source: HCP.

¹⁵ Report on the «gender analysis of the impact of the coronavirus on the economic, social and psychological situation of households» carried out by the HCP.

¹⁶ According to the survey conducted in June 2020 by the HCP in partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)



Continuous improvement in the living conditions of the Moroccan population

Rapid urbanization in our country is leading to increasing numbers of people living in slums, pressure on resources and basic infrastructure and services, and increased air pollution. The density of the urban population also favors the spread of certain crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic that the world has been experiencing since the beginning of the year 2020. Improving

urban living conditions and making cities sustainable requires continuous efforts to build effective urban planning and institutions to meet the challenges of crisis management, adequate and affordable housing, modern and cleaner public transport, and a healthy living environment that promotes security, stability and cultural development.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

With an urbanization rate of 63.4% in 2020 and a wealth creation rate of around 75%, Moroccan cities, like the cities of the world, are the engine of economic growth and a powerful lever for poverty reduction. However, they still face significant socio-economic challenges.

There are large numbers of people living in shanty towns and slums, pressure on natural resources, air pollution and often inadequate infrastructure and services, particularly for public transport and waste collection.

The Covid-19 health crisis amplified the challenges by aggravating social vulnerability, particularly following the difficulties that handicapped economic activity and services, generating significant job losses. It has also put a strain on the health and education systems.

Morocco's response to this crisis has been multidimensional. Thus, the strengthening of health services, support for the economy and direct aid to people who have lost their jobs and to the population in precarious situations have been the main decisions, and not the least, to curb the devastating effects of this multiple crisis. Covid-19 has reopened the debate on the resilience of cities, on territorial inequalities, on the capacity of local actors to manage crises, and therefore on the capacity of the latter to propose viable solutions and alternatives to revive the local economy and ensure

the continuity of local services, in perfect synergy with the governmental bodies concerned. Indeed, the coronavirus crisis has brought to the surface, with acuteness, the problem of unhealthy housing areas and under-equipped neighborhoods, both in the cities and in the countryside. At this level, Morocco has endeavored to support local authorities in their development activities by providing them with the necessary institutional support and by contributing to the financing of the development programs they initiate. Keeping the priority development sites open was also a national priority. It is recalled that 70% of the urban upgrading projects were at a standstill and that only 6% of the sites kept a normal pace of implementation.

Within the framework of the accompaniment of the strong urbanization that the country knows, the Ministry of Territorial Planning, Urbanism, Housing and Urban Policy, in close collaboration with the partners concerned by the urban policy, is committed to the implementation of several integrated development programs throughout the Kingdom.

These development programs, based on partnership and contractualization, aim to reduce manifestations of social exclusion and to make cities spaces for promoting social cohesion and individual and collective fulfilment, cities where the quality of life and access to services and facilities are better.

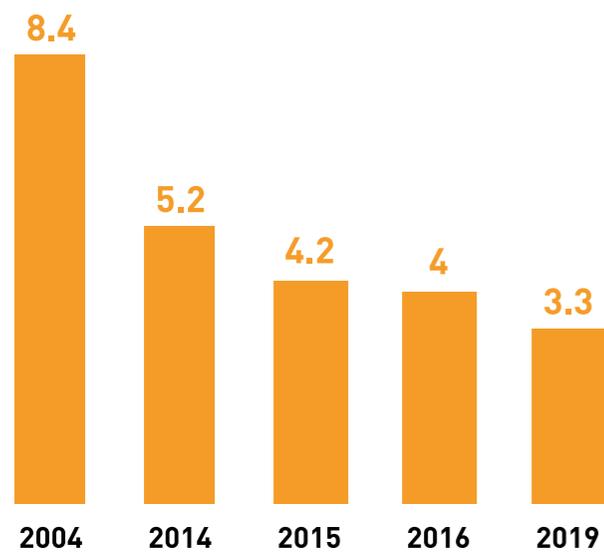
Thus, the issue of housing has been placed as a national priority, as evidenced by the interest given to it through the programs undertaken, particularly those with a high social content, as well as the mobilization of all actors and partners.

This dynamic has been accompanied by major reforms that have concerned the intervention institutions, the mechanisms for financing and mobilizing appropriate land support, and the instruments for supporting citizens. The aim is to improve the living conditions of citizens in a permanent concern for social justice and spatial equity.

These programs have not only reduced the housing deficit by 42%, but have also improved the living conditions of more than 1.5 million inhabitants and given more than 66% of them access to property.

Thus, the implementation of the national program “cities without slums” has enabled 301 914 households to benefit from new housing by the end of 2020. The remainder, currently estimated at 154 000 households, is being processed. As a result of these efforts, the proportion of the urban population living in slums has continued to fall from 8.4% in 2004 to 4% in 2016 and to 3.3% in 2019.

Chart 16: Change in the proportion of urban population living in slums (in %)



Source: HCP

Housing in danger of collapse and the degradation of old fabrics are phenomena that are constantly evolving, which has a negative impact on the living conditions of the inhabitants who live there. At this level, several conventions have been signed and programs have been set up to solve these problems. These agreements concerned 35 518 buildings housing 68 890 households for a total cost of 5.46 billion dirhams.

In addition, and as part of an anticipatory approach, the State promulgated law 94-12 on buildings in danger of collapse and created the National Agency for Urban Renovation and the Rehabilitation of Buildings in Danger of Collapse (ANRUR). The latter’s programs are part of an innovative approach that promotes new ways of making space and respects the principles of sustainable development.

As regards the promotion of social housing, the balance sheet of the program “Housing with Low Real Estate Value” at 140 000 DH showed at the end of 2020, 82 conventions aimed at the realization of 40 010 housing units of which 28 053 units obtained the certificate of conformity.

As for the “Social Housing” program at DH 250 000 1507 agreements have been signed for the construction of 2 107.243 housing units, of which 517.201 have obtained the certificate of conformity. Urban upgrading programs aimed at equipping and integrating marginalized non-regulatory neighborhoods into the urban fabric have benefited about 1.2 million households, whose living conditions have improved.

In terms of urban transport, Morocco has moved towards structuring projects with a strong environmental impact, in the direction of sustainable mobility that reduces greenhouse gases (GHG). Thus, flagship projects were genuine local initiatives and a consecration of the new vision of the Kingdom. These are the Rabat-Salé and Casablanca tramway projects, the Marrakech, Casablanca and Agadir high service bus projects, and the soft mobility projects.

Within the framework of the implementation of the National Air Quality Improvement Plan, actions have been taken such as the densification of the network of air quality measurement stations and the reinforcement of the legal and institutional arsenal relating to air quality.

In terms of waste management, the public authorities have launched an intervention program on illegal dumps. As a result, 52 illegal dumps have been rehabilitated and others have been closed.

Recognizing the importance of public spaces for health and psychology, the Urban Policy Department has developed a guide to the design of public spaces that addresses the need for equal access and incorporates the needs of all. This guide aims to provide authorities and developers with practical guidance on how to make public spaces more friendly and accessible to all. A memorandum of understanding was signed between the actors responsible for the development of public spaces and the Department of Urban Policy, by virtue of which the signatory parties undertake, each in its own right, to work together to ensure the integration of the gender approach in urban policy projects.

Concerning the protection of heritage, the pilot program for the sustainable development of ksours and kasbahs has made it possible, according to a participatory approach, to improve the living conditions of nearly 22 000 inhabitants. It has also enabled the preservation of the architectural and urban heritage and the ancestral know-how in the use of local materials in the construction and maintenance of these traditional buildings. At the same time, 466 elements of archaeological and architectural heritage, 600 archaeological and ethnographic works as well as 16 elements of intangible heritage have been inventoried and published on the electronic portal of Moroccan Cultural Heritage and 8 monuments and archaeological sites have been registered on the national heritage list.

In addition, and in order to improve resilience to the effects of climate change, Morocco has put in place its national risk management strategy 2020-2030 as well as an operational plan covering the period 2021-2026. One of the main actions of this plan concerns the improvement of the coverage of the national territory by the Urbanization Suitability Maps as technical references prior to the elaboration of the different planning and territorial management documents. Currently 31 Maps have been launched, of which 24 contracts are committed, 2 contracts are being awarded and 5 projects are in the Open Tendering phase. The coverage of municipalities with urban planning documents reached 78% in 2020 compared to 74% in 2019 and 53.3% in 2016.

Also with the aim of strengthening urban resilience, several actions to promote quality, safety and sustainability throughout the construction value chain have been undertaken, including:

- The reinforcement of the regulatory framework relating to safety and sustainability in construction (anti-seismic regulations, thermal regulations, draft acoustic regulations, draft law relating to the organization of construction operations “construction code”, integration of accessibility for people with disabilities, etc.);
- Integrating energy and environmental concerns into the building process;
- The strengthening of the normative arsenal relating to construction materials and processes;
- The development of technical guides for professionals in the sector.

2. Key challenges

The city is experiencing the effects of urbanization and urban sprawl, as a result of population growth and the rural exodus. This creates an ever-increasing need for basic facilities and services, as well as social support to ensure that nobody is left behind. These needs require substantial financial resources and the coordination and convergence of the interventions of all stakeholders.

As funding is often lacking, public authorities are faced with the need for rigorous targeting and prioritization.

On another level, the territories and actors, now called upon to play a leading role at territorial level, must have the necessary expertise and know-how to discharge the responsibilities devolved to them in the context of advanced regionalization: skills in terms of coordination and steering, elaboration of development visions, setting up of projects, search for funding, implementation and monitoring-evaluation of projects.

In addition, the questions inherent in the protection of the environment are acute, especially in a period characterized by climatic changes that affect humans and territories. Anticipatory and pro-active actions are more than imperative.

The Covid-19 pandemic has demonstrated that territories need to show resilience in the face of disasters. Promiscuity, isolation and the vulnerability of territories and populations are accentuated in times of crisis.

With regard to programs to combat substandard housing, in particular the 'cities without slums' program, the constraints and difficulties are generally linked to four main aspects: a technical aspect (land, finance, physical implementation of operations), a local equipment aspect, a coordination aspect of the interventions of the various external services concerned by the project and a social aspect (management of grievances and/or opposition from the population, census of beneficiaries, demolition, transfer of inhabitants, etc.).

In terms of social housing promotion programs, and despite the measures put in place before and after the pandemic, the constraints encountered in achieving access to housing for all are particularly related to the setting up of operations by the promoters themselves for administrative (land acquisition), technical, financial or commercial reasons or due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

3. Progress of SDG 11 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030
11.1 By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums	11.1.1	Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (in %)	5.2	4.2	4.0	4.0	3.6	3.3	0
11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management	11.6.1	Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities (household waste)	(2008) 44	-	-	77.5	86	95	-

Source: Ministry of Interior and HCP.





Ongoing efforts to accelerate the transition to responsible consumption and production patterns for green and sustainable growth

Aware of the importance of sustainable consumption and production patterns in achieving sustainable economic growth, Morocco has adopted a series of regulatory, institutional and strategic measures aimed at building a development model that is more respectful of the environment and the well-being of the population.

However, constraints, mainly related to the lack of effective means of implementation in terms of financing, technology and capacity building, hinder the adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns. These shortcomings have, to some extent, been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Morocco has thus intensified its efforts to promote a sustainable and resilient post-Covid-19 economic recovery.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Morocco has undertaken several actions to address the consequences of this crisis, including innovative measures to mitigate the negative impacts of the pandemic on households and businesses.

In this respect, the Covid-19 crisis showed that Morocco's bet on renewable energies paid off, as they played an important role in reducing the vulnerability of the national economy to the vagaries of the energy market during the crisis, thus guaranteeing the stability of the national electricity grid.

Indeed, Morocco confirms its commitment to green and sustainable growth, whose vision focuses mainly on (i) consolidating environmental governance and sustainable development (ii) preserving natural resources (iii) strengthening environmental awareness and education and (iv) encouraging citizens and businesses to use sustainable production and consumption methods.

National action plan on sustainable consumption and production

Morocco supports the implementation of the 10-Year framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production, adopted by the international community in 2012 at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). For its operationalization, the first national action plan on sustainable consumption and production

(PAN-MCPD), the result of a collaboration between Morocco and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), was developed in 2015 within the framework of the SwitchMed¹⁷ program funded by the European Union. A new phase of the SwitchMed II plan (2019-2023), based on the results, experiences and capacities of SwitchMed I (2013-2018), has been designed to improve economic opportunities for industry and startups in the green economy, create an enabling environment for a circular economy and strengthen regional coordination and communication.

Solid waste management

The country has been working to strengthen the legislative and institutional frameworks to guide and encourage improvements in waste collection, management and treatment systems. Thus, great importance has been given to the proper management of household waste based on the national household waste program (PNDM). In terms of achievements in 2019, the rate of professionalized collection of this waste has reached 95% against 44% in 2008, while the landfilling rate is 63% against 11% in 2008. The recorded recycling rate is 10% compared to only 6% in 2015. During the same year, 26 controlled landfills and landfill and recovery centers (CEV) were set up in accordance with the regulations in force, while others are being planned.

¹⁷ SwitchMed is a program financed by the European Union that supports eight southern Mediterranean countries in their efforts to achieve more sustainable consumption and production patterns. <https://switchmed.eu/>

The national program of waste recovery also represents the continuity of the PNDM which foresees among its objectives the development of the sorting, the recycling and the recovery of waste. Similarly, several agreements were signed for the creation of waste sorting and recovery centers at controlled landfills, as well as for the organization and implementation of recovery channels for used batteries, used tires, used lubricating oils, used paper and cardboard and used edible oils. In the same framework, there was the financing of the campaign to collect and eliminate plastic bags.

