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المملكة المغربية
وزارة التضامن والإعماج الاجتماعي
والأسرة

KINGDOM OF MOROCCO
MINISTRY OF SOLIDARITY,
SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND FAMILY



Report of the Kingdom of Morocco

66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women

March 2022



MARCH 2022 - NEW YORK



CSW66

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

CLIMATE CHANGE • ENVIRONMENT
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

GENDER EQUALITY AT THE CENTRE OF SOLUTIONS





“With the frequent reports by climate change, it is confirmed for all, that the gloomiest predictions have become a bitter reality, thus humanity is faced with two options: either succumb to self-destructive inertia, or engage truly and resolutely in practical and prompt actions capable of bringing about a real change in the current path which has proven ineffective...

The changes that need to be undertaken in order to limit the repercussions of the climate crisis, are well known, and the international society cannot persist in hesitancy; rather, it should proceed to activate concrete solutions with a specific implementation agenda, supported by a strong political will to change the troubling course the world is heading towards”.

Excerpt from the speech of His Majesty King Mohamed VI at the twenty-sixth session to the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held on November 1, 2021, in Glasgow, Scotland.



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Introduction

The modern world is experiencing climatic changes as a result of the nature of human activity and patterns of production, which has wide implications on both human beings and nature, as this goes beyond the national level and extends to the global level. Consequently, climate change has become a phenomenon the effects of which cannot be underestimated, forcing the various countries of the world to take it into account as they develop their energy and economic, environmental, social and cultural policies.

The Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit in 1992 was a pivotal stage in the collective awareness of the issues of climate change. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was signed as a first step in addressing the problem of climate change, and today the Convention enjoys the membership and involvement of most countries in the world, with 197 countries ratifying it.

By 1995, countries had begun negotiations to strengthen the global response to climate change. Two years later, the Kyoto Protocol, committing developed country Parties to the goals of emission reduction, was adopted, the subject of climate change thus becoming an issue of global concern because it is linked to economic, social and environmental development, which requires collective thinking and commitment to reduce carbon emissions and a pattern of behaviour that takes the environmental dimension into account in its universality and transcends the narrow regional logic.

As an active member and major actor in the United Nations system, the Kingdom of Morocco was involved early in the development of strategies aimed at reducing the effects of climate change, through the adoption of sustainable development as a community project, and as a new and renewed development model. This commitment has been enshrined as a strategic option since 1992, during the First Earth Summit in Rio, Brazil, despite the fact that the Kingdom of Morocco's contribution to

greenhouse gas emissions is weak, as it is not classified as a polluted country, (only 0.16 of total emissions).

Continuing along the same path, and with a wise royal will, together with its fellow African countries, Morocco has engaged in confronting the negative repercussions of climate change through initiatives launched to adapt agriculture, security, stability, access to sustainable energy, as well as through the three African climatic, environmental, social, and cultural commissions, which emerged from the “African Action Summit” and which was held in November 2016 in Marrakech, and the Marrakesh Declaration to the United Nations Climate Conference (COP22), which advocates for climate justice for all on behalf of the African continent and all the peoples of the world.

The Kingdom of Morocco has also adopted an important legal arsenal and ratified several international conventions in this context, such as the three Rio conventions of 1995, the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on December 28, 1995. The Kingdom of Morocco also joined the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on January 25, 2002, as well as most of the subsequent multilateral conventions, including those relating to the marine environment, or hazardous wastes and chemicals, and those concerning heritage protection, or plant and animal protection.

Concerning the compatibility of the national legal arsenal with international conventions, the legal system has undergone a qualitative leap, with the enactment of a set of laws related to environmental protection, concerning the fields of energy (development of renewable energies), protected areas, plastics, the development of oasis areas and the Argan tree. In addition to a number of provisions and articles contained in Framework Law No. 99-12, which constitutes a national charter for environmental and sustainable development that explains principles, rights and duties, and defines the obligations to be respected

by all parties involved in this field, including the state, territorial collectivities, public and private enterprises and civil society.

A set of environmental provisions and rules was also provided for in the Constitution of the kingdom, aiming at establishing the legal basis for the protection of the environment at the national level, including the right to enjoy the environmental rights, and the actions of the state and institutions for citizens' enjoyment of the right to obtain water and live in a healthy environment.

In addition to human development by the State in order to preserve natural resources, the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, which provides counselling to the government and the parliament, expresses its opinion on the overall orientation of the national economy and sustainable development, as well as providing for a constitutional provision that commits the head of government to implement the procedures that the government adopts in the field of environmental policy within its program.

Both The Moroccan Government and Moroccan citizens have worked to keep pace with the various public policies undertaken to deal with the effects of climate disasters by creating competent regional interests to track and address these phenomena, such as regional observatories for the environment and sustainable development, and by enabling them to have well-developed information systems.

The Government has also been able to develop several public policy reforms in the area of gender approach and gender equality, an important course that has culminated in having today in Morocco several workshops on climate change and the protection of women's rights.

Within this framework and in accordance with the Government Program 2026-2021, the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Inclusion and the Family, in its quality as the government mechanism for coordinating policies and

programs on women's rights issues, has drafted a new strategy giving effect to equality, based on the integration of the gender dimension into all plans and programs, the development of a new generation of social services which adopts sustainability as a principle and relies on green approaches, clean energies and digitization in order to facilitate the integration of women and improve the condition of categories in vulnerable situations, and the economic empowerment.

In the same context, given that the main entry point for the development of societal gender climate policies is the establishment of a gender-responsive budget, the government of Morocco has taken the initiative of launching the budget since 2002 and has established the Centre of Excellence for the Gender Budget since 2013. This trend was reinforced by the promulgation of Organic Law No. 130.13 of the Finance Law of 2015, which emphasizes the institutionalization of results-based measures and takes into account the gender approach in setting goals and benchmarks in the programs of the ministerial sectors. It was stipulated that the Financial Law should be annexed to a report on the results-based budget from a gender perspective, an experience that has become a pioneer at the regional level and was highly acclaimed internationally. For that reason, the experience was transmitted to several countries, as the budget is one of the most important guarantees for women and girls, to get equitable access to basic rights and services and to benefit from them as equally as men.

In 2015, Morocco entered a new phase of applying the gender dimension in budgetary programming, when Article 39 of the Organic Law of the Finance Act committed government sectors and national institutions to underline their programs according to clear objectives and precise data, associated with concrete, reliable, and effective indicators that measure the outcome of the actions undertaken, especially at the gender level. This combines the mechanism of the public administration approach for the benefit of the development and improvement of women and men citizens' living conditions, and mechanisms for the preparation, conduct,

monitoring and evaluation of various public strategies and policies.

The context of attention to equality issues and their linkage to many areas called for the need to integrate gender into the various programs and policies created by governmental sectors and adapt them to the outputs of the new development model by stipulating the need for strengthening Morocco's multidimensional commitment to climate issues, and increasing the ambition of its nationally determined contribution to a 45.5% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030, as part of an integrated strategy for low-carbon development by 2050, establishing a sustainable, solidarity-based human society that upholds the values of equity and co-existence. The new development paradigm suggests, in this framework, focusing on a prosperous Morocco that creates wealth and job opportunities with improving its potential level; a Morocco of competences, where all citizens possess qualifications and a level of well-being that enables them to achieve their own projects and contribute to the creation of wealth; an inclusive Morocco that provides opportunities and protection for all and promotes social cohesion; a Morocco of sustainability, being committed to the preservation of natural resources in all areas of soil; a Morocco of audacity seeking regional leadership in specific future areas: training, research, and innovation, low-cost and low-carbon energy, digitization, capital markets.

In line with the sustainable development goals and with a view to strengthening the economic integration of Moroccan women and empowering them in the field of development, and in line with the orientations of the new development model of the Kingdom, the Moroccan Government has included this area among its main priorities in the Government Program 2021-2026 by raising the proportion of women's activity by year of 2026 to more than 30%, instead of 20%, so the Government Program has adopted major basic axes, which are manifested in strengthening the pillars of the social State, keeping pace with the transformation of the national economy in order to create jobs for all, good governance in the service of citizens through the

improvement of public services, and developing a program to reduce social and occupational disparities.

In this context, the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Inclusion and the Family, in partnership with government sectors and national institutions initiated the preparation of a national report on the efforts of the kingdom of Morocco on the theme “Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change policies and programs”.

This report is a key platform for the convergence of climate, environmental change and gender issues, with a view to mobilizing support and highlighting the challenges associated with their rights as actors in meeting current and future challenges.

Being Aware of this challenge, a national report was completed on the side-lines of the participation of the kingdom of Morocco in the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which shall be held from March 14 to March 25, 2022, highlighting six main themes, in accordance with the experts’ report. The first theme treats the sustainable development goals, the evolution of indicators of gender, environment and climate change. The second theme is focused on Moroccan policies on climate change, environment, disaster risk reduction and gender equality. The third theme is about the efforts of the kingdom in the field of empowering women and girls in light of climate and environmental changes, in addition to updated statistical data in this area. Whereas the fourth theme addresses the effects of climate, environment and disasters on gender-based violence, migration and displacement, and focuses on environmental and climatic factors and disasters and their impact on the phenomenon of violence, as well as the most important measures related to public policies to combat violence against women and girls, while recalling some of the risk and disaster models known in Morocco, such as migration, displacement and the Covid-19 crisis. The fifth theme was devoted to highlighting women’s participation in public

life and environmental decision-making, while the sixth and final theme revolved around a general discussion of the most important issues and challenges posed by the current reality.

It should be noted that the present report was prepared with the participation of all the sectors concerned. Consultative meetings were organized to share ideas and enrich the content of the report. These meetings included governmental sectors, national institutions (March 7, 2022), parliamentarians, the General Confederation of Enterprises of Morocco (March 9, 2022) and international associations and partners (March 11, 2022).





First theme:

**Sustainable Development Goals
and Development of Indicators of
Gender, Environment and Climate
Change**



First theme:

Towards achieving sustainable development goals and developing indicators of gender, environment and climate change

Based on the outcome evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for 2015-2000, the international community has participated in the “Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030”, which revolves around 17 goals, 169 goals and 231 indicators. The UN resolution, being the plan generator, calls on all countries to ensure systematic and participatory tracking of progress made in achieving these goals, whether at the national or regional levels.

As an active member of the UN system, the Kingdom of Morocco has actively engaged in consultations to define the global agenda related to the sustainable development goals, and has launched several major workshops and structural reforms aimed at building a sustainable Morocco, under the wise leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, particularly at the level of the rehabilitation of the national legal system, the development of infrastructure, the promotion of rights and freedoms, access to basic public services and the improvement of living conditions of the population. This, in addition to gender equality programs and policies, strategies and programs on climate and environment change, and disaster risk reduction, and in order to consolidate this path, HM the King, in his speech on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Throne Day, called for the renewal of the national development model, (July 30, 2019).

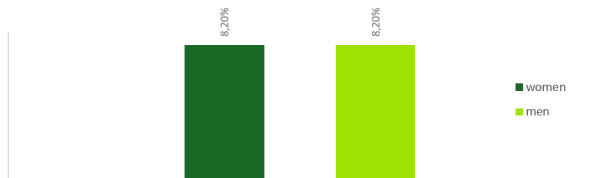
In order to identify the accomplishments and challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in which Morocco has made significant progress at the level of the 17 Goals, particularly with regard to the integration of gender into programs and policies in relation to the

development of indicators for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, this theme highlights the Kingdom's efforts to advance the Sustainable Development Goals related to the eradication of poverty, access to social services, the reduction of social disparities, the empowerment of women and girls, the promotion of gender equality, the protection of the environment and the rationalization of natural resources, in addition to renewable energies.¹

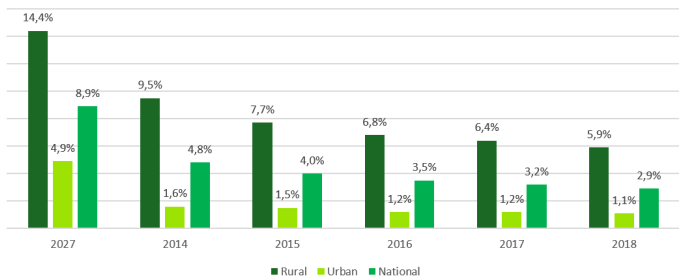
First goal: The eradication of poverty

Poverty indicators in Morocco have shrunk in national proportion: The rate of multiple poverty among women is 8.2% in 2014. The percentage of monetary poverty among women decreased from 14.4% in 2007 to 2.9% in 2018.

WOMEN WHO SUFFER POVERTY IN ALL ITS ASPECTS IN 2014



Development of absolute monetary poverty rate between 2007-2018 according to the environment (%)

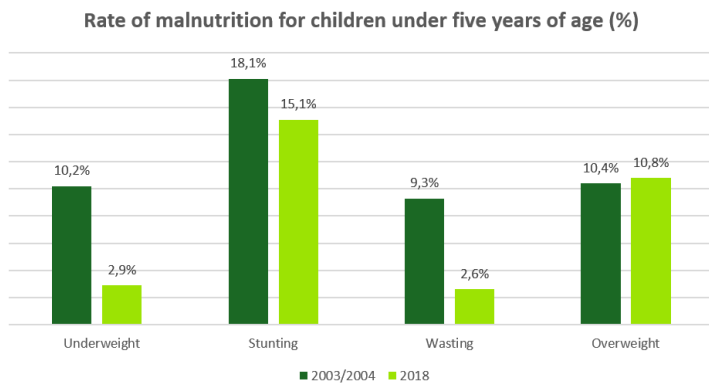


1. The report includes a detailed table on the indicators of the sustainable development goals, see Annex 1.

Second goal: The complete eradication of hunger

The nutrition rate of children under five years old has continued to improve. Between 2004 and 2018, the rate of underweight children decreased from 10.2% to 2.9%, and stunted growth decreased from 18.1% to 15.1%. In 2018, however, it remained twice as high in rural areas as in urban areas (20.5% versus 10.4%), with a more significant percentage for males than females (17.3% versus 12.7%). Wasting also decreased from 9.3% to 2.6%, while overweight was controlled at around 10.5% (12.3% for male and 9.2% for female)

Undernourishment is now only 5 per 10,000 for males and 7 per 10,000 for females (according to 2014 general statistics).

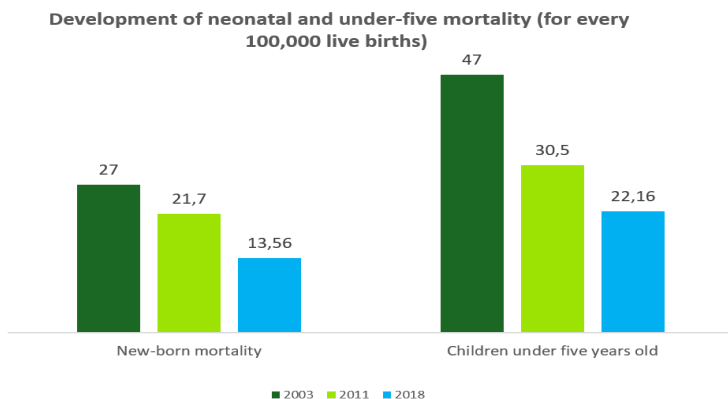
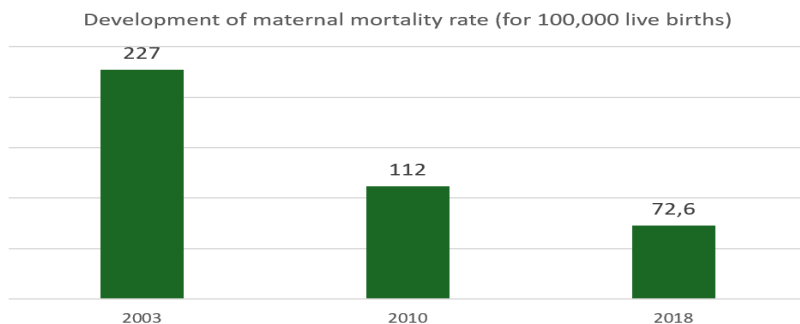


1.1.2 PREVALENCE OF MALNOURISHMENT FOR 2014

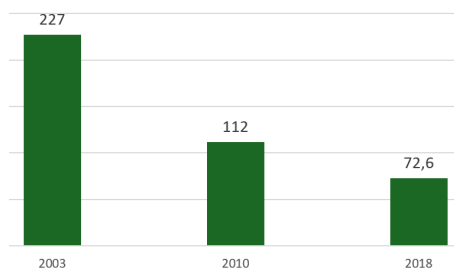
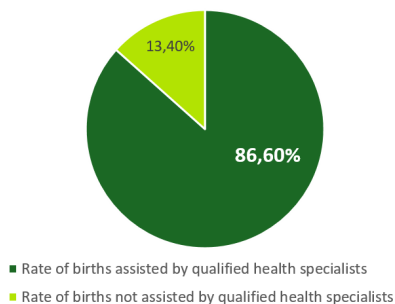


Third goal: Good health and well-being

The maternal mortality rate at the national level has been decreased from 112 for 100,000 live births in 2010 to 72.6 in 2020. This decline is attributed to the efforts of specialist doctors, as well as to the improvement of health services provided to mothers, especially the free distribution of all obstetric services in public hospitals.



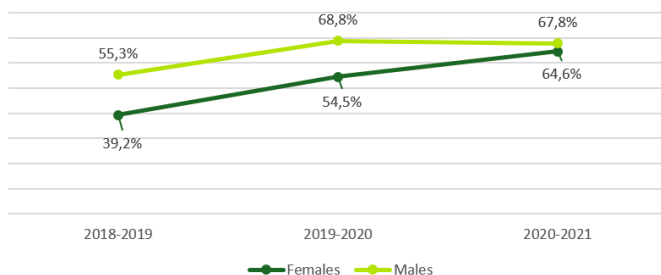
Rate of births assisted by specialists in 2018



Fourth goal: the Quality of education

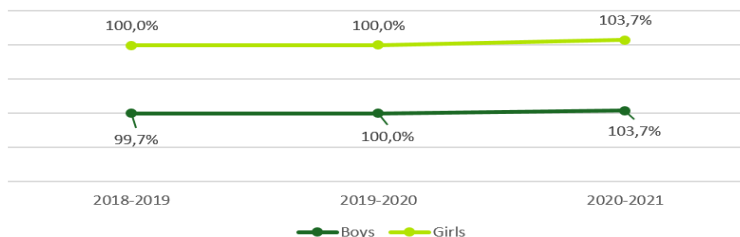
In recent years, the percentage of female students in primary education (age group 4-5) has shown a positive development, rising from 54.1% in 2018-2019 to 70.7% in 2021-2020 at the national level and from 39.2% to 64.6% in rural areas, an increase of 25.4 points.

Development of schooling rate of children (age group 4-5) in rural areas

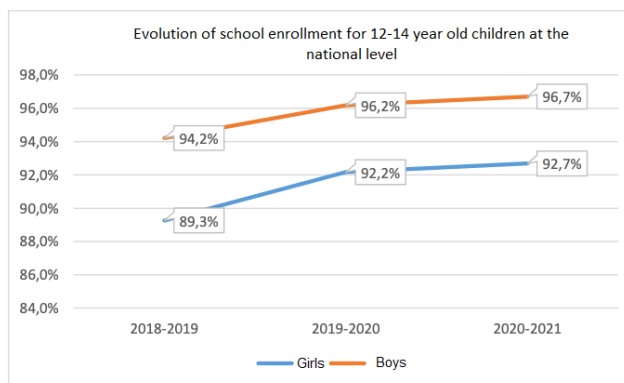


In the primary sector (age 6-11 years), the female schooling rate has shown a positive development in recent years. It has risen nationally, from 99.7 % in 2018-2019 to 103.7 % in 2021-2020, and from 103.3 % to 110.3 % in rural areas, i.e. a seven-point increase.

National rate development of school enrollment for the age category 6-11

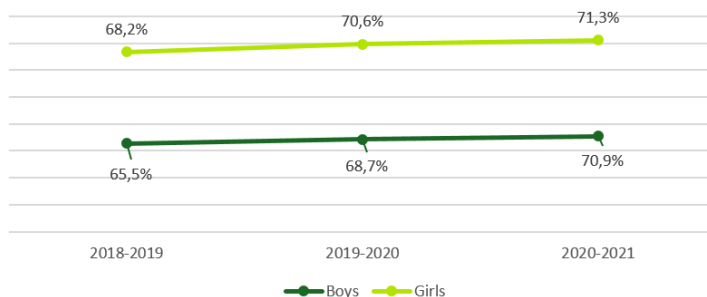


As for secondary preparatory schools, the percentage of female schooling (12-14 years old) between the two seasons in 2018-2019 and 2021-2022 developed positively, rising from 89.3% to 97.2%, an increase of 3.4 points nationwide. In rural areas, this percentage has increased from 75.8% to 80.1%, with a rise of 4.2 points approximately.



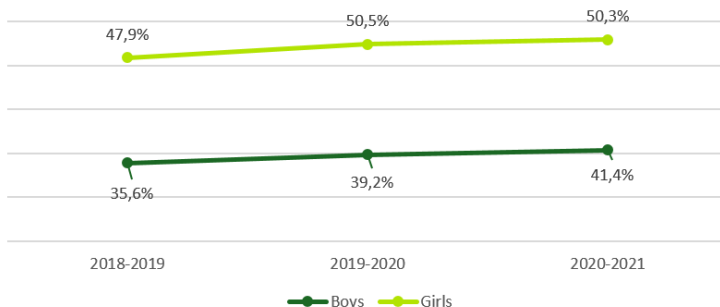
While for the secondary qualification cycle (age group 15-17 years), the rate of girls' schooling between the 2019-2018 and 2020-2021 academic seasons has shown a positive development, moving from 65.5% to 70.9%, an increase of about 5.4 points nationwide. This rate has also risen from 35.6% to 41.4%, an increase of 5.8% in rural areas.

Evolution of schooling rate for 15-17 year old students at the national level



Evolution of the schooling rate of students aged 15-17 years in rural areas

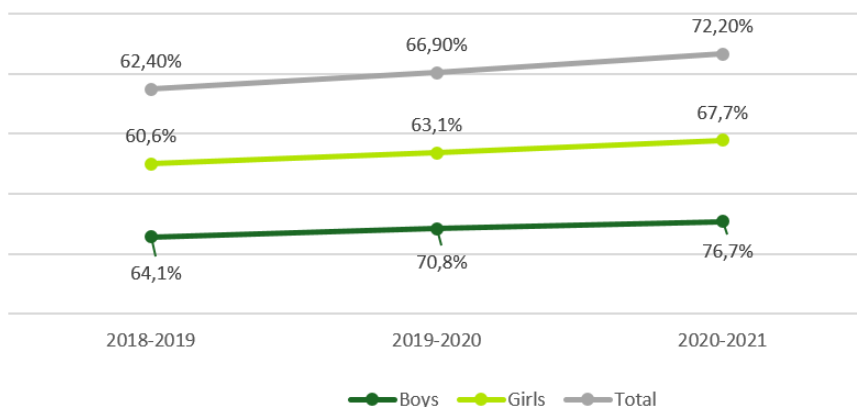
Evolution of the schooling rate of students aged 15-17 years in rural areas



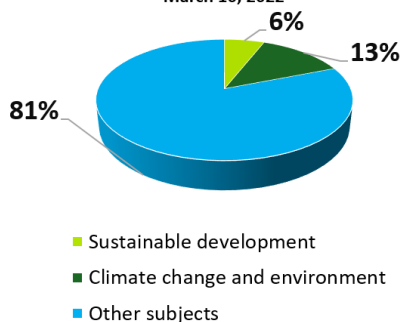
Regarding female success rates in the baccalaureate examination, they remain quite encouraging, given the high rate of female students obtaining the baccalaureate; the female success rate rose from 64.1% in the June 2018 session to 76.7% in the June 2020 session.

Evolution of the schooling rate of students aged 15-17 years

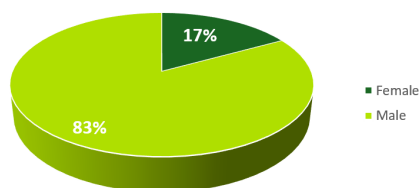
The success rate of females in the baccalaureate exam



Apportionment by subject of supported research as of March 10, 2022



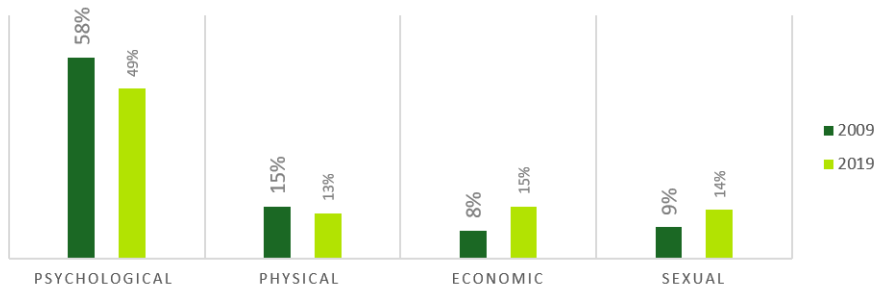
Distribution of Supported Research Coordinators by gender as of March 10, 2022



Fifth goal: Gender equality

According to the type of violence, the prevalence of psychological and physical violence decreased between 2009 and 2019, decreasing respectively, from 58% to 49% and from 15% to 13%. In contrast, the prevalence of both economic and sexual violence increased, moving respectively from 8% to 15% and 9% to 14%. The same trend was recorded in urban and rural areas, with the exception of physical violence, which increased in rural areas from 9% to 13%.

EVOLUTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACCORDING TO ITS FORMS BETWEEN 2009 AND 2019



THE INCREASE IN PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ALL ITS FORMS (BETWEEN THE AGE OF 18 AND 64)

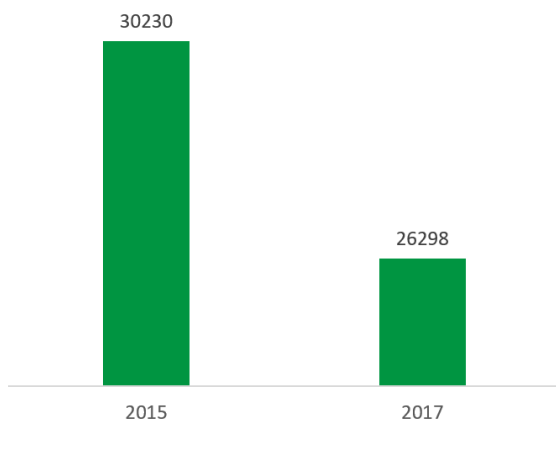


Percentage of women and girls who married in childhood



The number of marriages concluded among minors has also been decreased between 2015 and 2017, from 30,230 to 26,298, while according to the Report on the Implementation of the Criminal Policy of the Office of the Public Prosecutor for the year 2020, the number of marriage contracts decreased to 19,926.

Evolution of the number of contracts for the underaged between 2015-2017



	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Women	92.2%	93.4%	91.7%	92.5%	93.7%	94.9%
Men	95.5%	96.4%	91.7%	92.3%	94.5%	96.4%

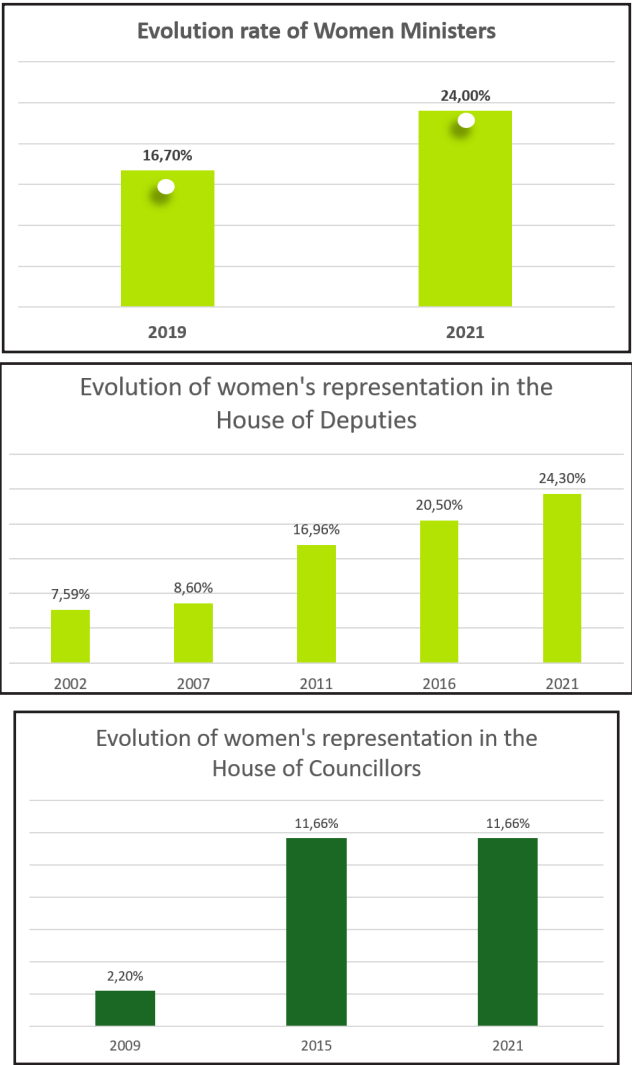
Source: Information and communications technology equipment and applications, 2020, ANRT

With regard to the proportion of people provided with mobile phone equipment, this percentage reached 93.4% for women and 96.4% for men, for the population over 5 years of age in 2016.

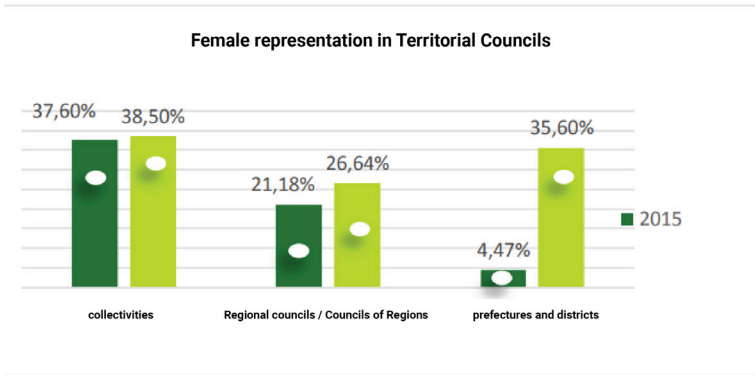
This percentage increased significantly between 2016 and 2020, with 94.9% for women compared to 96.4% for men, whereas it was equal in 2017.

Women's access to legislative institutions

Between 2002 and 2021, the representation of women in legislative institutions increased significantly at the level of the House of Deputies, the House of Councillors and the Territorial Collectivities. The percentage of women as ministers increased as well. The following data show the most significant developments:



The representation of women at the level of territorial councils has witnessed a positive evolution, especially at the level of prefectures and collectivities with a ratio of 4.47% in 2015 up to 35.6% in 2021.

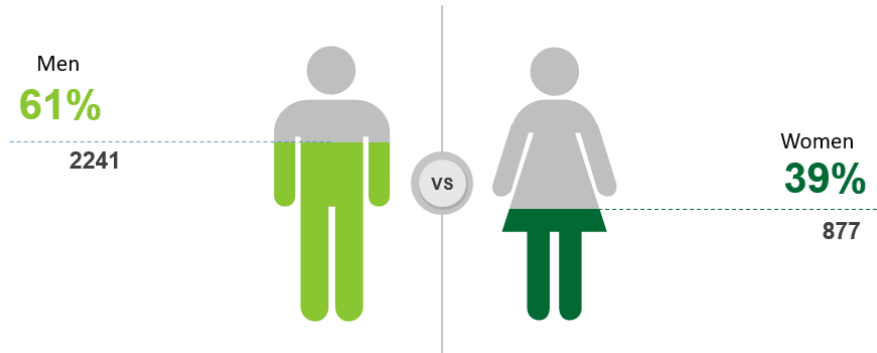


Morocco has known a remarkable improvement in the level of the feminization of public service compared to previous years, with 40% in 2019. The proportion of women in positions of responsibility was 23.27% in 2018 and 16.59% in senior positions. In 2019, the proportion of women in positions of responsibility rose to 24.5% and in senior positions to 17.2%.



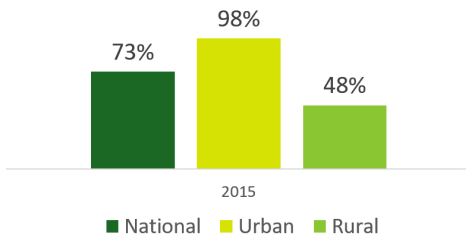
Organic Law 100.13 relating to the Supreme Council of the Judiciary stipulates that women judges must be represented among the 10 elected members, in proportion to their presence in the judiciary.

Rate of women in the judiciary

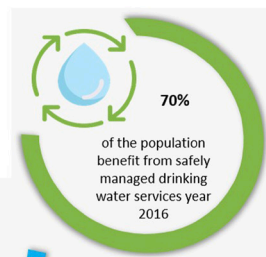
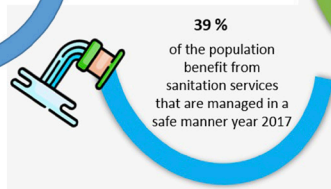
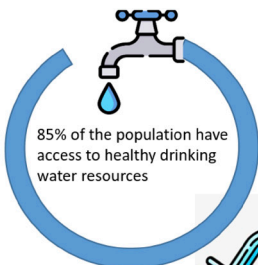
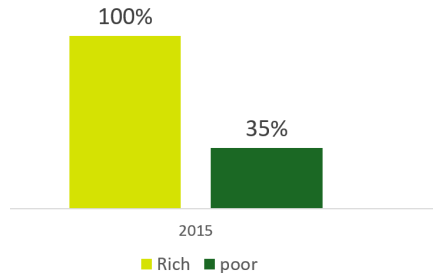


Sixth goal: Clean water and good hygiene

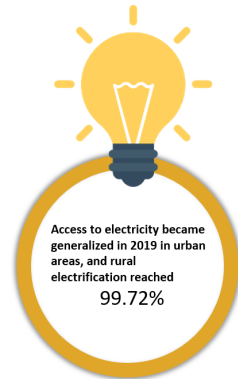
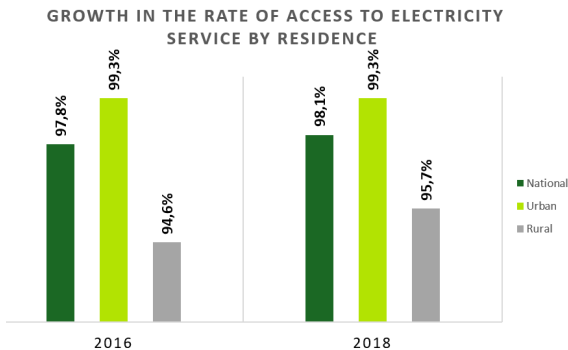
Population living in families using drinking water from healthy sources according to the geographical position



Population living in families using drinking water from healthy sources according to family status

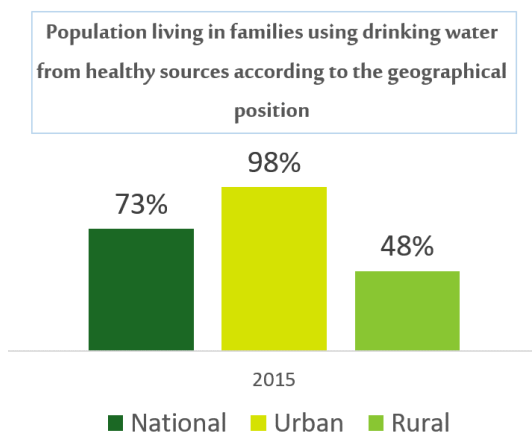


Seventh goal: Clean affordable energy



Eighth goal: Decent work and economic growth

The Kingdom of Morocco has attached great importance to the promotion of children's rights by launching numerous workshops designed to protect children from all forms of violence and exploitation, such as economic exploitation, and by providing in all national laws for the best interests of the child to be taken into account and for the school to be considered those children's natural place. The Labour Code criminalizes the employment of children under 15 years of age and prohibits the employment of children between the age 15 and 18 years of age in hazardous jobs, as stipulated in the conventions of the International Labour Organization. Besides, the Framework Law on Education and Training provides for compulsory education up to the age of 16. The legal system has recognized the entry into force of the Law on the Employment of Domestic Workers, which also criminalizes the employment of children in hazardous work, and the regulation of such work has been stipulated by decree, which has made it possible to achieve significant progress towards reducing child labour.

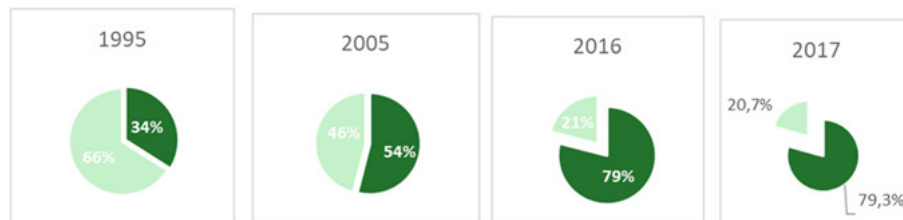


Despite the efforts made by the kingdom of Morocco to create employment opportunities through the launch of several strategies aimed at reducing unemployment among the population, especially among the youth, the unemployment rate, contrary to the national rate, has been high among women in recent years, due to several factors, namely: failure to account for women's contribution to domestic work.

Ninth goal: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

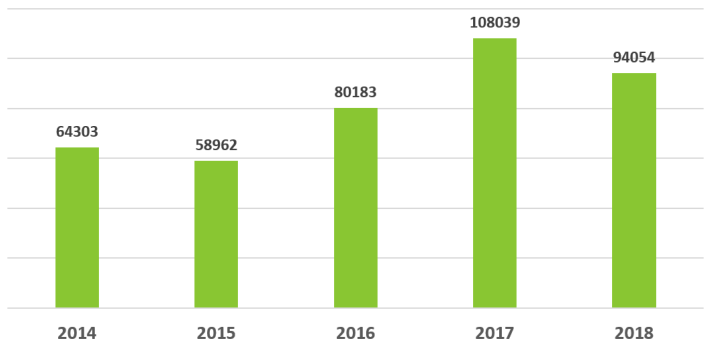
Rural road construction programs have helped to break the isolation of rural areas. The percentage of rural residents entering the road network in 2017 was 79.3%, compared to 54% in 2005.

Evolution of the rate of access of rural residents to the road network:



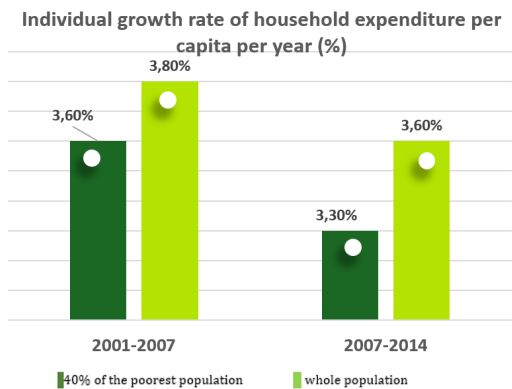
The various projects implemented within the framework of the Industrial Acceleration Program contributed to the creation of more than 405,000 job positions between 2014 and 2018, in which the percentage of women reached 49%, two years before the end of the program.

Evolution of creation of job positions (between 2014-2018)



Tenth goal: Reducing inequalities

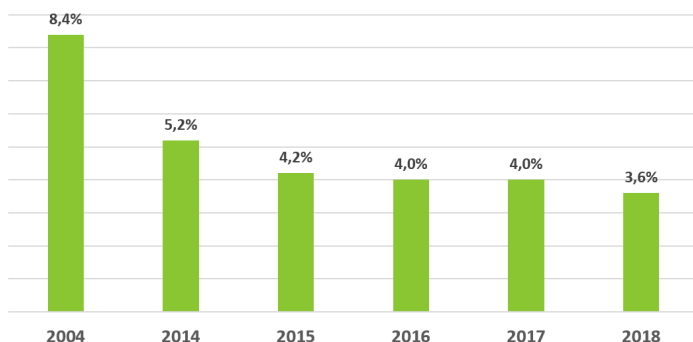
The chart below highlights the growth rate of household expenditure per capita per year, which was relatively high from 3.80% to 3.60% between 2014 and 2001:



Eleventh goal: Sustainable cities and communities

Efforts by the Kingdom of Morocco have made it possible to achieve significant gains, as reflected in the reduction in the housing deficit from 1.240.00 units in 2002 to 1 million units in 2007 and to 425.00 units in 2018. And also, in the constant decline of the proportion of primitive housing in cities from 8.4% in 2004 to 4% in 2016 and later in 2018 to 3.6%.

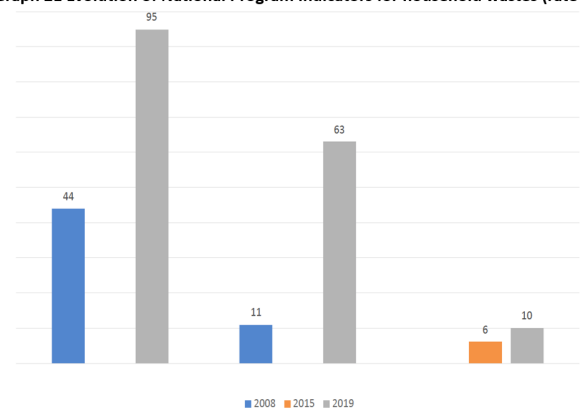
Evolution rate of primitive housing in urban areas (%)



Twelfth goal: Responsible consumption and production

The waste collection rate was 95% at the end of 2019 compared to 44% in 2008, while the landfill rate was 63% compared to 11% in 2008. The recycling rate was 10%, compared to 6% in 2015 thanks to the efforts of the Territorial Collectivities supported by both the Ministry of the Interior and Environment.

Graph 21 Evolution of National Program Indicators for household wastes (rate %)



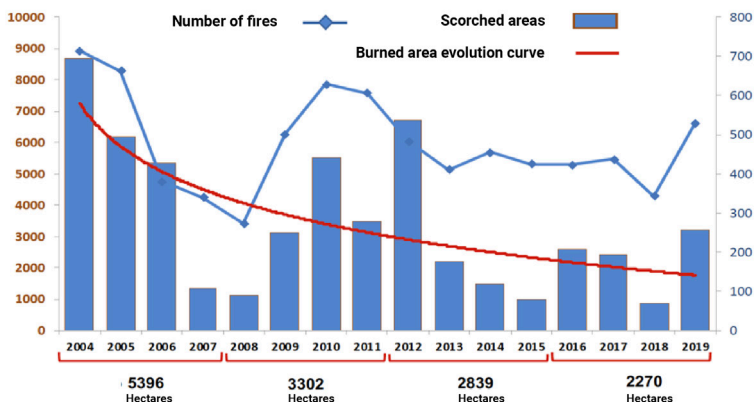
Waste collection rate: 44% - 95% Landfill rate: 11% - 63% Recycling rate: 6%-10%

Source: Ministry of the Interior

Income disparities, measured by the Gini index of the standard of living, showed a slight decrease from 40.6 % in 2001 to 39.5% in 2014.

With regard to the management of the risks of forest fires, great efforts have been made, in partnership with the relevant sectors, within the framework of the Administrative Plan for the Prevention and Control of Forest Fires in Morocco, aimed at preventing and mitigating the effects of this scourge on forest resources and property of the population.

Evolution rate of burnt surface in the Moroccan forest (Hectare)



The repair of the exceptional damage to the road infrastructure caused by the floods that took place in the country between 2008 and 2011, cost about 4 billion dirhams. Exceptional flooding in 2014-2015 also caused severe damage due to its impact on the national road network of the affected Collectivities, with repair costs of 1756 million dirhams during the winter session 2015-2014.

Number of injured or dead due to natural disasters				
2019	2018	2017	2016	Indicators
Floods				
38	4	4	26	Number of death
30	7	10	485	Number of wounded
Landslide				
15	1	0	5	Number of death
0	0	0	9	Number of wounded
Buildings collapse				
0	8	7	5	Number of death
0	6	3	22	Number of wounded

Fourteenth goal: Life under water

The most important achievements of the Kingdom of Morocco with regard to goal 14 are:

Integrating security, safety and port environment as a strategic focus by reconciling port protection with the marine environment and economic and social development, by applying national and international procedures in the management of waste and wastewater within ports, in accordance with the provisions of the Marpol International Convention;

Launching studies to diagnose coastal and marine conditions: assessing the vulnerability of the Moroccan coast to natural hazards and accidental marine pollution;

Protection and preservation of the Special Maritime Economic Zone

(ZEE) from acidification: this zone extends over 1.2 million square kilometres (a suitable area for traditional and coastal fishing, with a diversity of fish resources, 500 species, of which only 60 are exploited);

Launch of the national strategy for integrated coastal management.

Fifteenth goal: Life on land

At the level of Goal 15, concerning the reconstruction of forest ecosystems, Morocco has worked on the following:

- Introducing and continually consolidating an effective forest policy, using a participatory and integrative approach, for the sustainable management of forest spaces;
- Reforestation, regeneration and preparation of pasture lands of 35,000 hectares per year, according to an integrated approach based on the promotion of forestry research;
- Forest surveillance to monitor and intercept any external aggression;
- Improving the contribution of forests and forest products to the local economy, through the organization of forest users and chain products associated with forest activities.

Sixteenth goal: Peace, justice, and strong institutions

With a view to activating goal 16, particularly at the level of institutional and legislative reforms, the following have been achieved:

- Access to justice: a fundamental and comprehensive reform of the justice system, culminating in the adoption of the “Justice Reform Charter”;
- Fighting violence and guaranteeing rights: relying mainly on proximity to citizens to ensure better protection against risks and

to foster a preventive security system that promotes sustainable development and social peace;

- Morocco has launched the process of amending the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, in addition to strengthening the role of society, social policies and education in combating violence;
- Issuance of Law No. 103.13 to combat violence against women:
- Protection of freedom of opinion and expression: The promotion of freedom of opinion and expression is concerned with the legislative and institutional aspects. To this end, the Press and Publishing Act was promulgated and the National Press Council was established, which founded the mechanism for organization and promotion of the profession. The 2016 Law on the Status of Professional Journalism also strengthened the rights and freedoms of the journalist;
- Combating money-laundering: For nearly two decades, the Kingdom of Morocco has developed the necessary legal and institutional tools in the field of fighting money-laundering crimes, aiming to strengthen the national system to combat this phenomenon;
- Combating terrorism and illicit trafficking: Actively involved in combating terrorism, Morocco has intensified its efforts in this area, taking preventive measures, including reforming the religious sphere and strengthening international cooperation;
- Combating corruption: Morocco ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption in 2007 and has begun implementing its provisions through several legal and institutional reforms. A coordinated national strategy to combat corruption has also been developed;
- Preparation of a draft “National Action Plan for Women, Security and Peace”;
- Launch of the National Plan for Democracy and Human Rights.

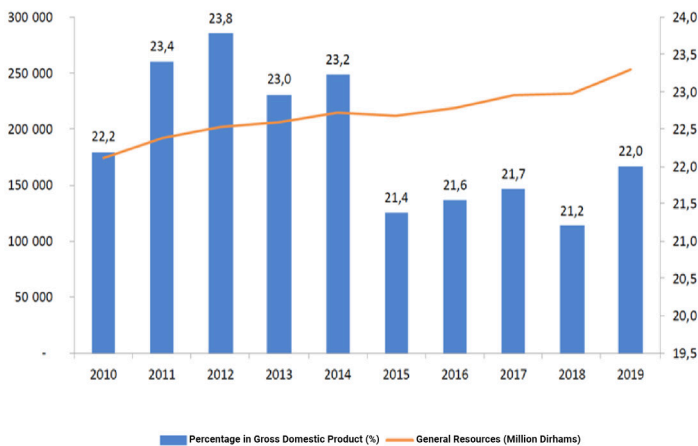
Seventeenth goal: Partnerships to achieve goals

Mobilizing domestic sources of finance is essential for achieving sustainable development goals. Between 2015 and 2018, the proportion of public resources in GDP stabilized at around 21% before rising to 22% in 2019.

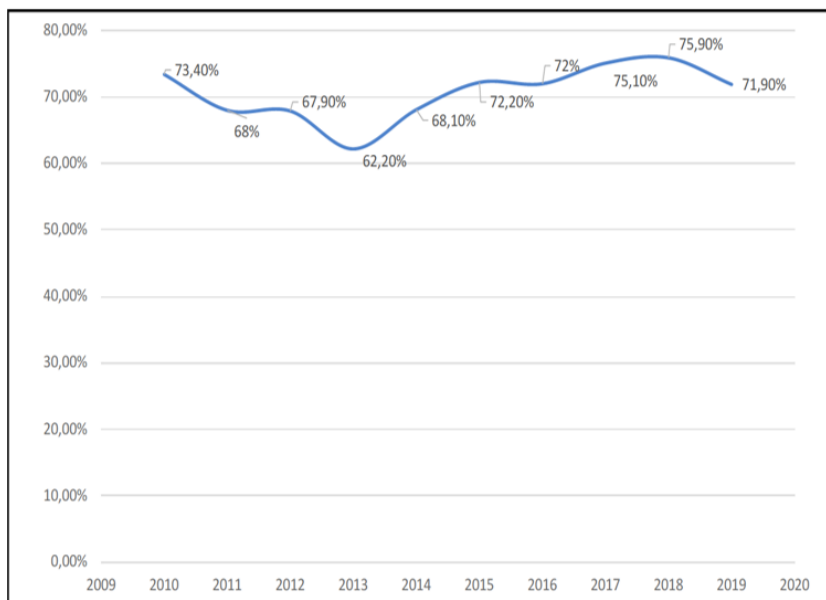
The proportion of fiscal financing of the national budget has achieved a general upward trend, moving from 68.1% in 2014 to 75.8% in 2018, before declining to 71.9% in 2019 due to non-tax resources.

