



# Morocco



***in Focus 2021***



**Issue No. 12**

A Publication of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco, New Delhi, India





**TITAGARH**



**HEAVY METRO**



**LIGHT METRO**

**MOBILITY**  
FOR BILLIONS. GLOBALLY.

# MOROCCO



INVEST AND EXPORT

**The future proof industrial platform  
to invest and export to the world**

 **NOW  
SUSTAINABLE**

 **NOW  
COMPETITIVE**

 **NOW  
WELL-PROVEN**

 **NOW  
AGILE**

[www.morocconow.com](http://www.morocconow.com)



# CONTENTS

Covid 19 Vaccination Campaign by His Majesty King Mohammed VI.....	5
His Majesty The King Launches Project to Manufacture Covid 19 Vaccine .....	6
Morocco's Impressive Response to Covid19 .....	8
46th Anniversary of Green March .....	12
The Green March of Morocco .....	16
Morocco Holds Successful Elections Overcoming Covid19 Challenge .....	20
Profile of New Head of Government of Morocco, H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch .....	24
New Cabinet Members of the Kingdom of Morocco .....	25
Morocco-India Foreign Minister's Virtual Meeting .....	26
Cooperation between India, Morocco, Israel has Potential to Create Win-win Situation: Envoy Mohamed Maliki .....	28
His Majesty King Mohammed VI Address to the 26th UN Climate Change Conference.....	34
Morocco/UN: 1st Celebration of International Day of Argania Held in Agadir .....	36
New Security Council Resolution 2602 Confirms Moroccan Credibility of Initiative .....	40
First UN Office of Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa Inaugurated in Rabat.....	42
Counter-Terrorism: FBI and CIA Welcome 'Advanced Partnership' with Moroccan Intelligence Agency (DGST) .....	46
Morocco Hosts African Lion 2021 Combined Exercise with United States .....	48
Morocco Makes a Step Forward Towards Launching its Own Military Industry .....	51
Titagarh - A Global Conglomerat, Provider of Mobility Solutions .....	52
Morocco Now to Increase Awareness about Morocco's Capabilities - DG of AMDIE .....	72
Morocco's Green Energy Drive .....	74
Morocco – A Regional Shipment Hub .....	82
Tangier Med Retains Position as Leading Container Port in Mediterranean .....	86
Discover Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez in Morocco .....	90
Decarbonizing the Economy: A View from the South .....	92
US Reiterates Support to Morocco on Sahara. US Delegation Visits Dakhla .....	96
Agreements & MoUs Signed between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India.....	99
Map of the Kingdom of Morocco .....	102

Published by **The Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco**  
C-7 / 5, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057, India • Tel: +91.11.4056 4252 / 57 Fax: +91.11.4056 4260  
Email: [embassyofmorocco@rediffmail.com](mailto:embassyofmorocco@rediffmail.com)

Produced by **Krest Publications**  
D-205, Amrapali Princely Estate, Sector 76, Noida - 201301 (India)  
Tel.: 011-4653 9323 • Email: [editor@diplomacy.in](mailto:editor@diplomacy.in) • Printing: GM Offset

**Disclaimer: Morocco in Focus** is a special publication. The views expressed in this journal are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco. The magazine is for the promotion of Morocco and ties with India and the region. The journal has no commercial purpose and is not for sale.

**GOLD SPONSOR**







# Covid 19 Vaccination Campaign by His Majesty King Mohammed VI

His Majesty King Mohammed VI launched at the Royal Palace in Fez, the national Covid-19 vaccination campaign on January 28, 2021



His Majesty King Mohammed VI being administered the Covid 19 vaccine on January 28, 2021

**O**n this occasion, the Sovereign has received the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine against Covid-19.

In accordance with the High Royal Instructions, the vaccination campaign will be free for all citizens with the aim of immunizing all components of the Moroccan people (30 million to vaccinate about 80

percent of the population), reducing then eliminating infection cases and related-deaths and containing the spread of the virus, with a view to a gradual return to normal life.

This national campaign, which will take place gradually, will benefit all Moroccan citizens as well as foreigners living in the kingdom aged 17 and over.



# His Majesty The King Launches Project to Manufacture Covid 19 Vaccine



His Majesty King Mohammed VI launched manufacturing project for Covid 19 and other vaccines in Morocco on July 5, 2021 at Royal Palace of Fez

**H**is Majesty King Mohammed VI chaired on July 5, 2021 at the Royal Palace of Fez, the ceremony of launching and signing of agreements related to the project of fill-finish manufacturing of the anti-Covid19 vaccine and other vaccines in Morocco. This structuring project is part of the Sovereign's willingness to provide the Kingdom with complete and integrated

industrial and biotechnological capacities, dedicated to the manufacture of vaccines in Morocco.

It aims to produce in our country the anti-Covid vaccine, as well as other key vaccines, in order to promote the Kingdom's self-sufficiency and to make Morocco a leading biotechnology platform on the African continent and the world in the field of the "fill & finish"

industry. The project, which is the result of a public-private partnership, intends to start in the short term with a production capacity of 5 million doses of Covid19 vaccine per month, before gradually increasing this capacity in the medium term. The project will require an overall investment of about \$500 million.

With the launch of this large-scale partnership that





It aims to produce in our country the anti-Covid vaccine, as well as other key vaccines, in order to promote the Kingdom's self-sufficiency and to make Morocco a leading biotechnology platform on the African continent and the world in the field of the "fill & finish" industry.

takes place after the phone conversation of August 31, 2020 between His Majesty King Mohammed VI and His Excellency Xi JINPING, president of the People's Republic of China, Morocco is taking a further step in the achievement of the Royal vision for an effective and proactive management of the pandemic crisis and its consequences. While strengthening the Kingdom's health sovereignty, the project presented to the Sovereign confirms Morocco's international influence and reinforces its vocation as a provider of health security within its regional and continental environment, in the face of health risks, external dependencies and political contingencies.

At the beginning of this ceremony, and after an introductory speech by the Minister of Health, Samir Machour, an international expert in industrial biotechnology and currently Vice-President of Samsung Biologics, presented the project of fill-finish manufacturing in Morocco of the anti-Covid19 vaccine and other vaccines. Afterwards, CEO of the Sinopharm Group, Liu Jingzhen, made a remote presentation from China. CEO of Recipharm, Marc Funk, also presented the project to establish vaccine manufacturing capacities in Morocco.

On this occasion, and after presentation of the objectives and components of the project, three important agreements were signed before His Majesty the King, namely:

1. The Memorandum of Understanding on the cooperation for the anti-Covid19 vaccine between the Moroccan State and the National Pharmaceutical Group of China (SINOPHARM), signed by Minister of Health, Khalid Ait Taleb, and President of the Sinopharm Group, Liu Jingzhen.
2. The Memorandum of Understanding on the establishment of vaccine manufacturing capacities in the Kingdom of Morocco between the Moroccan State and the company Recipharm, signed by minister of Economy, Finance and Administration Reform, and chairman of the board of directors of the Mohammed VI Fund for Investment, Mohamed Benchaaboune, CEO of the company Recipharm, Marc Funk, and the representative of the consortium of Moroccan banks, Othmane Benjelloun.
3. The contract for the provision to the Moroccan State of the aseptic filling facilities of the Société de Thérapeutique Marocaine (Sothema) for the manufacturing of the anti-Covid19 vaccine owned by Sinopharm between the Moroccan State and Sothema, signed by Minister of Health, Khalid Ait Taleb, and CEO of Sothema, Lamia Tazi.