Industrial pollution

In order to fight against industrial pollution, more than 27 million DH have been allocated, during the year 2020, as a contribution to the realization of projects for the construction of wastewater treatment plants for industrial units such as slaughterhouses or fish shops. In the same objective and during the same year, 12 million DH were allocated to the implementation of projects within the framework of the recovery and reuse of waste from the olive oil sector.

With a view to sustaining the gains made through anti-pollution projects, a study has been carried out to prepare a new pollution prevention and abatement program for the period 2021-2030, aiming in particular at the environmental rehabilitation of industrial areas, small and medium-sized industrial enterprises, handicrafts and other economic activities with negative effects on the environment.

Sustainable natural resource management

Environmental monitoring plays an important role in the sustainable management of natural resources. To this end, Morocco has embarked on a process of reporting on the state of the environment at the national and regional levels. The year 2020 saw the preparation of the 4th report on the State of the Environment of Morocco (REEM) in addition to the drafting of 8 regional reports. In the same year, Morocco launched a National Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (ENBSE) which is a critical analysis of the available information on biodiversity in Morocco with a characterization and evaluation of ecosystems and their services.

Corporate social responsibility

A cleaner approach to the use of resources has been adopted by the General Confederation of Enterprises in Morocco (CGEM), which grants its CSR Label for a period of three years on the advice of the Award Committee following a managerial assessment carried out by one of the third-party experts accredited by the Confederation. The purpose of this assessment is to ensure that the overall management of the company is in line with the objectives defined by the charter which constitutes the frame of reference for the Label. Many companies have adopted responsible and social practices (CSR, ISO 26000, ISO 14000, etc.), but this issue is still poorly identified as a significant risk in CSR reporting.

Education and awareness

Initiatives have been launched by the departments concerned, in particular the dissemination of audiovisual and written materials (spots, brochures, etc.), but also the organization of environment fairs, the celebration of national and international days of the Environment, Biodiversity and the Argan tree, and the setting up of mobile environmental awareness and education units, known as "Green Caravans". In the same framework, the Hassan II Prize for the Environment is organized annually to

reward any work, actions and initiatives contributing to the protection of the environment and sustainable development in the following fields: Scientific and technical research, media, community actions, business initiatives and initiatives of local authorities. The 13th edition, organized for the year 2021, is marked by the addition of a new award category in the field of exemplary administration in the field of sustainable development.

2. Key challenges

The adoption of sustainable consumption and production patterns faces several challenges, including the need to (i) integrate natural capital and the environment into the core business and processes of companies with a high potential to contribute to the circular economy, (ii) involve the unorganized and under-exploited informal

component, especially in the waste management and recycling sector, (iii) promote sustainable practices in public procurement and international ISO standards, (iv) overcome technological limitations and (v) enrich statistical data, especially those related to environmental accounting, food loss and waste and corporate social responsibility.



3. Progress of SDG 12 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2008	2015	2019	Target value 2030 (R)
12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse	12.5.1	Professionalized household waste collection (in %);	44	-	95	
		Household waste landfill rate (in %);	11	-	63	
		Household waste recycling rate (in %)	-	6	10	

Source: Ministry of Interior

(R): the PNDM aims essentially to achieve a collection rate of 90% by 2022 and to develop the "sorting-recycling-recovery" sector to achieve a 20% recycling rate for all waste produced by 2022.

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030 (R)
12.a Support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production	12.a.1	Installed renewable energy-generating capacity (in watts per capita)	79.94	82.00	84.59	104.51	103.44	-

Source: Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment, the National office of electricity and drinking water and the National Employment Survey, HCP.



Climate action: New ambitions in terms of mitigation and adaptation whose implementation remains dependent on international financial support

Morocco's Vision in the fight against climate change is to make its people, territory and civilization more resilient while ensuring a rapid transition to a low carbon economy. However, national climate action faces challenges primarily related to limited funding and technology transfer. These challenges have been exacerbated by the combination of climatic elements, notably the drought experienced in

the country, with the Covid-19 pandemic, which has taken a heavy human toll with more than 10 000 deaths (since the start of the pandemic to date) and has also been an additional financial burden. To face the challenges related to the climate and health crises, Morocco advocates the adoption of a development model oriented towards sustainability and towards a resilient development of populations and territories.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

In a particular global context marked, on the one hand, by the Covid-19 pandemic, which continues to concentrate all efforts in the face of the emergency, and on the other hand, by the worsening of the climate phenomenon on a planetary scale, mobilization against climate change still remains a high priority. In Morocco, climate model projections predict that the trend towards aridification is likely to increase during the 21st century¹⁸, which is likely to impact several vital sectors, notably those of water, agriculture and ecosystems. Morocco, guided by a determination confirmed at the highest level of the State, is resolutely committed to the global effort to combat this multidimensional problem.

In terms of strengthening its national governance in the fight against climate change and the preservation of biodiversity, a National Commission on Climate Change and Biological Diversity (CNCCDB) was created in 2020 as a platform for exchange, consultation and monitoring of the implementation of national policy in these areas.

Highlights of the updated NDC

In terms of adaptation

Adaptation is a priority for Morocco, given its high vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. The sectors concerned include water, agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry, health, habitat and the most vulnerable environments and ecosystems: oases, coastline and mountains. The cost of implementing adaptation programs in the most affected sectors is estimated at nearly US\$40 billion.

National climate policy

At the strategic level, Morocco has put in place a National Climate Plan 2030 to respond proactively and ambitiously to the challenges posed by climate change in the national context. In addition, and in accordance with the provisions and commitments of the Paris Agreement, Morocco has updated its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC-Morocco) for the period 2020-2030. Similarly, a National Strategic Adaptation Plan (PNSA) is being finalized, including priority adaptation actions in the sectors and ecosystems most vulnerable to the climate.

¹⁸ Morocco in the face of climate change: situation, impacts and response policies in the water and agriculture sectors - a modelling project carried out by the Directorate of Studies and Financial Forecasts (DEPF), the French Development Agency (AFD), the Directorate General of Meteorology (DGM), the Directorate of Research and Water Planning (DRPE), the AAA Initiative Foundation, as well as the Mediterranean Institute of Biodiversity and Marine and Continental Ecology (IMBE).

In terms of mitigation

Morocco's updated global target represents a 45.5% reduction in GHG emissions from its economy by 2030, including an unconditional target of 18.3% compared to the baseline scenario, which corresponds to a "business as usual" (BAU) emissions trend. The mitigation scenario leading to the global objective is based on a total of 61 actions, of which 34 actions are unconditional and 27 actions are conditional on international financing.

Financing and investment flows

The total cost of mitigation actions in the NDC is estimated at US\$38.8 billion, of which US\$21.5 billion is for conditional actions. The implementation of the NDC requires significant investments that exceed the capacity of any single actor, and therefore requires enhanced interaction between the Moroccan government, the private sector, and international financial institutions including the new climate finance mechanisms such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the financial instruments of the multilateral development banks.

Source: Updated NDC Morocco-June 2021

Territorialization of climate action

As part of the implementation of its climate policy at the territorial level, Morocco is in the process of providing all regions with Regional Climate Plans (RCP) while capitalizing on the advanced regionalization process. In 2020, studies for the development of 7 RCPs have been launched for the regions of Beni Mellal-Khénifra; Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima; Casablanca-Settat; Draa-Tafilalet; Oriental; Guelmim-Oued Noun and Laayoune-Sakia-EL Hamra

In addition, in order to organize the necessary conditions to enable local authorities to strengthen their power to act in terms of climate adaptation and mitigation, the Subnational Climate Finance Expertise Program (PEFCLI) was signed in March 2021, between the General Directorate of Local Authorities (DGCL), the Association of Regions in Morocco (ARM) and the Moroccan Association of Presidents of Communal Councils (AMPCC) on the

one hand, and the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV) on the other, for the period 2021-2023. The parties will jointly work on the organization, planning and implementation of an "Institutional, Strategic and Technical Support Program for the Integration, Preparation and Financing of Local and Regional Projects Adapted to Climate Change", called "SISTIF 2021-2023".

The FMDV will provide project management assistance, in particular by mobilizing the internal and external expertise needed to support the DGCT, the AMPCC, the ARM, the Moroccan local authorities, and their partners in preparing, implementing, and monitoring the program.

Resilience to extreme events and natural disasters

According to the history of extreme events that have affected Morocco in recent decades, the most important disaster risks in terms of potential human and economic impacts are floods, earthquakes and landslides.

Thus, the risk of floods is considered to be the type of disaster that has affected Morocco the most, given the damage caused in terms of human losses and economic damage. This risk threatens the entire Moroccan territory with a list of 1000 sites at risk of flooding listed by the Directorate of Research and Water Planning.

The risk of earthquakes is more localized, but can be particularly severe locally. No casualties have been reported in recent years due to earthquakes.

The risk of landslides is concentrated in the north of the country due to the nature of the soil and the steep slopes associated with its relief. Numerous ground instabilities have been identified.

Other disaster risks also remain, including forest fires, heat and cold waves, drought, locust invasion and industrial hazards.

Regarding forest fires, the average area burnt has decreased from 5 396 ha in the period 2004-2007 to 2 270 ha in the period 2016-2019¹⁹. However, for the Civil Protection services, these fires are among the disaster risks that cause considerable economic losses every year and require the commitment of significant human and material resources. In 2020, the Civil Protection intervened in 367 forest fires that burned 5 477 hectares destroying large parts of the national forest heritage.

Education and awareness

Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa, President of the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, launched, on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Action Summit 2019, the AFRICAIN YOUTH CLIMATE HUB initiative to enhance the voice of young people in the fight against the impacts of climate change and to promote their ideas and solutions. This is a partnership between the YOUNGO Foundation (children and youth group at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), Mohammed VI Polytechnic University and the Cherifian Phosphates Office (OCP) Group.

2. Key challenges

In order to better manage the impact of the dual climate and health crisis, and to build a resilient system capable of fighting against future shocks, Morocco should take up certain challenges, in particular to (i) strengthen the resilience of populations, territories and infrastructures; (ii) make a success of its energy transition; (iii) further mobilize local authorities and the private sector; (iv) promote access to new and innovative sources of financing to fight climate change; (v) improve access to climate data and information and (vi) strengthen awareness and capacity building in the area of climate change adaptation and mitigation.

In terms of natural disaster management, and in addition to the significant infrastructure needs, the Kingdom should equip itself with the means and personnel to meet international standards in this area, and also strengthen the observation, monitoring and early warning systems at all levels, in order to deal with disaster risks, especially those of a very large scale.

¹⁹ Source: Department of Water and Forests - 2019.



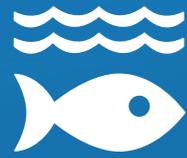
3. Progress of SDG 13 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries	13.1.1	Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100 000 population	Floods/weather-related human damage	Deaths	26	4	4	38	9
				People injured	485	10	7	30	4
		Landslides	Deaths	5	0	1	15	2	
			People injured	9	0	0	0	1	
		Building collapse	Deaths	5	7	8	--	19	
			People injured	22	3	6	--	52	
Forest fires	Area burnt in ha	2477	2221	829	2709	5477			

Source: Ministry of Interior.

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2010	2012	2014	2016	Target value 2030
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning	13.2.2	Total greenhouse gas emissions per year (In Gg CO2-eq.)	73 855.7	81 586.5	83 522.0	86 123.7	-

Source: 2nd Morocco's Biennial Update Report under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change - December 2019



The national maritime space, which has enormous potential for the sustainable development of the country, is still faced with a series of threats from natural and human sources

Morocco's maritime potential and favorable geographical situation provide it with countless geostrategic, political, economic and environmental assets. Given its extension over two maritime façades of 3 500 km, the maritime space is characterized by a wealth of fish stocks which favors the development of aquaculture. However, this area remains under threat from pollution from maritime traffic and economic

activities, as well as from natural and man-made hazards.

Furthermore, with the Covid-19 pandemic, the sustainable development objectives relating to maritime space have been significantly impacted, confirming its essential economic role.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Important maritime potential to be exploited, under major threats

In a context of threat to maritime resources, Morocco has initiated a series of programs and actions in the maritime fishing sector and the coastal zone, namely, i) the preservation and protection against acidification of the country's maritime Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), spread over 1.2 million km²; ii) the integration of the sustainability aspect in port management in accordance with the provisions of the international MARPOL convention; and iii) the carrying out of diagnostic studies on the state of the coastal and maritime zones.

On the other hand, continuous efforts by the public authorities have been ensured to guarantee fishing activity in the Covid-19 era. Indeed, the National Institute for Fisheries Research (INRH) and the National Fisheries Office (ONP) played a decisive role during the pandemic to guarantee the continuity of fishing activity, despite the disturbances experienced at the beginning of the crisis.

On the consumer access side, the HCP survey on the effects of Covid-19 on food expenditure shows that more than one in four households have reduced their expenditure on fish (27.8%). As for foreign demand, some fishery products have benefited from higher foreign demand.

A legal arsenal guarantees the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources

To ensure the sustainability of fisheries resources, Morocco has strengthened its legal framework against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, in addition to banning gillnets to protect vulnerable species.