Proportion of public resources in GDP

Proportion of public resources in GDP



Evolution rate of fiscal financing of the national budget through national taxes (%)







Second Theme

**Policies and programs on climate
change, the environment,
disaster risk reduction and the
goal of achieving gender equality
and empowering all women and
girls**



Second Theme:

Policies and programs on climate change, the environment, disaster risk reduction and the goal of achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls.

Over the past years, Morocco has reached a number of important achievements that have been accumulated in improving the situation of women and girls in the Moroccan society, whether in terms of a legal and legislative arsenal on the subject of women, as well as working to adapt it to the international conventions ratified by the Kingdom, or through other areas that take into account the gender approach in the preparation of sectoral strategies and policies and development programs.

Thanks to His Majesty's lofty initiative and instructions, the Government of Morocco, in its various sectors, has undertaken to elaborate several reforms in public policies in the field of gender and gender equality. This has been an important step, culminating in the availability of several development workshops in Morocco today aimed at promoting the various conditions of Moroccan women, including the field of the environment and climate change.

The context called for attention to equality issues and their linkage with many areas, especially with regard to climate change, the environment and natural disasters, the need to integrate gender into the various programs and policies launched by government sectors, in order to achieve a positive integration of gender and equality between women and men, as well as to activate the systematic approach aimed at unifying interventions and efforts.

1. Gender and water policy

For decades, Morocco has embarked on a well-defined and targeted water policy, characterized by the creation of numerous workshops aimed at promoting the provision of water to the various components of Moroccan society at all times and in all places, rural and urban, taking into account women and girls.

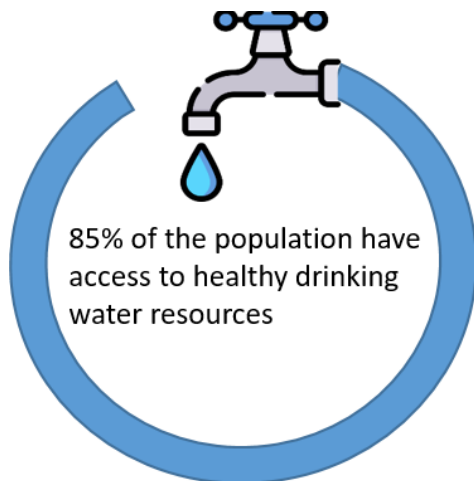
These investments are mainly concerned with the expansion of dams to raise the level of additional surface water mobilization, the program for the universal provision of drinking water to the rural population, the program for sanitation and the liquid disinfection in rural areas and the installation of flood protection facilities.

2. Integrating gender issues in the field of water²

The study on the strategy for the institutionalization of gender integration in the water sector, in partnership with UN-Women in Morocco, highlighted four strategic lines of action:

- a) Develop a permanent institutional capacity to ensure that gender equality is established in the water sector;
- b) Integrate gender approach into human resources management and promote equal access for women to positions of responsibility;
- c) Integration of gender equality in water occupations;
- d) Integration of the gender approach in programs and projects with sector partners.

2. For more information, see the report on the strategy for the institutionalization of gender integration on the official site of the Ministry of Equipment And Water. The last visit to the site was on February 24, 2022. URL: <http://www.equipement.gov.ma/ar/Actualites/Pages/Actualites.aspx?IdNews=2274>



Among the most important programs structured in the water sector, we mention:

- The Generalisation program for providing the rural population with drinking water:

The achievement of this program has made it possible to meet the set goals, with water supply in rural areas reaching 96.5% in late 2017 and 97.8% in late 2020. This brings the national proportion of women beneficiaries to 7 million, approximately. The programme alleviates the burden of collecting water for rural women and enables them to use their time in other income-generating occupations to help them achieve economic empowerment, as well as enabling girls to go to school.

- Sewage and liquid disinfection program in rural areas:

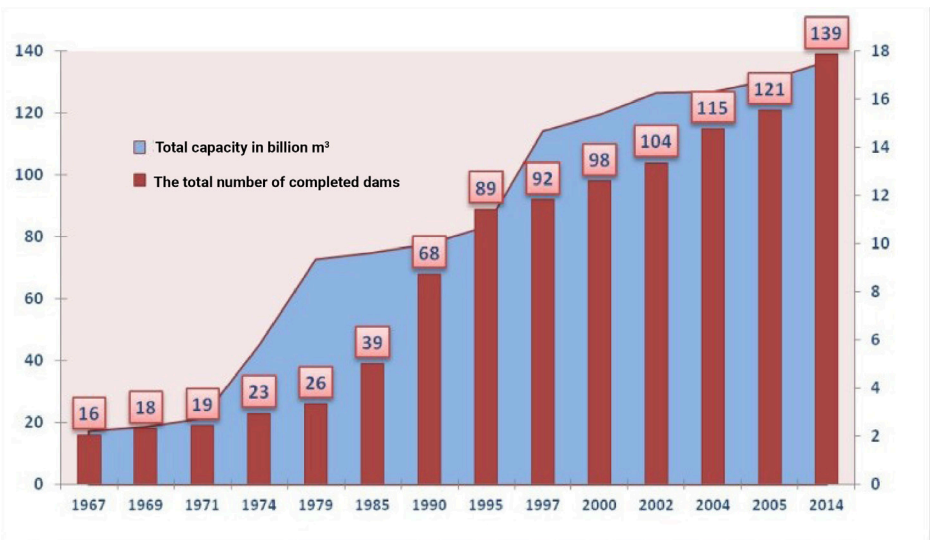
This program has contributed significantly to reducing water pollution and improving the living conditions of the rural population. It has also helped equip village schools with sanitary facilities and reduce school waste in rural areas, especially among girls. At the end of 2021, the percentage of female students in rural schools benefiting from this program reached 49%.

As for the construction of flood protection facilities, child transit corridors have been built to enable them to attend school. Some 605,000 women benefitted from flood protection at the end of 2021.

- Dam policy in Morocco

As part of its proactive approach, Morocco has undertaken a series of measures aimed at the preservation and provision of water resources, with the aim of achieving the sustainability of this vital substance and reducing the effects of climate change on the national economy and daily consumption.

In this context, the policy of building dams was adopted as one of the most important entry points to ensure water independence and security. Dams have become one of the most important sources of energy production in the Kingdom. From 2009-2020, Morocco constructed 23 large dams, at a total cost of 28.2 billion dirhams. The graph below shows the development of the number of important dams since 1967 and their total capacity:



Source: Water sector website

In the same context, the rationalization of water consumption is a key component of the National Water Strategy. Several relevant programs have been launched, including:

- National Irrigation Water Economy Program: The expansion of the irrigated area is envisaged using local irrigation techniques over an area of 550,000 hectares;
- Dam irrigation expansion program: The aim is to create new irrigated areas and promote irrigation within the existing water zone, covering an area of 130,000 hectares;
- Rehabilitation and maintenance program for small and medium market services: to improve the efficiency and profitability of traditional irrigation infrastructure in small and medium market circles;
- Program to promote public-private partnership in irrigation: The technical, economic and financial conditions for the management of the services of irrigation water are being improved through the implementation of new irrigation projects in the framework of public-private partnership.
- The National Program for the Supply of Drinking Water and Irrigation Water 2020-2027, at a total cost of 115 billion dirhams, with the main objective of ensuring that citizens have access to drinking water and, on the other hand, ensuring that the agricultural sector has a water supply;
- Projects for desalination of seawater and removal of minerals from saltwater, at the horizon of 2020, with a production capacity of 300,000 cubic metres per day, in particular in the cities of Laayoune, Dakhla, Sidi Ifni, Zagoura, Tarfaya, Tantan, Agadir, Al-Hoceima and Kkouribga;

- 2021: The seawater desalination project in Casablanca and its surrounding cities, with a capacity of 300 million cubic metres, is the largest plant on the continental level at a financial cost of approximately 10 billion dirhams.

3. Environment policy and sustainable development in Morocco

The Kingdom of Morocco has taken a series of measures to be able to cope with climate change and potential natural disasters, taking into account the gender dimension, as well as the involvement in proactive and preventive measures. Regional services specialized in the focus on these phenomena were created, such as regional observatories for environment and sustainable development, and the National Laboratory for Studies and Pollution Monitoring, which monitors air quality through a national network of currently 34 terminating stations, which will be strengthened in order to reach 140 stations in the 2030s. In this context, the Kingdom of Morocco has issued national and regional reports on the environmental situation, pursuing changes in environmental indicators and related aspects.

- Gender integration in environment and sustainable development³:

The gender integration strategy for environment and sustainable development is based on guidance designed to contribute to the achievement of the National Strategy for Gender Equality and Equity, in line with the objectives and programs of action of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, the inclusion of the principle of equality in the management of human resources and competencies, the establishment of gender unity and the consolidation of gender equality in practices and behaviours, programs and action plans in the field of

3. For more information, you can view the communication of the presentation of a strategy to institutionalize the integration of the gender approach in the State Secretariat in charge of sustainable development, on the official website of the Ministry of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development Sector - Rabat. The last visit to the site is February 12, 2022. <http://environnement.gov.ma/fr/plan/135-2014-02-15-13-20-12/1773-6-2018>

environment and sustainable development.

In order to lay the foundations for a green economy by 2020, the Clean Tech Maroc Innovation Support and Green Economy Promotion Program was launched in partnership with the Global Environment Fund and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to promote women's participation in achieving sustainable development. On the margins of the 22nd Climate Summit in Marrakech, six projects were selected to benefit from financial and technical support.

As part of the efforts undertaken at the national level to combat risks caused by climate change and natural disasters, a series of regulatory and technical precautionary measures have been taken to deal with the effects of these hazards, including the following:

- The preparation of the National Climate Plan 2020-2030 is based on the necessity of establishing strong climate governance, strengthening resilience to climate risks, accelerating the transition to a low-carbon economy, enhancing human technological and financial capabilities, and integrating territory sphere into climate dynamics.

This scheme is divided into two sections:

1. Diagnosis of the climatic and soil conditions to combat global warming;
 2. Preparation of a work plan setting out the territorial priorities for investment, planning and capacity strengthening as well as the necessary funding.
- Preparation of the strategic plan for adaptation to climate change 2020-2030⁴:

The plan aims at consolidating the resilience of fragile ecosystems,

4. Studies were launched to prepare 7 regional climate plans in the year 2020 for the benefit of 7 destinations.

productive sectors and infrastructure towards the adverse effects of climate change, and to enhance capacities in the area of climate information and knowledge.

- Integrated coastal management:

In accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Coast (Sahel Code), the National Commission for the Integrated Management of the Coast was established, which includes ministerial sectors, representatives of coastal authorities, relevant public institutions, universities and civil society. Moreover, the national plan for the integrated management of the coast has also been prepared and approved by the relevant committee, and the first regional design of the coast has been completed for the Rabat-Salé-Kenitra region. Studies are programmed to complete designs for all coastal areas.

- National Emergency Plan to Combat Marine Pollution

In the context of combating emergency marine pollution from marine activities and protecting marine wealth and resources, the National Emergency Action Plan, approved by the 1996 Decree was launched and supplemented by a resolution to implement it in 2003. This is to intervene in combating marine pollution. Nine training courses were performed from 2002 to 2018 and due to the Covid pandemic in 1999, the 2020 training was postponed. Several training sessions on land and marine emergency pollution management were also conducted for the representatives of the intervening sectors.

- National strategy for disaster risk management

The kingdom of Morocco has adopted the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management, an integral program to implement gender approach in disaster risk management, under the third strategic theme: "Natural risk prevention and resilience strengthening", based on practical actions, a participatory approach and a specific timeline, through the Priority Action Plan (2021-2023) and the Comprehensive Plan of Action

(2021-2026), which include two projects:

- The first project, is on the “Sensitization of women for effective involvement of women from vulnerable areas in the risk management system,” and this through:

1. The formulation of an action plan to sensitize women to natural hazards (as an urgent measure);

2. Enforcement of a sensitization methodology in priority areas (most at risk) in three selected pilot areas;

3. Tracking and monitoring the application of the gender approach in the field of natural hazard awareness.

- The second project is concerned with “identifying and taking into account vulnerable groups (women, children, the elderly, people with special needs...) in managing natural hazards”, and this is carried out through:

1. Formulation of a national methodology for the analysis of the exposure of vulnerable categories to natural hazards;

2. Operationalize the analytical methodology and comprehensive disaster management action plans in three selected project pilot areas;

3. Tracking and monitoring the integration of vulnerable groups into the enforcement of the Comprehensive Plan of Action (2021 - 2026) of the National Strategy for Natural Disaster Risk Management (2020 - 2030).

In addition to the above-mentioned strategy, programs, projects and actions, Morocco continues to strengthen its political commitment by taking into account vulnerable groups in its national disaster risk management policy. From 8 to 11 November 2012, the kingdom of Morocco hosted the Fifth Arab Regional Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, held remotely in Rabat, culminating in the Rabat Declaration, in which it called upon Arab States, partners and stakeholders to

promote the active participation of women and youth in the leadership of the preparation and implementation of strategies, policies, plans and programs for disaster risk reduction, through the adoption of a gender approach that takes into account the needs of women, older persons, children, youth and people with disabilities.

It should be noted that, under the Integrated Management of Natural Disaster Risk and Resilience Program, projects funded by the Natural Disaster Impact Fund have been completed through the launching of annual project applications for potential institutional project holders (ministerial sectors, institutions, public enterprises, and territorial collectivities).

To date, these projects have reached over 220 preventive projects, at a total cost of approximately 4 billion dirhams, of which 107 are structured, with a financial investment of approximately 3 billion dirhams, to which the Fund contributed by one third. In Morocco, 50 per cent of the beneficiaries from these development projects are women. In addition, international donor institutions (the World Bank) also adopt the proportion of women benefiting as an indicator for the evaluation of projects funded by the aforementioned Fund.

4. Maritime fishing policy in Morocco: the new strategy for the fishing industry

The Halieutis Strategy constituted the first foundation for the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sector. This was reflected positively on the socio-economic indicators of the sector. The new strategy aspires to achieve an evolution in line with the global orientation of the blue economy, in order to form a new development vision for marine fisheries and aquaculture with the main objective of making Morocco a global reference in blue progress, by giving priority to the human factor, preserving marine ecosystems and creating wealth at all levels of the sector's value chain.

In order to materialize this vision, the strategy was based on the following main axes:

The first is aimed at enhancing the abilities of actors to successfully develop the sector, whether he be a sailor, a supplier, fish seller, manufacturer or aquaculture breeder. The new strategy has placed the human factor at the centre of its concerns for their qualifications that are capable of elevating the sector to promising prospects.

In this regard, several measures have been suggested with the objective of achieving a qualitative leap in improving the living and working conditions of different actors in the value chain by:

- Change in the framework;
 - Empowering actors in the sector and improving their access to markets and finance by encouraging small players to engage in social cooperatives and enterprises, and additional support to women's cooperatives is planned in the context of promoting gender approaches;
 - Accompanying actors to achieve excellence through an effective training program that adapts to and evolves with the needs of professionals.

Strengthening and enhancing the competencies and qualifications of actors requires, moreover, a digital transformation, an establishment of a governance that is conform to the principles of the blue economy, as well as the promotion and diversification of sources of financing for the sector.

In this context, this transformation of sector governance shall be within the logic of strengthening the role of professionals as strategic partners for the management, through the development of contracts, the creation of inter-branch organizations according to production chains, as well as the restructuring of fishing chambers.

The second axis also aims at enhancing Morocco's position as an

international centre in the production chains, and maintaining the sustainability of the fish resources for future generations in order to create jobs and added value for the sector. Therefore, the process of valuing the national fish wealth has become an urgent and paramount necessity to avoid excessive exploitation of this wealth. This requires restructuring the manufacturing network towards innovative and competitive products, as well as reorganizing the local market and diversifying the export destinations for seafood products, in accordance with the principles of the blue economy.

To that effect, development guidelines have been defined according to production chain, the nature of transfer and valuation, as well as through a dynamic ecosystem, capable of guiding the sustainable wealth management and supporting industrial innovation, as sustainable fishing constitutes a key pillar of blue growth, which, through the provision of an effective mechanism to combat illegal, unauthorized and unregulated fishing, and also, as an extension of policy in this area, fishery creation measures shall be strengthened and the fishing control system improved, on the one hand, and on the other, the involvement of professionals in the sustainable exploitation of marine resources and local fisheries management.

As an essential stage of the development process, the renewed strategy aims to realize all the necessary potential in the area of marine aquaculture at its third axis by unifying the prerequisites for sustainable marine aquaculture production and establishing a catalytic framework for that end, as well as improving the sustainability of the aquaculture ecosystem within the logical integration of value chains. In addition, specific pathways, in compliance with production chains, have been established through contract programs at the inter-professional level.

The strategy in its fourth axis aims to strengthen the local market and encourage the consumption of marine products by all Moroccans, as the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sector can be

achieved only through the existence of a local market characterized by dynamism capable of confronting the serious challenges that encounter the food industries related to marine fishing, in addition to the broad and equitable access of citizens to the national marine wealth of high nutritional value.

Finally, three key success factors have been operationalized, relating to the establishment of a culture of consumption of seafood products among Moroccans, and strengthening consumer confidence in the quality of products while controlling their price, thereby providing Moroccans with a wide range of seafood products.

- Gender-sensitive marine fishing programs in Morocco

Among the most important elements adopted by the new strategy is the launch of several gender-sensitive programs, such as the Program for Fishing and Marine Biology Development and the Valuation of Resources and the Social Rehabilitation and Promotion Program for the professional evolution and safety of seamen, in addition to establishing mechanisms for tracking, leading and managing the programs.

- Program for the Development of Fishing, Marine Life and Resource Valuation

The strategy of the fishing sector aspires to make Morocco a leading model for the sustainability and protection of the marine environment and aquaculture, as well as to strengthen the surveillance of the naval field, in particular the effects of climate change, through the effective role played by professionals. This development is built on sustainable fishing that is based on an effective mechanism to combat illegal, unauthorized and unregulated fishing. The program comprises several important measures in the area and it take into account gender and gender-equality.

In this context, and in implementation of programmes to support marine

aquaculture projects for young entrepreneurs and cooperatives, the fisheries sector, in partnership with the United Nations Organization for Women, launched the project “Supporting women fishing on the beach, for sustainable access to marine resources in the most vulnerable areas of Morocco.” The project also aims to promote and empower women to improve their economic situation in algae and oyster value chains. The project spans one year (March 2021 March 2022) and will be completed for approximately 650 women, working under the framework of cooperatives active in collecting algae and oysters.

In 2012, a project was achieved to assess the integration of the gender approach in the traditional fishing sector. The project falls within the framework of the technical cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forestry, the fisheries sector and Food and Agriculture, in cooperation with the National Confederation of Traditional Fishing in Morocco (CNPAM), as it aims to understand the importance and impact of such accomplished programs/projects at the institutional and professional levels related to the gender approach in the traditional fishing sector in order to suggest axis for improvement that would enable better integration of the gender approach in the traditional fishing sector. These projects will create direct and indirect employment opportunities in the future.

- Program for rehabilitation and social and professional promotion and safety of seafarers.

The program focuses on strengthening the quality of vocational training and social promotion for seafarers, improving the effectiveness of coordination means and saving human lives at sea by relying on the strategic directions of HALIEUTIS. This program contains three main axes, one of which is related to the training of women and men practicing in the fishing sector, and the program is centred on the following goals:

- Adapt the marine training offer to the strategic directions of the fisheries sector as well as to the needs of the sector in terms of

the required human competencies and also elaborate training programmes compatible with the requirements of the fishing professions and industries;

- Enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of the marine formation system to keep pace with the development of the sector.

It is worth noting that the training system is the actual shield of the Directorate of Marine Training, Marines and Rescuers for the rehabilitation of women and men directed to the marine fisheries sector. This system is composed of 14 marine training institutions, six of which have an independent State facility and eight marine vocational training centres that benefit from delegated funds.

These institutions are equipped, depending on the situation, with technical workshops, simulation rooms, safety and rescue centres, and school ships. These institutions also provide certifications, continuous training courses, functional literacy classes and accompanying operations.

- Consolidating gender dimension in the marine fishing strategy

Within the framework of the measures conducted by the government in the area of gender equality, gender integration, and assurance of sectoral budget response to societal gender in the Financial Regulatory Act No. 130-13, several initiatives have been undertaken:

- The continuation of the program to improve the social and economic conditions of fisherwomen on foot along the coast and to value their work, which was launched nearly 20 years ago, and which is consistent with measure 1.3.3, strengthening and enhancing the position of women in agricultural, marine, extractive and traditional production chains and the various measures of “Morocco Competencies and Leadership” program. This program aims to support and accompany fisherwomen on foot in precarious and vulnerable situations, to help them organize themselves as cooperatives in order to enhance their

technical and commercial abilities, to value their experience and to provide them with the necessary equipment to improve their working conditions and to value their products. Technical support is also provided in cooperation with financial partners, to establish income-generating activities or production units to the required standards. To date, this program has enabled the establishment and framing of more than 40 women's cooperatives, the processing of about twenty cooperatives and the establishment of numerous income-generating activities, including 4 seafood processing and valuation units that meet the standards required by national and international markets.

- Project "Support for women fishermen on foot in the most vulnerable areas of Morocco to improve their sustainable access to marine resources", in partnership with UN-Women in Morocco and with financial support from the government of Japan. This one-year project (March 2021, 2022) also aims to promote economic empowerment and the status of 650 fisherwomen, whose activity has been affected by the health crisis associated with the Covid 19 pandemic, with value chains of algae and shellfish on the coast of El Jadida, Agadir, Ida OuaTanan, and Tiznet.

Through the collection of data on the socio-economic status of these women and the determination of their training, equipment and market opportunities, this project shall enable approximately 650 fisherwomen on foot to improve their working conditions and productivity and to value their products and expertise to become economic actors in the targeted areas, by acquiring modern equipment and training in the operation of cooperatives and techniques for the exploitation, production and promotion of marine products in markets, and the formation of groups of economic benefit (GIE).

- Project "Assessment of the integration of the gender approach in the traditional fisheries sector" under the technical cooperation

agreement between the fisheries sector - Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). This project, in partnership with the National Confederation of Traditional Fishing, aims to understand the importance and impact of the programs/projects, implemented at the institutional and professional levels, on the integration of gender into the traditional fishing sector and proposes themes to improve the integration of women and youth into the traditional fishing sector.

- Project “Fishermen and sailors: between gender-based violence and access to sexual and reproductive health services”. The Moroccan Family Planning Association shall ensure the implementation of this project in cooperation with the fisheries sector and the Ministry of Health with funding from the Government of Japan. This project spans two years (2020-2022) aiming to increase the access of fishermen and sailors to sexual and reproductive health services and to reduce the prevalence of gender-based violence by 20% at the Souss Massa level.

Industrial Acceleration Plan

The objective of the plan is to accelerate the creation of 500,000 jobs on the national level, as well as to increase the participation of the industrial sector in the national gross domestic product to 23% and raise the level of industrial exports. The period from 2014 to 2020 was marked by several projects related to the Industrial acceleration plan, in particular the achievement of several industrial programs, the availability of an ample supply of industrial infrastructures useful to all the regions of the Kingdom, and the follow-up of industrial contracting to improve its returns in terms of production. The industrial systems represent a new concept of sectoral integration which aim to reduce the fragmentation of the sector and use the concerted efforts in the components of the industrial system in an optimal way.

Among these successful industrial systems, we mention, for instance, the automotive industrial system that led Morocco to become the first automotive producer in Africa and resulted in a qualitative leap in its exports structure, with car exports exceeding one quarter of total exports. The aircraft industrial system also saw the signing of an agreement with Boeing and with other international companies, and the food industry saw the signing of several investment projects. The industrial strategy also led to the creation of 183,765 jobs for women between 2017 and 2020, thus representing 51% of the total jobs created in the industrial sector during this period. 91% of these jobs (i.e., 166,939 women) belong to four sectors: the automotive industry, the textile and garment industry, the food industry and the export of services.

During the mentioned period, four regions (Tanger-Tetouan-Al Hoceima, Casablanca-Settat, Rabat-Salé-Kenitra and Fez-Meknès) participated with 162,512 jobs for women, which is equivalent to 88% of the total jobs for women and 45% of the total jobs in the industrial sector.

- The self-entrepreneurs

Within the context of promoting women's self-entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Industry and Trade has developed a system of self-entrepreneurs to encourage the spirit of entrepreneurship, particularly for the benefit of women and youth, in order to facilitate access to markets and improve the social and economic level of the target population. In this regard, the total number of women in the self-entrepreneur system reached 74,000 in 2020.

In this context, the NAWAT program presented by MarocPME supports women self-entrepreneurs and those having projects. Support is provided by experts and technical advisors, and includes:

- The pre-investment stage where the target groups receive support to prepare business plans;
- The post-investment stage to support the target groups in developing professional and managerial competencies and entrepreneurship, and provide them with expertise and technical support.