Source : MAP News Agency



# Morocco's Impressive Response to Covid19

Following the announcement of the first confirmed case of COVID-19 on March 02, 2020, Morocco implemented a major response plan to fight against the spread of the virus and to cope with the economic and social impacts of the health crisis.



His Majesty King Mohammed VI implemented a robust response to the pandemic

**M**orocco joined early the league of African nations that contracted the coronavirus. Following the announcement of the first confirmed case of COVID-19 on March 02, 2020, Morocco implemented a major response plan to fight against the spread of the virus and to cope with the economic and social impacts of the health crisis.

## Measures of restriction

Actions were quickly launched to minimize the spread of the virus with the establishment of "Coronavirus Command Stations" throughout the territory to ensure monitoring and coordination with health services.

The Moroccan government declared a state of health emergency. Drastic measures were instituted to impose a compulsory general lockdown from March 20 until May 20. This included a closure of borders, a ban on assemblies and the closing of schools. Restrictions were placed on sporting and cultural events, including closing of stadia to the public. A night curfew during the holy month Ramadan period was also imposed. Local shops were no longer allowed to remain open after 6 p.m.

## Health and sanitary measures

The actions undertaken here concerned the increase

and the reorganization of hospital capacities and the improvement of the conditions of reception of patients in various cities of Morocco. This applied especially to cities with high human density that were more exposed to the risk. Military field hospitals have been deployed in the cities or their outskirts to strengthen the civilian health system in bedding and equipment for intensive care. Batches of medical and sanitary equipment have been deployed in health facilities. Stocks of drugs have been built up, in particular, chloroquine produced by a pharmaceutical group based in Morocco. Moroccan companies specializing in the manufacture of medical





equipment (e.g. ventilators) have also been approached by accelerated procedures. Industrial companies have been able to readjust their production tools and processes to produce ventilators and face masks.

The territorial coverage of tests and analyses has been widened and extended to University Hospital Centers in different regional metropolises and military hospitals. Finally, free access to care was assured, including screening, testing and treatment in hospital; and even payment for quarantining in hotels where persons had to be isolated.

related-deaths and containing the spread of the virus, with a view to a gradual return to normal life.

This national campaign, was taking place gradually, and benefitted all Moroccan citizens as well as foreigners living in the kingdom aged 17 and over.

In Morocco, from 3 January 2020 to 5:11pm CET, 5 November 2021, there have been 946,766 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 14,689 deaths, reported to WHO. As of 1 November 2021, a total of 47,867,990 vaccine doses have been administered.

Europe and North America.

During an event chaired by Moroccan King Mohammed VI, Morocco announced that it had signed a memorandum of understanding with Recipharm and a consortium of the country's leading banks to invest around USD 500 million in a factory that will manufacture vaccines and biotherapeutics. The primary objective, is to supply the African continent and "help it gain vaccine sovereignty and access to future biotherapeutics."

The factory is planned to be operational by 2023, will be run by Recipharm and will mirror the Swedish company's new fill and finish line at its facility in Monts, France "on a larger scale." "Together with the other parties involved, we will be able to work to offer Africa a concrete opportunity to gradually gain health independence from western countries and ultimately help to ensure it is less vulnerable in times of crisis," said the company's CEO, Marc Funk.

In the same event, the Moroccan King announced that Moroccan pharmaceutical company Sothema will soon start production of 5 million doses a month of China's Sinopharm. The public-private partnership reportedly began after a telephone conversation between King Mohammed VI and China's President Xi Jinping and is part of an effort to boost the country's international influence.

"The commitments we are making today are a decisive step that will create in Morocco of a biopharmaceutical pole of

### **Morocco continues to combat the COVID-19 health crisis by launching a new vaccination process to administer the third dose of the coronavirus vaccine to those who have already completed the previous inoculation procedure six months or more ago.**

His Majesty King Mohammed VI launched, on Thursday 28th January 2021 at the Royal Palace in Fez, the national Covid-19 vaccination campaign.

On this occasion, the Sovereign has received the first dose of the Covid-19 vaccine against Covid-19.

In accordance with the High Royal Instructions, the vaccination campaign have been free for all citizens with the aim of immunizing all components of the Moroccan people (30 million to vaccinate about 80 percent of the population), reducing then eliminating infection cases and

### **Morocco Signs Recipharm & Sinopharm Deals on Road to "Health Independence"**

After implementing the most successful COVID-19 inoculation campaign on the African continent, Morocco has been looking looking to bolster its biologics and vaccine manufacturing capacity via two major agreements with Swedish CDMO Recipharm and Chinese Sinopharm. The North African nation hopes to be better able to supply the health needs of its own population via these deals and thus achieve greater health sovereignty from countries in



excellence on the Continent, which we want to be recognized globally," said Samir Machour, international expert in industrial biotechnology and current vice president of Samsung Biologics.

Morocco continues to combat the COVID-19 health crisis by launching a new vaccination process to administer the third dose of the coronavirus vaccine to those who have already completed the previous inoculation procedure six months or more ago.

national scientific committee and international scientific recommendations, a third dose of the anti-COVID-19 vaccine will be administered as part of the national vaccination campaign, which has known since its inception a positive dynamic and a wide interaction

residing in the country to get vaccinated to protect themselves and the people around them.

The Ministry also called on everyone to respect the instructions of the public health authorities and to continue to

.....  
**India has flown the first lot of coronavirus vaccines to Africa, when a Royal Air Maroc plane left India for Moroccan capital Rabat on Friday 22nd January 2021.**  
.....



Royal Air Maroc brought coronavirus vaccines from India to Morocco

As announced by the Moroccan Ministry of Health in an official statement, the campaign first affected those citizens who have completed the COVID-19 vaccination process six months or more ago. This new phase begins after the Moroccan government decided that there would be a third dose for the population. "Following the recommendations of the

of citizens," the ministry said in an official statement.

Meanwhile, the procedures and methods of vaccination in the third dose, as well as the target categories, will be communicated in detail at a later date, as explained by the ministerial source.

The Moroccan state encourages all compatriots and foreigners

strictly abide by the preventive measures before and after vaccination, in order to contribute to the national effort to contain the coronavirus in Morocco and move towards collective immunity.

This demonstrates the rigor that the kingdom of Morocco continues to apply in the fight against COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic. Morocco has been known for imposing strict health protection measures throughout this time and for having implemented a rigorous vaccination system that has reached a large part of the population.

### India, Morocco and the African continent cooperation

India has flown the first lot of coronavirus vaccines to Africa, when a Royal Air Maroc plane left India for Moroccan capital Rabat on Friday 22nd January 2021.

The Indian embassy in Rabat tweeted: "In a manifestation of excellent relationship between India and Morocco,





the first consignment of COVID-19 vaccine developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University and produced by Serum Institute of India, the world's largest vaccine producer was shipped from India for Morocco today." The embassy later replied to its own tweet, saying: "AffordableVaccine4All."

Earlier in the same week, Minister for External Affairs, S Jaishankar had met the ambassadors of African countries. He tweeted: "Our conversation covered COVID recovery, vaccines, air travel, and digital experiences. Also spoke about India's current priorities & challenges. Assured them of India's interest in an early IAFS (India-Africa Forum Summit) Summit."