Promoting small-scale and coastal maritime fishing

As an essential component of economic activity, the maritime fishing sector, both small-scale and coastal and deep-sea, contributes actively to the country's economic development. Indeed, fisheries production increased from 1.37 million tons in 2018 to 1.46 million tons in 2019, with a contribution to national GDP of 1.02% in 2018, 0.98% in 2019 and 1% in 2020. Its share of total exports increased from 0.80% in 2018 to 0.94% in 2019 (excluding processed products).

In addition, Morocco has also developed important landing infrastructures, such as fishing villages (VDPs) or facilitated landing points (PDAs). For the registered artisanal and coastal fleet there are, successively, 17332 units and 2524 units of which 98% and 71%, respectively, are operational in 2019.

Morocco's geostrategic role in preserving the oceans and coastal cultural heritage

Having an active role on the international scene, Morocco adheres to the international convention, setting the objective of a network of protected areas covering at least 10% of the oceans. However, this proportion at national level is estimated at 0.0007% in 2016. Similarly, Morocco has ratified several international conventions related to intangible cultural heritage specific to the coast, such as the 1972, 2001 and 2003 conventions. In 2020, the culture sector proceeded with the classification of the sites

of La Duna Blanca and Atrouk in Dakhla, and the creation of the cultural heritage interpretation center (CIP) of the prehistoric site of Sidi Abderrahmane and Thomas quarries in Casablanca.

Significant public efforts to ensure fisheries activity during the pandemic period

To limit threats to the sustainability of coastal areas and marine fisheries, Morocco has put in place actions against the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. In this sense, the INRH and the ONP, since the start of the pandemic, have ensured the sanitary safety of fishermen and port areas, the resumption and continuity of fishing activity and the maintenance of a minimum of employment in the sector. On the other hand, public interventions in the sector have been maintained within the timeframe established before the pandemic.

2. Key challenges

Despite the important achievements for the development of maritime fisheries and the preservation of the coastline, other challenges need to be addressed in the immediate future, in particular i) the control of urbanization in coastal areas and the fight against its environmental effects; ii) the fight against the overexploitation of fisheries resources, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and iii) the improvement

of the performance of the national fleet on the one hand, and of the contribution of aquaculture to national fish production on the other. Other challenges to be addressed in the medium and long term are 1) the resilience of coastal areas; 2) the promotion of research and development and 3) the improvement of domestic fish consumption. In addition to the above, there are challenges that require policy decisions, such as alignment with international conventions on marine pollution and strengthening governance.

3. Progress of SDG 14 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
14.2 By 2020, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans	14.2.1	Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches (in million km ²)	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	-
14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information	14.5.1	Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas (in %)	-	0.0007	-	-	-	-	By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas
14.7 By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism	14.7.1	Sustainable fisheries as a proportion of GDP in small island developing states, least developed countries and all countries (in %)	1.0	1.08	1.06	1.02	0.98	-	-

Source: Department of Marine Fisheries and HCP



Terrestrial ecosystems are an important natural heritage for the sustainable development of the country, hence the need to strengthen their protection against both anthropogenic and natural pressure

The sustainable management of the Moroccan forest, covering more than 9 million hectares, represents a strategic challenge for the Kingdom. These spaces ensure three main functions, social, economic and environmental, valued annually at 17 billion Dhs. In addition, the ecological dimension remains the most important and ensures the role of forests in 1) protecting soils and regulating the water cycle, 2) combating desertification, and 3) preserving biodiversity. The

importance of these functions and the sustainable management of these ecosystems is a national priority. In addition, these natural ecosystems are subject to both anthropogenic and natural pressure, which hinders their development. Indeed, since 2019, the process of implementing the forestry-related SDGs has been disrupted by two successive years of drought, combined with the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Morocco is making numerous efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda in relation to terrestrial ecosystem issues. The measures taken concern the institutional and legislative aspects as well as the technical, financial and operational aspects in order to establish the prerequisites for the effective implementation of programs.

Towards a new generation of regulatory texts governing the forest area

Public legislative measures affecting natural ecosystems, which are fully in line with the vision of the new "Forests of Morocco 2020-2030" strategy, concern aspects of biodiversity, forest ecosystems, mountains and protected areas, namely 1) the establishment and ongoing consolidation of a forest policy 2) the development and periodic updating of action plans; 3) the strengthening of the forest policy governance framework; and 4) the updating and adaptation of the legal arsenal governing the management of forest resources.

The forest area is virtually delimited

Major efforts for the preservation, restoration and sustainable management of terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems have been implemented, with a view to reducing deforestation and increasing reforestation. They concerned the reconstitution of

forest ecosystems (35 000 ha/year), the delimitation of forest areas (98%), and the improvement of the contribution of the forest to the economy. These efforts have resulted in a slight improvement between 2015 and 2019 in the area of forest areas with +0.06% (8.06% in 2019) and forests with management plans (+31 points in %).

Typical national biodiversity

The Moroccan forest, founding element of the ecological wealth of the country, shelters two thirds of the plants and one third of the animal species. Considerable efforts have been made to preserve this biodiversity, in terms of recasting the legal framework and the strategic plan (SNDD). Thus, a network of 154 identified Sites of Biological and Ecological Interest (SIBE), covering nearly 2.5 million hectares, has been set up. To this end, the approach adopted by the Department of Water and Forests is to gradually turn SIBEs into protected areas with appropriate development and management plans. In addition, a slight increase in sites of importance for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity in protected areas of 1.05% was observed between 2015 and 2019 (9.90% in 2019).

Mountainous areas: Morocco's water tower and biodiversity reserves

The mountainous areas, which cover more than a quarter of the national territory, have significant potential, dominated by forests (60%) followed by useful agricultural land (33%), and represent the country's water tower (26 lakes and water bodies). These areas are home to important reserves of biological diversity, including endemic species, with 7 national parks and 83 SIBEs. Thus, the mountainous vegetation cover index is estimated at 63.88% for the year 2017. However, these areas are subject to continuous overexploitation pressures downstream of the mountains.

Morocco still in the grip of desertification

Desertification affects large areas of the national territory. Indeed, 93% of the national territory is under an arid and semi-arid climate, which constitutes a permanent threat to both the agricultural sector and the infrastructure. Faced with this phenomenon of desertification, programs have been undertaken, namely: i) the adaptation of the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification to the specificities of the zones; ii) the operationalization of the monitoring system and the creation of two Technical Centers for Monitoring Desertification; (iii) watershed management works (800 000 ha); (iv) the fight against silting in continental and coastal areas (41 000 ha); (v) the program for the development of rangelands and transhumant (650 000 ha). Thus, the proportion of degraded land in relation to the total area, is about 5.35% between 2000 and 2015.

For a better monitoring of the desertification phenomenon, a partnership agreement between the Department of Water and Forests and the UNDP has been concluded, in 2021, with the objective of elaborating a study on "The improvement of the monitoring-evaluation system of desertification".

Strengthening the legal arsenal to combat poaching

Significant efforts have been made to combat poaching and trafficking of protected plant and animal species through i) the establishment of surveillance mechanisms and the gradual creation of 19 surveillance and control units; ii) coordination with the various stakeholders; and **iii)** the strengthening of the legal arsenal (law No. 29-05). These efforts have resulted in a specific national list of protected species, in addition to the inclusion of globally threatened species in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

The efforts made within this framework by various sectors, in this case the Directorate General of National Security (DGSN), have been sanctioned by the processing, between 2019 and 2021, of 11 cases relating to poaching and illegal trafficking of protected plant and animal species.

Major financial efforts for forestry development

During the last decade, the budget devoted to the forestry sector has increased by more than 70%, with a contribution from the National Forestry Fund that is close to 80%. In addition, in the framework of international cooperation, funding mobilized amounts to nearly 200 billion USD over the past two decades.

2. Key challenges

Beyond this progress, major challenges linked to the management of forest ecosystems remain to be addressed, namely i) strengthening the preservation of the various forest ecosystems; ii) mastering the management of productive forests; iii) strengthening Research & Development in the forestry sector and iv) encouraging the organization of local populations.

3. Progress of SDG 15 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030
15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with obligations under international agreements	15.1.1	Forest area as a proportion of total land area (in %)	8	-	-	-	8.06	-
	15.1.2	Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas (by ecosystem type) (in %)	8.85	-	-	-	9.90	-
15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world	15.3.1	Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area (between 2000 and 2015) (in %)	5.35	-	-	-	-	-
15.4. By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development	15.4.2	Mountain Green Cover Index (in %)(2017)	-	-	63.88	-	-	-

Source: Department of Water and Forests.



Enjoying stability and peace,
Morocco is accelerating the
pace of institutional reforms to
realize the constitutional values
that have formed the basis of an
inclusive and sustainable society
project

Peace, stability, human rights and good governance are essential for sustainable development. In this regard, Morocco reaffirms its irreversible choice to promote the rule of law and its commitment to the principles, rights and obligations set out in international human rights

charters and conventions. Although the Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted major challenges, particularly in terms of consolidating social rights, Morocco has made enormous efforts and adopted innovative solutions to adapt to the impacts of the pandemic.

1. Main developments in the context of Covid-19

Consolidation of the rule of law and the protection of human rights

In the area of protection and promotion of children's rights, and as part of the implementation of the "Himaya" program in collaboration with UNICEF, spaces dedicated to the child within the family courts were created in 2020. Also, integrated territorial mechanisms for child protection have been created in eight model regions. These territorial mechanisms aim to provide support, medical, psychological, legal and social care, as well as requalification and reintegration of children.

On another note, the election of Morocco to the vice-presidency of the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is a recognition of the substantial contribution of the Kingdom of Morocco in the fight against terrorism in all its forms and in the prevention of crime and promotion of criminal justice. Furthermore, the opening in Rabat, in June 2021, of the United Nations Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa is in line with Morocco's vocation and commitment to Africa under the enlightened leadership of HM King Mohammed VI.

Morocco is also constantly promoting the culture of human rights and strengthening its interaction and cooperation with international and regional bodies in this field. In this context, it presented the national report on the mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the third phase of the World Program for Human Rights Education, implemented the "Human Rights School" project, and integrated

the "human rights" dimension into programs to combat illiteracy.

Concerning the analysis of criminal cases, the police revealed that murder and similar crimes have decreased by 4.33% compared to the year 2019. On the other hand, the share of people placed in detention without having been tried has for its part decreased from 14.9% in 2017 to 14.84% in 2018. However, the implementation of the state of health emergency slowed down the settlement of detainees' cases due to the difficulties in launching remote trials and consequently led to an increase in this share, which reached 18% in 2020.

Effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

With commitment made at the highest level of the State in recent years to make the promotion of good governance in the administration a political, regulatory and institutional priority, Morocco has continued its efforts to strengthen its achievements and improve its approach in this area. In this respect, the Kingdom of Morocco is working towards the adoption and implementation of a charter for public services and the anchoring of the principles of good governance in the organization and functioning of public administrations. Notable achievements in this area during 2020 and the first half of 2021 include:

- Accompanying the approval procedure for draft law 54-19 on the public services charter, which sets out the rules for the operation of public services;
- The implementation of law 55-19 on the simplification of procedures to establish a new user/administration relationship;

- The launch of the national portal for administrative procedures and formalities, which is the only official, unified, integrated and multi-space information interface that makes administrative information available to the user;
- The adoption of Law 46-19 on the National Authority for Probity, Prevention and the Fight against Corruption (INPPLC), which aims to strengthen the role of the INPPLC in the prevention and fight against corruption;
- The setting up of pilot reception sites: Mohammed V Hospital (El Jadida), registration center (Rabat)... ;
- The implementation of the master plan for the digital transformation of the judicial system with the strategic objectives of accessible, efficient, simplified and open justice;
- The operationalization of remote processes.

In the same vein, the reform of public establishments and enterprises (EEP), set up as a national priority, aims to correct the structural dysfunctions of the EEPs, with a view to guaranteeing complementarity and optimal coherence of their respective missions and, in fine, enhancing their economic and social efficiency. His Majesty the King has called in this context for the creation of a national agency whose mission would be to ensure the strategic management of the State's holdings and monitor the performance of public institutions.

Strengthening participation and openness

Morocco has made significant efforts to initiate reforms and sectoral programs to ensure citizen participation in the decision-making process, in the elaboration of public policies and in the development of the country. Thus, the following actions have been implemented:

- The activation of the implementation of the Kingdom of Morocco's commitments inscribed in the National Plan of the Open Government 2018-2020 with a realization rate of 84% despite the conditions of the Covid-19;

- The launch of the 2nd Action Plan of the Open Government in Morocco 2021-2022 according to a participatory approach accompanied by a dedicated communication plan, in order to guarantee a wide participation of the concerned actors.

Ensuring public access to information

Public information is the main tool for operationalizing citizen participation in public management. To this end, Law No. 31.13 guaranteeing the right to information came into force, in all its provisions, on 12 March 2020. And in order to accompany the implementation of this law, a roadmap has been established. Within this framework, the following activities were carried out:

- Designation of information officers in ministerial departments and public institutions (1 235 persons designated);
- Launch of the Information Access Portal (www.chafafiya.ma) on 12 March 2020;
- Implementation of the Right of access to information network on 17 June 2020;
- Organization of a train-the-trainer program;
- Publication of a guide and several training materials and guides on this law;
- Organization of a series of awareness-raising and communication meetings on this law at central and territorial level.