- Measures and procedures to reduce the impact of the pandemic on women entrepreneurs
 - Granting a monthly fixed amount of 2,000 dirhams to the employees registered in the National Social Security Fund who are temporarily suspended from work, in parallel with the suspension of the payment of social contributions;
 - Postponing the repayment of bank loans related to rental loans;
 - Encouraging companies working in the textile and garment industry to redirect their production to protective masks in quantities sufficient to cover the national needs and the increasing needs in the international markets. This shall enhance and diversify the Moroccan textile industry and boost the brand “Made in Morocco” on the international level;
 - Setting up an interest-free loan for self-entrepreneurs affected by the Covid-19 crisis, up to an amount of 15,000 dirhams. This loan may be repaid over three years, with a grace period of one year;
 - Financial support through MarocPME to the small enterprises investing in the manufacturing of products and equipment related to Covid-19, where 69 projects were selected;
 - Providing advisory services and technical assistance to small and medium industrial companies to restart their activities;
 - Participating in the launching of the second phase of the project “Promoting women empowerment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development in the Middle East and North Africa region” (PWE II) in collaboration with UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization).
- The aim of this program is to achieve sustainable development in the industrial sector through:

- Promotion of circular economy;
- Promotion of energy efficiency in the industrial sector;
- Encouraging the rationalizing of the use of materials (water, energy, and raw materials), realization of the “model factory”.

6. National statistical systems related to environment, climate change and sustainable development

Morocco has made significant achievements in terms of gender equality and girls, empowering all women, enhancing their status and encouraging their participation in public life, these being essential elements for achieving sustainable development, through the consolidation of the principles of equality and equal opportunities as constitutional values, supported by the adoption of a set of laws and reforms, especially in a context of climate change and its impact on sustainable economic, social and human development. These fundamental reforms have been made in parallel with the development of national statistical systems. The Kingdom of Morocco has a set of national institutions and observatories specialized in providing, producing, and analyzing indicators on a periodic basis, such as the High Commission for Planning, which ensures a field coverage of the whole territory of the Kingdom.

Within the context of its tasks and regular and ongoing adaptation to the needs of national and international decision makers and various users of statistical information, the High Commission for Planning has made a strategic choice to update its system of tools and platforms on which the data that it produces or collects is published by gender, this being a pillar of the transformation to the digital model for managing its tasks, thus encouraging openness and access to data, as well as its smooth use.

In this line, the High Commission for Planning is working on expanding the scope of production of statistical information by gender through reviewing statistical research in terms of content, as well as territorial, thematic and gender-related coverage, that concern several socioeconomic, demographic and environmental sectors, as it produces

several thematic reports and information notes with gender-responsive indicators, particularly in the field of climate change and sustainable development. During the last two years, the High Commission has issued several reports related to its relationship with the Covid pandemic, among which we mention:

- Report of 2021 titled, “Moroccan women in numbers: Twenty years of progress”: Within the monitoring of the development of the status of women, the High Commission for Planning produces a yearly report titled “Moroccan Women in Numbers” on the occasion of the celebration of National Women’s Day, which takes place on the 10th of October. The report of 2021 titled, “Moroccan women in numbers: Twenty years of progress” presents a set of statistical data describing the progress of the status of Moroccan women up until 2021, covering several areas with statistical data, graphs, and photos. The information in this report is also grouped by gender at the national, urban, and rural levels. This data is obtained from statistical research and general statistics conducted by the High Commission for Planning, as well as from statistics produced by ministerial institutions.
- Report of the Voluntary National Review of the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals for the year 2020: As part of Morocco’s commitment to implement the global program that relies on the achievement of 17 sustainable development goals within the 2030 Global Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on September 25, 2015, the Report of the Voluntary National Review of the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals for the year 2020 was prepared and the analysis of the fifth goal, “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”. This report highlighted Morocco’s efforts and its various achievements to realize sustainable development with no one left behind, through the establishment of principles of equality and equal opportunity as constitutional values, in parallel with the

adoption of a set of laws and reforms such as the integrated public policy for equality as well as several strategies promoting women's rights.

- Information note from the High Commission for Planning on the occasion of International Women's Day, March 8, 2021: On the occasion of International Women's Day commemorating the year 2021 under the theme "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world", the High Commission for Planning issued an information note highlighting the situation of women in Morocco in several areas: Health, education and training, access to the labor market, use of time, violence against women and standard of living.
- Report on "Analysis by gender of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economic, social and psychological situation of families" 2020: The High Commission for Planning issued, in partnership with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, a report on the analysis by gender of the results of its research on the impact of COVID-19 on the economic, social, and psychological situation of families. This report analyzes the impact of the health crisis and the different measures that were adopted to reduce its effects, highlighting the severity of this crisis from a gender perspective, as well as the benefits derived from the public policies that were implemented. Likewise, a series of reports and studies were issued, highlighting the results of the research on the impact of Covid on the economic, social, and psychological situation of families, and its effect on the activity of women entrepreneurs, including detailed information as per gender and region.
- Report on social indicators in Morocco in 2020: This report provides a database facilitating decision-making and offers the necessary elements for evaluating public policies and their impact on the population's quality of life as well as data on youth and women. It

presents a set of data per gender in fields related to demography, activity, employment and unemployment, education, health, housing, growth, income and families' standard of living, culture, and recreation.

The Kingdom of Morocco has also adopted a national strategy to manage the risk of natural disasters 2020-2030 which aims in its second strategic area to improve knowledge and evaluate the natural hazards by creating a good, updated database and documenting all the elements that represent natural hazards for the national territory, while allowing all the relevant players to access reliable tips in real time, and master the scientific and technical aspects of natural phenomena to allow a better related decision-making process.

As part of the ongoing efforts aiming to develop the production, analysis and dissemination of gender-related statistics and to provide indicators associated with sustainable development goals, the High Commission for Planning has been involved in the program supporting the integration of gender in the production and analysis of gender statistics, in partnership with UN Women and the European Union (2020 - 2024), for the purpose of supporting public policies aimed to reduce gender disparities by developing a knowledge base and gender indicators.

Gender-Sensitive Fiscal Policies to meet the challenges of climate change, environment and sustainable development

The Kingdom of Morocco has been committed since 2002 to implementing Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), through several constitutional, legal and political reforms in order to direct public policies and budgets to target citizens equally and contribute to reducing gender inequality. This commitment was reinforced in 2013 through the creation of the "Center of Excellence for Gender Budgeting", which concluded partnership and cooperation agreements with several entities and institutional donors. This orientation was enhanced by the promulgation of Organic Law 130.13 on the Finance Act of 2015, which emphasizes the

institutionalization of results-based management, taking into account the gender approach in setting goals and metric indicators in sectoral ministries programs, and the obligation to attach a report to the Finance Act on the results-based budgeting from a gender perspective. In this context, the Prime Minister issued Circular 7/2017 (July 2017) to launch the experimental stages of the requirements of the regulatory law on the Finance Act related to integrating the gender approach in the budget planning and programming process for each ministerial sector. The new organic law on the Finance Act includes two articles establishing the obligation to take the gender approach in an account in the budget and program reporting processes, namely:

- Chapter 39: The gender criterion should be taken into account when setting the objectives and indicators referred to above;
- Chapter 48: The Finance Bill shall be accompanied by a report on results-based budgeting from a gender perspective.

Today, the execution of Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) has moved from the stage of increasing public awareness to the promotion of gender integration in the budget process through the reform of reporting tools and the consolidation of its alignment with the recommendations of the Sector Gender Analysis (SGA) and the commitments made under the Sector Medium-Term Action Plans (SMTAP).

Based on the progress made, and to build on the achieved results, a quadripartite agreement was signed with UN Women, the French Development Agency and the European Union to strengthen the Gender Responsive Budget by 2023 with a medium-term vision to achieve a mature and effective implementation of the Gender Responsive Budget. Thus, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, through the Center of Excellence for Gender Budgeting (CE-BSG), has achieved several measures to enhance the gender responsive budgeting. These measures include in particular:

- Realization of 15 sector gender analyses to identify gender inequalities at the level of ministerial departments and propose

working instruments to reduce inequality between women and men. The recommendations of these general funds have enabled the improvement of project performance at the aforementioned ministerial departments;

- Support various sectors to gradually integrate gender responsive budgeting in their budget process. Thus, the FY21 Project Performance analysis focused on 33 sectors committed to gender-responsive standards;
- Organization of general and specific training courses in gender responsive budgeting for government sectors, which made it possible to measure the positive impact on participants' skills and knowledge in the field of gender responsive budgeting and the general satisfaction with the content, training exercises and facilitation;
- Reform the report on gender budgeting accompanying the Finance Bill to make it an important tool for transparency and accountability, and to enable the presentation of a summary of the ministries' commitments towards gender equality and provide a baseline analysis in Parliament and to the civilian community;
- Completion of a study on the economic cost of gender inequality in the labor market in Morocco concerning the analysis and estimation of benefits in terms of economic growth points that can be achieved by increasing the integration of women into the labor market in Morocco. This study found that increasing the activity rate of women will lead to significant additional growth while recalling that these economic gains cannot be mobilized if women do not enjoy appropriate conditions enhancing their human capital that will likely stimulate the overall development dynamism;
- Diversification of communication tools to mainstream and promote gender equality through the production of videos, development of

institutional guides and brochures, and participation in various gender-related events;

- Increase public awareness of challenges and goals of the gender-responsive budgeting approach through the launch of two digital communication campaigns in 2020 and 2021 on the theme of “Financing Gender Equality”.

The sectors with gender-sensitive fiscal policies are mainly the sustainable development sector, the energy sector and the water sector. The sustainable development sector exerts continuous efforts to successfully establish the gender dimension in its work programs as well as in the management of its human resources. The sustainable development sector, in partnership with UN Women, has completed a diagnostic process for the sector’s three work programs related to leadership and support, strengthening environmental governance, sustainable development and mobilizing actors, as well as promoting the transition to a green economy. The recommendations of this process served as a basis for developing a strategy for institutionalizing the integration of the gender dimension in the sector during the 2018-2021 period.

Since 2019, the energy sector has included gender analysis as part of a partnership program between the French Development Agency and the Center of Excellence for Gender Budgeting. The achievement of the sector’s gender-responsive results chain is based on the recommendations derived from this analysis. The sector has made the necessary efforts to successfully institutionalize the integration of the gender dimension into its work strategy, through the strengthening of the gender-responsive results chain, based on the Finance Act of 2021, and the adoption of a new indicator that enables evaluation of the level of achievement of gender institutionalization.

The water sector has launched since 2017 a strategy for institutionalizing the integration of the gender approach, which continues to take into account gender equality in the integrated policy on water resources in Morocco. This data is considered quite important in terms of the impact of climate change on water resources, which will primarily harm

vulnerable groups, especially women in rural areas.

The gender mainstreaming approach in the environment, climate change and sustainable development made it possible to highlight the existing relationship between issues that were developed in the early stages of sectoral planning and the selection of programs:

- Planning in gender mainstreaming in public policies for sustainable development

Promote the development of gender-disaggregated data and gender analysis at all stages of environmental programs or projects, taking into account the impact of the gender project concerning the respect of the natural environment in which it is carried out in accordance with the criteria of sustainability and protection. Therefore, working on identifying and eliminating the factors limiting women's ability to adapt or providing training for women to enable the development of their adaptive capacities, and promote medium- and long-term strategic changes to enable the achievement of better gender equality.

- Concerning the national policy to combat climate change.

Involve women in the adoption of measures to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change while working on adaptation measures to respond to known hazards (heavy and irregular rain, extreme events) and meteorological information (precipitation measurements) to enable women to be better prepared, and enhance their access to adaptation techniques: Technology for the conservation of soil and water, use of improved seeds, crop diversification, fertilization, and horticulture.

- Concerning the preservation and strengthening of biological diversity.

Strengthen the role of women in rural areas in the management and use of natural resources, by enhancing their participation and influence in negotiations and decision making and setting goals for women's involvement in activities or guaranteeing their equal and active participation alongside men and their decision making throughout the management cycle.





Third Theme

**Empowering all women and girls
in the context of climate and
environmental change**



Third theme:

Empowering all women and girls in the context of climate and environmental change

In line with the sustainable development goals, and with a view to strengthening the economic integration of Moroccan women and empowering them in the development field, in accordance with the Kingdom's new development paradigm orientation, the Moroccan government's program for 2021-2026 has included this theme among its main priorities. The new development paradigm aims to strengthen Morocco's multidimensional commitment to climate issues, by raising its nationally determined contribution to reduce greenhouse gases by 45.5% by 2030, within an integrated strategy for low-carbon development by 2050, which aims to transition to a green economy in line with the goals of sustainability, and to strengthen the capacity for resilience, adaptation and environmental protection, by stimulating collective intelligence to establish a sustainable and united human society upholding the values of equity and coexistence.

In order to increase the dynamism of the women's role in development programs, the inclusion of a gender approach in empowerment programs and the strengthening of capacities are among the most important ways to achieve a sustainable development that takes into account the needs of all women in an effective approach attaining the envisaged goals.

1. Data on empowering women and girls in the context of gender-sensitive policies and programs to reduce the risk of disasters and infrastructure investments.

To overcome the negative effects of natural disasters in Morocco, and in application of the royal directives of His Majesty, the Kingdom of Morocco has engaged all its capabilities in the risk management

of natural disasters, by relying on a proactive approach that goes beyond the traditional perspective based on a reactionary approach and crisis management to a forward-looking approach that has proven its effectiveness and efficacy. This approach aims to find poles capable of developing our capabilities in tracking and forecasting, and our proactive and interactive capabilities during the designing of the Kingdom's development programs, in addition to showing the necessary vigilance related to climate and environment issues through the mobilization of knowledge, national and international qualifications, and the development of our capabilities in terms of risk assessment and management.

The Kingdom of Morocco also bases its policy for the management of natural hazards on a set of guidelines consistent with the objectives of the Sendai Framework and the Arab Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction, which call for the integration of a gender approach in the management of natural disaster risks.

On this basis, the Kingdom of Morocco has adopted a National Strategy for the Management of Natural Hazards (2020-2030), which aims to achieve three objectives that include all stages of the risk management cycle, namely:

- Developing risk knowledge and evaluation;
- Promoting risk prevention to strengthen resilience;
- Developing preparation for natural disasters to enable rapid recovery and effective rebuilding.

The elaboration of this strategy was based on the Priority Action Plan (2021-2023) and the Global Action Plan (2021-2026) which include several programs and projects that were developed based on an approach implying women's active integration in the risk management system and protection of vulnerable groups of women, children, and elderly.

The Moroccan government's program for 2021-2026 also included economic empowerment among its main priorities, by increasing the rate of women's activity by 2026 to more than 30% instead of 20%. The government program has adopted significant fundamental axes reflected in strengthening the social foundations of the state, keeping pace with the transformation of the national economy to create job opportunities for all, governance at the service of citizens through the improvement of public services, and developing a program to reduce social and regional inequalities.

A comprehensive and coherent vision of the government program has been developed, based on convergence and results-based measures and on a participatory approach that involves all actors and stakeholders, including public authorities, national institutions, territorial groups, the private sector, universities, civil society and international technical and financial partners working in the field, in full harmony with the outputs of the new funding paradigm, with a focus on "Access to Economic Opportunities", "Education and Training" and creating an "Appropriate and Sustainable Environment for the Economic Empowerment of Women and Girls".

The Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family, aware that a territorial approach is one of the most important ways to reduce disparities, respond to needs and expectations, improve the conditions of different groups in a difficult situation, and achieve gender equality and equal opportunities, conducted consultations with the 12 regions in the Kingdom of Morocco. The goal of these consultations was to share and enrich the new strategy of the social pole within a participatory and regional approach aimed at achieving the desired impact, strengthening partnerships, mobilizing resources and expertise, providing an appropriate environment to unleash capacities, stimulating innovation in the social field, and developing a new generation of inclusive social services that are closer to people while adopting digitization and sustainability.

In this context, and in order to develop and strengthen the economic situation of women at the territorial level, the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family has concluded several partnership agreements with regional and territorial councils, for the strengthening of professional and personal capacities, rehabilitation and economic empowerment of women and girls according to the territorial capabilities of each region, where 36,000 women shall be targeted, at a rate of 3,000 women per region, and a budget of 250 million dirhams.

This occasion has seen the launching of the “Gisr” program that includes a new generation of inclusive social services with the adoption of digitization and sustainability as levers to expand targeting and improve services and social and economic inclusion for the benefit of different groups in difficult situations, including women.

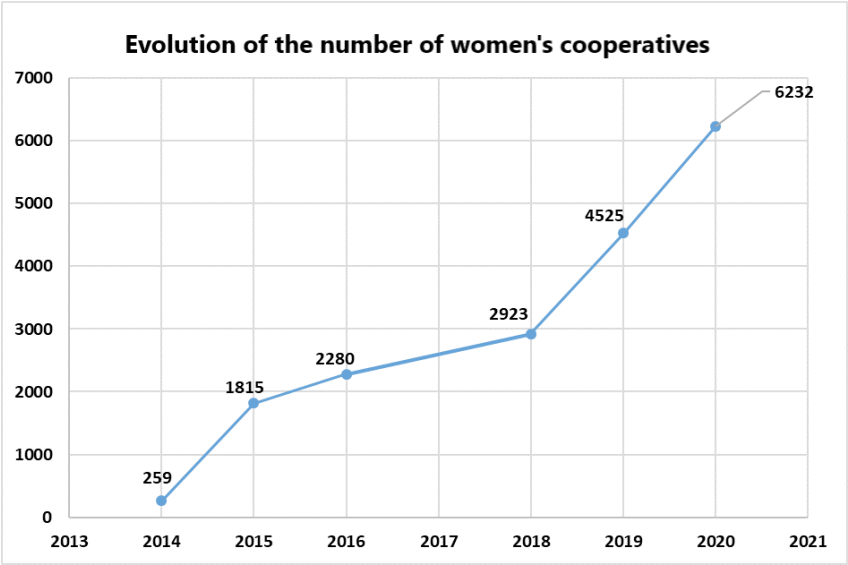
2. Social and solidarity economy to protect ecological systems and empower women:

The social and solidarity economic sector in Morocco is seen as a promising sector that participates in creating wealth and job opportunities and contributes to the organization of the informal sector, and the economic and social integration of broad groups of society, especially among youth and women in the rural world. Cooperatives are considered among the most important components of the social and solidarity economy because they are contractors producing goods and services, they support entrepreneurs in various production and service fields of interest to the sectors of traditional manufacturing, agriculture, fishing, transport, industry, services, medicinal and aromatic herbs, literacy, minerals, housing, environmental and others...

The Ministry has worked to implement a set of action plans to strengthen the capabilities and competencies of workers in the cooperative sector. Efforts included organizing training sessions in the areas of legislation, cooperative accounting, project financing, marketing techniques and product promotion, e-marketing, and other topics of interest to the sector's activities, and other training sessions related to supporting

promotion and marketing the sector's products by ensuring the cooperatives' participation in international exhibitions, organizing national and regional exhibitions and mobile markets, in addition to developing other support programs in the partnership agreements with institutional and private partners.

In terms of number, the number of women's cooperatives increased from 2,280 cooperatives in 2015 to 6,232 in 2021, and the number of their female employees increased from 37,960 to 62,821 in 2021. Women's cooperatives working in traditional industries are in the first place with 2,882 cooperatives, followed by women's agricultural cooperatives with 1,836 cooperatives, then the argania sector with 600 women's cooperatives, followed by medicinal and aromatic herbs with 157 women's cooperatives, in addition to the creation of 7 women's cooperatives in the sector of forests and 7 women's cooperatives in the sectors of renewable energy and waste management.



It should be noted in this regard that the percentage of women benefiting from the Ministry's programs in social and solidarity economy, especially from the rural world, may reach 70%, whether through

participation in exhibitions and trade events, or in training and sessions for strengthening competencies.

Within the framework of the “Moazara” program designed to support the relaunching of activities of social and solidarity economy organizations and mitigate the economic and social impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on their workers, the Ministry contributed during the 2020 and 2021 seasons to financing development projects in various regions of the Kingdom, presented by associations and cooperatives. The percentage of women beneficiaries of this program reached 79% in the first version with a total of 1,826 beneficiaries and 84% in the second version with a total of 4,587 beneficiaries. These women are active in the fields of traditional manufacturing and the service industry, agriculture, local products, education and training, environmental preservation, renewable energies, valorization of natural resources and digital trade.

3. Economic empowerment as a mechanism to strengthen the participation of women in the green economy

As part of the Green Morocco Plan, several measures were adopted, taking into account the priorities and needs of rural women and girls in the field of technical support, training, supervision and strengthening of their productive capacities. These measures adopted at all levels aim to strengthen access to resources, to enhance capacities and competencies, and to keep pace with rural women and girls through targeted supervision in areas related to the development of their technical and managerial capabilities in the production, valuation, organization, and management of agricultural projects.

In addition to the above, the agricultural sector is concerned with the socio-economic empowerment of women in the rural world, as it also contributes to:

- Developing tools and executive mechanisms to strengthen the spirit of entrepreneurship and investment and encourage the creation

of agricultural women's entrepreneurs through the projects of the second pillar, thus increasing women's capabilities, training, supervision, and agricultural consultancy;

- Encouraging the organization of the agricultural profession (1,242 women's cooperatives), in addition to establishing the Moroccan Women Agricultural Association and creating 9 regional associations;
- Introducing and valuing the products of agricultural cooperatives in the different regions of Morocco;
- Promoting and supporting the marketing of agricultural cooperatives' products and access to regional, national, and international fairs;
- Improving the quality of products and enhancing competitiveness;
- Exchange of experiences and expertise;
- Encouraging partnerships with various actors in the agricultural sector, both on national and international levels;
- Strengthening communication between cooperatives, institutions and all actors and stakeholders in this sector;
- Completion of a guide to agricultural women's organizations.

By undertaking all these measures, the Kingdom of Morocco aims to integrate the female component in every project aimed at improving living conditions in the rural world, promote women's economic empowerment in the agricultural sector and achieve sustainable development. In this context, the Kingdom of Morocco is carrying out several programs and activities for the benefit of women in the agricultural sector, through:

- Supporting rural women through targeted supervision in the areas of production, valuation, organization, and management of income-generating agricultural projects by strengthening their capacities, as

30,000 women benefited from the National Agricultural Consultation Office, in addition to the support offered to 217,567 women;

- Financing women's projects that fall under the second pillar of the Green Morocco Plan;
- Promotion of the products of rural women for the purpose of introducing and marketing through the organization of local and regional agricultural fairs;
- Supporting the participation of rural women's organizations (which include more than 8,000 women) in demonstrations of an international nature in Morocco, France, Germany and the United Arab Emirates;
- Marketing the products in commercial centers and large spaces;
- Creating stations to market products in some regions of the Kingdom;
- Forging several regional partnerships with major commercial spaces to market women's agricultural products through the creation of 8 websites for online sales for 8 cooperatives headed by women, and coding of 34 groups headed by women, in addition to 8 cooperatives benefiting from the points of sale and the integration of 19 groups headed by women in commercial markets.
- Regions of argania and oases: 52% of women beneficiaries from projects;
- 11 projects were selected to the benefit of women's associations.

4. High-quality public services

In line with the advancement and improvement of social services in Morocco, the government has paid great attention to the social activities in which Morocco has been involved for several years under the wise leadership of His Majesty the King. The Moroccan government has

committed itself through its government program to strengthen and develop several social services, to improve governance and efficacy of these programs, to launch workshops to reform the targeting system, to diversify and expand mechanisms to support vulnerable groups, to expand basic health coverage and retirement systems, and to develop the compensation system for job loss. All these reform workshops and social mechanisms have given tangible results highlighted by the overall outcome reports of the Moroccan government. Basic services in Morocco include several areas, the most important of which are:

Health, education, and social welfare

Health

The Kingdom of Morocco has implemented many reforms to advance and improve health services for the benefit of the population, especially for the following chronic diseases:

Diabetes: Nearly one million patients, men, and women, suffering from diabetes receive primary health care, 62% of whom are women having access to free medical consultation and medicines. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection provides care for these patients in all primary health care centers through:

- Procurement of diabetes medication (insulin and tablets) and their distribution at all primary health care centers. It should be noted that the overall envelope allocated for the purchase of medicines (insulin and tablets) can cover the needs of insulin by 100% and tablets by 90%;
- Distribution of biomedical devices to monitor the patient's levels of glycohemoglobin in the second-level primary health care centers;
- Incorporating the early detection of diabetes in pregnant women into urban and rural primary health care institutions;
- Free care for all pregnant women with diabetes to avoid health

complications for them and the fetus;

- Raising awareness about the risk factors leading to diabetes, and about the complications of this disease;
- Working on developing a therapeutic education program for people suffering from diabetes that will enable them to properly manage their disease and avoid severe complications;
- Continuous training for general practitioners and nurses on the care of diabetic patients to cope with the lack of human resources, particularly physicians specialized in diabetes and endocrinology.
- Cancer: With regard to cancer in women, the national plan for cancer prevention and control addresses breast and cervical cancers as priorities. In this regard, a comprehensive strategy has been developed and has led to achieving significant results in the fight against breast and cervical cancer in Morocco. Its most important achievements are:
 - Establishing a structured program for the early detection of breast and cervical cancers since 2012, targeting women between 40 and 69 years for breast cancer and women between 30 and 49 years for cervical cancer;
 - Allocating an annual budget to enhance the availability of early detection services for breast and cervical cancers. In this regard, 43 reference centers for reproductive health have been built to provide free early diagnosis services and have been equipped with all the mammography and examination devices necessary for the program. The Ministry of Health has also acquired more than 21 mobile mammography units to facilitate access for all women to early detection services, especially in rural areas;
 - Integrating early detection services of breast and cervical cancer into reproductive health services that are provided free of charge in

all primary health care centers in rural and urban areas;

- Training more than 4,000 service providers, including doctors and nurses, in early detection of breast and cervical cancers. This training has also been integrated into the programs of health technician training institutes and medical colleges.