DR. Jaishankar hinted that his talks with the African envoys did touch vaccines and path to recovery. African countries including multilateral agencies are worried over vaccine hoarding by the developed

world. Canada has hoarded enough vaccines to give five jabs per person. Other Western countries too have reserved or pre-booked more vaccines with manufacturers than they require. Stockpiling of vaccines has led to concern that poorer nations may not be able to fend for their citizens - ironically, prolonging the existence of the virus, thereby keeping everyone vulnerable to the infection.

World Health Organization Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus hit out over "vaccine inequity," saying this could amount to a "catastrophic moral failure" on a global scale. The US, Canada, the UK and most European countries are into their second month of mass vaccination even as the lower-income countries fret about protecting their people with no vaccine supply on the horizon.

A number of statements by high ranking Indian officials indicate that the country plans

to support African countries in their battle against an unpredictable pandemic.

India's Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan addressed that concern. Dr Vardhan reassured the WHO's executive board session that India remains committed to "equitable distribution of vaccines." He added that vaccines have brought a ray of hope and now governments across the world have to ensure that the ray of hope reaches everyone.

Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla stated before the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) that India would continue to support African countries and empower Africa on the principles of "inclusivity, sustainability, transparency and socio-economic development with dignity and respect."



# 46th Anniversary of Green March

His Majesty King Mohammed VI address to the nation on the occasion of the 46th anniversary of the Green March on November 6, 2021. Full text of the speech is as follows;



His Majesty King Mohammed VI addressed the nation on the 46th anniversary of Morocco's Green March on November 6, 2021

## Praise be to God

Dear Citizens,

Today, we take no small measure of pride in celebrating the forty-sixth anniversary of the Green March.

This year's commemoration of that glorious event is taking place in a context marked by many accomplishments as well as challenges.

The positive dynamic characterizing the evolution of our national cause cannot be stopped.

The Moroccaness of the Sahara is an immutable and indisputable fact, be it on account of history, legitimacy, the strong will of the Moroccan people or broad recognition by the international community.

Dear Citizens,

In recent months, and by the grace of the Almighty, there have been quiet, tangible developments in the defense of our Saharan territories.

In this regard, our Armed Forces deserve to be praised

for securing the freedom of movement of persons and goods at the Guerguerat crossing between Morocco and our sister nation, Mauritania, on 13 November 2020.

That peaceful and nonetheless resolute action put an end to serious provocations and aggressions to which Morocco had drawn the attention of the international community, underscoring the risks those acts posed to security and stability in the region.

In keeping with the same positive spirit, I wish to express my appreciation for the tangible and growing support our just cause has received.

In this regard, we value the sovereign decision of the United States of America, whereby it has recognized Morocco's full sovereignty over its Sahara.

This is a natural consequence of the continuous support provided by previous US Administrations and an illustration of the United States' constructive role in the settlement of this issue.

This trend reinforces the irreversible character of the political process for the achievement of a final solution, based on the autonomy initiative, within the framework of Moroccan sovereignty.





Moreover, the opening of consulates in the cities of Laayun and Dakhla by more than 24 countries, particularly from the Arab world and Africa, confirms broad support for Morocco's position.

This is the best legal and diplomatic answer to those who claim that the recognition of the Moroccaness of the Sahara is not explicit or tangible.

political course of action, but they would also support the efforts made to achieve a final, feasible solution.

solution to this artificial regional dispute.

With that in mind, I hereby reaffirm Morocco's adherence

.....  
**Moreover, the opening of consulates in the cities of Laayun and Dakhla by more than 24 countries, particularly from the Arab world and Africa, confirms broad support for Morocco's position**  
 .....



We believe we have every right, today, to expect bolder and clearer stances on the part of our partners regarding the territorial integrity of our country.

Such positions would not only contribute to bolstering the

Dear Citizens,

Morocco is not negotiating over its Sahara. The Moroccaness of the Sahara never was - and never will be - on the negotiating table.

Rather, we are negotiating in order to reach a peaceful

to a political settlement, under the aegis of the United Nations.

I also reiterate our commitment to a peaceful solution, our adherence to the ceasefire, and our intention to continue our coordination and cooperation with the MINURSO, within the



remit of its specified mandate.

In this regard, I would like, once again, to assure His Excellency the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Antonio Guterres, and his Personal Envoy, of our full support for the efforts the UN Secretary-General is making to reactivate the political process as soon as possible.

In this respect, I wish to stress the need to abide by the frame of reference mentioned in the Security Council resolutions since 2007 and applied in the meetings held in Geneva under UN auspices.

Dear Citizens,

The positive developments with regard to the Sahara question also reinforce the continuing development process in our southern provinces.

These territories are enjoying comprehensive development, including infrastructure as well as economic and social projects.

Thanks to these projects, the Saharan regions have become an open space for development and for national and foreign investment.

And, by the grace of the Almighty, we have honest international partners who invest, alongside our private sector, in a clear, transparent environment, for the benefit of the region's populations.

I would like, in this regard, to express my appreciation to the countries and groupings with which Morocco has agreements or partnerships, and which consider our

southern provinces an integral part of our national territory.

By the same token, I wish to tell those with ambiguous or ambivalent attitudes, that Morocco will not have any economic or commercial transaction with them in which the Moroccan Sahara is not included.

On another note, I wish to point out that the councils in the Saharan provinces and regions - which, incidentally,

• • • • •  
**With that in mind,  
I hereby reaffirm  
Morocco's adherence  
to a political  
settlement, under  
the aegis of the  
United Nations.**  
• • • • •

were elected in a free, democratic and responsible manner - are the real, legitimate representatives of the region's populations.

I hope our southern provinces will be at the forefront of the endeavor to implement advanced regionalization, given the possibilities it affords in terms of development and genuine political participation.

Dear Citizens,

The Sahara question is the

quintessential part when it comes to the Kingdom's national unity. And it is the cause of all Moroccans.

That is why it requires everyone - each in his or her respective field of competence - to remain mobilized and vigilant in order to defend the nation's unity and territorial integrity, and to promote the development as well as the political accomplishments made in our southern provinces.

Surely, there can be no better token of loyalty to the everlasting oath of the Green March, to the memory of its architect, my revered father, His Majesty King Hassan II - may he rest in peace - and to that of our worthy martyrs.

I wish to take this opportunity to extend to the peoples of the five Maghreb countries my sincerest wishes for further progress and prosperity, in an environment where unity and stability prevail.

I should like to conclude by expressing my appreciation and paying a tribute to all our Royal Armed Forces, the Royal Gendarmerie, the National Security Forces, the Auxiliary Forces, the local government authorities and the Emergency Services for being ever mobilized, under my stewardship, to defend the unity of the homeland and preserve its security and stability.

**Wassalamu alaikum  
warahmatullah wabarakatuh."**



# A relationship that becomes a bridge to prosperity.



Since the last 60 years, India and Morocco have cultivated and cherished a strong relationship. Being the largest exporter of rock Phosphate and Phos Acid to India, Morocco has immensely contributed to India's agri-business. Paradeep Phosphates Ltd further strengthens this bond with Maroc Phosphore S. A., a wholly owned subsidiary of OCP, Morocco, and looks forward to harvesting value and prosperity.



## Paradeep Phosphates Limited

**Registered Office:** 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Bayan Bhavan, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, Bhubaneswar-751 001, Odisha, India.  
[www.paradeepphosphates.com](http://www.paradeepphosphates.com)



# The Green March of Morocco



**T**he Green March has a strong symbolic meaning for Morocco. This historical event constitutes the best illustration of the effective cohesion between the Throne and the people, and a pivotal moment that remains forever engraved in the annals of Morocco and which enabled the country to recover peacefully its Southern Provinces.