2. Key challenges

The main challenges to be addressed in relation to SDG 16 can be summarized as follows:

Human rights challenges

- Consolidating the effectiveness of rights and further anchoring a human rights-based public policy;
- Citizen participation to strengthen participatory democracy and promote the role of civil society;

Challenges in building effective institutions

- A limited commitment from certain governmental actors despite the strong political will displayed at the highest level of the State;
- Dysfunctional and insufficient legal and institutional framework and weak institutional performance in this area;
- The phase shift between different levels of administration;
- Reorientation and acceleration of the dematerialization of procedures.

Anti-corruption challenges

- An unsatisfactory ranking at the international level since Morocco has continued to oscillate up and down over the last 10 years;
- A lack of clarity in the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (SNLCC) regarding the definition of roles/responsibilities and timelines;
- Lack of effective mechanisms for monitoring, observing outcome measures and evaluating impacts;
- Low capacity to mobilize funds to carry out the actions programmed in the SNLCC.

Challenges to participation in decision making

- To further mobilize civil society as part of its mission to facilitate civic communication on Open Government in Morocco (OGP);
- Actively engage all stakeholders in the implementation of OGP Morocco commitments and create coherence and synergy between specific actions;
- Establish a climate of trust between all stakeholders.

3. Progress of SDG 16 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2009	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030
16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere	16.1.1	Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100 000 population, by sex and age	-	1.34	1.6	-	-	-	-
	16.1.3	Proportion of the population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months	Men					42	-
			Women	63	-	-	-	57	-
	a. Proportion of the population subjected to physical violence	Men					10.5		
		Women	15.2	-	-	-	12.9	-	
	b. Proportion of the population subjected to psychological violence	Men					37.1		
		Women	58	-	-	-	47.5	-	
	c. Proportion of the population subjected to sexual violence	Men					1.9		
		Women	8.7	-	-	-	13.6	-	
	16.2 End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children	16.2.3	Proportion of young women aged 18–29 years who experienced sexual violence by age	4.1	-	-	-	-	-

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2009	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Target value 2030
16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all	16.3.1	Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms (for women)	3.0	-	-	-	-	10.5	
	16.3.2	Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population	-	-	-	14.9	14.84	-	-
16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels	16.6.2	Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services	-	-	16.1	-	-	-	-
16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels	16.7.1	Overall ratio of the proportion of women in the civil service (excluding officials of the DGSN, auxiliary forces, the Court of Accounts and the Civil Protection)	-	39.0	39.3	39.8	39.8	40.0	-
16.9 By 2030, provide legal identity for all, including birth registration	16.9.1	Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age	-	-	-	-	96.9	-	100
16.a: Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels, in particular in developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime	16.a.1	Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles, "A" status		1	1	1	1	1	1

Source: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health, General Delegation of the Penitentiaries and Reinsertion Administration, Department of Administration Reform, National Survey on Household Perception of Selected Targets of Key SDGs in 2016, HCP and National Survey on the Prevalence of Violence Against Women 2009 and 2019, HCP.



A policy of active international cooperation, especially with Africa

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, strong international cooperation and inclusive partnerships are needed more than ever to ensure that all countries have the means to recover from the pandemic, build back better and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. In this context, the investment needs of the Kingdom of Morocco are becoming very important, and public-private

partnerships to finance them are even more necessary than before. The mobilization and solidarity of all are key prerequisites to overcome the multiple challenges. Therefore, scientific and technical cooperation, multilateral cooperation and trade development are essential.

1. Main achievements in the context of Covid-19

Finance

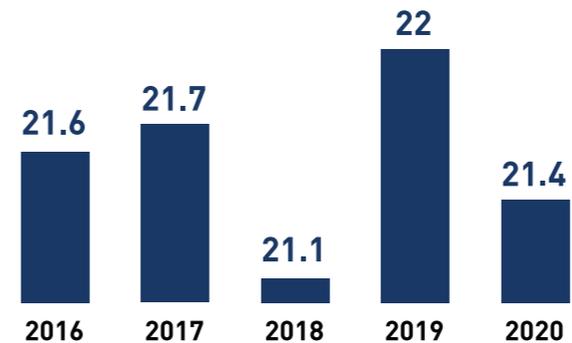
In a context marked by the decline in Official Development Assistance²⁰ and the burden of public debt on the one hand, and insofar as significant expenditure for the achievement of the SDGs must be financed on the other, the mobilization of tax revenues remains one of the most pressing issues for the Kingdom of Morocco.

Regarding domestic resource mobilization, the proportion of government revenue²¹ in GDP stood at 21.4% in 2020. Morocco mobilized nearly 198.793 billion DH in tax revenues²² (or 18.6% of GDP).

Tax revenues²³ are the main source of funding for the Treasury's total budgetary expenditures and covered about 71.9% of these expenditures in 2019 instead of 75.8% in 2018.

Customs revenues reached 91 billion DH in 2020 despite a difficult economic and fiscal context.

Chart 17: Government revenue as % of GDP



Source: Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform

²⁰ (\$758 million in 2019 versus \$2.4 billion in 2017)

²¹ (Ordinary revenue of the Treasury excluding VAT of local authorities)

²² Excluding VAT from local authorities

²³ BEPS refers to the various means used by international companies to exploit tax loopholes in certain countries by shifting their profits to certain jurisdictions where they do not really operate and where they pay little tax

²⁴ This declaration has been prepared in accordance with international standards, and the information it contains will be subject, subject to reciprocity, to automatic exchange with the tax administrations of countries that have concluded a convention or agreement with Morocco to this effect, General Tax Code, 2020.

²⁵ Since the increase in public sector spending is financed by voluntary private and public contributions to the Anti-Covid-19 Fund

²⁶ HCP

Morocco actively participates in the OECD's BEPS projects.

Morocco has made great strides in terms of tax compliance, notably with the multilateral convention for the implementation of tax and legal measures to combat tax base erosion and profit shifting (anti-BEPS measures²⁴). The Finance Law 2020 has supplemented the provisions of the General Tax Code for anti-erosion measures, to institute the obligation for multinational enterprise groups to file the so-called "country-by-country declaration"²⁴.

Deterioration of the budget situation during the Covid-19 health crisis

Declining tax revenues²⁵ (excluding local government VAT), from 212.638 billion DH in 2019 to 198.793 billion DH in 2020, has led to a widening of the budget deficit (7.7% of GDP, compared to 3.6% in 2019)²⁶. This deficit was well above the average annual deficit recorded between 2012-2019 of 4.5% of GDP.

Resilience of remittances from Moroccans living abroad

Despite a context marked by the global recession, particularly in the euro zone, the transfers of Moroccans living abroad showed a strong resilience in 2020 with an increase of 5% compared to the previous year, to reach 68 billion DH. This development is a testament to the spirit of solidarity and family responsibility that exists between the Moroccan diaspora and their country.

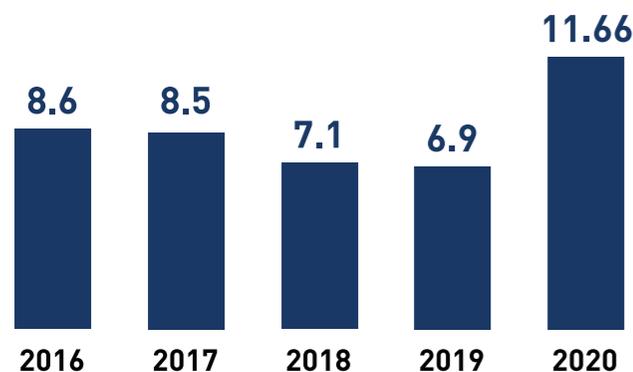
Thus, the good performance of remittances by Moroccans living abroad and the fall in imports have limited the financing needs of the national economy to 1.5% of GDP in 2020 against 3.7% in 2019. Foreign exchange reserves remain well above their previous

year's level thanks to the drawdown under the IMF's Precautionary Liquidity Line (PLL) in April 2020 and increased recourse to external financing.

Increase in external public debt.

In 2020, the stock of external public debt reached nearly US\$42 billion, or 34.9% of GDP, compared to US\$35.4 billion in 2019, an increase of 10%. Total external public debt service amounted to US\$4.374 billion compared to US\$3 billion in 2019, representing 9.3% of current receipts of the Balance of Payments and 11.7% of total exports of goods and services.

Chart 18: Proportion of external public debt service in exports of goods and services (in %)



Source: Foreign Exchange Office, Treasury Department

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Morocco: A foreign source of funding

FDI receipts in Morocco have been reduced from DH 34.5 billion in 2019 to DH 27.5 billion in 2020, broken down as follows: The industry sector ranks first with a share of 33% of total FDI, followed by real estate which kept its share (21%) during the period 2007-2020, while tourism which occupied the first rank experienced a marked decline (from 32.7% to 3.6%) during this period.

In contrast to FDI in telecommunications and tourism, which have declined, the automotive industry has grown significantly, with receipts of DH 4 billion in 2020 (i.e. 15% of total FDI) against DH 664 million in 2010.

As for Moroccan FDI abroad, its flows have recorded a fall of 53%, amounting to 4.7 billion DH in 2020 against 9.9 billion DH in 2019.

New technologies and innovation

In the context of the Covid-19, the role of international scientific cooperation and strengthening investment in science is crucial. Increased data sharing and wider and open access to scientific expertise is more imperative than ever to enable policy makers to make informed decisions and better control the pandemic, and to accelerate and ensure equitable access to vaccines.

In this context, we note the contribution of Morocco to the world initiative "Coronavirus Global Response" launched by the European Commission to fight against the Coronavirus and the participation of Moroccan researchers in collaboration with the European Union in the establishment of international networks on research projects related to the Covid-19.

Also, cooperation between Morocco and China in the field of health, which took the form of a series of virtual seminars and meetings between medical experts from both countries with the aim of exchanging information and experiences on the fight against the epidemic, methods of diagnosis and treatment, as well as the management of hospitals and the protection of medical personnel. In addition, the Korea International Cooperation Agency (Koica), in partnership with the non-governmental organization Global Care, is supporting the project "The response to Covid-19 in Morocco" to assist the Kingdom in its fight against the pandemic.

In addition, the 2019-2020 period has seen the launch of a number of structuring projects as part of the promotion of international cooperation in the field of scientific and technical research.

Furthermore, the CNRST has signed several cooperation agreements with similar foreign institutions such as CSIC and AECI (Spain), CNRI (Italy) and GRICES (Portugal), CSIR (India). Within this framework, and as an example, the Department of the Environment (DE) has concluded several partnerships with multilateral and bilateral organizations (GEF, WB, FVC, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO)

and countries (Germany, EU, Japan, etc.), with a view to exchanging experience, transferring knowledge, providing technical assistance and developing projects in the various environmental fields.

Information and Communication Technologies

Due to the containment measures established to contain Covid-19, the Internet was called upon more than ever to ensure the continuity of daily activities.

Overall, the growth of the Internet customer base in Morocco is characterized by the supremacy of mobile Internet over fixed-line, due to the weakness of the ADSL and fiber optic customer bases. In 2020, these two segments stood at 1.60 million and 218 035 subscriptions respectively. Fixed Internet subscriptions with speeds below 2 Mbps continue to decline in favor of subscriptions with speeds of 2 Mbps or more. ADSL accesses with speeds of 4MB/s or less accounted for 55.33% of the total ADSL Internet base²⁷.

Table 1: Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed

Connection speed	2019	2020
[256 kbit/s - 2 Mbit/s[0.01	0.003
[2 Mbit/s - 10 Mbit/s[3.06	3.41
>= 10 Mbit/s	1.72	2.43
Total	4.79	5.84

Source: ANRT

Internet use among Moroccans is on an upward trend from year to year, rising from 58.3% to 74.4% between 2016 and 2019²⁸.

Chart 19: Proportion of population using the Internet (in %)



Source: ANRT

Foreign trade

Although the structure of Morocco's exportable supply has undergone profound transformations in recent years (rise of industrial ecosystems, decline of low value-added manufacturing sectors, etc.), Morocco's trade deficit remains structurally high due to the need to import energy and cereal products in the event of a poor harvest, and inputs for industrial ecosystems.

However, in 2020, the covid-19 crisis affected imports more than exports, which fell by 14.1% and 7.5% respectively. This has resulted in a reduction of the trade deficit by 23% from 206.45 billion DH in 2019 to 159 billion DH in 2020, or 14.6% of GDP.

Towards a more simplified customs tariff

In close cooperation between the Customs and Indirect Taxation Administration (ADII) and the Departments concerned, 762 headings of the 10-digit harmonized system have been abolished in 2021 in view of the statistics on their use and the tax rates applied to them²⁹.