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection, in partnership with a group of institutions and civil society associations, organizes an annual campaign during the month of October to raise awareness about these two types of cancer and their early detection. During 2019, more than 3,754 cases of breast cancer and 131 cases of cervical cancer were discovered by early detection and cared for. It is worthwhile to note that care and treatment services are available at the national level in 11 regional centers for oncology, as well as two quality poles for the treatment of women's cancers.

In the same context, a digital campaign was organized through social media to raise awareness on the importance of early detection of breast cancer. The national awareness campaign on the importance of early detection of breast and cervical cancer was organized between October 25 and November 25, 2021, under the slogan: "Early detection is for the protection of your life and peace of mind".

The efforts of the Ministry of Health in continuing to provide health services in the pandemic situation during the year 2020 enabled the early detection and care of about 3,772 cases of breast cancer and 200 cases of cervical cancer.

Cardiovascular diseases:

- National Program for the Prevention and Control of Hypertension:
- Patients benefit from detection, diagnosis, and care services for high blood pressure;

- Caring for 1,195,257 patients suffering from high blood pressure including 751,319 cases of women, representing 62.85% of the cases in 2020;
- Distribution of antihypertensive medications to patients suffering from high blood pressure at primary care institutions;
- Distribution of medicines to prevent cardiovascular events (Aspirin and Statins) on the patients most exposed to cardiovascular disease and presenting risk factors.
- National Program for the Prevention and Control of Acute Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Providing care for 2,873 new cases of acute rheumatoid arthritis and 336 cases of rheumatic heart carditis in 2020.

Education

Gender equality and the participation of women within the community are important development indicators. From this perspective, Morocco has engaged in this dynamic, creating conditions favorable for the promotion of gender equality by reviewing laws and launching several initiatives to support gender equality. The education and training system, considered to represent a major challenge to development and advancement in Morocco, has passed by a set of strategic reforms concerning gender equality, including:

National Charter for Education and Training: It is considered a national reference for the development of the sector of education and training, and emphasizes the importance of giving special attention to girls' schooling in the rural world;

Emergency Plan 2009-2012: It intends to give a "new breath of life" to reform. It is centered around twenty-seven projects that are important on all levels of the sector, such as basic education, training of teachers,

social support for the students...) It also takes into account transversal issues such as good governance, human rights, gender equality and environment.

Strategic vision of reform 2015-2030: Its essence lies in the establishment of a new school of: 1) Equity and equal opportunity; 2) Quality for all; 3) Improving individuals and community; 4) Effective leadership and new measure for change. The first chapter of the strategic vision has given priority to encouraging schooling and making it accessible to all children, in particular for girls; Framework Law 11-21 stipulates the necessity of using levers to achieve equity and equality, especially with regard to the generalization of inclusive education for all children without discrimination, positive discrimination for children in rural and semi-urban areas as well as in marginalized areas, the right to education and training for children with disabilities or those with special needs, combating school dropouts and eradicating illiteracy. Furthermore, Articles 11, 22 and 21 stipulated combating gender differences in schooling and the necessity of developing special programs to encourage schooling for girls living in rural areas and overcome the difficulties preventing it; The new development paradigm sought to substantially expand the participation of women in the economic, political and social fields through three main levers: 1) Lifting social constraints that limit women's participation; 2) Support mechanisms of education, training, integration, monitoring and financing for women; 3) Promote and develop the values of equality and parity with zero tolerance for all forms of violence and discrimination against women.

In the same context, several measures related to the field of education and training were proposed, the most important being the intensive support for efforts to combat illiteracy and school dropout for girls in preparatory and secondary education, which calls for improving access to education under conditions that enable girls to continue their education (for example, boarding schools, most especially in rural areas and smaller cities). We also mention strengthening the channels of training, guidance and integration throughout life, programs certifying knowledge acquisitions, platforms for distance learning, digital literacy,

awareness activities from an early age to change the image of the role of women in the community and their aptitude to participate in social, economic, and political life in accordance with the values of equity and equality. The education sector is also considered to be among the leading sectors in the process of institutionalizing gender equality and activating gender-responsive budgeting through the implementation and application of a sectoral strategy for gender equality in the educational system and the development of precise measures and indicators related to organizational, institutional and budgetary aspects, as well as through the training methodology for the benefit of focal points and frameworks in charge of planning and budgeting.

Mitigating the effect of the pandemic on the right to schooling: The COVID-19 crisis represented an unprecedented shock to education and disproportionately affected the most vulnerable groups (girls and children with special needs in rural areas). Nevertheless, the Ministry of National Education was able to maintain its resilience by adopting a set of measures, distributed as follows:

- Measures for managing the cases of COVID-19 infection in the school environment. In line with the management of the coronavirus pandemic in the school environment, memoranda were issued concerning: Implementation of the health protocol in the educational institutions, taking into account the gender approach. The pace for generalizing health facilities to all institutions and providing them with safe drinking water was accelerated, with the issuance of memoranda on March 13, 2020, regarding the suspension of studies in all departments and classes, including kindergartens, all educational institutions, vocational training institutions, and university institutions affiliated with the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research;
- March 16, 2020: Adoption of distance learning for most of the tertiary educational institutions during the quarantine period;

- March 29, 2020: Announcing the postponement of the spring school vacation for all schools to avoid any break in the distance-learning process;
- May 12, 2020: Announcing the suspension of national exams for certification levels in the sixth primary and third year of preparatory education;
- July 2020: Organizing baccalaureate exams in person, while taking all precautionary measures to ensure the safety of students and staff;
- September 7, 2020: Organizing that start of the academic year 2020-2021 in light of the Covid pandemic through the elaboration of an integrated action plan to manage school entry based on a group of educational patterns that respond to various hypotheses of the development of the epidemiological situation in our country and according to the choice of parents and guardians of students;
- January 20, 2021: Vaccination of all teaching staff who were over 44 years of age;
- Measures to ensure pedagogical continuity: In order to ensure pedagogical continuity and enable students to continue their academic achievement during the Covid pandemic, the education sector took several measures, which can be summarized as follows:
- Enhancing the TelmidTICE platform with more than 6,000 educational contents in March 2020, and more than 600,000 uses per day;
- Providing the necessary digital, audio and video resources, as well as pedagogical portfolios to ensure distance learning and training;
- Creation of virtual departments to enhance communication between students and teachers, with an average of 727,800 virtual departments in public education and 108,000 in private education;

- Enhancing the capabilities of teachers and professors in digital technology, and training more than 23,290 of them on the digital platform Etakwine.

The Ministry took a set of initiatives for the benefit of disadvantaged groups, especially girls in rural areas and semi-urban areas to guarantee the principle of equal opportunity, equality and access to students without computers or those who did not have access to the Internet, namely:

- Ensuring free access to official educational platforms for mobile phones and fixed networks (ADSL, fiber optics);
- Broadcasting video lessons on national television channels, where 5,330 lessons were broadcast at an average of 71 lessons per day, and 12,000 lessons for the academic year 2020-2021 in the context of the diversity of educational patterns;
- A campaign to distribute electronic devices (computers, tablets...) was carried out for the benefit of 13,325 students, according to precise standards related to the principle of gender equality and the promotion of girls' opportunities to benefit from these devices). The number of girls benefiting from tablets exceeded the number of boys);
- 1,000,000 students benefited from revision books in Arabic and French in the context of educational support and self-learning;
- The conditional attendance of students in educational institutions was exceptionally abolished when preparing and implementing the conditional financial transfers for the benefit of families in need as a practical measure to mitigate the effects of the Covid pandemic on poor families;
- Launching the digitalization of conditional cash transfers to the beneficiary families in the Tayssir program;

- Concluding a partnership with the general prosecutor's office in the field of compulsory basic education to reduce school dropouts and prevent the marriage of minors. This agreement also aims to ensure the continuity of the girls' education until the end of compulsory education in an effort to put an end to the marriage of minor girls;
- Involve girls in many creative, cultural, artistic, and sports activities in artistic creation institutions during the quarantine period (international participation in Taek-won-do, international participation in chess, organization of an artistic sports event to commemorate the national Green March);
- Concerning the management of human resources during the pandemic situation, the Ministry has adopted remote work, especially for women, as well as the positive discrimination for women in managing the transportation matter;
- Investments in gender-sensitive infrastructure to achieve the principles of equity and equal opportunity. The Ministry continues its vigorous efforts to implement the program for creation, rehabilitation and expansion of educational institutions in primary and secondary schools, with priority given to the creation of group schools to raise the coverage of the national territory and strengthen social support programs.

4. Access to natural resources:

Women's access to dynastic lands represented one of the challenges in managing this type of real estate that is governed by customs and traditions limiting their access. However, Law No. 62.17 concerning the administrative guardianship of dynastic groups and the essential management of their property carried fundamental changes consisting of modernizing and unifying concepts and terminology related to dynastic groups, their members and deputies, and restricting any recourse to customs and traditions in the management of their affairs

and the exploitation of their properties. The law also established equality between women and men members of the dynastic group in terms of rights and duties, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution, determining how to choose the representatives of the dynastic group, the obligations borne by members of the group and the penalties resulting from any breaching.

The text also aims to reorganize administrative guardianship over dynastic groups through the creation of a Guardianship Council on the territorial and central levels, opening the possibility of owning collective lands devoted to agriculture to encourage rights holders to invest and settle in those lands and transferring the lands of economic groups to private economic actors to implement investment projects and contribute to the country's economic and social development.

In the same context, the matter of real estate is considered as one of the important natural resources that contribute significantly to the economic and social development of countries and to the empowerment of groups living in precarious and poor situations, especially to the empowerment of women and girls. The Kingdom of Morocco has launched an initiative to develop industrial real estate within the financing provided by the Millennium Challenge Fund. The initiative aims to:

- Promoting sustainable and global economic growth with special care to include the gender and social inclusion dimensions in its different projects. The incorporation of gender and social inclusion considerations in the activities of the second charter is embodied in the formulation and implementation of activities integrated in the projects, according to the action plan adopted by the Millenium Challenge organism;
- Lay the foundations for the development of sustainable and comprehensive industrial zones, in particular by establishing and reconfiguring 3 model industrial zones and improving the governance and the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the industrial zones funded by the Sustainable Industrial Zones Fund;

- Encourage initiatives towards an environment that suits the activities of companies and their workers (both women and men) and propose an appropriate social infrastructure, favorable climate and working conditions to preserve jobs for women and groups in precarious situations in these industrial areas.

5. Economic and social security through the mainstreaming of social protection

Social protection workshops were given great importance, especially by His Majesty the King, who gave special care and attention to the groups living in precarious and poor situations, through social support and protection, in a manner that preserves their dignity and social cohesion, and improves their living conditions and purchasing power, in line with the contents of the Throne Speech of 2020, as well as the October 2020 speech for the opening of the parliamentary year. In application of the royal directives, the government has begun setting the contents of the royal structural project, which aims to gradually ensure social coverage for all citizens by 2025, and to formulate a comprehensive practical plan for the implementation of this reform, including a timetable, legal frameworks, and financing options, as well as adopted governance mechanisms, in coordination with all social partners. His Majesty also called for a deep reform of the existing social systems and programs, especially through the activation of the unified social registry. This project represents a real social revolution, because of its direct and tangible effects in improving the living conditions of the population, preserving the dignity of all Moroccans, and strengthening groups in a precarious situation, especially in the context of the economic fluctuations and health risks experienced by the whole world. As a first step towards the application of this major project, the government has prepared the framework law, the broad outlines of which were presented before His Majesty the King during the Ministerial Council held on February 11, 2021, and approved by both Houses of Parliament.

In the context of adopting major measures and procedures related to social protection workshops, the government is working to apply more than 100 social programs through several government sectors and specialized institutions. To achieve the highest levels of convergence and efficiency, the government has developed an integrated vision for social protection following the organization of the national debate on social protection on November 12 and 13, 2018. The royal directives calling for the generalization of social protection give a new dynamism to these reforms, thus lending these workshops a great national dimension and a time horizon extending to 2025, with precise programming and implementation mechanisms. A few months ago, the government took several measures to guarantee the activation in the most effective way of the mainstreaming of social protection called for by His Majesty the King, to guarantee its success and goal achievement given the critical importance of this royal project, which requires a broad collective involvement, as per the competencies and responsibilities of each individual. The project to mainstream social protection includes four main axes, reflected in:

- First, making the compulsory basic sickness insurance available for an additional 22 million persons during the years 2021 and 2022, by expanding the beneficiary group to include groups in need who benefit from the medical assistance system, and groups of professionals, independent workers and non-salaried persons who engage in a private activity. This insurance covers the costs of doctors, medicines, hospitalization, and treatment;
- Second, increasing the beneficiaries from family allowances to include nearly seven million children of school age, for the benefit of three million families during the years 2023 and 2024, by enabling families not benefiting from these allowances to benefit, as per the case, from allowances for the protection against risks associated with childhood or from fixed allowances;

- Third, expanding the base of the people registered in pension schemes to five million working Moroccans who do not benefit from a pension by the year 2025, by applying a pension system for the categories of professionals, independent workers and non-salaried persons who engage in a private activity;
- Fourth, including all individuals having a stable job to benefit from compensation for job loss in the year 2025, by simplifying the conditions for benefiting from this compensation, thus expanding its beneficiaries.

To ensure the optimal implementation of this project, the Government established a ministerial committee to follow up the application of these large projects. In 2020, the decree specifying the conditions for the application of the social security system to domestic workers entered into force as of June 3, 2020. It was activated to provide social coverage for the categories of professionals, independent workers, and non-salaried persons engaging in private activities. The decree concerning the application of the basic compulsory sickness insurance system and the updated pension system for these groups was published afterwards, with regard to midwives and medical nurses. In addition to these legislative reforms, several important programs have been introduced:

- Third stage of the National Initiative for Human Development:

The period 2017-2019 was characterized by the continuous implementation of the second stage of the National Initiative for Human Development, which included the Rural program, the Urban program, the Horizon program and the Program to fight against vulnerability, with a budget exceeding 10.71 billion dirhams.

The year 2019 was characterized by the launching of the third version of the National Initiative for Human Development 2019-2023, based on four main programs, with a budget of 18 billion dirhams, of which an average

of 4 billion is allotted to each of the first three programs, and 6 billion to the fourth program, as shown here below:

- Program for bridging the gap in infrastructure and basic social services: The year 2020 has seen the achievement of approximately 541 projects for a total cost of 783,7 million dirhams in which the National Initiative for Human Development contributed with 687,2 million dirhams, for the benefit of 780,000 individuals;
- Program for supporting persons living in precarious situations: The year 2020 saw the achievement of approximately 518 projects for a total cost of 508,2 million dirhams in which the National Initiative for Human Development contributed with 343,7 million dirhams;
- Program for enhancing the program for income-generating activities: Several socio-economic projects were launched within this program for the economic empowerment of several groups such as that of start-up entrepreneurs where 10 applications for interest were launched in 10 directions and allowed to select 31 service providers for technical support to start-up entrepreneurs with a budget of 193 million dirhams over three years;
- Program for improving income and economic inclusion of young people: In this program, the initiative's project covered several axes such as primary education, school support, mother and child health, and school support. Concerning mother and child health, 132 projects have been completed with an approximate budget of 3.83 million dirhams. In the primary education sector, 2,025 primary education units have been programmed in rural areas for an approximate budget of 523 million dirhams.
- Double the expenditure of the Social Cohesion Support Fund:

The budget of the Social Cohesion Support Fund has been doubled. The Fund finances the Tayssir program to support schooling, the program One Million School Bags, offers direct support to widows living in a

precarious situation, to handicapped persons, and funds the medical assistance system Ramed. In 2021, the name of the fund was modified to “Social Protection and Social Cohesion Support Fund” with a budget evaluated at 9.5 billion dirhams. Its interventions have been expanded and its resources enhanced with additional income, including the proceeds of the contribution for social solidarity on profits and income.

- Support to women living in a precarious situation: Two social cohesion mechanisms:

Targeting divorced women with custody of their children and neglected mothers by allocating more than 270 million dirhams as of 2010, and an increase of the number of beneficiaries that reached 27,000 persons since the creation of the fund, in addition to the multiplication of the number of treated files by three between 2017 and 2020;

Direct aids to widows living in a precarious situation, who benefited from a budget of 2.56 billion dirhams since the launch of the program in 2014. The aid was presented to 116,975 widows and 211,338 orphans up until October 2021. The average yearly increase for beneficiaries was approximately between 8.5% and 13.7% respectively during the last three years.⁵

- Reform of social welfare institutions:

In line with adapting social welfare institutions to the provision of Law No. 65.15 related to these institutions, the Government is actively working on preparing a comprehensive plan to improve the quality of the services presented at these institutions through the rehabilitation of their human resources and infrastructure. The necessary budgets for execution are being set aside, in parallel with the drafting of the regulatory texts necessary for the entry into force of that law.

5. The National Portal for Administrative Procedures and other procedures will be launched soon. It will constitute, for the first time in Morocco, a unified national base for approved administrative decisions and none other may be requested.

In April 2021, the number of social welfare institutions authorized as per the provisions of Law 14.05 reached 1,196 institutions with 105,736 beneficiaries of their services.

- Organization and structure of the social work sector:

In line with the legalization of the practice and development of social work professions, the Council of the Government had previously approved, in May 2020, Law No. 45.18 related to social workers, regulating the profession of social workers, specifying the conditions for its practice, the powers entrusted to social workers, and the conditions for the practice of these professions.

Work is also underway to develop the training system and prepare rehabilitative training programs such as the “RAAFIQ” program, which aims to rehabilitate families and social workers in the field of autism.

- Compensation for loss of employment:

Concerning social protection workshops, the Government has worked to improve and simplify the conditions for benefiting from the compensation system for loss of employment, noting that the number of beneficiaries of the compensation system for loss of employment during the period 2016-2020 reached a total of 74 thousand beneficiaries with a financial cost of more than 977 million dirhams.

6. Role and participation of civil society associations in environment protection, particularly biological diversity and its relationship with climate and environment change

In view of the important role played by environmental associations in terms of awareness raising and sensitization, the Government is working on launching several partnership programs with active associations in the field of environment and sustainable development to support environmental development initiatives and projects, to encourage

gender-sensitive projects, and contribute to the improvement of women's economic conditions. In this context, it has contributed to the financing of more than 170 collective environmental projects until 2021, with a budget estimated at 27 million dirhams. These projects cover the problems of desertification, sand encroachment, conservation, valorization of natural resources, biodiversity conservation, environmental education, climate change, ecological agriculture, ecotourism, and clean neighborhoods.

For reference, during the 22nd Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22) held in Marrakesh, support was provided for projects of several associations active in the field of climate change. These projects targeted approximately 14,500 women (23 cooperatives, 6,000 young women, 8,000 female students, 50 associative frameworks and 200 activists in environmental clubs). A special program was also developed to enhance capacities and training by organizing regional workshops that benefited more than 1,000 collective actors between the period 2018-2021, including 25% of women, or approximately 250 women.

The Government sectors concerned are also enhancing the participation of associations in consultative activities through their representation in several commissions and committees such as the Sahel Commission, the National Commission for Climate and Biodiversity. It should be noted that the participation of women and girls in training, awareness and sensitization programs and activities related to the preservation of the environment, especially genetic resources, and the sustainable use of biological diversity, is taken into consideration. In this regard:

- Awareness-raising and training activities have been organized to enhance the influence of women in decision making with regard to receiving and sharing the benefits resulting from the use of genetic resources in Morocco, where 164 women benefited from these activities;

- A visit to cooperatives mainly composed of women working in the utilization of genetic material has been organized, to create new sources and job opportunities for women in rural areas;
- Preparation of the project of Law 56-17 on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, to ensure a fair and equitable distribution of genetic resources and equal gender rights as required by the Nagoya Protocol to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.



Fourth Theme

**Climate, environmental and disaster
impacts on gender-based violence,
migration, and displacement**



Fourth theme:

Climate, environmental and disaster impacts on gender-based violence, migration, and displacement

1. Environment and climate factors and disasters and their impact on the phenomenon of violence against women and girls

Principle 20 of the Rio Summit Action plan issued in 1992 proclaimed that women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development. Chapter 24 of Memorandum 21 which addresses the role of women and their position in sustainable development, calls governments to eliminate all political, legal, administrative, cultural, attitude, social and economic obstacles preventing the full participation of women in development and public life.

Goal 5 of the sustainable development goals (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), which aims to consider the demands of women and girls in the world, is considered an integral part of the 17 goals of sustainable development that were adopted by the international community in 2015. The United Nations 2030 Agenda includes the process of reviewing the progress made in the last 20 years, following the statement and action plan arising from “Beijing 20”, where the work of the sixtieth session of the Commission on the status of women that took place in New York focused on the priority theme “Women’s independence and empowerment and their link to sustainable development.”

For its part, Morocco has recorded, for more than two decades, a remarkable development in the field of human rights in general and women’s rights in particular. This development was characterized by several actions, the most important being the signature of several

international conventions in this field, the review of discriminatory laws, the implementation of institutional and legislative reforms and the adoption of public policies aimed at reducing all kinds of differences and of measures to increase women's representation in various decision-making bodies. The milestones referred to below indicate the stages of progress in achieving sustainable development in Morocco:

- June 2011: The Moroccan constitution consecrated the principle of sustainable development and the strengthening of governance;
- In 2011, The National Charter for the Environment and Sustainable Development was approved, and the Advisory Committee issued its report on advanced regionalization aiming to achieve “an integrated and sustainable development at economic, social, cultural and environmental levels” by valuing the capabilities and resources of each region;
- In 2014, Framework Law No. 12-99 on the National Charter for the Environment and Sustainable Development was published.

In that respect, the awareness of the increasing impacts of climate change on women and girls in recent years has coincided with the realization of the importance of their role in the change and the promotion of equality and independence, which led to significant social and economic benefits and contributed to the adaptation to climate change and sustainable development. This progress is reflected in the positive results of gender integration into negotiations, climate policy, planning, and the adoption of measures to adapt to climate change.

In fact, at the international level, and since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement in 2015, it has become necessary to coordinate efforts to fight the impact of climate change.

In line with the efforts made at the national level to reduce climatic and environmental impacts and their incidence on the phenomenon

of violence against women and girls, a set of relevant measures was adopted, aimed at managing natural hazards. The Kingdom of Morocco relied on a set of guidelines consistent with the objectives of the Sendai Framework and the Arab strategy for disaster risk reduction, which urge the incorporation of the gender approach into the management of natural disaster risks. On this basis, the Kingdom of Morocco has adopted a national strategy to manage the risks of natural disasters (2020-2030), which aims to achieve three objectives that include all stages of the risk management cycle, namely:

- Knowledge development and risk evaluation;
- Enhancing risk prevention to strengthen resilience;
- Developing preparation for natural disasters to ensure fast recovery and effective rebuilding.

The national strategy for managing the risks of natural disasters has also adopted a comprehensive program to integrate the gender approach into disaster risk management in the third strategic theme: “Prevention of Natural Hazards and Strengthening Resilience”. Its implementation was based on practical measures, a participatory approach, and a specific timetable through the Priority Action Plan (2021-2023) and the Comprehensive Action Plan (2021-2026) which include two projects:

- The first project concerns “Sensitizing women to be active participants in the risk management system of high-risk areas”;
- The second concerns “Defining and taking into account groups living in precarious conditions (women, children, elderly, those with special needs) in the management of natural disasters”.

It should be noted that, in line with the Integrated Program for Disaster Risk Management and Resilience, work is underway to implement projects financed by the Fund for Combating the Effects of Natural Disasters through the launch of annual project requests, for the benefit

of potential institutional project holders (ministerial sectors, public institutions and contractors, and regional groups). There are so far more than 220 preventive projects, for a total cost of approximately 4 billion dirhams, including 107 structured projects with a financial investment of approximately 3 billion dirhams, one third of which was contributed by the Fund. The percentage of women beneficiaries in Morocco is 50% of the total population benefiting from these development projects.

The national policy in the field of climate change constitutes a practical framework for developing a strategy in the medium and long term, which makes it possible to provide proactive and ambitious answers to the challenges posed by climate change, and a frame of reference for coordinating measures and initiatives taken to combat climate changes as well as a structured, dynamic, and flexible participatory political mechanism to lay down green blocks for development to confront climate changes. At the same time, regional administrations specialized in dealing with such phenomena such as regional observatories for the environment and sustainable development, were created and equipped with regional information systems for environment and sustainable development.