The Green March took its name from the color of Islam, a key influence and power behind the Moroccan movement. Brandishing Qurans, the Moroccan demonstrators were reminded of their King's role as Commander of the Faithful.

The Green March is considered

a watershed event in Morocco's recent history, and Moroccans celebrate the event as a national holiday.

This year's celebration of the 46th anniversary the Glorious Green March serves as a reminder of the determination, courage, and sacrifice of the Moroccan people and King for the sake of the nation, the Kingdom of Morocco from Tangier to Lagouira.

the Moroccan people are celebrating the Green March epic, at a context marked by valuable diplomatic gains at the UN, growing support for the Moroccan identity of the Sahara and for the Morocco-proposed autonomy plan to end the Sahara dispute,

coupled with an unprecedented development impetus.

The celebration of this significant event is an occasion to remember the struggle of Moroccan people and late King Hassan II against the Spanish occupation and to pay tribute to Moroccans who devoted their lives to liberate the kingdom from colonization.

On October 16th, 1975, following the confirmation by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague of the existence of legal ties and allegiance between the Sultans of Morocco and the Sahrawi tribes, the late King Hassan II announced the organization of the Green March in a famous speech addressed to





**MOBILITY**  
FOR THE INDUSTRY

**FREIGHT**

**MOBILITY**  
FOR THE MASSES

**TRANSIT & PROPULSION**



**MOBILITY**  
EVERYWHERE

**ENGINEERING**



**MOBILITY**  
ON WATER

**SHIPBUILDING**



**TITAGARH**

#MOBILITYFORBILLIONS

**THE FUTURE  
OF MOBILITY**

- ▶ WAGONS
- ▶ PASSENGER TRAINS
- ▶ SHIPS
- ▶ BRIDGES
- ▶ PROPULSION & ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT



the Nation, a unique peaceful and civilized march.

On November 6, 1975, more than 350,000 civilian and unarmed Moroccan volunteers, coming from all regions of the Kingdom, brandishing the Holy Quran and the national flag and convinced of the rightness of their cause, responded to the call, by joining this march to the south of the Kingdom. This march demonstrated to the whole world the strong will of the Moroccan people to recover their looted territory and reflected the genuine

After nearly a century of occupation, Spain finally bowed to regional and international pressure. On November 14, 1975, Spain signed the Madrid Accords and agreed to leave the territory by May 23.

The strong mobilization, prompt and spontaneous, also shows the deep sensitivity, feeling of Moroccan people vis-à-vis their destiny conditioning issues, including the sacred question of territorial integrity.

Meanwhile, Morocco has undertaken since the return

Southern Provinces. Moreover, the Sahara region is becoming an economic hub and a leading South-South cooperation pole and stands today as a geostrategic space of reference, for peace, stability and shared prosperity.

Today, the southern provinces, like other parts of the Kingdom, enjoy security and witness an unprecedented development dynamic triggered by the new economic development model for the Sahara, worth some \$7.7 billion that was initiated by King Mohammed VI to boost the economy; consolidate social cohesion and promote culture; enhance social inclusion; ensure effective protection of the environment and sustainable territorial development; and define responsible, inclusive governance.

**The bare desert left by the Spanish colonizer is now a thriving center endowed with state-of-the art infrastructure that are reshaping the landscape of this entire region, while other major projects are underway.**

and wise vision of the late Sovereign.

This is an event of historic significance which is a reference and unique approach in the sense that it allowed the liberation of the inhabitants of the Kingdom's southern provinces of the yoke of Spanish colonization by peaceful means.

Shortly after the King's October 16 speech, talks between Spanish, Moroccan, and Mauritanian officials began.

When the talks did not appear to make any headway, King Hassan II decided to go ahead with the Green March. The mass protest symbolized Morocco's unrelenting commitment to liberating Western Sahara.

of the southern provinces, to make them a region of stability, security, progress and prosperity.

"As underlined by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, the Green March is a never-ending march, since its spirit is the same one according to which Morocco continues its march towards progress and development of all its regions, including the Southern Provinces"

Today, this part of the Kingdom is experiencing an unprecedented economic, social, cultural and environmental progress, thanks to the development and investment policy and the significant resources allotted to this aim through the development plan for the

The bare desert left by the Spanish colonizer is now a thriving center endowed with state-of-the art infrastructure that are reshaping the landscape of this entire region, while other major projects are underway.

A genuine transcontinental road that will link Europe to sub-Saharan Africa through Morocco is under construction, with the 1,055 km-long expressway linking Tiznit to Dakhla. The project that required a \$1.0 billion investment will be operational in 2022.

Another outstanding project provided for in the new development model for the southern provinces is embodied by the port of Dakhla. The project, requiring





an investment of \$1.0 billion, concerns the construction of a deep-water port on the Atlantic coast, 40 km north of Dakhla. The project features three components: a commercial port; a port dedicated to coastal and deep-sea fishing; and a port dedicated to shipbuilding industries.

The southern provinces are also involved in the green revolution Morocco has embarked on through the promotion of renewable energy. The La youne and Boujdour solar power plants have already been operational since 2018, with a total capacity of 100 megawatts.

Other wind energy farms have been launched in Tarfaya, in Foul el Oued and in Akhfennir. And it's not over. Other projects with a capacity of 800 megawatts are underway.

At the political level, the population of the Moroccan Sahara has always participated massively in all the elections organized in the country, and so it did lately, during the elections of September 8, 2021, confirming thus its attachment to the territorial unity of the Kingdom and its full commitment to the implementation of the new development model in the southern provinces.

Furthermore, and in addition to this economic and social momentum, the Southern Provinces of Morocco are experiencing a diplomatic breakthrough and a great dynamic with the opening of many consulates especially at Laayoune and Dakhla.

This dynamic, as highlighted, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates, M. Nasser Bourita, "goes in the direction of increased support for the Moroccan identity of the Sahara, a reality which is neither negotiable nor debatable, stressing that the Sahara is Moroccan by law, by history, by the will of its population and by the growing support of the international community and the friends of Morocco".

Therefore, it continues to work with determination and dedication to the development of the southern provinces to compensate for accumulated delay during the era of colonization.

This great work continues today under the wise and enlightened guidance of His Majesty King Mohammed VI with the same fervour, thanks to the patriotic unwavering commitment of the entire Moroccan people, especially the inhabitants of these provinces.

This dynamic goes in the direction of increased support for the Moroccan identity of the Sahara, a reality which is neither negotiable nor debatable, stressing that the Sahara is Moroccan by law, by history, by the will of its population and by the growing support of the international community and the friends of Morocco".

Morocco also secured important diplomatic gains through recent years.

On December 10, 2020, the USA announced their decision

to recognise Morocco's sovereignty over its southern provinces, and affirmed its support for Morocco's serious, credible, and realistic autonomy proposal as the only basis for a just and lasting solution to the dispute over the Sahara territory.

The Green March has left a lasting impact on contemporary Morocco, where its legacy reflects a patriotic and peaceful people. Remembering the large-scale act of solidarity in 1975 is a celebration of the Moroccan people's commitment to independent and strong Morocco.

Besides the population's renewed political commitment, the Green March 46th anniversary is celebrated in a diplomatic context marked by the adoption of the UN Security Council resolution

Moreover, over 26 countries from Africa, the Arab world, and the Caribbean have set up consulates in the cities of Laayoune and Dakhla to renew their support to Morocco's territorial integrity.