On the other hand, the level of the weighted average applied tariff rate³⁰ is relatively low and has been steadily decreasing in

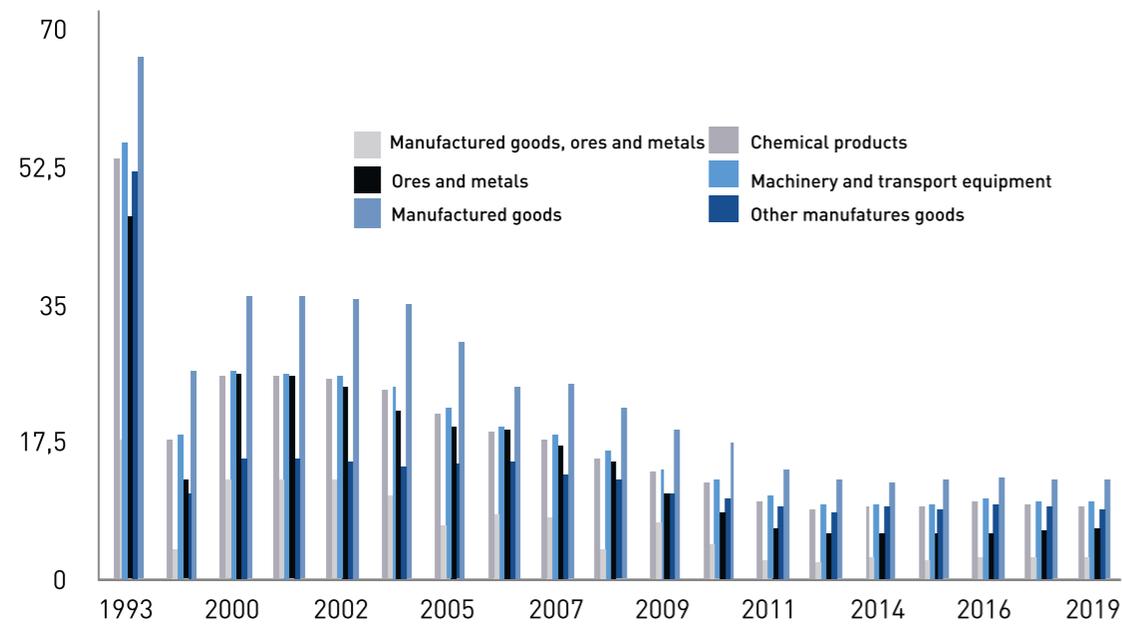
²⁷ ANRT, Analysis of the evolution of the telecommunications sector in Morocco at the end of December 2020.

²⁸ ANRT, Annual survey to collect ICT indicators from households and individuals at the national level.

²⁹ ADII, Annual Report 2020

³⁰ Rate applied taking into account applicable (and available) preferential rates at the 6-digit Harmonised System code level

Chart 20: Import tariffs on non-agricultural and non-oil products, 1988-2019. Indicator: Weighted average Type of tariff: Most Favored Nation (MFN) Rate



Source: UNCTAD, Stat

Morocco (as can be seen in the chart below), which testifies to the success achieved in the multilateral negotiations and the commitment of the Kingdom of Morocco to the universal, rule-based, open and equitable trading system under the auspices of the WTO.

The Finance Law 2020 has established the increase of the common import duty from 25% to 40%. Nevertheless, despite the increase in import duty, Morocco still complies with its international commitments under the WTO, insofar as the tariffs applied are lower than those bound at the WTO level [see table below].

Table 2: Morocco's bound and MFN tariffs (in %)

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Average final bound tariffs	41.3	41.3	41.3	41.3	41.3
Average MFN tariff applied	11.5	11.5	11.4	-	11.4
Trade weighted average	9.3	10.4	9.9	9.7	10.7

Source: WTO, World Tariff Profile, 2020, 2021

During the period 2016- 2019, the average tariffs applied by Morocco to goods from developing countries, Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) have shown a downward trend. In contrast, an increase in these duties was recorded in 2020 (8.9% from developing countries; 11.1% from least developed countries (LDCs); 4.9% from small island developing states (SIDS)).

Morocco accelerated cross-border trade in 2019, introducing electronic payment for port fees, organizing the dematerialization of customs formalities and extending port opening hours (Doing Business 2020 Report).

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, Morocco has adopted trade measures deemed necessary to protect the health and well-being of its population³¹. In this respect, a range of products has been the subject of an export license or specific authorisation³².

In addition, the government has developed an import-substitution policy. Several products³³ have been listed in a "Project Bank". The investment projects on these targeted segments could benefit from the support of the Strategic Investment Fund, endowed with 45 billion DH³⁴. (Finance Act 2021).

A strengthening of the trade defense policy (anti-dumping measures, safeguard measures, a new import control system for industrial products) and the continuation of the trade facilitation process and the dematerialization of customs clearance procedures have been implemented.

³¹ Rate applied taking into account applicable (and available) preferential rates at the 6-digit Harmonised System code level

³² WTO rules allow its members this flexibility

³³ Surgical masks, disinfectants, protective masks and quantitative import restrictions).

³⁴ Decree No. 2-20-528, OJ 12 August 2020

³⁵ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and African Cooperation

PARTNERSHIP

Morocco's contribution to the global partnership for sustainable development

As stated by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist him, Morocco is committed "to tripartite and multilateral cooperation and to balanced and mutually beneficial partnerships"³⁵. Thus, Morocco does not cease to reiterate its willingness to contribute to the global partnership for sustainable development, through its regional partnerships and through its South-South and triangular cooperation policy.

Morocco's membership of China's "Belt and Road" initiative can only be beneficial for Africa. This project will cover several infrastructures, rail and maritime routes and will allow the implementation of the AfCFTA.

The "Link Up Africa" project is the first triangular cooperation project between Morocco, the EU and Africa. It represents an opportunity for the EU to support Morocco's cooperation efforts with its African partners and aims to accompany the implementation of the strategic plan of the Moroccan Agency for International Cooperation.

Regarding migration, an African Migration Observatory under the auspices of the African Union was inaugurated by the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs in December 2020. It will address Africa's migration data deficiencies and provide a platform for the collection, analysis and sharing of data and information between African member states and the overall management of migration in Africa.

In the field of the environment, some twenty cooperation agreements have been signed with countries in the South, particularly in Africa. Morocco has mobilized approximately USD 250 000 for their implementation during 2021, as part of its Technical Assistance and Capacity Building program for Southern partner countries, particularly those in Africa, with an overall budget of USD 900 000 covering the period 2018-2021.

At the Climate Action Summit³⁶ in New York (September 2019), Morocco was selected as one of the states that presented ambitious commitments to identify opportunities to reduce greenhouse gases by 45% by 2030.

As part of the implementation and support of advanced regionalization, a Local Governance Support Program has been implemented in partnership with the UNDP. It aims to strengthen the individual, organizational and managerial capacities of the regions and the territorial administration.

On the cultural front, several international programs have been adopted, including cultural and scientific cooperation agreements between Moroccan and foreign higher education establishments and agreements for the protection and conservation of movable, immovable, intangible and natural cultural property.

In order to support African countries in their efforts to fight the Covid-19³⁷ pandemic, Morocco has provided medical aid (8 million masks, 900 000 visors, 600 000 caps, 60 000 gowns, 30 000 liters of hydro-alcoholic gel, as well as 75 000 boxes of chloroquine and 15 000 boxes of Azithromycin) to 15 African countries³⁸.

Strengthening the public-private partnership and mobilizing new financial resources.

In order to make the Public Private Partnership (PPP) process more fluid and flexible, the law on public-private partnership contracts (86.12) has been supplemented and amended by a new law (46-18)³⁹ in 2020. This law is part of the mobilization of new financial resources. It makes several amendments, including the broadening of the scope of application (local authorities, legal entities under public law, etc.) and the establishment of a governance system adapted to regional and local specificities, as well as a National PPP Commission under the Head of Government.

Morocco has worked to develop the legal framework governing its investments, particularly in Africa. The new model Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (IPPA)⁴⁰ is thus based on global objectives relating to sustainable development, poverty reduction, job creation and the fight against corruption.

More than a third of all IPPAs concluded by Morocco concern African countries⁴¹.

The voluntary sector is more mobilized than ever

Ambitious partnership programs for the benefit of environmental civil society have been set up, aimed at strengthening the capacities of associations so that they can fully play the roles that have been constitutionally assigned to them as key actors in the implementation of the SDGs.

In this respect, a national portal for the creation of remote associations “www.tacharokia.ma” was launched on the occasion of the National Civil Society Day (13 March 2021). It aims to strengthen the capacity of associations to carry out their constitutional missions and to contribute effectively to global and sustainable development through targeted and simplified training offers in various fields.

In addition, as part of the partnership with the European Union delegation and the implementation of the civil society support program “citizen participation”, the Ministry in charge of Human Rights and Relations with Parliament has launched a study on “strengthening the role of civil society associations to contribute effectively to the achievement of the 2030 sustainable development goals”.

Ongoing upgrading of the national statistical system and the SDGs monitoring and evaluation framework

The High Commission for Planning is constantly developing its strategy for upgrading its statistical system and its framework for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the SDGs, which helps to inform decision-making. It has, in fact, carried out a certain amount of work on strengthening the capacity of the national statistical system to report on SDG indicators, producing data and indicators on the effects of covid-19 on important dimensions of the SDGs, communicating the 2020 national report on the SDGs, strengthening partnerships with universities and the UN system in Morocco, and launching the SDG reporting process at the regional level.

Thus, the HCP has carried out a new household survey on sources of income, the results of which have made it possible to update the indicators of poverty and inequalities in living standards. It also conducted, with FAO support, a Food Insecurity Experiences Scale (FIES) 2020 survey, which enabled Morocco to measure the prevalence of food insecurity.

It has also produced data and indicators on the effects of covid-19 on dimensions of the SDGs, based on surveys of the impact of the pandemic on economic growth, business activity, the socio-economic and psychological situation of households and refugees.

Moreover, the high level of national accounts, structural and conjuncture surveys and economic, social and demographic studies carried out by the HCP constitute today a robust reference for the formulation of appropriate public policies and their monitoring-evaluation on the basis of economic, social and demographic surveys and censuses, national accounts, socio-demographic studies and prospective studies, economic forecasting and simulation of the impact of public policies.

Within this framework, the data series elaborated through statistical surveys and the results of the national accounts, providing a complete and developed macroeconomic database on the Resource/Employment Balances (REB), the Resource and Employment Tables (REE), the Integrated Economic Accounts Tables (IEA), the Financial Transactions Tables (FTT), the accounts of the institutional sectors and the rest of the world, the social accounting matrices (SAM) constitute a very elaborate database for socio-economic analyses, in particular for the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, based on modelling tools. In this framework, the HCP has developed an arsenal of models among which the

³⁶ Summoned by the UN SG

³⁷ Communiqué of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of 14 June 2020

³⁸ Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Malawi, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, and Zambia.

³⁹ OJ No. 6870 April 2020.

⁴⁰ In line with the latest standards for bilateral investment treaties, as advocated by UNCTAD, these IPPAs include provisions that safeguard the right to regulate in the interest of the host country, while protecting planned investments, and modernise the mechanism for resolving disputes that may arise

quasi-accounting model based on national Input-output tables, the macro-econometric simulation and projection model, the computable general equilibrium models on the basis of SAMs which are adapted or enriched to address specific issues such as the case of the SDGs, or the micro-simulation and modelling using panel approaches used to provide answers to specific issues

In addition, the HCP has undertaken communication activities around the 2020 National Report on the SDGs, focusing mainly on the publication of the 2020 Voluntary National Report in three languages, Arabic, French and English, with the support of the UNDP, and the presentation of this report in webinars organized, respectively, by the Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Casablanca, the Embassy of Belgium in Morocco and the side event organized by Morocco on the sidelines of the 46th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

The strengthening of partnerships with universities and the United Nations system in Morocco was also at the center of the HCP's work, in particular through the implementation, in collaboration with the ECA, of the work program relating to the integrated monitoring and evaluation tool of the 2030 Agenda and the 2063 Agenda, and the signing of two partnership agreements with the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University and the Chouaïb Doukkali University.

In application of the commitments made by the HCP and the United Nations system in Morocco in the field of reporting on the SDGs and in accordance with the resolution of the National Commission for Sustainable Development, the HCP has embarked on a process of drawing up regional reports, initiated initially in the two regions of Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima and Casablanca-Settat, with a view to its generalization to all regions of the Kingdom.

2. Key challenges

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, we would need to:

- Develop and diversify sources of funding for the implementation of the SDGs through:
 - Optimization and prioritization of expenses;
 - Increased mobilization of domestic financial resources for productive investment and sustainable development objectives;
 - The adoption of a clear and transparent medium-term fiscal framework to support investor confidence;
 - The acceleration of efforts to reduce Morocco's dependence on imported energy by simulating the supply of renewable resources and implementing a more decisive and comprehensive tax reform, while increasing efforts to contain current expenditures;
- Steer public debt firmly downward, in parallel with the implementation of further decisive reforms to improve fiscal policy and increase the efficiency of public spending.
- Promote scientific research and technological innovation as well as the strengthening of partnerships in this field between the State, the private sector, the regions and the universities;
- Bridge the gaps that persist between urban and rural areas and between rich and poor individuals in terms of broadband Internet access;
- Develop partnerships between all stakeholders (State, local authorities, universities, private sector, civil society);
- Optimize the Moroccan strategy of opening up and maximizing its impact in terms of developing the exportable offer and attracting foreign direct investment;
- Achieve the structural transformation that has become necessary for a successful economic take-off;
- Accelerate the implementation of innovative methods for the collection and analysis of national socio-economic data.

3. Progress of SDG 17 indicators

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection	17.1.1	Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP	23.2	21.4	21.6	21.7	21.1	22	21.4	-
	17.1.2	Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (in %)	68.1	72.2	72.0	74.9	75.8	71.9	-	-
17.3 Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources	17.3.1	Foreign direct investment as % of GDP (net flow)	3.2	3.2	2.1	2.4	3.0	1.4	1.5	-
	17.3.2	Volume of migrant workers' remittances as % of GDP	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2	5.9	5.6	6.3	-
17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress	17.4.1	Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services (in %)	7.4	7.6	8.6	8.5	7.0	6.9	11.66	-
17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology	17.8.1	Proportion of individuals using the Internet	56.8	57.1	58.3	61.8	64.8	74.4		

Targets	Indic. code	Indicators	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Target value 2030
17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda	17.10.1	Worldwide weighted tariff-average	-	9.3	10.4	9.9	9.7	10.7		-
		Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports	-	0.14	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.15		-
17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access	17.12.1	Average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries, and small island developing states (applied by Morocco)	-	-		-	-			-
		(a) Developing countries	-	-	7.5	7.4	7.2	6.8	8.9	
		(b) Least developed countries	-	-	8.3	9.7	10.0	5.7	11.1	
		(c) Small island developing states	-	-	3.4	4.0	3.7	1.5	4.9	

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance, Customs and Excise Administration, ANRT, WTO, Foreign Exchange Office, HCP, World Bank.



CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS AND THE SDGs

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Initiative for Human Development: This has been achieved through the implementation of more than 43 000 development projects in its phases I and II. Through its Phase III (2019-2023), it aims to consolidate achievements and build for the future, and is structured around 4 programs focused on reducing the deficit in terms of infrastructure and basic services in under-equipped areas; combating malnutrition among children, and supporting people in precarious situations; improving the income and economic integration of young people; supporting human development in favor of the rising generations through investment in human capital; support for pre-schooling in disadvantaged rural areas is a priority area designed to support the development of human capital for the rising generations. In addition, the INDH has paid particular attention to the fight against school wastage through the establishment of an educational support system for primary school students in rural and peri-urban areas.	Ministry of Interior	SDG1: No poverty; SDG2: Zero hunger; SDG3: Good health and well-being for all; SDG4: Quality education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG7: Clean and affordable energy; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG16: Justice and peace.
Social Cohesion Support Fund (2012-2020): It was initially designed to contribute to the financing of several social programs, such as the Tayssir program against school drop-out, the "One million school bags" operation, support for people with disabilities, support for widows, and the medical assistance scheme (RAMED). The 2021 Finance Bill proposes to change the name of the Fund to "Support Fund for Social Protection and Social Cohesion" by allocating new resources.	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family	SDG1: No poverty; SDG3: Good health and well-being for all; SDG4: Quality education; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities.
Medical coverage plans, including RAMED and AMO, which has enabled reaching a medical coverage rate of 68.8% of the Moroccan population in 2019.	Ministry of Interior Ministry of Health	SDG1: No poverty; SDG3: Good health and well-being.
Integrated Public Policy for Child Protection (2015-2025) this is the national response to combat all forms of violence, aggression and exploitation of children.	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family	SDG1: No poverty; SDG3: Good health and well-being for all; SDG4: Quality education; SDG16: Justice and peace.
Strategy of the High Commission for Former Resisters and Former Members of the Liberation Army "HCARAMAL aims to fight against all forms of discrimination against women resisters, widows of former resisters and former members of the Liberation Army and entitled women and girls and to ensure the access of this category of population to the rights, services, benefits and privileges granted. The budget of HCARAMAL amounts to 145 488.000 DH for the year 2020.	High Commission for Former Resistance Fighters and Former Members of the Liberation Army	SDG1: No poverty; SDG3 : Good health and well-being; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth.
Framework Law No. 09.21 on the generalization of social protection (2021-2025): With a budget of 51 billion DH per year, this project should eventually include 22 million additional beneficiaries of compulsory medical coverage, 7 million children of family allowances, 5 million people of the active population of the pension scheme as well as the compensation for loss of employment.	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform	SDG1: No poverty; SDG3: Good health and well-being for all; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG16: Justice and peace.
Generation Green 2020-2030 Strategy: It is centered on two foundations concerning the prioritization of the human element and the continuation of the dynamics of agricultural development, through the emergence of a new agricultural middle class by improving the incomes and the protection of the farmers and to accompany the professional insertion of the young people. It also aims to improve distribution channels for agricultural products and to develop sustainable and resilient agriculture.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests.	SDG1: No poverty; SDG2: Zero hunger; SDG6: Clean water and sanitation; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth.

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
The Global and Integrated National Nutrition Program 2019-2030 aims to improve the indicators of the nutritional status of the population throughout the life cycle, particularly during the first 1000 days (to maintain wasting in children below 5%; no increase in the percentage of overweight and obese children and adolescents; to reduce stunting in children under 5 years of age by 40%). It also aims to promote a healthy lifestyle in order to prevent nutritional disorders and nutrition-related diseases (reach 50% of women who practice early breastfeeding and exclusive breastfeeding; reduce iron deficiency by one third compared to its level in 2000; eliminate Vitamin A deficiency; eliminate Iodine deficiency disorders; reduce salt use by 10%). It aims to build institutional and professional capacity in nutrition, strengthen multisectoral coordination and develop research and expertise in the field of nutrition.	Department of Health	SDG1: No poverty; SDG2: Zero hunger; SDG3: Good health and well-being.
Multi-sectoral strategy for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) 2019-2029: With an estimated budget of 5.4 billion DH (excluding HR), this strategy aims to reduce by 20% the prevalence of current smoking among people aged 15 years and over, by 10% the prevalence of hypertension and by 15% the increase in the prevalence of diabetes.	Department of Health	SDG3: Good health and well-being.
National Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategy 2021-2030 aims to strengthen joint action to prevent female cancers, support the national public health program to care for women and girls who are victims of violence, promote midwifery, develop the second National Adolescent and Youth Health Strategy 2022-2030, improve access to quality sexual and reproductive health services for vulnerable populations, with a focus on youth and people with disabilities.	Ministry of Health	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG5: Gender equality.
National HIV-AIDS Strategic Plan (2023 Extension Plan): It aims to reduce new HIV infections by 50% in 2023 compared to 2019, reduce HIV-related mortality by 50% in 2023 compared to 2019, reduce discrimination and increase access to psychosocial support for PLHIV, and strengthen governance at national, regional and local levels to ensure acceleration and sustainability of the response.	Department of Health	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG5: Gender equality.
National multisectoral mental health plan 2020-2030: It aims to promote mental well-being, prevent mental disorders, provide care, improve the chances of recovery, promote basic rights and reduce mortality, morbidity and disability among people with mental disorders.	Department of Health	SDG 3: Good health and well-being.
National Strategic Plan for Tuberculosis Prevention and Control 2021- 2023: It aims to reduce the number of deaths related to this disease by 60% in 2023 compared to the year 2015.	Department of Health	SDG 3: Good health and well-being.
Integrated National Child Health Policy for 2030: It has been translated into a National Strategic Multisectoral Action Plan for Child Health for the period 2021-2025.	Department of Health	SDG1: No poverty; SDG2: Zero Hunger; SDG 3: Good health and well-being; SDG5: Gender equality.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Health Financing Strategy 2021-2023: It aims to increase collective financing of health towards a unified health insurance system and more efficiency in the use of resources to ensure governance, admissibility and effectiveness of collective action.	Ministry of Health, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform: Inter-ministerial Technical Committee on Social Protection	SDG1: No poverty; SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG10: Reduced inequalities.
The 2015-2030 Strategic Vision for Education: Its aim is to establish a new school based on three main principles: equity and equal opportunities, quality for all and the promotion of the individual and society.	Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research	SDG4 : Quality education.
Framework Law 51.17 on the reform of the education and training system : It constitutes a national contractual framework aimed at ensuring the continuity and sustainability of the reform of the national education system, the full implementation of the provisions and the mobilization of all partners.		
Major programs in the 2015-2030 vision:		
National Program for the Development of Preschool (2018-2028) the goal is the generalization of preschool by 2028.		
Programs in favor of generalization and inclusive education: These include programs to support the education of disadvantaged children, notably the Royal Initiative of one million school bags, school transportation, boarding schools and school canteens, and the TAYSSIR program.		
Non-formal education programs: In this case the “Forsa for All” program which aims to ensure that every young person has access to quality education, training or employment by 2030, and the “Child to child” operation which aims to raise awareness among external educational actors, authorities and civil society, as well as among students and families, on the subject of non-enrolment and dropping out of school.		
“Génie” program the aim of this program is to integrate information and communication technologies into the educational system.		
National Program of Inclusive Education for Children with Disabilities: it aims to provide access to education for all, decent employment and leave no one behind. The coverage rate of schools should reach 100% in 2028.		
The 2021 National Strategy for Vocational Training: It aims to guarantee the right to vocational training, to improve the competitiveness of companies, to maximize professional integration, to integrate national education and vocational training, and to strengthen the governance of public vocational training policy.	Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research: Department of Vocational Training.	SDG4: Quality education.
Qualification program for professionals in the care of people with autism RAAFIQ 2019 - 2021 it aims to train 180 experts and 3600 professionals who practice in the fields of education, health and social care.	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family	SDG 4: Quality education

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
Literacy programs: They are intended for the population over 16 years of age who cannot read or write. They aim to reduce the rate of illiteracy to 20% by 2021 and to reach 10% by 2026.	Head of Government: National Agency for the Fight against Illiteracy.	SDG4: Quality education.
Continuing education program for religious workers: The objective is to help the laureates of the Mohammed VI Institute for the Training of Imams, Mourchidines and Mourchidates to carry out their tasks, and to develop their professional capacities and skills.	Ministry of Habous and Islamic Affairs.	SDG4: Quality education.
Roadmap for the development of Vocational Training it aims to give a new impetus to the Vocational Training sector through the upgrading of the current system, the opening on new trades and target populations, the improvement of quality and the establishment of a new generation of multisectoral vocational training centers, multifunctional and regional (Cities of Trades and Skills) for a budget of 3.6 billion DH.	Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research: Department of Vocational Training.	SDG4: Quality education.
Strategy for the institutionalization of gender equality in the public service (2016-2020): It is based on the consolidation of structures dedicated to the promotion of equality in the public service, the integration of gender equality in the legal system and the anchoring of gender equality in the practices, behaviors and organizational culture of the administration. The expected rate of achievement of the program within the framework of institutionalizing gender equality in the public service is 15% in 2021, 15% in 2022 and 20% in 2023.	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform: Department of Administration Reform	SDG5: Gender equality.
Governmental Plan for Equality “ICRAM 2 , for the period 2017-2021. It aims to strengthen women’s employability and economic empowerment, promote women’s rights in relation to the family, protect women and promote their rights, and strengthen women’s participation in decision making. The rate of achievement of the objectives of the ICRAM2 Plan for the year 2021: 100%. Programs under the Government Equality Plan:	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family	SDG1: No poverty; SDG 5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG10: Reduced inequalities; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
1. The “Morocco-Attamkine” Integrated National Program for the Economic Empowerment of Women by 2030: It aims to achieve a 30% female employment rate, to double the proportion of women with vocational education, to be at the same level as men today 8% versus 4% today and to promote an enabling and sustainable environment for women’s economic empowerment, protecting and enhancing their rights. The expected rate of achievement of the measures scheduled under the “Morocco-Attamkine” program aims 30% in 2021, 45% in 2022 and 55% in 2023.		
2. The National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women by 2030 , the national strategy to combat violence against women and girls by 2030, which represents a variation of the objectives of “I CRAM2”, aims to consolidate and prevent violence and discrimination against women and girls; to strengthen protection against violence and discrimination against women and girls; to improve the system of care for women and girls who are victims of violence and to promote reporting; to put an end to impunity; and to ensure the reclassification and integration of perpetrators of acts of violence		
Musharaka Muwatina Program: It is a support program for civil society in Morocco financed by the European Union, which is part of the EU-Morocco action plan to support civil society organizations at the national and regional levels, with a special focus on youth and women. The priority themes of this program are youth, gender equality and the environment	Ministry of State in charge of Human Rights and Relations with Parliament	SDG5: Gender equality; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
“Mourafaka” Program (2015-2018): It is a post-creation support program for newly created cooperatives. The gender approach is one of the dimensions of this program, which favors activities that offer more opportunities for women to become involved in active life through the exercise of an income-generating activity, through the revival projects. This 5-year program aims to strengthen the capacities of 2000 newly created cooperatives (500 per year), which will improve and sustain the income of approximately 200 000 direct and indirect beneficiaries.	Presidency of the Government Council : Office for Development Cooperation	SDG5: Gender equality.
Program to set up an exceptional support system for cultural and artistic creation in 2020: This program aims to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the health emergency.	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.	SDG5: Gender equality
Interactive cultural and artistic program: It touches different forms of art, including music, theatre, reading, storytelling, writing, plastic art, drawing and Arabic calligraphy. It will focus on debates around a multitude of books, chanting of the Holy Quran, lectures and interviews. The program also includes regional, national and international meetings and forums, a space dedicated to the creations of children and youth, art and heritage exhibitions and master classes.	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.	SDG5: Gender equality
Marrakech Declaration 2020 to end violence against women signed under the effective presidency of Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Meryem, on March 8, 2020 in Marrakech, with commitments to fight against violence against women, to define the Protocol of care for women victims of violence specific to each region, and to put in place joint initiatives to end early marriage, to develop the chain of social protection centers for sheltering WFs, to Ensure free medical certificates and medical treatment for women victims of violence.	Under the effective presidency of Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Meryem, President of the National Union of Women of Morocco (UNFM)	SDG1 : No poverty; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
“MIN AJLIKI” Program: The Min Ajliki program is a Belgian-Moroccan program to support women’s entrepreneurship in Morocco that was piloted from 2013 to 2016 in three regions (Grand Casablanca, Meknes-Tafilalte and Tanger-Tétouan with the aim of promoting entrepreneurial activities, developing a training program for women.	The APEFE (Association for the Promotion of Education and Training Abroad)	SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth.
Three-year training program (TAKAFOUL): developed within the framework of the implementation of the project “Support for the reinforcement of the fight against violence against women and the availability and quality of services” in favor of human resources working in the care chain of women victims of violence. It aims to strengthen the mastery of the normative and legal framework of women’s rights at the national level and to strengthen the skills related to the care of women victims of violence.	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and the Family	SDG1 : No poverty; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth.
National Program of Mutualized Liquid Sanitation and Reuse of Treated Wastewater (PNAM): the objectives of the PNAM have been revised to 2040 as follows: - Continued investment in cities and urban centers to achieve 100% connection and depollution rates in urban areas; - Equipping 1 207 rural centers, the main towns of the communes with liquid sanitation systems to achieve a connection rate of 80% and a depollution rate of 60%; - Mobilizing a potential of 573 M m ³ of treated wastewater per year.	Department of the Interior	SDG3: Good Health and Wellness; SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation; SDG 11 sustainable cities