Moreover, the National Climate Plan 2020-2030 has been prepared. It focuses on the need to establish a strong climate governance, strengthen the ability to withstand climate hazards, accelerate the transition towards a low-carbon economy, integrate the territory into climate dynamics, and strengthen human, technological, and financial capabilities.

In addition, the Strategic Plan was elaborated to adapt to climate change 2020-2030, focusing on strengthening the resilience of fragile ecosystems, productive sectors, and infrastructures against the negative effects of climate change, as well as strengthening capacities in the sector of climate information and knowledge.

In view of the important role played by environmental associations in terms of awareness and sensitization, a program for partnership with the association working in the field of environment and sustainable development was launched to support environmental and development initiatives and projects to encourage gender-sensitive projects participating in the promotion of the economic situation of women. In this context, more than 170 environmental collective projects were financed up until 2021, with an estimated budget of 27 million dirhams. These projects address issues of desertification, sand encroachment, conservation, valorization of natural resources, conservation of biodiversity, environmental education, climate change, ecological agriculture, ecotourism, and clean neighborhoods.

These efforts come in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, especially the fifth goal related to achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls and the African 2030 Agenda. Morocco has also made efforts to enhance the participation of associations in consultative activities through their representation in a group of bodies and committees such as the Sahel Committee and the National Committee for climate and biodiversity. It should be noted that the participation of women and girls in training, awareness and sensitization programs and activities related to the preservation of the environment, especially genetic resources, and the sustainable use of biological diversity, is taken into consideration. In this regard, the following actions have been achieved:

- Organization of sensitization and training activities to enhance the influence of women in decision making regarding access and benefit-sharing resulting from the use of genetic resources in Morocco, with 164 women having benefited from these activities;
- Visits to cooperatives consisting mainly of women involved in the use of genetic resources to create new sources and income opportunities for women in remote areas;

- Preparation of draft Law 56-17 on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization, to guarantee the fair and equitable distribution of genetic resources and equal gender rights in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

Morocco has worked on developing its energy capabilities. Since its formulation in 2009, the Kingdom's energy strategy has made great progress in the process of energy transition towards a cleaner and less dependent model. The various projects have made positive progress, especially those related to the development of renewable energies, which aim to increase the share of renewable energies to 42% of the completed capacity in 2020, and to 52% by 2030, thus achieving percentages exceeding the expected ones. At the end of 2017, the power from renewable energies amounted to 34% of the electrical mix, equivalent to 2,836 megawatts, including 180 megawatts of solar energy, and 887 megawatts of wind energy, and 1,769 megawatts of hydroelectric energy.

It should be noted in this context that the implementation of the solar energy program with a capacity of 2,000 megawatts will continue by 2020 in various regions of the Kingdom, with the foreseen achievement of the Noor Solar Power project. The National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water is developing a program of medium-sized photovoltaic power plants, such as Noor Tafilalet (120 megawatts) and Noor Atlas (200 megawatts). Their exploitation is supposed to start at the beginning of 2020. Concerning the wind energy program aiming to produce 2,000 megawatts by 2020, Morocco ranked second in the African continent and the Middle East and North Africa (after South Africa) in 2017 in terms of electricity generated from wind energy, thanks to the great efforts exerted in this field.

Concerning the implementation of the national strategy for energy efficiency, which aims to achieve an economy of energy of 5% by 2020

and of 20% by 2030, several measures have been taken, such as the adoption of the energy efficiency law in the construction sector, the enhancement of energy efficiency in the industrial sector, awareness-raising about environmental protection and the use of electric cars, the Green Mosques project, and enhancement of the pumping system using solar energy in irrigation.

2. Programs and measures relative to public policies addressing violence against women

The Kingdom of Morocco is experiencing a continuous dynamic in confronting the phenomenon of violence against women and empowering rights for all the population. This dynamic stems from the interest given by His Majesty King Mohammed VI to the advancement of the rights of women and girls, and from the constitutional establishment of the principle of equality and the fight against violence and discrimination, as well as the Kingdom's voluntary involvement in the human rights system at the international level. The Kingdom of Morocco has expressed by all possible means its firm will and commitment to maintaining and promoting the rights of women and girls through the continuous voluntary involvement in the international human rights system and its constant endeavor to bring national legislation in line with these obligations. Thus, Morocco completed its accession to the nine basic human rights conventions, of which we mention the most important: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the two Human Rights International Covenants on civil and political rights, and on economic, social and cultural rights, and all the conventions and resolutions issued by the United Nations related to the rights of Arabs, particularly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. Morocco has also adopted an integrated and expanded conception of human rights in its individual and collective dimensions, and in its economic, social, cultural, and environmental aspects, and evokes the goals and objectives of the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially its fifth goal.

On the other hand, Morocco gave a vision to the new development model in combating violence against women, most especially by mentioning women's access to economic opportunities in the first component, strengthening women's capabilities in terms of training and education in the second component, and stipulating the necessity of a zero-tolerance policy approach regarding violence against women in the third component. Great importance was given to combating the phenomenon and recommendation of a set of measures that were included in our vision to combat the phenomenon.

Given the importance of the government program in defining the main orientation and commitments of all government actors, especially in political, economic, social, environmental, and cultural fields, the program of the government for the legislative mandate 2021-2026 confirmed several commitments aimed at improving the status of Moroccan women, the most important of which are to:

- Consider the dignity of the citizen as the basis of public policies, through the minimizing of regional and social differences, achieving equality and providing good public services available to all;
- Increase the percentage of women activity from the actual 20% to more than 30%;
- Adopt a comprehensive policy approach that takes into account the issues related to access, opportunities, and resources experienced by women in other public policies;
- The government Action Plan aims to willingly reduce disparities related to gender.

The Kingdom of Morocco relies in its fight to eliminate violence against women and girls on a multi-dimensional approach based on prevention, protection, and care, as well as strengthening the legislative framework

for the protection of women while invoking the territorial dimension in order to target and meet the special requirements in each specific territorial area. To enhance the protection of women from all forms of violence, Law No. 103.13 on combating violence against women based on the core principles adopted in fighting the phenomenon of violence against women was promulgated, published in the Official Gazette on March 12, 2018, and entered into force on September 13, 2018.

To determine the effectiveness of this law in ensuring protection, restraint and care for women victims of violence, and to strengthen the comprehensive preventive dimension of the phenomenon, composed of the four internationally recognized dimensions for building any holistic vision of combating violence against women, the Ministry launched, together with a group of institutional partners, and after more than three years following the adoption of this law, a study to monitor the activation of the law, which focused on the following elements:

- An accurate evaluation of the progress achieved in implementing the requirements of Law 103.13 in terms of care and limiting the level of suitability of the care system to the requirements of Law 103.13;
- Compilation and analysis of judicial decisions issued in terms of combating violence against women since the entry into force of Law 103.13 and publishing related good jurisprudence;
- Limiting the opportunities provided by the law related to the protection of women from violence and discrimination on the basis of the results of the analysis of the issued judgments, and identifying the constraints and obstacles to its activation, including those related to the nature of the legal text;
- Monitoring the points of view of law enforcement officials on potential difficulties and problems in the implementation of the requirements of Law 103.13;

- Presenting practical legal and procedural proposals to improve the impact of the law on the protection and care of women and to overcome potential difficulties, with the possibility of reviewing it to achieve the necessary protection for women.

This study seeks to reach conclusions that will help identifying the necessary decisions, either regarding the possibility of improving the legal text if an amendment is deemed necessary or of urging whatever needs to be done to provide the conditions for the effective implementation of this law, if it turns out that the issue is related to providing the necessary material, financial or human capacities as well as the required effort to support the capacities of the actors, to unify their visions, and to give a spatial dimension to the public policy that will enable the local actor to fulfill his roles on the ground.

Active institutions are currently involved in creating the necessary conditions to ensure the most effective implementation of all relevant laws, such as Law No. 12.19 on the conditions of work and employment of employees and domestic workers, Law No. 14.27 on the fight against human trafficking, and Law No. 15.65 on social welfare institutions, the provisions of which replaced Law No. 14.05 on the conditions of opening and managing social welfare institutions, and Law No. 77.03 on audiovisual communication. A territorial protocol has also been launched at the regional and local levels to promote support to women victims of violence, in coordination with the Public Prosecutor's Office. All the parties to the declaration are involved in its implementation in accordance with the legal powers granted to them by Law 13-103 related to combating violence against women. This protocol is implemented in partnership and coordination with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family. The Crown General Prosecutors and the Crown Prosecutors in the administrations are in charge of enforcing the requirements of this protocol with the utmost care, immediacy and firmness required by the situation of women victims of violence, while ensuring their safety, to put an end to the violence to which they are subjected or that threatens

them and their children, if necessary. In order to develop the system of shelters and care centers for women and girls victims of violence, efforts have been made to create and prepare a group of multi-functional institutions for women to provide shelter and support to women who seek this service. Morocco is looking to develop these workshops within the limits of ensuring coverage of at least one center in each region with the promotion of digitalization in these centers.

As part of the preventive approach to stop the spread of violence against women, and given the importance of sensitization and awareness of the dangers of violence against women for the individuals and the community, awareness campaigns are launched every year. These campaigns are based on outreach activities throughout the national and regional territory, as well as on interactive meetings. Thus, the national campaign 19 to stop violence for the year 2021 was characterized by the choice of the theme "Awareness in the school environment to combat violence against women and girls" under the slogan "أنخرط#" "Je m'engage#", from 25th November to 23rd December. The choice of this important theme is consistent with the consecration of the opening of the university environment and the sensitization of students to the importance of combating violence against women in all its forms.

This campaign has witnessed the organization of several interactive awareness-raising workshops for the benefit of both male and female students of educational institutions in all regions of the Kingdom, including the supervision of university students, in addition to activities and seminars at the regional and local levels with the participation of all actors. The number of awareness and sensitization activities carried out within the framework of this campaign reached more than 470 activities in different educational institutions and in all regions of the Kingdom, with the active participation of all the regional academies of education and training and Moroccan universities and in cooperation with the National Foundation of Cooperation, the Agency for Social Development and the National Institute of Social Work (meetings, seminars, presentations, round tables, plays, training courses) and the participation of more than 27,517 participants (10,908 men and 16,610

women), which proves the updated volume of mobilization on the subject as well as the level of commitment.

To strengthen the capacity of care providers for women victims of violence, a training session was launched for stakeholders in the process of caring for women victims of violence against women from 8th to 22nd December 2021. Representatives of the listening and orientation centers of the associations, as well as workers from the multifunctional institutions and the national cooperation frameworks benefited from this course, with a participation rate of 150 participants in each unit.

This training session included the following training units:

- National normative and legal framework for combating violence against women;
- Procedures for assisting women victims of violence in multifunctional institutions for women;
- Procedures for reporting a child in danger accompanying women victims of violence;
- Protocol of acceptance of accommodation and departure ;
- Family mediation;
- Non-violent communication;
- Accompaniment/coaching of listeners working in multifunctional organizations.

3. The Covid-19 catastrophe and its impact on violence against women and girls: actions and measures

Economic, social, and cultural monitoring

Following the declaration of the state of health emergency on March 20, 2020, the government adopted more than 400 measures in various health, economic and social areas, ranging from measures aimed to keep pace with the implementation of the quarantine, to measures related to the mitigation of social and economic impacts. A special fund for the management of the pandemic was also created, providing over 33,000,000 dirhams. The Economic Vigilance Committee was created to monitor the national economic situation and take appropriate measures in favor of the sectors and socio-professional groups most affected by the epidemic. A Scientific and Technical Committee and Sectoral Vigilance Cells were also set up to monitor medical and scientific aspects and the evolution of the epidemiological situation. The most important actions were the following:

- Support for employees in the official sector, who lost their jobs or became unemployed as a result of the epidemic, of up to 2,000 dirhams per month, and support for workers in the unregulated sector (41% of active workers) of up to 800 dirhams, and 1,200 dirhams per month depending on the family size, determined on the basis of the criterion of benefiting from medical assistance (RAMED). The most vulnerable families, who do not have the “RAMED” card, i.e., about 7.3 million families, also received similar assistance, with women representing more than 20%.
- Organization of campaigns by labor inspectors to ensure that companies comply with precautionary measures against the epidemic and to raise awareness;

- Creation of regional committees to ensure that companies comply with the precautionary and preventive measures taken to combat the epidemic;
 - Preparation of guides with answers to possible questions in order to manage the working conditions in the exceptional circumstances of this epidemic;
 - Establishment of an interactive telephone platform “2233 ALLO” to provide instructions to the parties to the working relationship, to handle the various labor conflicts and to facilitate communication with the social parties in this particular circumstance;
 - Establishment of a joint procedure between the labor and industry sectors to verify the extent to which production units comply with prevention measures;
 - Joint development of a workplace health protocol for the management of infection risks, designed to ensure healthy working conditions for the protection of the health and safety of employees;
 - Be aware of the situation of the groups living in precarious situation, as they are more vulnerable and more rapidly affected by the negative impacts. The government has taken a number of measures for these groups, which can be summarized as follows:
1. Children living in a precarious situation: A plan has been developed that includes a set of actions to:
 - Strengthen community services by supporting projects of associations that focus on the benefits of caring for and protecting children during the quarantine period;
 - Establish permanent vigilance and monitoring mechanisms to protect children;
 - Provide remote psychological support to children placed in social welfare institutions.

2. Men and women with disabilities who have been impacted, as a number of measures have been taken in their favor, including:
 - Establish communication, orientation and guidance units which include national resources and expertise trained on the ground, through telephone numbers provided for this purpose;
 - Carry on the activities of the different centers involved in the education of children with disabilities through distance communication with mothers and fathers of children with disabilities.
3. The elderly, as a “safety process” was launched to support the elderly and disabled people, who represent the social group most at risk from the coronavirus pandemic.

Like many other rights, the enjoyment of cultural rights by citizens, both men and women, has encountered several challenges related to the Kingdom’s declaration of a state of health emergency and the subsequent closure of all museums, institutes, theaters, cultural centers, cinemas and other institutions involved in cultural activities.

In this context, and to mitigate the negative effects of the pandemic on the population during the quarantine, many cultural services have been provided remotely, with museums being opened for virtual tours, libraries, and books, art and music being made available to a wide audience through communication platforms. The rate of consumption of cultural products has generally increased with the growing demand for platforms that provide these services remotely or by delivery. Many intellectuals, men and women, have also communicated directly and contributed on their side to support the national effort, as a means of solidarity and enlightenment for the success of the precautionary measures put in place.

The progress achieved in Morocco in the area of digital transformation and development of communication network infrastructure, as a result of the Morocco Digital 2020 plan, the advanced use of digital communication and digital social media, and the development of several

remote services, were important factors in mitigating the negative repercussions of the Covid crisis, and reducing the effects of the virus, both social and economic, and the development of mechanisms and activities designed to reduce the economic repercussions having affected several sectors as a result of this crisis.

Because of its importance in society, culture has been one of the most important entrances to address the side effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, including the reduction of domestic violence in particular, and the prevention of its further escalation.

Caring for women victims of violence during the period of application of the Health Emergency Act

In accordance with royal directives, and in the framework of the Moroccan government's efforts to deal with the emerging coronavirus (COVID-19), and following the declaration of the state of health emergency throughout the national territory from March 20, 2020, to May 20, 2020, the government adopted more than 400 measures in various health, economic and social areas, either as follow-up steps to implement quarantine, or as measures to mitigate the social impacts, or the economic impacts.

Recognizing that epidemiological situations affect women and men differently, and lead to an increase in gender disparities and discrimination against women and girls, it is necessary to take into account the particular needs of women when planning and implementing measures to address these situations, whether in terms of prevention and monitoring of cases or in terms of access to services that guarantee an effective and efficient impact. In this context, several initiatives were launched to protect a broad category of persons in vulnerable situations, as well as initiatives to support women living in precarious situations and provide them with the necessary protection.

Measures to combat violence and discrimination against women and girls

With the promulgation of Decree-Law No. 2.20.292 of March 23, 2020, on the establishment of provisions for the state of health emergency and the declaration procedure, as well as Decree No. 2.20.293 of March 24, 2020, declaring a state of health emergency throughout the national territory to deal with the Covid-19 epidemic, the government took the initiative of:

Launching a digital awareness-raising campaign

With the support of the United Nations Population Fund and the Belgian Cooperation, the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family launched on March 26, 2020, a digital campaign of sensitization, awareness-raising, and prevention of violence against women and girls in the context of the COVID crisis. This campaign continued during the entire period of quarantine measures adopted by our country. Among its objectives, we can mention:

- Preventing acts of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence that may result from the implementation of the state of health emergency to limit the spread of the Covid-19;
- Raising awareness of the impact of the quarantine on the increase in domestic violence against women and girls;
- Informing women and girls at risk of domestic violence of the protection and care measures that are available to them;
- Providing models for the positive participation of men and boys in the health crisis context to prevent violence against women and girls;
- Paving the way towards positive advocacy initiatives to support women and girls exposed to violence in order to keep them safe.
- The digital awareness-raising campaign included the following components:

- Production of a first awareness report on the issue of violence against women in Morocco, in the context of quarantine, designed to disseminate a set of positive messages combining compliance with the rules of home quarantine and respect for women's human rights, and highlighting the benefits of tolerance and coexistence between the genders and the renunciation of violence, which were broadcasted on various channels;
- Production of a second awareness capsule with messages targeting influencers, artists, media professionals, public figures, and associations (24 participants). This digital awareness campaign involved a group of artistic, media, associative and influential personalities on different social media platforms, broadcasting messages of support to citizens during the home quarantine phase and urging cooperation, coexistence, tolerance, and avoidance of violent behavior. They were also broadcasted on different national channels and radio stations, and translated into sign language.

The hashtag #مغاربة_متحدين_وللعنف_ضد_النساء_رافضين was also launched for the digital promoting of the campaign, and to express the involvement in its components and promote the campaign at the level of social networks, reaching a significant percentage of the participation rate of the visitors of the department's Facebook and Instagram pages.

Providing 63 centers to care for women victims of violence

The Ministry of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family, in line with its sponsorship strategy and in partnership with the National Foundation for Cooperation, has been working on setting up shelter services for women in difficult situations, supplying 63 centers able to accommodate women in situations of violence at the regional and local levels, and providing a list of these centers to institutional actors. These are:

- Shelters for women living in the streets;

- Centers for women in difficult situations;
- Multifunctional spaces for women.

To accomplish the efficiency component, a spatial map has been drawn up for multifunctional spaces covering all regions of the Kingdom, including rural areas, to provide welcome, listening, temporary accommodation and legal guidance services and to offer health, psychological and social support to this category. In addition, a new booklet has been issued for the space, in the context of the implementation of Law 15.65, and in accordance with internationally recognized standards for the creation of third-party institutions.

Launching a website specific to the Covid-19 pandemic

It consists of specialized pages of the electronic portal of the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family, to protect persons with disabilities, the elderly, and children in vulnerable situations, and to protect women from violence in quarantine situations. It is intended to respond to the needs and queries imposed by the health emergency situation, offering remote services for these categories, making them easily available and accessible to all, and allowing each user and their family to access reliable information, data, and services. A page has been dedicated to "Protecting women from violence", which offers several services and information (development of services for the protection and care of women victims of violence, list of the 63 centers that can accommodate women in situations of violence, contact points in case of exposure to violence, digital awareness campaign materials...).

Support and monitoring of the listening center to provide remote care services

In terms of improving the care system for women victims of violence, the signatories of the "Marrakech Declaration 2020 to end violence against women" implemented under the de facto presidency of Princess Lalla Meryem in March 2020, continue to implement their commitments as

an important roadmap to eliminate violence against women and girls. In this context, 65 multifunctional institutions for women have been established to meet the needs and expectations of the beneficiaries of their services, and 44 partnership agreements have been signed with the associations managing these centers in December 2021 to provide shelter services to women in need of this service, and the total support provided to these associations has reached 5,217,400 dirhams.

Support and monitoring of the process of reporting cases of violence

Both through the role of the central unit of the Ministry of Solidarity, Social Development, Equality and Family, which sought to coordinate urgent interventions to resolve cases of women from different territorial fields who have been subjected to violence and expulsion, and in cooperation with security services and the Public Prosecutor's Office, while expediting access to temporary accommodation when necessary, in addition to ensuring direct follow-up for reported cases of violence circulating on social media, the Ministry was able to provide the necessary support to many monitored and reported cases, in coordination with national coordinators and delegates of cooperation located in all regions of the Kingdom, in order to intervene and offer the necessary protection, whether by providing accommodation for urgent cases or other protective measures in coordination with the police services, the Royal Gendarmerie, the prosecutors and the local authorities.

The government has also initiated the creation of digital platforms in the various prosecutor's offices of the courts of appeal and courts of first instance, for the units of care for women victims of violence, in order to enable the female victim to file her complaint without having to transfer it to the seat of the court, by accessing the digital platform of the relevant court and accurately filling out the electronic form of the complaint with the required data. The competent prosecutor's office will take appropriate action in this regard, and will inform the plaintiff.

Women victims of violence have been allowed to file complaints electronically to the Presidency of the Public Prosecution Office through its account plantes@pmp.ma, and to report through the electronic accounts of the Public Prosecution Offices in the different courts, in addition to reporting through the telephone and fax numbers designated for complaints to the public prosecutions, that were published on the occasion of the enforcing of the quarantine on the notifications of the public, which are available on the Public Prosecution Office website.

Support to persons living in the streets

The Ministry in charge of the Women's Sector, in coordination with the national cooperation and various stakeholders, including local authorities, territorial groups and concerned associations, has launched a set of local initiatives aimed at protecting persons living in the streets from infection. A central vigilance committee has been established with the national cooperation and regional committees, with tasks including monitoring the status of these groups, and preparing and sterilizing the shelter spaces. Under the supervision of the local authorities, patrols were also organized to monitor people living in the street, and to distribute health kits to this category to prevent the emergence of Covid-19, in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. This action included:

- Subjecting them to a medical examination and hospitalizing those whose health condition requires it;
- Providing first aid and basic treatments when required;
- Providing hygienic services: showers, haircuts, new clothes...;
- Returning those who have families to take care of them to their homes;
- Providing accommodation in centers and institutions designated for this purpose;

- Ensuring that the rules of physical distancing are respected, such as the safety distance in sleeping and eating areas, providing individual meals, in addition to being careful to stay in the shelter to protect them from Covid infection;
- Periodic inspection of their health;
- Sensitizing them to the seriousness of the epidemic and the importance of taking the necessary preventive precautions.

The total number of people who received support inside the shelters during the quarantine period and until June 1, 2020, reached a total of 6,050 people, including 549 women.

Women's participation in tackling the Covid-19 pandemic

While all Moroccan administrations and services have mobilized to spare the Moroccan population the dangers of the Covid-19 virus, one type of these teams that were on the front lines has emerged in a very distinct way. They are the Moroccan women who have demonstrated high efficiency, great patriotism, and firm seriousness. They have shown a silent and distinguished presence and have exercised their responsibilities firmly, alongside men, in various sectors in these exceptional circumstances imposed by the crisis of the spread of the new Covid virus.

Women have always been at the forefront in fighting the Covid pandemic, whether in the health, education, governance sectors or in any other profession where women have proven their active role in facing the dangers of the Covid-19 pandemic. Moreover, several women's initiatives were launched to tackle Covid-19, and we mention the participation of women prisoners in producing protective masks in line with their rehabilitation to reintegrate society, by kindling their spirit of citizenship and empowering them with a set of positive values, such as bearing responsibility, collaboration, cooperation, and contributing to the efforts made by the various components of Moroccan society, from

government sectors and community activities, to prevent and limit the spread of this epidemic. They were also offered encouraging financial rewards and compensation.

4. Disasters, environmental degradation, and migration: Policies and programs specific to migration and asylum

Conventions and optional protocols ratified by Morocco constitute the human rights reference for the various policies the Kingdom has worked on implementing. Among these policies, the National Strategy for Migration and Asylum defined a set of objectives and procedures represented by 27 specific objectives and 81 processes identified within the framework of 11 programs to implement the National Strategy for Migration and Asylum. These programs focused on renewed answers to the challenges posed by the migration issue at the humanitarian, economic, cultural, social, and legal levels, as well as at the level of public governance.

In terms of providing social and humanitarian assistance to migrants and refugees and integrating them into solidarity and social development programmes, the delegated ministry in charge of Moroccans living abroad works to ensure the continuity of the permanent mechanism for providing social assistance to migrants and refugees in coordination with civil society associations for the distribution of humanitarian aid. In light of the exceptional circumstances related to the Covid-19 pandemic, several humanitarian operations were implemented in partnership with civil society associations, international partners, and government social sectors across the Kingdom, including granting 16,402 urgent humanitarian aids that include distribution of food, clothes, blankets, children and infant products, hygienic and sterilization products, and medical masks.