Whatever the vicissitudes and sacrifices, the Green March was an admirable feat of diplomacy. It enabled to oust a colonial power without resorting to arms. It allowed a whole region to embrace economic and social development. It allowed to establish a new geopolitical balance of power in the region.

Now, Morocco is in its Sahara or as put by King Mohammed VI, "Morocco will remain in its Sahara, and the Sahara will remain part of Morocco, until the end of time."



# Morocco Holds Successful Elections Overcoming Covid19 Challenge

Morocco has become the first African and Arab country to hold elections without having to postpone them this year, as has happened in other countries in the region, and respecting health measures.



Moroccan citizens voted in the elections held on September 8, 2021

For the first time in the history of the Kingdom, legislative, regional and local elections were held on the same day and in the health context of the pandemic. However, despite the exceptional health situation, the elections went off without a hitch.

The triple elections (legislative, regional, local), conducted in single day on September 8, 2021, confirmed the choice of the Kingdom of Morocco, under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, for Democracy, the rule of law and consolidated the achievements for political pluralism accumulated by the Kingdom since its independence through regular

and periodic elections.

The holding of these elections, within the time limits and in particular context, shows once again the Morocco's commitment to the highest standards of democracy including the strengthening of the political representativeness of women. It also shows the culture of political and institutional stability to which both the State and the citizens are attached in the kingdom of Morocco.

This also demonstrates Morocco's intention to promote and strengthen the country's democratic path.

These elections have enabled Morocco to take a further step towards the establishment

of advanced regionalization, the implementation of the Constitution provisions and the achievement of a new milestone of the democratic edifice of our country.

These data demonstrate the will of the people to democratically elect their future representatives. It also states that the pandemic has not prevented citizens from going to the polling stations.

Moreover, these elections were characterised by a high turnout in the regions of Moroccan Sahara, where the constituency of Laayoune increased to 52%. Along with this, the final turnout in the triple electoral appointment had increased 8 points compared to the last general elections of 2016 and had stood at 50.18% compared to 42% in the last elections, according to the Ministry of the Interior.

By their massive attendance to polling stations, the citizens of this Region has expressed frankly and unequivocally their attachment to Moroccan sovereignty. It's also a manifestation of reaffirmation of their commitment to elect their representatives in the political institutions at national and local level and constitutes in the same time an expression of their satisfaction of the





level of the socio-economic development policy led by the Moroccan state in the region.

The elections, as confirmed by international observers including the PACE, were successful, and marked by transparency. They were well organized in circumstances of serenity and calmness across the entire national territory of the Kingdom.

Regarding the legislative elections, the citizens elected the 395 members of the House of Representatives for the third legislature under the 2011 constitution and the 10th since the independence of the Kingdom of Morocco.

The National Rally of Independents (RNI) gained 102 of the 395-seat parliament, the Authenticity and Modernity Party (PAM) won 87, while the Istiqlal Party (oldest political formation) got 81 seats. The socialist USFP won 34, MP grabbed 28 seats, the PPS 22 seats, and the UC 18.

According to the results of the elections, His Majesty King Mohammed VI has appointed Mr. Aziz Akhannouch, president of the "National Rally of Independents (RNI)" Party, as Head of Government and entrusted him with the formation of the new government (the government coalition).

This appointment takes place in accordance with the constitutional provisions and based on the results of the legislative elections of September 8, 2021.

Several diplomatic representations accredited

to Morocco welcomed the smooth conduct of the general elections held on September 8 throughout the national territory, seeing it as a "successful democratic exercise".

In tweets, these chancelleries congratulated the Moroccan authorities and people for the success of this triple vote, which recorded a voter turnout exceeding 50%, in the difficult context of the pandemic.

Very impressed by the democratic conduct of the

The Embassy stressed the British government's support for democratic development in Morocco over the past decade.

"Despite the difficult health situation due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our Moroccan friends managed to hold a fair and transparent election campaign, and to ensure the free expression of the will of the citizens who went to the polling stations," wrote, for its part, the Embassy of the Russian Federation in its tweet.

After congratulating the



Chairman of the National Rally of Independents Party, Mr. Aziz Akhannouch won the election and was appointed Head of the new Government by His Majesty King Mohammed VI

September 8 elections, the Embassy of Japan in Rabat commended the Moroccan people on this occasion.

The British Embassy, for its part, expressed its pleasure to participate in the observation of these elections, saying it is ready to work with the next government to deepen the historical ties between the two kingdoms.

Kingdom's authorities and all the friendly Moroccan people on the occasion of these elections, the Russian Embassy expressed its confidence that the new House of Representatives as well as the government will continue to work for the continued prosperity of the Kingdom of Morocco and contribute to the development of Russian-



Moroccan ties for the benefit of both peoples.

The Italian Embassy in Rabat described the September 8 elections as "a great exercise in democracy," wishing success to those elected.

It highlighted, in this context, the spirit of partnership and fraternal friendship that unite the Moroccan and Italian peoples.

In the same vein, the Philippine embassy particularly welcomed the high turnout recorded in these elections, expressing its appreciation for the aspirations of the Moroccan people for

who tweeted: "democracy in action".

Several countries, organizations, and national and foreign observers and experts have welcomed the successful unfolding of the September 8 triple elections held in Morocco, noting the integrity and transparency that marked the polls.

Portugal also congratulated Morocco on the smooth conduct of legislative, municipal and regional elections, which were marked, it said, by "the largest number of voters ever recorded".

partnership," said the American embassy in its twitter account.

Belgian Minister of State and Federal Deputy Andr Flahaut has also underlined the success of the triple election held in Morocco and the high voter turnout, which show the Kingdom's great democratic maturity.

This election, which took place under good conditions, "gives a clear signal of Morocco's great democratic maturity," and of a responsible sensitivity and citizenship which was expressed through the results of these elections," the Belgian official said, adding that the ballot is a "sign of good omen for the image of Morocco in Africa as well as in Europe... and will further strengthen the Kingdom's relations with its partners, in particular Belgium."

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) which sent observers to Morocco deemed as "a success" the legislative elections, saying they were marked by "integrity" and "transparency" across the entire national territory.

Mandated to observe the elections, the PACE delegation, led by Italian MP Alberto Ribolla, congratulated the Moroccan people for these "peaceful" elections under the leadership of King Mohammed VI, and commended the "professionalism" of the authorities that organized the polls.

The Arab League's mission, dispatched to observe Morocco's elections, alongside



Polling in Morocco held on September 8, 2021

a strong and sustainable democracy.

Several other diplomatic representations accredited to Morocco have also welcomed the good conduct of the September 8 triple vote. They are the Dutch embassy which said it was happy to see millions of Moroccans exercising their right to vote, and the Swiss Ambassador in Rabat, Guillaume Scheurer,

"We wish all the best to the elected representatives of the Moroccan people," said the Portuguese Foreign Ministry on its official accounts on social networks.

The US embassy in Rabat was among the first to congratulate Morocco for holding successful general elections.

"Our shared commitment to democratic processes strengthens our 200-year





???

**The Arab League's mission, dispatched to observe Morocco's elections, alongside 500 national and international observers from different organizations, said voters were allowed to freely fulfill their electoral duty and the vote took place in accordance with the legal framework of the electoral process and international standards.**

500 national and international observers from different organizations, said voters were allowed to freely fulfill their electoral duty and the vote took place in accordance with the legal framework of the electoral process and international standards.

The Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) also hailed the "exemplary" holding of the September 8 elections.