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Water Plan 2020-2050: It is a roadmap to meet future challenges in water resources management and conservation. It aims, among other things, the rationalization of the consumption of this resource and the development of supply through the mobilization of non-conventional resources and the strengthening of the hydraulic infrastructure. (Construction of 30 new large dams by 2050).	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG2: Zero Hunger; SDG3 : Good Health and Wellness; SDG4: Quality Education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG6: Clean water and sanitation ; SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 11 Sustainable Cities; SDG13: Climate action.
National Drinking Water Supply and Irrigation Program 2020-2027: It aims primarily to accelerate investment in the water sector, especially in regions characterized by a water deficit, through the development of the supply of conventional and non-conventional water resources, securing and strengthening the supply of drinking water in urban and rural areas, rationalizing the consumption of irrigation water and improving the performance of drinking water distribution networks. The investments of this program are estimated at 115 billion DH.	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water Ministries of Agriculture	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG2: Zero hunger; SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG4: Quality education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG6: Clean water and sanitation ; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth SDG 11 sustainable cities; SDG13: Climate action
National energy strategy 2030 which is based on five main axes: a diversified and optimized mix based on reliable and competitive technological choices; mobilization of national resources by increasing the use of renewable energies to reach a share of 52% of electricity production in 2030; energy efficiency, which is a national priority, to achieve energy savings of 15% by 2030 compared to the trend; regional integration through the strengthening of interconnection and regional cooperation; and finally sustainable development. This strategy aims at security of supply and availability of energy; widespread access to energy at affordable prices; demand management and environmental preservation.	Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment	SDG7: Clean and affordable energy.
National Port Strategy to 2030: This strategy constitutes a prospective, comprehensive and coherent framework for the harmonious development of the Kingdom’s ports, a key link in the logistics chains of external trade and an important lever for the economic and social development of the country. It is based on the development of 6 port poles covering the entire Moroccan coastline.	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure; SDG14: Life below water.
National Civil Aviation Strategy “AJWAE”: It aims to transport 70 million passengers and 182 000 tons of cargo by 2035, in addition to strengthening aviation safety and security, environmental protection and development of space and air traffic.	Ministry of Tourism, Handicrafts, Air Transport and Social Economy	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Employment Strategy: The central objective of the NES for the period 2015-2025 is to promote decent employment through growth that is rich in productive and quality jobs, increasing the participation of young people and women in the labor market, strengthening equality in access to employment, and reducing territorial disparities in employment. The general budget of the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Integration amounts to 569 140.000 DH for the year 2020 of which 31.86% for the investment budget.	Ministry of Economic Inclusion Small Business Employment and Skills	SDG 5: Gender equality; SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG 10: reduced inequality; SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
Executive Program of the National Employment Promotion Plan 2019-2021 devoted a series of measures to promote the situation of women and its economic empowerment through employment programs provided by the National Agency for the Promotion of Employment and Skills (ANAPEC), as well as by improving working conditions in productive enterprises by 2021.	Ministry of Economic Inclusion Small Business Employment and Skills	SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG 10: reduced inequality; SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions;
National Financial Inclusion Strategy provides equitable access for all individuals and businesses to formal financial products and services (transactions, payments, savings, financing and insurance) for use according to their needs and means.	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth
Program for Innovation in Clean Technologies and Green Employment (Cleantech Morocco): The objective of the Program is to promote green jobs by supporting innovations in clean technologies and green entrepreneurship through the organization of annual competitions to reward the most innovative projects, and the establishment of a program of acceleration and personalized support for projects related to the Recovery of Waste, the Rational Use of Water, Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and Green Building	Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment: Department of the Environment	SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG13: Climate action.
“Supporting youth entrepreneurship in Morocco - Aji-” Program: It aims to promote the entrepreneurial spirit of youth, improve the entrepreneurial capacities of the targeted youth and improve the employability of youth.	Ministry of Economic Inclusion Small Business Employment and Skills	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth.
National Occupational Health and Safety Policy (2020-2024): It is based on four strategic orientations: the development of a national system of occupational safety and health, the strengthening of governance and social dialogue, the promotion of the culture of prevention and the development of training in occupational safety and health. These orientations are broken down into 22 objectives, the achievement of which is based on 70 actions and measures to be undertaken in all aspects of occupational health and safety.	Ministry of Economic Inclusion Small Business Employment and Skills	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
Industrial Recovery Plan (IRP) 2021-2023 post Covid-19. This plan is articulated in three areas: reconquering new markets and industrial territories by using the public order as a catalyst; improving the competitiveness of Morocco; and decarbonizing industrial production	Ministry of Industry, Trade, and the Green and Digital Economy	SDG 8: Decent work and economic growth. SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
Program contract 2020-2022 for the revival of the tourism sector in the post-Covid-19 phase, which aims to give a strong impetus to the sector and instill a new dynamic to accompany its recovery and transformation. It is based on 3 major objectives to preserve the economic fabric and employment; accelerate the start-up phase; and lay the foundations for a sustainable transformation of the sector. The contract program is structured around the following 5 axes: the preservation of employment; economic and financial support for recovery; the stimulation of investment and transformation of the production tool; the activation and strengthening of tourism demand and finally the cross-cutting measures.	Ministry of Tourism, Handicraft, Air Transport and Social Economy.	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG12: responsible consumption and production.
Cultural recovery plan: It was programmed to combat the impact of the pandemic. It includes measures relating to social protection and business resilience through the digitization of the Artist Card, the contribution to the mutual insurance and the purchase of subscription from platform aggregators, the remuneration and employment conditions of artists, outsourcing to event agencies for the organization of certain festivals and strengthening the digitalization of culture.	Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
National Strategy for the Development of Scientific Research by 2025, which aims to raise the share of GDP allocated to scientific research to 3%;	Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research: Department of Higher Education and Scientific Research	SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.
Strategic vision for the period 2018-2022 developed by the National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST), in order to strengthen its position in the national research and innovation system. It includes six strategic axes which are : Strengthen the mechanisms of good governance; Support and finance scientific research and encourage excellence; Strengthen the national system of evaluation of the results of research and innovation; Promote synergies and encourage mutualization; Strengthen international partnership and cooperation in the field of scientific research; Contribute to the influence of national scientific research and improve its visibility.	National Center for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST)	SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.
New generation of support programs for industrial SMEs (NAWAT, TATWIR, ISTITMAR and MOWAKABA programs). The first part of this new generation consists of the reconfiguration, with more attractive support rates and simplified access and payment conditions, into two new programs ISTITMAR and MOWAKABA. In addition, two new programs to support SMEs have been set up. This is the program TATWIR for the benefit of industrial SMEs investing in promising sectors including those of green growth, industrial innovation and industry 4.0, and NAWAT program which focuses on support in terms of advice, expertise and technical assistance, for the benefit of VSEs, self-entrepreneurs and project leaders	Ministry of Industry, Trade and the Green and Digital Economy – Maroc PME (National Agency for the Promotion of SMEs).	SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
General guidelines note for the digital development in Morocco by 2025: It has three objectives: the digital transformation of the administration, aiming at a satisfaction rate of citizens and companies with regard to public services of more than 85%; to establish Morocco as a Digital & Technological reference Hub at the African level, with, in particular, a significant evolution in the United Nations Online Service Index (being part of the top 3 in Africa and being among the top 40 globally) and the installation of more than 2500 startups over the next 5 years, and finally, to put digital technology at the service of a more inclusive and egalitarian society with the reduction of the digital divide, training 50 000 young employable people and developing specific initiatives in sectors such as education, health, agriculture and the craft industry.	Ministry of Industry, Trade and the Green and Digital Economy: The Digital Development Agency (ADD)	SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG 17: Global Partnership for Development.
Rail Plan 2040: It aims to increase the number of passengers to 133 million per year, the development of new high-speed rail lines and the creation of new generation stations.	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water	SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG13: Climate action
National Road Safety Strategy: Launched in 2017, this strategy aims to reduce the number of road accidents and the number of fatalities to less than 1900 annually by 2025, a reduction of 50% compared to the current situation.	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
National Logistics Strategy: It aims to ensure a better flow of trade and contribute to attracting investment, optimizing urban logistics and improving the competitiveness of companies through the creation of logistics platforms for better coordination and distribution of freight between companies and between different modes of transport.	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water	SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG11: Sustainable cities; SDG13: Climate action.
National Program for the Integrated Development of Emerging Rural Centers: It is part of the government program (2017-2021). Its main objectives are to identify territories that have a set of development factors and are capable of managing the dynamics of the surrounding areas, to optimize public investment in these territories, to strengthen urban/rural links and to structure the rural environment around attractive development areas, to reduce the imbalances and socio-spatial inequalities between cities and the countryside, to improve the well-being of rural populations, and to set up governance mechanisms that give priority to partnership and contractualization.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG10: Reduced inequalities.
Strategies and Programs of Sustainable Development of Sensitive Spaces: The sensitive areas have been the subject of strategies and programs of sustainable territorial development (High Atlas, Anti Atlas and Massif Rifain) aimed at enhancing the territorial resources, improving the living conditions of mountain populations and preserving resources. Similarly, the Oasis of Tafilalet has been the subject of a program to combat desertification and poverty while safeguarding and enhancing its territories.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG10: Reduced inequalities.

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
Rural Social and Territorial Disparities Reduction Program (2017-2022): It aims in particular to open up rural populations and mountain areas and improve their quality of life and generalize access to basic services related to health, education, electricity, drinking water and rural roads.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG3: Good health and well-being for all; SDG4: Quality Education; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG9: Innovation and infrastructure; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities.
National Strategy for Urban Renewal: Its objective is to establish a vision of development and development of the land potential in existing fabrics and rationalization of land consumption.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG11: Sustainable cities .
National program "Cities without slums": It aims at eradicating all slums in urban centers, which concern about 421 699 households in 85 cities.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
Non-Regulatory Housing Intervention Program: Its objective is to improve the housing conditions of the least favored households	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
Program of intervention in the habitat threatening ruin: It is a program that consists in intervening in houses in danger of collapse and in old fabrics to allow the securing and the improvement of the housing conditions of the households.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
Program for the valorization of ksours and kasbah: The government aims to rehabilitate a dozen ksour and kasbah, improve the living conditions of their populations and raise awareness of private and public actors, as well as local populations on the potential of these sites and how to develop them.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
Social housing program (Housing at 250 000 Dh): Its objective is to enable households of different categories to access suitable housing	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
National Urban Framework Scheme (NUFS): Its objective is to inform decision-makers about the structuring and strengthening of the national urban framework, with a view to territorial equity and the reduction of disparities between urban and rural areas, as well as between regions.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 11: Sustainable cities

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
Low-cost housing program: The objective of this program is to set up new social housing production for the benefit of the most disadvantaged households.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
National Air Program (2018-2030): The goal of this program is to improve air quality.	Minister of Energy, Mines and Environment	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG 11 sustainable cities.
National Household Waste Program (PNDM): It aims to achieve a professionalized collection rate of 90% by 2022, to build landfills and recovery centers for household and similar waste in all urban centers, to rehabilitate all illegal dumps, to develop the "sorting-recycling-recovery" sector to achieve a 20% recycling rate of the waste generated by 2022, to generalize the master plans for all the provinces of the Kingdom and to train and raise the awareness of all the actors concerned. The total cost of this program amounts to a total of 40 billion dirhams.	Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Energy, Mining, and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG11: Sustainable cities; SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production.
Road plan 2035: It aims to develop a modern and resilient road network in order to meet the growing demand for travel and transportation and to satisfy the needs of connection between cities as well as the integration of the various regions of the kingdom in the economic dynamics.	Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water	SDG1: No poverty; SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG13: Climate action.
Urban Upgrading Program: It aims to address the spatial and territorial imbalances and disparities that exist within and between urban and peri-urban areas.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
Intervention programs in Ancient Fabrics: It aims to enhance and rehabilitate these fabrics, strengthen their attractiveness, boost economic activity and thus improve the living conditions of their inhabitants	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG11: Sustainable cities.
National Strategy for the Promotion of Small Town Competitiveness: It aims at the requalification and promotion of the competitiveness of small towns. It targets small towns in peri-urban areas, small towns in sensitive areas, small towns in productive areas and small towns in disadvantaged rural areas.	Ministry of National Territory Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	SDG11: Sustainable cities.
National Strategy for Urban Travel: The strategy aims to establish an efficient, high quality, least cost, environmentally responsible and financially sustainable urban transportation system, with priority given to public transit.	Ministry of Interior	SDG11: Sustainable cities