In terms of health, the processes have been continuous to enable migrants, refugees, and their families to access health services on an equal basis with their Moroccan counterparts, and to ensure that they benefit from primary health care and emergency assistance, and from national programs and medical campaigns organized in cooperation and partnership with civil society associations and international partners. A process has also been initiated to integrate migrant and refugee children into the national program for maternal and child health, the national vaccination program, and the preparation of the national program for the advancement of the health of migrants 2019-2025, which includes delivering treatment services, free diagnosis, and epidemiological care for the benefit of migrants.

To enable migrants and refugees to access vocational training programs and facilitate their integration into socio-professional life without discrimination, several measures have been adopted. The system of information and guidance has been improved to facilitate the access of migrants and refugees to vocational training centers and benefit from the services and programs provided by the National Agency for the Promotion of Employment and Competencies. Technical and financial support has been provided to associations working in the field of training and accompanying migrants and refugees who enter the labor market. Moreover, work has also been done on developing the electronic platform "TAECHIR" to expedite and facilitate visa applications for work contracts for foreign workers in Morocco, enable migrants and refugees to create cooperatives and obtain the status of self-entrepreneurs, and a practical guide for the employment of foreigners residing in Morocco has been prepared for entrepreneurs.

Concerning institutional partnerships and international cooperation, the ministry in charge of Moroccans living abroad continues to follow up the implementation of several programs and projects with various international partners concerning the integration of migrants and refugees in Morocco in various fields. These measures included, in

particular, the continuation of implementation of projects for promoting the integration of migrants, refugees and members of their families, whether in partnership with United Nations agencies or with bilateral cooperation agencies. Joint programs were also launched to enhance the territorial implementation of the National Strategy for Migration and Asylum, and to monitor territorial authorities in the management of migration issues.

Moreover, in the context of the rehabilitation of the legal and institutional framework related to migration and asylum, the implementation of Law No. 14-27 related to combating human trafficking was initiated by the adoption of Decree No. 2.17.740 to determine the composition of the National Committee for the Coordination of Measures to Combat and Prevent Human Trafficking, which started its work in 2019.

Concerning the management of inflows and combating human trafficking and smuggling of migrants, the authorities concerned have worked on strengthening border control mechanisms to control migration flows, combat migrant smuggling and human trafficking networks, and take measures to encourage the voluntary return of migrants, in conditions that respect their rights and dignity, in coordination with the Ministry of Interior and in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration in Morocco and the diplomatic missions of their countries.

As part of its program's achievements, the Ministry has developed a program to strengthen its border management, manage and reduce the flow of illegal migrants and combat human trafficking. This program also helps control the number of illegal migrants present on the national territory (by regulating their status or assisting them in voluntary return), and consists of two special objectives and 6 measures:

- Special goal 15: Control the migration flow through a humanitarian approach respecting human rights (divided into 5 measures);
- Special goal 16: Combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling networks (one measure).

Morocco's work in the management of migratory flows remains an important model in the Mediterranean basin, as the Ministry of Interior coordinates and harmonizes interventions between the various sectors involved in activating the National System to combat illegal migration, cross-border smuggling of migrants and human trafficking.

In this regard, land and sea borders are monitored and managed, and the integrated management of the Kingdom's border posts is carried out continuously through the enhancement of human, material, and technological resources.

Thus, thanks to the effective system for combating irregular migration in neutralizing the infiltration circles in Morocco and tightening the noose on networks smuggling migrants and trafficking illegal drugs across the border, the competent Moroccan authorities achieved the following in 2020:

- Aborting 40,288 migration or illegal immigration attempts, including attempts by foreign migrants, nationals of African countries in particular, as well as Moroccan candidates for illegal immigration;
- Dismantling 394 illegal migrant smuggling networks;
- Rescuing 10,316 migrants (men, women, and minor children) by the Royal Navy.

As part of its commitment to a humanitarian approach, during the years 2014 and the end of 2016-2017, two processes to regularize the status of foreigners in an irregular situation were organized, with more flexible criteria to enable the regularization of more than 50,000 migrants.

The regularization of the status of illegal residents has allowed them to enjoy the rights and opportunities for integration into the Moroccan society, within the framework of the National Strategy for Migration and Asylum.

Concerning the regularization of asylum seekers in Morocco, 847 people were granted refugee status by the Office of Refugees and Stateless Persons on March 12, 2020, within the framework of the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee's work. The beneficiaries are distributed as follows: men (371), women (248), minors (204) and newborns (24). In addition, 1,363 Syrians interviewed by the said committee also benefited from international and national protection.

In line with strengthening the mechanism of assistance to the voluntary return of illegal migrants, established by the Ministry of Interior with the support of the International Organization for Migration, the latter enabled provision of the possibility for migrants who do not want to remain in the host country and wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin, to return and reintegrate under favorable conditions. This mechanism consists of three stages:

Assistance to the persons concerned in the pre-departure stage (psychological and social support, distribution of medicine, food, and healthcare), preparation for the departure of those benefiting from voluntary return (professional orientation, financial aid), and monitoring of the reintegration of migrants returning to their country of origin.

Migrants concerned by voluntary return are:

- Migrants suffering from health issues
- Victims of human trafficking
- Pregnant women
- Single parent families (father or mother returning home with the children)
- Elderly people (50 years and above)
- Minors/foreign unaccompanied minors.

Concerning the processes of enhancing and strengthening the capacities of governmental and non-governmental actors in the field of migration, asylum, and human trafficking, training programs in person and remotely have been continued with the various institutional and international partners.

In the context of strengthening the legal framework, Law 27.14 on combating human trafficking, which was approved by Parliament in 2016, represented an important step in confronting the growing phenomenon of organized and cross-border criminal networks targeting vulnerable groups, especially women, children, and illegal migrants. After the entry into force of the law, the Chief Public Prosecutor directed a patrol of all Public Prosecutors, Crown Prosecutors, and judges of the Public Prosecution Office, to urge them to apply Law 27.14 on combating human trafficking, in its part related to the protection of victims.



Fifth Theme:

**The participation of women in
public life and environment-related
decision making**



Fifth Theme:

The participation of women in public life and environment-related decision making

1. The role of elected institutions in environmental and disaster-related policies, programs and laws:

The effective, territorial implementation of advanced regionalization and of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, especially the aspect on development of the green economy and the fight against climate change, provides a precious opportunity for cities, major agglomerations and regions to put together a long-term vision and an integrated, sustainable and resilient development program in which all stakeholders - men, women and the public and private sectors - can be involved. Proximity makes it possible to identify opportunities as well as the local problems faced, and this facilitates the response to those problems, provided the necessary capabilities and means are available.

The 2011 Constitution laid an emphasis on the environmental dimension and on sustainable development. Thus, Article 71 stipulates that the following fall under the domain of the law, other than the matters that are expressly devolved on it by other Articles of the Constitution: the regulations relating to the management of the environment, to the protection of the natural resources and to sustainable development (...), the power to vote laws regarding the fundamental objectives of the economic, social, environmental and cultural activity of the State. Similarly, Article 13 of the Constitution provides that the State, public institutions and local governments seek to raise all the means available to facilitate male and female citizens' equal access to (...) water, to a healthy environment and (to benefit from) sustainable development.

According to Article 136 of the Constitution, regional and local organization is based on the principles of free administration, cooperation and solidarity; it guarantees the participation of the populations concerned in the management of their affairs and promotes their contribution to integrated, sustainable human development. The Constitution also stipulates that regions and the other local governments shall have the organizational powers to exercise their prerogatives in their areas of competence and within their constituencies.

Article 19 of the Constitution stipulates that men and women enjoy, on an equal footing, civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights and freedoms. Thus, the 2011 Constitution has enshrined a number of environmental rights that fall within the framework of sustainable development. This shows the legislator's desire to enshrine those rights in the Constitution through the powers given to local governments. There is also the institutionalization of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council. This is also reflected in the field of law-making, which falls within the remit of parliament, with its two houses: the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors. It attests to their status and importance as shown by the organic laws on the three types of local entities.

The organic laws concerning the three levels of local authorities (i.e. the regions, the provinces and prefectures and the communes) include environmental provisions, albeit to varying degrees, directly or indirectly, as clear powers, as an approach or as a procedure. That is the case with Organic Law 111.14 relating to the regions, and the provisions of Organic Law 113.14 on the organization of communes as well as Organic Law 112.14 regarding the organization of prefectures and provinces.

Organic Law 113.14 on communes stipulated broad competencies for presidents of communes with regard to the environment. The Law made a distinction between the presidents' powers and those of communal councils. Thus, Article 100 of that organic law stipulates that the president of the council exercises the administrative police, by means of regulatory

decrees and individual police measures, including authorization, injunction or prohibition, in the fields of hygiene, health, public tranquility and the safety of passageways. In particular, the president discharges powers relating to the environment, which include the following:

- ensure respect of the hygienic conditions of houses and roads, the sanitation of sewers and the prevention of garbage dumping in inhabited areas and the disposal thereof;
- organize the control of unregulated commercial, handicraft and industrial activities that are likely to affect hygiene, health, safety of passageways and public tranquility or that are harmful to the environment;
- ensure the cleanliness of watercourses and drinking water, and protect and control water points intended for public consumption as well as bathing water;
- take the necessary measures to prevent or control endemic or dangerous diseases, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force.

Article 92 of the same law stipulates that communal councils deliberate on issues that concern the determination of conditions for the conservation of the forest estate, within the limits of the powers vested in them by law. That organic law also stipulates health, hygiene and environmental protection measures, including the adoption of the necessary steps for the control of disease agents, as well as the creation and organization of communal hygiene offices.

In accordance with Article 235 of Organic Law 14.113 on communes, the district council may submit proposals on all matters concerning the district and, in particular, on all actions within the district's territorial jurisdiction that promote housing, improve the living environment and protect the environment

In accordance with Article 139 of the Constitution, male and female

citizens as well as organizations may submit, subject to specific conditions, several petitions with a view to asking the council to include an agenda item that falls within its competence through the presentation of proposals regarding the environment or its protection.

In view of the important powers vested in territorial authorities in the environmental field, women's representation in this regard remains an essential entry point for the involvement of all citizens in the decision-making process and for taking into account the gender approach in the development plans, as stipulated in the regulatory laws of those institutions. This makes it possible, for decision-makers, to mainstream the environmental dimension into the programs of local authorities. The question is: Does women's representation, in the post-2021 electoral landscape, respond to the concern regarding women's presence within territorial institutions and at decision-making level to enable them, through the powers vested in these institutions, to consolidate the environmental dimension, taking into account the gender approach?

2. Women's representation and role in elected institutions (Parliament and territorial institutions):

The Kingdom of Morocco has made major efforts to increase the political representation of women, in keeping with international standards, at both national and local levels. It has opted for the legal approach by introducing new provisions in the elections code, in the regulations of the House of Representatives and the House of Councilors as well as in the law on political parties and the laws of territorial communes.

The 2021 legislative and communal elections produced a number of outcomes which strengthen women's participation, as candidates, as elected officials and as holders of decision-making positions. In this regard, the communal elections saw an increase in the percentage of female candidates, which reached 26.64%, against 21.20% in 2015, and only 12.38% in 2009. This ascending trend means women are having

greater opportunities than before.

The gender-disaggregated picture shows that the percentage of percentage in the last communal elections was 26.64%, up from 21.18% in the 2015 elections. This shows a significant increase, pointing to the possibility of exceeding one third in the future. Similarly, following the 2021 elections, three women were elected mayors - in the cities of Rabat, Casablanca and Marrakech - and one woman was elected president of a regional council, for the Guelmim-Oued Noon region.

The percentage of women elected to regional councils stood at 38.5% in 2021, which is slightly higher than 37.61% in 2015. The 2015 elections marked a spectacular leap forward, since that percentage was only 2.2% in 2009.

At the level of the House of Representatives, the principle of positive discrimination was gradually introduced to increase women's representation, as shown in the following table:

Number and percentage of elected female MPs	2007 elections to the House of Representatives	2011 elections to the House of Representatives	2016 elections to the House of Representatives	2021 elections to the House of Representatives
Number	34	67	81	96
Percentage	10%	16.87%	20.5%	24.3%

In conclusion, the representation of women at communal level and in both houses of Parliament is on an ascending trend. This is due to the efforts made as far as laws are concerned, namely through the establishment of a women's quota, and also in terms of capacity-building and financial support for political parties and the civil society organizations involved in this field.

Work is continuing to support female elected officials to help them hold

decision-making positions, especially at the level communes, which were given significant powers regarding the environment, both directly and indirectly.

3. Representation of women in environmental institutions and bodies:

Natural resources constitute some of the main sources used in investment, infrastructure development, and social and economic development. These resources are among the natural assets whose development and proper use require good investment of human resources - men and women alike. Therefore, there is a close link between the two. Proper use of natural resources requires qualified human resources that are capable of ensuring effective, strategic management. Also needed is an effort to take into account all variables, particularly gender.

In this respect, the Kingdom of Morocco has sought to develop natural resources through the human capital, especially women. Among the most important and crucial natural resources that are managed through a gender perspective, we can mention water. The Kingdom of Morocco ensures the mainstreaming of the gender perspective based on a human rights approach. It also takes into account international conventions on the right to access water, the Sustainable Development Goals, the provisions of the Kingdom's Constitution and Organic Law 130.13 regarding the Finance Law, in addition to the gender institutionalization strategy applied by this Directorate, and which was prepared in partnership with UN Women. It includes the following four axes:

- Developing institutional capacities in a sustainable manner to enhance gender equality in the water resource sector;
- Mainstreaming the gender perspective in human resource

management and promoting equal opportunities for men and women in accessing senior positions;

- Mainstreaming gender equality in water-related professions;
- Mainstreaming the gender perspective in water resources development programs.

In this regard, the Kingdom of Morocco is ensuring follow up to the implementation of the measures below. It also seeks to carry out a number of priority measures to mainstream the gender perspective in the water policy. As part of implementing the water program, this Directorate has ensured the following:

- Capacity building in achieving gender mainstreaming into public policies from a human rights perspective. Thus, the gender perspective has been incorporated into the national water scheme project;
- Ensuring the equitable participation of men and women in decision making and in the conduct and management of water projects. The percentage of women in senior positions at the General Directorate for Water reached 23.3%. Moreover, a number of positive measures were taken to make sure women benefit from better working conditions, and be employed in dams and flood protection sites (a woman was appointed project manager for the Beni Mansour-Dar Mimoun Bouhmed dam complex);
- Incorporating the gender perspective in Water Law 36.15 and its implementing decrees; the Law stipulates the following, under the general provisions:
- Facilitate equal access to water for male and female citizens;
- Management of water and the hydrological public domain in general, in accordance with good governance standards;

- Gender mainstreaming into the development and management of water resources. The text explicitly addressed this in four articles that stipulate equal access to water for all male and female citizens.

The Directorate mainstreamed the gender perspective and ensured followed up to it in the composition of prefectural and provincial water committees as well as in the composition of the higher council for water and the climate. It also coordinated its action with water basin agencies. Women represent 25% of the workforce in these water institutions.

Following is the percentage of women who are members of administrative boards:

- o The higher council for water and the climate: Article 78 of Law No. 36-15 on water stipulates that women shall be represented in the council through representatives of associations working in the field of water, climate and the environment. At least one quarter of the council's membership must be women.

- o Water basin council: Article 88 of Law No. 36-15 on water stipulates that women shall be represented in this council through representatives of associations working in the field of water, climate and the environment. At least one quarter of the council membership must be women.

- o Prefectural and provincial water committees: Article 89 of Law No. 36-15 on water stipulates that women shall be represented in these committees through representatives of associations working in the field of water and the environment who are elected by their peers; at least one quarter of the membership of those committees must be women.

The Kingdom of Morocco has instituted a water police force made up of men and women to monitor the water public domain. Women police officers at the level of central and provincial water departments and water basin agencies account for 12.4% of the total workforce, which stands at 210 (26 women and 184 men).

4. Environmental civil society organizations, their role, women's participation in them and access to funds:

Valuing and supporting women's voice, participation and leadership

There is, today, great reliance on civil society organizations in terms of contributing to steering the country's development process alongside the state and other stakeholders, including the private sector. Civil society organizations have become an effective, well-organized social player that contributes to achieving comprehensive, sustainable development, improving the quality of life, promoting equality, and integrating and enhancing the role of women in sustainable development. These objectives required extensive efforts to expand the role and contributions of civil society organizations in the area of environmental protection.

In keeping with the priorities of the National Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Development and the need to involve and strengthen the capacities of environmental civil society organizations, the State Secretariat in charge of sustainable development adopted an approach that places special emphasis on environmental organizations. Thus, it entered into partnerships with those organizations as a strategic policy and as a priority, given its importance in the practical implementation of its plans and its perceptions in the area of sustainable development. This partnership with civil society organizations included the following:

- Supporting the projects of environmental civil society organizations: this was achieved through the support provided to the projects of CSOs involved in climate change to strengthen civil society initiatives during the 22nd Summit of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22), which was held in Marrakech. This program, which was implemented in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), was supported

by the Canadian government. In this regard, 40 CSO projects received funding, at a total cost of 5.9 million dirhams. To assess these projects' impact on the environment and on target populations, including their behavior and practices with respect to the environment around them, this Ministry conducted an evaluation study for 106 CSO projects that received support in 2014 and 2015. The study aimed to identify the obstacles impeding the implementation of projects in order to find effective solutions to them and improve project delivery and the sustainability of their implementation, in addition to accompanying CSOs to improve their management capabilities.

The Ministry in charge of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development also promotes the participation of CSOs in consultative activities. This is achieved through the representation of CSOs in a number of bodies and committees, such as the coast committee and the national committee for climate and biodiversity. It should be pointed out that the participation of women and girls in training, awareness and sensitization programs and in activities related to the preservation of the environment is taken into account, especially genetic resources and the sustainable use of biological diversity. In this regard, the following activities were undertaken:

- Organizing awareness-raising and training activities to increase the influence of women in decision-making regarding access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use in Morocco; 164 women benefited from these activities;
- Conducting awareness visits to cooperatives made up mostly of women who work on the use of genetic resources; this creates new income-generating opportunities for women in remote areas.

Preparation of Bill 56-17 on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use. The bill ensures the fair and equitable distribution of genetic resources and equal

gender rights, as required by the Nagoya Protocol to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity.

In accordance with the provisions of the Sahel Act, the national commission for the integrated management of the coast was institutionalized. It includes representatives of ministerial departments, coastal authorities, relevant public institutions, universities and civil society.

As part of promoting women's entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Industry and Trade developed a system for self-employed entrepreneurs to encourage the entrepreneurial spirit, particularly for the benefit of women and youth. The aim is to facilitate access to markets and improve the socio-economic conditions of target populations. In this regard, the total number of self-employed businesses registered in this system in 2020 stood at 74,000.

In this regard, the "Nawat" program introduced by Auto Entrepreneurs Maroc makes it possible to ensure accompaniment measures by experts and technical consultants, including the following:

- At pre-investment level, by supporting target groups in the preparation of business plans;
- At post-investment level, by accompanying target groups develop professional and managerial expertise as well as entrepreneurial skills, and by putting expertise and technical support at their disposal.

Civil society organizations in the Kingdom of Morocco have gained significant experience on environmental issues. In preparation for COP22, held in Marrakesh, many CSOs and non-governmental organizations took the initiative to establish the "Moroccan Coalition for Climate Justice" within a human rights perspective based on the principle of climate justice⁶.

6. Report of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, Kingdom of Morocco, 2015, p. 92

As regards the outcome of the Coalition's action⁷, there have been many activities and achievements since its founding conference in 2017, whether in the area of institutional advocacy, the organization of civil dialogue on issues relating to the environment, sustainable development and climate change, and the contribution to formulating relevant public policies. It also enhanced coordination work and improved the quality and representation of environmental civil society organizations at the national and international levels. The Coalition also contributed to strengthening the capabilities of environmental CSOs in the field of advocacy, the establishment of good governance principles and the adoption of effective organizational structures at regional and national levels.

The Coalition managed to be involved in major issues and activities, such as organizing the first and second national forums for national environmental civil society organizations, submitting advocacy memoranda regarding draft finance laws and the Moroccan development model, drafting and publishing pamphlets, in addition to advocacy work in the fields of waste management, wetlands, protected areas, forests and biodiversity. It was also involved in environmental and development issues through the representation of civil society in joint national committees and the signing of national charters relating to the media, environment and governance.

The Coalition actively took part in many international conferences of the parties on climate change and biodiversity. It also aims to consolidate its regional bodies through strong participation of youth and efforts to achieve parity as far as women's representation is concerned, in addition to enhancing communication and increasing administrative and financial capacities.

7. For more information, see the founding press release of the Moroccan Coalition for Climate and Sustainable Development, stressing the centrality of environmental protection to achieve development in Morocco, through the official website of Maghreb Arab News Agency, last visit: February 16, 2022. See: <https://mapecology.ma/ar/>

Access to funding for civil society organizations engaged in climate and environment issues

To enhance the engagement of civil society organizations and their participation in disaster risk mitigation measures, the environment department funded the projects of environmental CSOs under a participatory mechanism involving local stakeholders, in accordance with the Prime Minister's circular No. 7/2003 governing the partnership between the state and civil society organizations. Thus, 173 CSO projects were funded between 2014 and 2018, for a total budget of 28 million dirhams⁸. These projects included issues relating to desertification, sand encroachment, water resource management, treatment of liquid waste, biodiversity conservation, environmental education, climate change, ecological agriculture, ecotourism and clean neighborhoods.

Support to CSO projects included the following:

- The Ministry in charge of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development launched a partnership program with civil society organizations involved in environmental and sustainable development issues to support environmental development initiatives and projects. The aim was to encourage projects that take into account the gender perspective and contribute to improving women's economic conditions. In this regard, the ministry contributed to financing more than 170 environmental civil society projects up to the year 2021, committing 27 million dirhams. These projects included issues relating to desertification, sand encroachment, preservation and development of natural resources, biodiversity conservation, environmental education, climate change, ecological agriculture, ecotourism and clean neighborhoods.

8. For more information, see Environmental Organizations Support Program:

<http://www.environnement.gov.ma/images/ONG-Partenariat/AR/Appui-au-financement-des-projets-associatifs-ar-link.pdf>

- During the 22nd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP22) held in Marrakech, the projects of several CSOs involved in the field of climate change received support. These projects targeted approximately 14,500 women (23 cooperatives, 6,000 young women, 8,000 female students, 50 CSO staff members, and 200 activists engaged in environment clubs). A special training and capacity building program was also developed for the organization of regional workshops that benefited more than 1,000 CSO activists between 2018 and 2021, of whom 25% were women (approximately 250 women).
- Under the program for the integrated management of natural disaster risks and resilience, the Ministry of Interior seeks to implement projects financed by the fund for combating the effects of natural disasters. To this end, it issues annual calls for projects concerning institutional project holders. Also, international donor institutions rely on the percentage of women beneficiaries as an indicator for evaluating funded projects.
- In 2020 and 2021, the handicraft sector and the social and solidarity economy also contributed to the “Mu’azara” program aimed at supporting the re-launch of the activities of social and solidarity economy organizations and mitigating the economic and social repercussions of the Covid-19 pandemic on those organizations’ workers. They financed development projects submitted by associations and cooperatives in various regions of the Kingdom. The proportion of women who benefited from this program was 79% in the first edition (a total of 1,826 women beneficiaries), and 84% in the second edition (4,587 beneficiaries) working in the handicraft production and service sector, agriculture, local products, education and training, preservation of the environment, renewable energy, development of natural resources and digital commerce.

Corporate social responsibility and its contribution to sustainable development:

Moroccan businesses have become increasingly aware of environmental concerns given economic fluctuations, in particular. Moreover, business competitiveness, measured in the light of a company's social responsibility indicator, is assessed by the extent of its commitment to the principles of sustainable development, not just profit. Moroccan businesses fall into one of two categories: formal and informal. The formal sector is more committed to this new factor, compared to the informal sector. Many businesses in Morocco have engaged in voluntary initiatives to reduce carbon emissions in order to play their part in rising to the climate challenge. This is indicated by the creation of the Climate, Environment and Green Economy Committee within the General Confederation of Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM), the Moroccan Center for Clean Production, and the partnership that exists between Moroccan employers and the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection. The latter developed a clear roadmap and mechanisms to encourage enterprises, especially small and medium-sized ones, and the private sector in general, to be more actively engaged in the initiatives aimed at developing a green economy.





Sixth Theme

Challenges, stakes and prospects



Sixth Theme

Challenges, stakes and prospects

1. The challenge of the prevailing economic and development models

Understanding the close link between the economy and environmental issues allows us to identify the challenges faced by decision-makers amid the global controversy involving the nature of the economic model, the need to ensure competitiveness, the challenges of environmental legislation, and the constraints relating to global warming - a problem that transcends national borders.

Consequently, there was a tendency to adopt a new generation of growth and development models aimed at striking a balance between economic efficiency and social equity, gender, environmental preservation, and sustainability. These are elements that give a competitive edge for the marketing of goods and the promotion of trade in general.