"CEN-SAD joins international

observers in welcoming the exemplary holding of the electoral process," the regional organization said in a statement, commending "the patriotic commitment and political maturity of Moroccan political actors and citizens in this national democratic practice."

For his part, the president of the National Audiovisual Regulatory Council of Senegal (CNRA), Babacar Diagne, welcomed "the transparency

and the very good organization" of these elections.

"We have not observed any incident likely to undermine the integrity of the electoral operation, we are very satisfied with the transparency of these elections," said Diagne.

Morocco has taken up the great challenge of organizing three elections on the same day despite the exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, noted the director of Gender Concerns International, Sabra Bano, who thanked the authorities for facilitating the mission of the international observers.

"We have observed with satisfaction the strengthening of the political representativeness of women," noted Ms. Sabra Bano, deeming that all guarantees have been met for the organization of "free and transparent" elections.



# Profile of New Head of Government of Morocco, H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch

Following the successful elections in Morocco, H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch who is leading the National Rally of Independents (RNI), was appointed Head of the Government by His Majesty the King.



Chairman of the National Rally of Independents, H. E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch met with His Majesty King Mohammed VI

Sovereign's guidelines, and the development strategy for the water and forest sector "Forests of Morocco", before His Majesty the King in February 2020.

Mr. Akhannouch also worked on the launch and implementation of the halieutis plan, a plan which was at the origin of a profound transformation of sea fishing towards greater sustainability and competitiveness.



**M**r. Aziz Akhannouch, appointed by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, on September 10, 2021, head of government, is the chairman of the National Rally of Independents party. Born in 1961, in Taфраout, located in South-Central Morocco, Aziz Akhannouch learned about trade and business from his father.

After obtaining a degree in business management from the University of Sherbrooke in Quebec, Canada, Aziz Akhannouch returned to Morocco to found several companies in varying sectors. Alongside his father, Akhannouch, later formed a business conglomerate focused primarily on the petroleum industry.

Prior to being appointed to the position of Head of Government, Akhannouch was the Chief Executive Officer of the Akwa Group business conglomerate.

Mr. Akhannouch was Minister of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries (which during his mandate became the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests) between 2007 and 2021. During this period, he was able to implement the Green Morocco Plan, the ambitious strategy launched by His Majesty King Mohammed VI in April 2008. He also had the honor to present the main lines of the new agricultural strategy "Green Generation 2020-2030", drawn up following the

In addition to his successful business ventures, Akhannouch has also dabbled in other fields throughout the country. From 2003-2007, he was president of the Souss-Massa-Draa regional council.

Currently, Akhannouch is a member of the Board of Directors of the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, as well as a member of the Mohammed VI Foundation for the reintegration of prisoners. He currently resides with his wife and three children in the city of Casablanca.





# New Cabinet Members of the Kingdom of Morocco



**H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch**  
Head of Government



**Mr. Abdelouafi Laftit**  
Minister of the Interior



**Mr. Nizar Baraka**  
Minister of Equipment and Water



**Mr. Ryad Mezzour**  
Minister of Industry and Trade



**Ms. Aouatif Hayar**  
Minister of Solidarity, Social Inclusion and Family



**Mr. Nasser Bourita**  
Minister of Foreign Affairs,  
African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad



**Mr. Chakib Benmoussa**  
Minister of National Education,  
Preschool and Sports



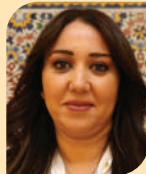
**Ms. Fatim-Zahra Ammor**  
Minister of Tourism, Handicrafts and  
Social and Solidarity Economy



**Mr. Abdellatif Loudiyi**  
Minister Delegate to the Head of Government  
in charge of the administration of National Defense



**Mr. Abdellatif Ouahbi**  
Minister of Justice



**Ms. Nabila Rmili**  
Minister of Health and Social Protection



**Mr. Abdellatif Miraoui**  
Minister of Higher Education, Scientific  
Research and Innovation



**Mr. Mohcine Jazouli**  
Minister Delegate to the Head of Government  
in charge of Investment, Convergence and the  
Evaluation of Public Policies



**Mr. Ahmed Toufik**  
Minister of Endowments and Islamic Affairs



**Ms. Fatima Ezzahra El Mansouri**  
Minister of National Planning, Urban Planning,  
Housing and Urban Policy



**Ms. Leila Benali**  
Minister of Energy Transition  
and Sustainable Development



**Mr. Faouzi Lekjaa**  
Minister Delegate to the Minister of  
Economy and Finance, in charge of the Budget



**Mohamed El Hajjoui**  
Secretary General of the Government



**Mr. Mohamed Sadiki**  
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural  
Development and Water and Forests



**Mr. Mohamed Abdeljalil**  
Minister of Transport and Logistics



**Mr. Mustapha Baitas**  
Minister Delegate to the Head of  
Government in charge of Relations with  
Parliament, Government Spokesman



**Ms. Nadia Fettah Alaoui**  
Minister of Economy and Finance



**Mr. Younes Sekkouri**  
Minister of Economic Inclusion,  
Small Business, Employment and Skills



**Mr. Mohamed Mehdi Bensaid**  
Minister of Youth, Culture and Communication



**Ms. Ghita Mezzour**  
Minister Delegate to the Head of  
Government in charge of Digital Transition  
and Administration Reform



# Morocco-India Foreign Minister's Virtual Meeting

Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Mr. Nasser Bourita, and Minister of External Affairs of India, Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, on 22nd October, 2021 welcomed the dynamic of bilateral relations during talks held by videoconference.



**A**t the start of these discussions, the two ministers welcomed the great impetus and momentum that has been injected into bilateral relations since the historic visit of His Majesty King Mohammed VI to India in October 2015 and his meeting with the Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, during which they notably agreed to raise the level of these relations to a strategic partnership.

The new dimension taken by Moroccan-Indian relations thus reflects the enlightened policy of HM King Mohammed

VI, which is aimed at the diversification and expansion of the Kingdom's strategic partnerships, which now include big countries such as India.

In this regard, Dr. Jaishankar praised the leadership of the Sovereign to engage Morocco on the path of progress and prosperity.

After noting with great satisfaction the conduct of 27 bilateral visits at the ministerial level, as well as the signing of some forty agreements and memorandums of understanding over the past

five years, the two ministers held a constructive and in-depth exchange of points of view on the bilateral agenda, while stressing the need to relaunch post-Covid cooperation between the two countries in all areas.

The two officials stressed the importance of further strengthening the bilateral legal framework and increasing the exchange of visits by economic delegations. To this end, Minister Bourita urged Indian economic stakeholders to take advantage of the investment opportunities offered by the





Kingdom and to promote the transfer of technology and know-how.

The two officials also agreed to hold the 7th session of the Joint Cooperation Commission and the 5th session of the bilateral political consultations in the near future. They also praised the fruitful cooperation in the area of food security, particularly in the field of fertilizers.

In addition, the two ministers agreed to take the necessary

solution through a Libyan-led and appropriate political process, taking into account the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people, while preserving the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the country.

Minister Bourita, on behalf of the government of the Kingdom of Morocco, once again congratulated India on its successful election as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council for the 2021-2022 term.

Forum summit, held in New Delhi in October 2015, in the presence of His Majesty the King. They also agreed to ensure close consultation for the holding of the 4th edition of this Summit.

Regarding the Moroccan Sahara issue, Dr. Jaishankar expressed India's support for the United Nations Secretary-General's effort to achieve a realistic, lasting, negotiated and mutually acceptable political solution to the Sahara issue, noting that India full note of the efforts of the Kingdom of Morocco in this direction.