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Strategy for Natural Disaster Risk Management 2020-2030: It has three objectives covering all components of the disaster risk management cycle: improving knowledge and assessment of risks, promoting risk prevention to build resilience and improving disaster preparedness for early recovery and effective reconstruction. For its implementation, the SNGRCN is broken down into two action plans: (i) a 2021-2023 Priority Action Plan, which highlights the various actions that must be carried out within a period of no more than three years; and (ii) a 2021-2026 Operational Plan based on five main areas, with 18 programs divided into 57 projects.	Ministry of Interior	SDG1: No poverty; SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. SDG11: Sustainable cities; SDG13: Climate action.
Waste recovery strategy: It aims to reduce the environmental impacts of current landfills and the greenhouse gas emissions generated, through the implementation of an economic model for waste treatment and recovery, adapted to the Moroccan context. By 2030, this strategy calls for a 45% reduction in the amount of waste to be discarded in landfills and waste recovery centers (CEV); the development of viable recycling and recovery industries for household waste; and the establishment of 10 to 12 biomechanical waste treatment platforms (MBT).	Ministry of Interior	SDG11: Sustainable cities; SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production; SDG13: Climate action.
Plan for the exemplarity of the Administration: It aims to generalize environmental approaches within public buildings; encourage the use of energy efficiency technologies and the rationalization of water use; include public administrations in the logic of waste management and recovery; increase the share of environmentally friendly cars (hybrid or electric) in the Administration fleet by 30%; promote sustainable and responsible public procurement.	Ministry of Energy, Mining, and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production.
National Climate Plan 2030: It addresses adaptation measures for Morocco's key ecosystems and sectors. It also coordinates the various sectoral initiatives on climate change mitigation. In order to strengthen climate policy and ensure that the national climate vision is achieved, the NCP has the following 5 strategic pillars to establish a strengthened climate governance; To strengthen resilience in the face of climate risks; To accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy; To include territories in the climate dynamics; To strengthen human, technological and financial capacities.	Ministry of Energy, Mining, and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG13: Climate action.
Strategy and Action Plan for a Plastic Free Coastline: They aim to address marine pollution generated by plastic waste carried by land-based sources. A National Plan and the promotion of circular economy models are being prepared. Within this framework, a mapping of hotspots and sensitive areas has been carried out to prioritize fragile territories. A consultation process has also been launched with stakeholders to reduce the production of plastic waste at source and promote the recovery of plastic waste.	Ministry of Energy, Mining, and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production; SDG14: Life below water.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Strategic Adaptation Plan 2020-2030: It is an instrument for socially inclusive adaptation planning while supporting priority adaptation actions in sectors and ecosystems most vulnerable to climate. It is structured in five axes, namely the consolidation of the governance of the plan; the improvement of information and climate knowledge; the assessment, prevention and reduction of vulnerabilities and climate risks; the resilience of resources and sensitive ecosystems and the resilience of production sectors.	Ministry of Energy, Mining, and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG1: No Poverty; SDG2: Zero Hunger; SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG4: Quality Education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG6: Clean water and sanitation; SDG7: Clean and affordable energy; SDG9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG11: Sustainable cities; SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production; SDG13: Measures related to the fight against climate change; SDG14: Life below water; SDG15: Life on earth.
Updated National Determined Contribution (NDC-Morocco) 2021- 2030 the updated NDC revises upwards the targets of the first version of the NDC by presenting a target of 45.5% by 2030 including an unconditional target of 18.3%. It includes 61 mitigation actions, of which 34 are unconditional and 27 are conditional on international funding. The total cost of mitigation actions in the NDC is estimated at US\$38.8 billion, including US\$21.5 billion for conditional actions.	Ministry of Energy, Mining, and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG13: Climate action.
Halieutis Strategy (2009-2020): It is based on three principles: sustainability, performance and competitiveness. A set of actions and projects, namely the national program of coastal development, the fisheries management plans, IBHAR, the development of aquaculture.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests: Department of Marine Fisheries	SDG2: Zero Hunger; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG14: Life below water.
Environmental education and sustainable development program: It focuses on the establishment of environmental clubs in schools, youth centers and associations by providing them with audiovisual and computer equipment and teaching aids to promote the values of eco-citizenship among young people.	Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment - Department of Environment	SDG4: Quality education; SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production; SDG13: Climate action.
Civil society partnership program: It focuses on financing associative projects through calls for projects in the field of environment and sustainable development; on organizing annual training sessions for associative executives in the 12 regions of the Kingdom; and on the participation of associations in the consultation and monitoring processes of the implementation of the strategic and operational sites registered within the framework of the national environmental policy.	Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment - Environment Department	SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production; SDG17: Partnerships to achieve objectives.
Strategy to fight against crime, all forms, including poaching and illegal trafficking of protected plant and animal species, initiated by the Directorate General of National Security (DGSN) under the Ministry of Interior.	Ministry of Interior	SDG 15: Life on earth.

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
Strategy “Forests of Morocco 2020-2030”: It is a long-term project, which aims to create an inclusive, sustainable and wealth-creating management model and to reconcile Moroccans and the forest. It aims to meet the objectives related to stopping deforestation and aims to recover 30 years of forest degradation. It is based on 5 axes, namely sustainability by respecting the red line of forestry capacities and preserving all natural resources; the participation of users in a shared management; the production through the mobilization of productive potential encouraged by the private sector; the safeguarding of natural heritage and finally consider the forest areas as a development territory.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests.	SDG 15: Life on earth.
National strategy for the development of oasis areas and the argan tree: It aims to rehabilitate 200 thousand hectares of argan forest and 48 thousand hectares of palm grove and the extension of 17 thousand hectares of new palm groves. All these actions are undertaken within the framework of program contracts concluded between the State and professionals for the phoeniculture and argan tree sectors.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests.	SDG 15: Life on earth.
National Action Plan for Democracy and Human Rights 2018- 2021: It aims to consolidate the process of political reform, institutionalize the protection and promotion of human rights and encourage initiatives that contribute to the emergence of a participatory democracy.	Ministry of State in charge of Human Rights and Relations with Parliament – Inter-ministerial Delegation for Human Rights	SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 2: Zero hunger; SDG 3: Good health and well-being; SDG 4: Quality education; SDG 5: Gender equality; SDG 6: Clean water and sanitation ; SDG 7: Sustainable energy for all; SDG 8: Decent work; SDG 11: Sustainable Cities; SDG 13: Climate action; SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions; SDG 17: Global Partnership for Development.
National Plan for the Reform of the Administration 2018-2021 it aims to establish an administration at the service of the citizen and the company, responsible for the continuity of public services subject to quality standards.	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform	SDG5: Gender equality; SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions;
Integrated Public Policy for the Promotion of the Rights of People with Disabilities (2015-2025) which consists of several provisions allowing people with disabilities access to their fundamental rights in the areas of education, teaching, prevention, medical protection, training, professional integration, accessibilities and facilitating their active participation in social and economic life (sports, cultural and recreational activities). It is implemented through a 2015-2021 action plan, made up of 6 axes and 350 targeted actions.	Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family	SDG 1: No Poverty; SDG 3: Good health and well-being for all; SDG 4: Quality education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG10: Reduction of inequalities; SDG 16: Justice and peace.
Strategy of the General Delegation of the Penitentiaries and Reinsertion Administration which aims at the establishment of a public administration that contributes effectively to the prevention of recidivism and the achievement of national objectives related to the safeguarding of peace and internal security while promoting the consecration of a democracy and justice in accordance with universal values.	General Delegation of the Penitentiaries and Reinsertion Administration	SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions;

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES AND THE SDGs

Strategies and programs	Responsible departments	SDGs covered
National Anti-Corruption Strategy aspires to strengthen integrity and significantly reduce corruption by 2025.	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform: National Anti-Corruption Commission (CNAC)	SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
National Strategy of Immigration and Asylum: It has four objectives, namely to facilitate and ensure the integration of legal immigrants; to upgrade the regulatory framework; to upgrade the institutional framework and to manage migration flows within the framework of a coherent, comprehensive, humanistic and responsible policy, and in respect of human rights. For the implementation of this strategy, 27 specific objectives and 81 actions have been defined within the framework of its 11 programs, focusing on education and culture, youth and sports, health, housing, social assistance, vocational training, employment, management of flows and the fight against trafficking, international cooperation and partnerships, the regulatory and conventional framework, and governance and communication.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG4: Quality education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG10: Reduced inequalities; SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
National Strategy for Moroccans of the World: It is based on three objectives: the preservation of the Moroccan identity of the Moroccans of the World, the protection of their rights and interests and the reinforcement of their contribution to the development of the country and the promotion of its image, its values and its culture abroad. It is broken down into 10 specific objectives, 8 programs (6 sectoral and 2 transversal), 40 projects and 106 actions.	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates	SDG3: Good health and well-being; SDG4: Quality education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG8: Decent work and economic growth; SDG10: Reduced inequalities; SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.
Charter for the reform of the judicial system aims mainly at consolidating the independence of the judiciary, moralizing the judicial system, increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of justice, developing the institutional capacities of the judicial system and modernizing the judicial administration and strengthening its governance.	Ministry of Justice	SDG 5: Gender equality; SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
ADII's new strategic plan (2020-2023) designed around 6 strategic objectives broken down into 31 projects, aims to support local production, maintain the fight against informality, strengthen the anchoring of digitalization and improve governance and quality of service.	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform – Customs and Excise Administration	SDG17: Partnerships to achieve objectives.
Gender Mainstreaming Strategy for Environment and Sustainable Development (launched in 2018): aims at mainstreaming gender into Environment and Sustainable Development programs and action plans in Morocco. In this way, it contributes to the country's efforts to achieve economic, social and environmental gender equality.	Ministry of Energy, Mining and Environment	SDG5: Gender equality; SDG13: Climate action.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

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AAA	Adaptation of African Agriculture
ADD	Digital Development Agency
ALCS	Association for the Fight Against AIDS
AMPCC	Moroccan Association of Presidents of Communal Councils
ANAPEC	National Agency for the Promotion of Jobs and Skills
ANRT	National Telecommunications Regulatory Agency
APALD	Authority for Parity and the Fight against all forms of Discrimination
ARAMAL	Former Resistance fighters and Former Members of the Liberation Army
CDN	Nationally Determined Contribution
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CEV	Landfill and Recovery Centers
CGEM	General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises
CIP	Cultural Heritage Interpretation Centre
CITES	International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CN	National Communications
CNCCDB	National Commission on Climate Change and Biological Diversity
CNPECFVV	National Commission for the Care of Women Victims of Violence
CNSS	National Social Security Fund
COP	United Nations International Conferences
COVAD	Coalition for Waste Diversion
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DGSN	General Directorate of National Security
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EMF	Multifunctional Spaces for Women
ENBSE	National Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

ENCDM	National Survey of Household Consumption and Expenditure
ENPSF	National Survey on Population and Family Health
EU	European Union
FMDV	Global Fund for Cities Development
FP	Professional Training
FVC	Green Climate Fund
FVV	Women Victims of Violence
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPBM	Professional Group of Banks of Morocco
HCARAMAL	High Commission for Former Resistance Fighters and Former Members of the Liberation Army
HCP	High Commission for Planning
HIV-AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus-Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ICRAM 2	Governmental Plan for Equality Phase II
ILO	International Labor Organization
INBA	National Institute of Fine Arts
INDH	National Human Development Initiative
INN	Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
INRA	National Institute of Agronomic Research
ISO	International Standardization Organization
MBT	Bio-mechanical treatment of waste
MS	Ministry of Health
MVDIH	Voluntary Mechanism for Industrial Water Pollution Control
PAN-MCPD	National Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production
NCD	Non-communicable diseases
NHRC	National Human Rights Council

LIST OF ACRONYMS

NITC	New Information and Communication Technologies
NOC	Prenatal Consultation
OCP	Cherifian Phosphates Office
OFPPT	Office for Professional Training and Work Promotion
OPCW	Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
ONVEF	National Observatory on Violence Against Women
PAE	Active Employment Programs
PASMT	Medium-Term Sector Action Plans
PDA	Facilitated Landing Points
PDNGDD	National Master Plan for Hazardous Waste Management
PEA	Administration Exemplarity Pact
PEFCLI	International Climate Finance Expertise Program
PERG	Rural Electrification Program
PGE II	Governmental Program for Equality 2nd Phase
PIRLS	Progress in International Reading Literacy
PISA	Program for International Student Assessment
PLWHA	Person living with HIV/AIDS
PNDM	National Household Waste Management Program
PNPE	National Employment Promotion Plan
PNSA	National Strategic Adaptation Plan
RAMED	Medical Assistance Plan
RDF	Refuse- Derived Fuel
REEM	Reports on the State of the Environment of Morocco
RGPH	General Census of Population and Housing
SAMU	Emergency Medical Service

SIBE	Sites of Biological and Ecological Interest
SISTIF	Institutional, Strategic and Technical Support Program for the Integration, Preparation and Financing of local and regional projects adapted to climate change
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SNDD	National Strategy for Sustainable Development
SNE	National Employment Strategy
SNGRCN	National Strategy for Natural Disaster Risk Management
SNIA	National Immigration and Asylum Strategy
SNI-GES	National Greenhouse Gas Inventory System
SSE	Social and Solidarity Economy
TIC	Internal Tax on Consumption
TIMSS	Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study
UAF	Union of Feminist Action
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	United Nations Aids Organization
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNFM	National Union of Moroccan Women
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
VDP	Fishing Villages
WTO	World Trade Organization
WHO	World Health Organization

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