To pave the way for a new economic and development model, it was necessary to re-establish the concept of the societal and material relationship. Addressing this issue goes beyond the national level. It has to take into account inter-state relations as well, the nature of the economy of each country, its rank at the global level as well as gender and regional disparities since the issue concerns the involvement of men and women in the process of development, and the aim is to leave no one behind.

The need to think about future generations, protect the planet and avoid economic models that are harmful to the environment was behind the drive to promote a green economy. It shed light on the link between the economy and the environment as a means to understand sustainable development and achieve it, in addition to emphasizing the relationship between humans and nature.

2. Morocco's economic models in the light of environmental indicators:

The Kingdom of Morocco, like many other countries in the world, has become firmly convinced that the current development model is no longer capable of producing the desired effect or renovating itself. It is incapable of responding to the requirements of social integration, in the absence of harmony between the various components of the economic system, and given, also, the economic, social and environmental crises faced.

Morocco has developed economic strategies for the environment based on all forms of use of solar energy. The country's efforts focus on the goal of building a Morocco that would be a "green factory" at the regional and international levels, and to make sure industrial activity balances various economic and environmental interests. The aim is to achieve economic growth based on sustainability and the rational use of resources, and to ensure close policy coordination between all institutions concerned with environmental protection.

Consolidating the role of civil society organizations as local actors is the best hope for the future of the earth and the protection of the environment. Indeed, CSOs play an effective role in observation and advocacy regarding environmental degradation. It is also important to consider constructive, incentivizing approaches to encourage activities that protect the environment by providing tax breaks for less polluting technologies and initiatives. Moreover, the budget allocated to the environment sector should be increased in order to achieve integrated, sustainable development, and Morocco's commitments in the area of sustainable development should be turned into a lever for economic take-off. Similarly, the conditions for a successful advanced regionalization project should be met, in addition to speeding up the completion of the institutional, legal and regulatory framework for economic, social and environmental development.

The above measures will undoubtedly contribute to building a prosperous Morocco that guarantees quality of life for all and provides citizens - male and female - with opportunities to capitalize on their competences and creative energies while improving their standard of living. Morocco would, thus, be an equitable nation that derives its strength and pride from its history, civilization, institutions and values; a country that forges ahead with confidence on its African continent. The purpose of development cannot simply be limited to achieving the well-being of citizens and improving their living conditions, nor can a country ensure development without taking into account future generations⁹.

Thanks to the concerted efforts of various stakeholders, Morocco has introduced significant structural changes in terms of both pace and quality. Those changes made it possible to usher in a new phase of growth and to enhance the country's position with respect to sustainability. Through the 2011 Constitution and the framework law on a national charter for the environment and sustainable development, the Kingdom of Morocco has developed a modern legislative framework in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development. It has also passed a number of laws and adopted strategies that concern several fields: water, energy, climate change, forests, protected areas, air quality, solid waste management, coastal protection, etc.

Earlier on, Morocco had adopted an energy transition policy aimed at increasing its capacity to produce electricity from renewable sources. The National Energy Strategy, put together in 2009, made it possible to develop a large number of energy projects, especially in the field of solar, wind and hydroelectricity, giving Morocco real expertise in this field. Thanks to these reforms, Morocco has managed to make progress in terms of stability and social and economic development. However, despite the efforts made and the reforms introduced, structural shortcomings remain, especially where social and regional disparities are concerned. For this reason, and while presiding over the opening of the legislative year 2017, King Mohammed VI officially called for

9. The environmental vision within a sustainable development model is available on the official website of the Development Model Committee. See:

<https://www.csmd.ma/suggestions/1328/1603540654>

drawing up a new development model. He said, in this regard: “Although Morocco has made tangible progress, which is recognized throughout the world, we have to admit that our national development model no longer responds to citizens’ growing demands and pressing needs; it has not been able to reduce disparities between segments of the population, correct inter-regional imbalances or achieve social justice”.

3. The development model and perceptions regarding the environment and gender issues

The general report introducing the New Development Model stressed that the environment, natural resources and biodiversity have come under strong pressure due to the repercussions of climate change, and also because of the impact of public policies and sectoral strategies that do not adequately take into account the need to ensure resource sustainability and ecological balance. The insufficient mainstreaming of environmental constraints into public projects and policies has resulted in several adverse external influences that have had a significant impact. According to several national and international studies, their cost is estimated at 3% of GDP. There is also the worrying situation of water resources, which shows that Morocco is extremely vulnerability to climate change, and which is compounded by water uses that do not take into account the scarcity of the resource.

Promoting a green economy should be a mainstay of Morocco’s development model. A green economy roadmap should be developed to confirm the Kingdom’s policy of opting for the promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable development. This is a proactive process, which foresees the emergence of new patterns in production and consumption modes. It also promotes investment in the green economy, which is strong job creator, and in clean energy and alternative agricultural modes, in addition to developing partnerships with donor institutions that support projects aimed at reducing regional disparities, fighting poverty, tackling vulnerability and promoting gender equality.

The proposed development model revolves around three overlapping and complementary components, which make up a homogeneous, integrated system likely to speed up the pace of Morocco's transition towards a new development path, capable of creating added value at the economic, social and institutional levels:

An ambition which defines the desired goal and rallies all stakeholders around a collective and comprehensive project based on clear, achievable objectives;

A frame of reference for development as a basis for the new model founded on a new organizational approach regarding the role of the state, as well as on clarifying the scope of powers, in addition to the work principles and responsibilities entrusted to the various actors concerned. This reference frame also includes a strategic steering and change management mechanism that regularly monitors the implementation of the development model and ensures coherent interventions by the various stakeholders involved, in line with the development policy and the objectives set;

Strategic choices and guidelines to achieve the proposed national ambitious plan, in keeping with the new frame of reference regarding the economy, human capital, integration and territorial development. The development concept retained is a comprehensive, multidimensional one. It is based on a dynamic process designed to create wealth and achieve human development that benefits all citizens and preserves resources for the sake of future generations. In addition to being rooted in the nation's history, this development concept represents a collective course of action towards a common future; it also takes into account societal changes taking place in the world. This ambitious plan requires the pooling of the nation's resources, putting people first in this endeavor and in public policy priorities, since people are the ultimate goal of the development process. This ambition is in line with the pressing expectations voiced by the citizens in terms of participation, empowerment and recognition. It includes the following aspirations for the future,;

- Commitment to democracy and the rule of law;
- Valuing the human capital and the capabilities of citizens - male and female - as a lever to ensure equal opportunity, effective inclusion, citizenship and well-being;
- Commitment to the Kingdom's specificities: its time-honored history, its rich, diversified national identity and its cultural and religious values;
- Confirming gender equality and promoting the status and role of women in the economy and within society;
- Adopting an inclusive approach in value creation, which recognizes all contributions and ensures equitable distribution of wealth;
- Developing a system for value creation which cares for the preservation of the environment and of natural resources;
- And, finally, confirming the commitment to a country that is open to the world and that effectively contributes to the well-being of its citizens and to global progress.
- To achieve this ambition, the new development model proposes focusing on five main objectives, namely:
 - A prosperous Morocco that creates wealth and quality job opportunities matching its potential;
 - A Moroccan nation based on competencies and skills, in which all citizens would have qualifications and enjoy a level of well-being that enables them to realize their own projects and contribute to the creation of wealth;
 - An inclusive Morocco that provides opportunities and protection for all and strengthens social bonds;
 - A Morocco that is committed to sustainability and that is keen to preserve natural resources across the country;
 - An audacious Morocco, which aspires to regional leadership in specific, future-oriented fields: training, research and innovation, low-cost and low-carbon energy, digital technology, and capital markets.

The third axis regarding the change of development model - which concerns inclusion - aims at ensuring the participation of all in the quest for development. It seeks to involve all segments of the population and all territorial entities in joint efforts, specially through equal access to economic opportunities, social protection, openness and acceptance of the Moroccan society's diversity. The aim, also, is to do away with discriminatory social practices, address the lack of skills - which leads to exclusion - and promote integration through growth, work and civic mobilization. Also needed is the consolidation of social bonds and the inclusion of all, in a way that safeguards dignity and strengthens the foundations of harmonious, peaceful coexistence, providing opportunities for the participation of every citizen. Inclusion requires, first, proactive support for women's empowerment and participation, in addition to encouraging youth integration and self-fulfillment, and providing for social protection, which enhances the resilience of the most vulnerable groups, symbolizes solidarity among citizens and capitalizes on cultural diversity as a lever for openness, dialogue and social cohesion.

Gender equality and women's participation in society constitute one of the major challenges of modern Morocco. Indeed, gender equality and women's participation are prerequisites for the establishment of an open, cohesive and inclusive society. The new development model aims to expand women's participation in the economic, political, social, and environmental fields in a significant manner. It proposes three levers that would broaden women's participation and empowerment:

- Lifting social restrictions and discriminatory practices which limit women's participation;
- Strengthening education, training, integration, support and financing programs for women;
- Promoting the values of equality and parity and ensure zero tolerance of all forms of violence and discrimination against women;
- Expanding women's participation: the new development model aims to strengthen women's rights in accordance with constitutional

principles. For this reason, it is proposed to harmonize the legislative and the legal systems in general to bring them in line with the constitutional principles aiming at achieving equal rights and parity.

As regards the environment, the new development model takes into account climate change factors. It advocates the adoption of patterns and social organization systems based on sustainable development principles, keeping in mind the interests of future generations. They should help ensure the sustainability of natural environmental patterns and biodiversity, as well as the protection and preservation of animal and plant heritage in various regions, with a focus on intangible capital, especially human capital, culture and values. These elements are fundamental in building development models that are consistent with historical and cultural peculiarities, the aim being to strike a balance between the extent and type of growth, and the level and nature of development.

The Kingdom's new development model aims to strengthen Morocco's multidimensional commitment to climate issues by raising the ambition of its Nationally Determined Contribution to reduce greenhouse gases by 45.5%, come 2030. This objective is part of an integrated strategy for low carbon development by 2050, which aims to ensure the transition to green economy, in line with the SDGs, and enhance resilience, adaptation and protection of the environment. This is to be achieved by building on the nation's collective acumen and by paving the way for a sustainable, solidarity-based human society. The latter should uphold the values of equity and coexistence and promote more equitable commitment towards a broad section of humanity which is bearing the brunt of a global economic system from which it does not benefit equitably, as is the case for women. Indeed, women and girls are the first line of defense against the effects of climate change, since they tend to rely more on agricultural activity and livestock. They are also more vulnerable to poverty and food scarcity, have less education, and are more likely to suffer from natural disasters. As for the UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals, one can say that women play a crucial role in each of these goals. These goals can be achieved if good conditions are provided for women's participation in the decision-making process, and if we give

women the status they deserve in order to live up to the principles of sustainable development.

The approach adopted in the New Development Model can contribute to rebuilding trust and transparency by encouraging and institutionalizing sustainable, responsible dialogue. The ultimate goal is to improve the standard of living of citizens - men and women alike - across the Kingdom's regions, for today as well as for the emergence of a better future.

4. The development model and the challenges faced

The new development model has identified four courses of action that are also challenges. They are as follows:

At institutional level: Strengthen the foundations and rules of representative and participatory democracy as the ideal model for the future management of society, and as a system of responsible governance that harmoniously combines participation and the effectiveness of public policies, in addition to linking public office with accountability.

At economic and social level: Rehabilitate the role and status of the enterprise, revisit state functions and pay greater attention to the social and solidarity economy as a framework for rationalizing the factors of production and ensuring the optimal use of productive wealth. This should contribute to a more equitable distribution of that wealth among social groups and territorial entities, as well as between men and women and different age groups. The specificity of economic activities, their negative effects on the environment, and the proven inadequacy of the administration's performance - with a reliance on classic means to control economic activity in the light of environmental objectives - require the adoption of environmental economics, to make up for the shortcomings resulting from the organizational means designed to combat and reduce pollution.

At environmental level: Take into account the issues relating to climate change, through the development of production patterns and social organization systems. They should be based on sustainable development requirements that keep in mind the interests of future generations, ensure the sustainability of natural environmental ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as the protection and preservation of animal and plant heritage in various regions.

As regards the nature and pattern of growth: Lay emphasis mainly on the intangible capital, especially human capital, and on culture, values and the management of the religious domain. The latter is crucial in terms of building development models that are consistent with the country's historical and cultural specificities. The aim is to bring the extent and type of growth in line with the level and nature of development.

Recommendations:

Based on the reference material used in this report, the most important recommendations for achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls as part of climate change policies and programs and disaster risk reduction can be summarized as follows:

- Ensure more efficient mainstreaming of measures to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate disruption in public policies, using them as a lever for economic, social and environmental development and as an important source for the creation of jobs and wealth;
- Ensure efficient and effective implementation of the climate change policy across cities and territorial entities, based on the new powers given to the regional councils in the area of preparing regional plans for territorial development and the regional master plan as crucial tools for mobilization and implementation at the local level;
- Pay effective attention to climate peculiarities and the development needs of Morocco and developing countries;
- Introduce innovative mechanisms for better mobilization of national, African and international civil society (non-governmental organizations, the private sector, parliamentarians, trade unions, experts, academics, the media, etc.);
- Speed up the re-focusing of state efforts in the area of combating the effects of climate disruption, and prioritize investment in adaptation to climate change to promote sustainable human development;
- Develop an ambitious program for the exploitation of the available reserves of biomass, geo-thermal energy and wind energy in the marine field;
- Integrate, in the tourism development plans under Vision 2020, the evolution of climate risks in specific areas and the vulnerability of sensitive areas such as desert and coastal regions;
- Attach special importance to the health sector in order to tackle the Covid-19 pandemic, while paying the attention required to maternal and child health and to chronic diseases;

- Provide for an appropriate, sustainable environment in public spaces and enable women to move around safely.
- Reduce disparities and promote inclusive development, leaving no one behind, especially for the benefit of poor and vulnerable social groups and deprived geographical areas: focus public policies on the needs of women, young people, children, the elderly and persons with special needs;
- Strengthen the social protection system, especially for poor, vulnerable segments of the population;
- Create decent job opportunities, especially for youth and women, and protect jobs in the informal sector;
- Promote joint economic growth and ensure fair distribution of its dividends;
- Encourage scientific research and technological innovation;
- Enhance the coherence and complementarity of public policies at the national and local levels in order to effectively address the repercussions of the pandemic;
- Strengthen multilateral partnerships with all stakeholders involved in development;
- Pay greater attention to the national statistical system, especially in times of crisis, to produce the data required for decision-making, seeing to it that no one is left behind.

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Press release on the strategy for institutionalizing the integration of the gender approach, official website of the Ministry of Equipment and Water. The website was last visited on 24 February, 2022. See:

<http://www.equipement.gov.ma/ar/Actualites/Pages/Actualites.aspx?IdNews=2274>

Press release introducing the strategy for institutionalizing the integration of the gender approach at the level of the State Secretariat in charge of sustainable development, official website of the Ministry in charge of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development, sustainable development sector - Rabat. The website was last visited on 12 February 2022. See:

<http://environnement.gov.ma/fr/plan/135-2014-02-15-13-20-12/1773-6-2018>

The environmental vision in the framework of a sustainable development model, official website of the development model committee. See :

<https://www.csmd.ma/suggestions/1328/1603540654>

Environmental associations support program. See :

<http://www.environnement.gov.ma/images/ONG-Partenariat/AR/Appui-au-financement-des-projets-associatifs-ar-link.pdf>

Founding statement of the Moroccan Coalition for Climate and Sustainable Development. The statement confirms the crucial importance of environmental protection to achieve development in Morocco, official website of the Arab Maghreb News Agency (MAP). The website was last visited on 16 February 2022. See :

<https://mapecology.ma/ar/%D8%A3%D8%AE%D8%A8%D8%A7%D8%B1/%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A7%D8%A6%D8%AA%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%81-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85%D8%BA%D8%B1%D8%A8%D9%8A-%D9%84%D9%84%D9%85%D9%86%D8%A7%D8%AE-%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%86%D9%85%D9%8A%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%85-2/>

Annex I:

Evolution of the sustainable development goals and gender indicators

Origin of information	Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning					
Indicator	2014					4.8%
			2007			% 8.9
Target population			Women			Total
		1.1 Population living on less than \$1.90 a day by gender				1.2 Population living below the national poverty line, gender disaggregated
			Men			
Goal	SDG 1	Eliminate poverty				

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning					
	Women	9.2%		4.8%	
	Men	8.7%		4.8%	
			2014		
2.2.1 Women living in poverty in all its dimensions	Total		8.2 %		
	Women		8.2 %		
	Men		8.2 %		
1.3.1 Population with social protection coverage, gender disaggregated	2017		Medical coverage rate	Retirement coverage rate	
	Total		46.6 %		10.34%
	Women		45.5%		5.9%
	Men		47.6%		14.82%
2.4.1 Securing land tenure rights, by gender					
1.b.1 Percentage of government spending for sectors that benefit women, the poor, and vulnerable groups					

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning									
SDG2	Erase hunger	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment			2014	0.1%			
						0.07%			
						0.05%			
						2011			
						2018			
						15.1%			
						12.7%			
						17.3%			
						2.2 Prevalence of stunted growth for children under five years of age, by sex, location and income			
Women									
Men									
2.2.3 Prevalence of anemia in women aged 15-49 years, by pregnancy status									

Moroccan Women in Figures, 20 Years of Development High Commission for Planning, 2021			
2020	72.6 %	44.6 %	111.1 %
2010			
	National	Urban	Rural
3.1.1 Maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births)			
SDG 3	Good health and well-being		

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning			
3.1.2 Percentage of births attended by skilled health personnel	2011	2018	
	73.6%	86.6%	
3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected people	2016	2019	
	0.4 %	0.03 %	
3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods		2018	
	National	58%	
	Urban	55.9 %	
	Rural	61.1 %	
3.7.2 Number of births to females aged 10-14 or 15-19 years per 1,000 females in the respective age group.	2013	32.0 %	
	2017	19.4 %	
3.8.1 Proportion of target population benefiting from coverage of essential health services			

4.3 Enrollment rate by level and type of education, including technical and vocational education and training.	4.5 Evolution of the schooling rate of children aged 4-5 years at the national level		
		Male	Female
	2018-2019	61.50%	54.10%
	2019-2020	75.20%	68.40%
	2020-2021	71.90%	70.70%
	Evolution of the schooling rate of children aged 6-11 years at the national level		
		Male	Female
	2018-2019	100.00%	99.70%
	2019-2020	100.00%	100.00%
	2020-2021	103.70%	103.70%
	Evolution of the schooling rate of children aged 12-14 years at the national level		
		Male	Female
	2018-2019	94.20%	89.30%
	2019-2020	96.20%	92.20%
	2020-2021	96.70%	92.70%
	Evolution of the schooling rate for the age group 15-17 years at the national level		
		Male	Female
	2018-2019	68.20%	65.50%
	2019-2020	70.60%	68.70%
	2020-2021	71.30%	70.90%

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning			
4.3 Distribution of third stage graduates by sex, location, income and field of study	4.5 Gender Parity Index for Targets 1.4, 2.4, 3.4, 4.4 and 4.6		4.7 Percentage of students aged 15 years enrolled in secondary schools who have a minimum level of knowledge on a selection of topics related to sustainable development, including environmental sciences, earth sciences, gender equality and human rights
			4a. Percentage of schools with separate toilets for boys and girls

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning					
SDG 5	5.1.1 Legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor equality and non discrimination on the basis of sex				
	5.2.1 Women and girls who have been subjected to partner violence	2009	51.1%		
		2019	46%		
	5.2.2 Women and girls subjected to sexual violence	2009	4.3%		
		2019	8.5%		
	5.3.1 Women and girls who married in childhood	2010	11.1%		
		2020	6.5%		
	5.3.2 Women and girls subjected female genital mutilation/cutting				
				2012	
	5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work	Total	12%		
		Women	21%		
		Men	3%		
5.5.1 Proportion of women in Parliament and local councils			2011	2021	
		House of Representatives	17%	24.3 %	
		House of Councilors	2.2%	12.66%	
		Communal councils	12.4%	26.64%	
		Prefectural councils	2%	35.6 %	

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning				
5.5.2 Women in management positions	2016	17.3 %		
	2021			
5.6.1 Proportion of women who make their own informed decisions regarding reproductive health	2009	47%		
	2011	25.1%		
5.6.2 Laws that guarantee access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education				
5.1.a Laws that guarantee equal rights in land ownership				
5.1.b Women with mobile phones	2014	94.1%		
	2017	93.4%		
5.1.c Availability of systems to track public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment				

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning		Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning	
91.4%	93%	97.3%	98.1%
2015	2018	2015	2018
6.1 Population using safely managed drinking-water services		7.1 Percentage of people who have access to electricity	
SDG 6	Clean water and sanitation	SDG 7	Affordable and clean energy

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning					
SDG 8	8.3.1 Share of informal employment, by sex	2014	36.3%		
	8.5.1 Average hourly earnings of working women				
	8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex		2010	2020	
		Total	9.1%	11.9%	
		Women	9.6%	16.2%	
	8.7.1 Proportion of children in the labor market, by sex	Men	8.9%	10.7%	
		2014	5.7%		
			2019		
		Total	1.60%		
	8.8.1 Fatal and non-fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers, by sex	Female	16%		
		Male	84%		
			2020		
		Total	2%		
	8.8.2 Country compliance with labor rights, by sex	Female	21%		
		Male	79%		
	8.9.2 Proportion of jobs in sustainable tourism sectors compared to total jobs in tourism sector, by sex				

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning		Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning			
SDG 9	Industry, innovation and infrastructure	9.2.2 Employment in the manufacturing industry	2015	10.4%	10.8%
			2018	10.8%	10.8%
			2019	10.8%	10.8%
SDG 10	Reduce inequality	10.2.1 Proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex	Total	11.7%	11.7%
			Women	11.7%	11.7%
			Men	11.7%	11.7%

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning		
11.2.1 Access to public transportation, by sex	11.7.1 share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex	11.7.2 Victims of physical or sexual harassment, by sex
SDG 11	Sustainable cities and communities	

Sustainable Development Goals tracking platform, High Commission for Planning							
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Annex II:

International Agreements and Regulatory Laws

International conventions:

- Basic human rights conventions;
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW);
- International Labor Organization conventions.

Conventions related to protection of the heritage:

- Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage;
- Convention concerning the Protection of the World, Cultural and Natural Heritage;
- Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Climate protection agreements:

- The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer;
- The Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer;
- Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer;
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;
- Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Conventions related to waste and hazardous chemicals:

- The Basel Convention on the Control of Trans-boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal;
- The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;
- The Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade.

Conventions related to the protection of plants and animals:

- The Convention for the Establishment of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization;
- The International Plant Protection Convention;
- The International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants;
- Africa phytosanitary agreement;
- Agreement to establish the Arab Center for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands;
- African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources;
- Agreement for the establishment of a commission for controlling locusts in North-West Africa;
- Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat;
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals;
- Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats;
- Convention on Biological Diversity;
- Agreement on the creation of a plant protection organization in the Middle East;
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
- Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds;
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

Conventions relating to the marine environment

- International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling;
- International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas;
- Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area;
- Convention on the International Maritime Organization;
- The 1954 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil;
- International Convention Relating to Intervention on the High Seas in Cases of Oil Pollution;
- 1973 International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships;
- Amendments to the 1976 Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution;
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;
- Cooperation Agreement for the Protection of the Coasts and the Waters of the Northeast Atlantic Ocean against Pollution;
- 1990 International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Cooperation;
- International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea and its Annexes I and II;
- 2001 International Convention on Civil Liability for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage 2001;
- International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-Fouling Systems on Ships.

Annex III:

Government sectors and public institutions that contributed in preparing the report, Kingdom of Morocco

Department/Public institution	Contribution status	Date sent
Presidency of the Public Prosecution	Yes	February 1, 2022
Ministry of Industry and Trade	Yes	January 14, 2022
Ministry of Tourism, Handicrafts and Social and Solidarity Economy, Department of Handicrafts and Social and Solidarity Economy	Yes	January 13, 2022
Ministry of Tourism, Handicrafts and Social and Solidarity Economy, Department of Tourism	Yes	January 18, 2022
Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation	Yes	March 3, 2022
National Education and Preschool	Yes	February 10, 2022
Health and Social Protection	Yes	January 24, 2022
Transport and Logistics	Yes	
Equipment and Water	Yes	January 17, 2022
Economic Inclusion, Small Businesses, employment and Skills	Yes	February 9, 2022
	Yes	
Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests	Yes	January 28, 2022
Ministry of Interior, Risk Management Department	Yes	January 17, 2022
Energy Transition and Sustainable Development	Yes	January 13, 2022
Economy and Finance	Yes	January 26, 2022
Ministry of Regional Planning, Land Planning, Housing and City Policy	Yes	February 2, 2022
High Commission for Planning	Yes	January 27, 2022
National Police	Yes	February 1, 2022
National Defense Department	Yes	February 3, 2022
National Communications Regulatory Agency	Yes	February 3, 2022