On the Covid-19 pandemic, the two ministers praised the proactive management by their countries of the crisis, as well as the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI and Mr. Modi for a united approach, in the framework of South-South cooperation, through the implementation of pragmatic initiatives to curb the spread of the virus.

They welcomed the reciprocal collaboration for the repatriation of their fellow citizens stranded in the two countries during the lockdown period.

Minister Bourita also congratulated his counterpart on the launch of an indigenous Indian vaccine and thanked him for the facilities granted for the importation of Indian pharmaceutical products, as part of the fight against Covid-19.

For his part, the Indian minister has renewed the invitation to his Moroccan counterpart to pay an official visit to India.

### **Minister Bourita urged Indian economic stakeholders to take advantage of the investment opportunities offered by the Kingdom and to promote the transfer of technology and know-how.**

measures to increase the flow of tourists, in particular through the examination of the adoption of the electronic visa and the simplification of the procedure for granting visas to economic stakeholders and businessmen. They also agreed to strengthen cultural cooperation between the two countries.

The two ministers also exchanged views on several regional and international issues.

Regarding the Libyan issue, the Indian top diplomat commended Morocco's resolute and constructive engagement with all Libyan parties since the start of the crisis, and its contribution to the United Nations efforts to achieve a peaceful

The two ministers noted with satisfaction the similarity of the points of view of their respective countries on several issues, as well as the fruitful cooperation between their diplomatic representations and reciprocal support within international organizations and institutions.

They also exchanged views on the agenda of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly and underlined their commitment to multilateralism and South-South cooperation, in order to face the major challenges facing the world.

The two ministers underlined, on this occasion, the importance of their countries' commitment to the African continent and welcomed the success of the 3rd edition of the India-Africa



# Cooperation between India, Morocco, Israel has Potential to Create Win-win Situation: Envoy Mohamed Maliki

There are many possibilities of cooperation in the field of food security, agri-business, information technology, textiles, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, fertilizers, handicrafts and tourism. I believe that the combination of the three countries can be for the benefit of all three sides, each country offer comparative advantages and a lot of added value to each other. Journalist Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury of the Economic Times interviewed the Ambassador of Morocco to India, H. E. Mr. Mohamed Maliki on December 27, 2020.



Ambassador of Morocco to India, H. E. Mr. Mohamed Maliki

Morocco has not just been a key player in the Arab World and a voice of moderation for decades but also a major African power with significant outreach to Europe and the USA. Two recent decisions – USA acceptance of sovereignty of Morocco over Moroccan Sahara and reactivation of ties between Israel and Morocco have further enhanced Morocco's geo political role.

In an exclusive interview with journalist Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury of Economic Times newspaper, Moroccan envoy to India Mr. Mohamed

Maliki explained the significance of recent developments as well as significant momentum in India-Morocco ties that could now open opportunities of political and economic partnership in the Arab World including the

Palestinian question, Africa and Europe.

**What is geo-political significance of the USA decision to recognise Western Sahara as part of territory of Morocco and set up its consulate there? What does this mean for Africa?**

Let me start by saying that the Proclamation by the President of the United States of America recognizing, for the first time in its history, the full sovereignty of the Kingdom of Morocco over the entire region of the Moroccan Sahara is a historical event for both Morocco and the United States and constitutes another milestone in their bilateral relations. This was possible through the personal involvement of His Majesty the King of Morocco, Mohammed VI, Who Led a steady and long process of interaction with the US Administration since at least two years and half.

The importance of the said Proclamation lies in the fact that it stems from the United States of America, as a superpower and a permanent





member of the Security Council of the United Nations, as one of the main actors, if not the most important at the international scene. The US is also the penholder for the resolutions relating to the Moroccan Sahara issue in the Executive body of the UN.

It is to be stressed, however, that the decision of the President Donald Trump does not come from vacuum. Indeed, the United States under different Administrations - led either by Democrats or Republicans - has always supported a political solution to this regional conflict and believed that the Moroccan initiative for autonomy, under the Moroccan sovereignty, is a serious, a realistic and

sovereignty of Morocco as serious and credible.

Technically speaking, the decision of the US recognizing the sovereignty of Morocco over its Sahara is in itself a recognition of a reality on the ground proven by history itself, by the legal ties of Allegiance between the Moroccan Sultans and Kings and Sahrawi people since centuries.

In this regard, I would like to emphasize and recall that out of 192 countries in the world, 165, including India, are not recognizing the separatist front of Polisario or their so called state.

On the other side, I would like to remind here that the

- Morocco is also a Major non-NATO ally of the US since 2004.
- Morocco and the US organize every year the biggest joint military exercise and training in Africa, called "the AfricanLion".
- Morocco is a strong partner in counterterrorism efforts and works closely with the US law enforcement to safeguard both countries' national security and interests.

As for the bilateral economic relations, Morocco is the only African country having a free trade agreement with the US since 2006.

Around 150 companies from the US operate in Morocco, particularly in the renewable energy, infrastructure, aviation and environmental technology sectors.

This reality has also led the US to take the decision to open a consulate in the Moroccan city of Dakhla, pearl of the Moroccan Sahara, with a primarily economic vocation, to encourage US investments and contribution to economic and social development for the benefit of the inhabitants of the southern provinces of Morocco.

From all this, I would like to say that whenever Morocco and the US agreed on something, they are doing it primarily as two Strategic Partners with a longstanding commitment.

In the same direction, many countries from Africa, America and the Arab world (21 countries as of today), have opened, or declared the

.....  
**Morocco has a vibrant Jewish community with thriving synagogues, schools and cemeteries. Moroccan Jews have played, and continue to play, key roles in the Moroccan political life, by serving as a Senior Royal Advisor, Ambassador-at-large and other high official positions.**  
 .....

a credible plan to reach a political solution to this regional conflict. This belief is also shared by the members of the Security Council.

Even the resolutions of the Security Council, on the Moroccan Sahara issue, have, since 2007, called for a political solution that is realistic, pragmatic and based on compromise as the only solution to this dispute and considered Morocco's proposal plan for autonomy under the

relations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the United States are historical which can be seen through many facts:

- Morocco was the first country to recognize the newly independent United States in 1777. Both countries signed a treaty of peace and friendship in 1786 which remains the longest unbroken agreement of friendship / relationship in the U.S. history.



opening of, their Consulates in the Moroccan Sahara and the remaining friendly countries are welcome to follow the path. Therefore, the United States have joined many countries who recognized the sovereignty of Morocco on its Sahara.

**Has India shown any interest to open a Consulate there? How can India expand its economic presence in that region of Morocco?**

I think this question should be asked to the Indian officials who are in a best position to give you the right answer. From my side, what I am sure of is that the Government and the people of Morocco as well as the business communities in India and Morocco will highly welcome such a decision by India.

I need to highlight that the opening of more than 20 consulates in the Moroccan Sahara has been dictated mainly by an economic motivation based on the economic attractiveness of the Moroccan Sahara region which is a part of the shortest and safest bridge between Europe and the rest of Africa.

In this regards, I know that many big Indian companies have already investments in the Southern region of Morocco. It is opportune also to offer them and others the endless opportunities which Morocco offer including in this particular region as a link between North and South of Africa.

**What is the significance of Morocco's decision to re-**

**establish ties with Israel that will lead to formal diplomatic ties? Could you also explain relations between Morocco and Jewish origin people?**

I would like to highlight that Israel's relations with Morocco are special and can't be compared to the relations that Israel has with any other country in the region. This is to say that, from our perspective, we aren't talking about "normalization" because relations have always existed at different levels.

So we are talking about "reactivation" of the diplomatic mechanisms and economic relations between the two countries. In fact, liaison offices both in Rabat and Tel Aviv were operational between 1994 until 2002.

Besides this reactivation of the relations between Morocco and Israel, it is important to note that the Jewish component has always constituted, and it still is, a part of the Moroccan identity and culture.

It is worth mentioning the specificity of Morocco in the Arab world with regards to the Jewish community, especially when it comes to its relation with the Kings of Morocco. Late King Mohammed V (Grandfather of His Majesty King Mohammed VI) is highly esteemed by Moroccan Jews who credit him for his role in protecting the Moroccan Jewish community from the Nazi regime and Vichy Government. At that time, the King Mohammed V declared "I am the Commander of all Believers not Muslims only". That position is still present

in the minds of the Jewish people, from Morocco and all over the world. It is the reason why there was, and there is always, a spiritual and strong link between the Jewish Community and the Kings of Morocco.

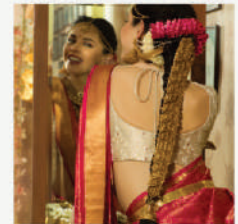
Morocco has a vibrant Jewish community with thriving synagogues, schools and cemeteries. Moroccan Jews have played, and continue to play, key roles in the Moroccan political life, by serving as a Senior Royal Advisor, Ambassador-at-large and other high official positions.

Today out of 8 to 9 million citizens of Israel around 1,5 million, according to Israeli officials, are from Moroccan origin and many of them have been in high official positions, such as: Ministers, Counsellors, Ambassadors, etc.

Now with this reactivation of relations, direct flights have already started between the two countries since the inaugural flight landed in Rabat on 22nd December 2020 which was transporting a high-level US-Israeli delegation. The Moroccan community living in Israel can easily, from now on, visit its country of origin, Morocco. For instance, last year around 70.000 members of the Moroccan community living in Israel had visited Morocco and, I believe that, this number will increase with the operating of direct flights. According to the Moroccan Minister of Tourism, this number is expected to increase significantly to reach around 200,000 tourists by 2021.

During the visit of this high-





The letter 'a' is a symbol of 'the beginning', optimism and hope. Abaran interprets this symbolism in breathtaking gold bridal designs. To celebrate the beginning of eternal bliss.

FLAGSHIP STORE:  
192, West of Chord Road,  
Opp. ISKCON, **Bengaluru.**  
Ph: +91 80 2359 8600

45, Residency Cross Road,  
M.G Road, Near Mayo Hall, **Bengaluru.**  
Ph: +91 80 2532 8600

9, 15th Cross, 5th Phase  
J.P Nagar, Outer Ring Road, **Bengaluru.**  
Ph: +91 80 2990 8600

Toll Free No.: 1800 425 1935, Email: [info@abaran.in](mailto:info@abaran.in), [www.abaran.in](http://www.abaran.in)



**abaran**  
TIMELESS JEWELLERY



level US-Israeli delegation to Morocco, it was agreed to promote a dynamic and innovative economic bilateral relation and develop the cooperation in many sectors.

In this regard, 4 MoUs/Agreement were signed in this occasion namely : (1) Agreement on the exemption from visa formalities for holders of diplomatic and service passports, (2) MoU in the field of Civil Aviation as a first step to engage in talks for the conclusion of an Agreement on Air Services, (3) MoU on Innovation and the development of water resources and (4) MoU on cooperation in the field of Finance and Investment.

**Do you foresee trilateral cooperation between India-Morocco-Israel in future given fact that India has strong ties with both Morocco and Israel?**

First of all, I think India and Morocco, thanks to their connections in the Middle East, can play a bigger role to achieve peace in this strategic region.

In this context, I would like to recall that Morocco will take advantage of all arrangements and contacts agreed upon between His Majesty and the US President to promote peace in the region and this reactivation of relation with Israel will, in no way, affect the unwavering and continuous commitment to the defence of the just Palestinian cause.

In this regard, I want to emphasize that His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco and President of

the Al-Quds Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, stressed that Morocco, which places the Palestinian cause at the top of its concerns, will never renounce its role in the defence of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to have their own state and enjoy their full rights and the Kingdom, will continue to support the two-state solution and the negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli

**Recently, I was so delighted to assist to the official announcement of the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Exim Bank of India and BMCE Bank of Africa, one of the strong, respected, largest and soundest banks in Morocco and one of the top private banks in terms of coverage and presence in the African countries.**

parties are the only way to reach a final, lasting and comprehensive solution to this conflict.

India which has also very good and friendly relations with Israel is called to play an active and important role to reach this objective, especially as a member of the Security Council of the United Nations

to bring a lasting peace in the Middle East.

Furthermore, the relations between India and Palestinian actors could play a major role to support Palestinian efforts and consolidate their capacity and ability to preserve their national interest and achieve unity and sovereignty.

In the economic perspective, the triangular cooperation has the potential to create a win-win situation for all the three countries. There are many possibilities of cooperation in the field of food security, agri-business, information technology, textiles, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, fertilizers, handicrafts and tourism.

I believe that the combination of the three countries can be for the benefit of all three sides, each country offer comparative advantages and a lot of added value to each other.

India and Israel could benefit from the strong presence of Moroccan companies in Africa and launch joint initiatives for the development of the African continent through a trilateral cooperation based on win-win basis.

**India and Morocco partnership have acquired strong momentum opening new dimensions in last four years. What are new areas where the two sides are planning to collaborate in future?**

First of all, it is important to mention here that Morocco and India established their diplomatic relations in 1957, one year after the independence of Morocco.





Today, the two countries maintain excellent relations in various fields. These relations have been further consolidated especially after the memorable meeting between His Majesty the King Mohammed VI and the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, during the historic visit of His Majesty to India in October 2015, when the relations between both countries have been raised to the level of Strategic Partnership.

For instance, during the last five years not less than 23 Ministerial visits took place in both ways and more than 43 agreements / Memoranda of Understanding have been signed and today the two countries are working together for further cooperation in matters of New Technologies, space, defence, intelligence, Counter-terrorism, etc

Recently, I was so delighted to assist to the official announcement of the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Exim Bank of India and BMCE Bank of Africa, one of the strong, respected, largest and soundest banks in Morocco and one of the top private banks in terms of coverage and presence in the African countries.

I believe that this partnership between these two strong and serious institutions from Morocco and India will definitely open a wide door for Exim-Bank to further operate in Morocco and the rest of Africa by benefiting from the rich experience and the large and strong network of BMCE BANK, which can brilliantly make the voice of India Exim-

**Today Morocco stands as the second largest African investor in the continent and the first African investor in the West African region. It is from this perspective that Morocco is open to develop joint initiatives and investment with India towards Africa as the two countries are enjoying a positive image in the continent.**

Bank more audible not only in Morocco but in many other African countries where this Moroccan bank has a very strong presence.

The two countries are also willing to take their cooperation further by exploring new areas or reinforcing the existing ones.

**How can India take advantage of Morocco's strong ties with Europe and Africa and expand its economic presence with both these continents?**

I would like to recall once again that memorable meeting between our both leaders in October 2015 in Delhi during which the discussions revealed a convergence of views on the strategic place occupied by the development of the African continent and the importance of stability, security and sustainable economic and social development in Africa.

As an African country that has confidence in its home continent, Morocco has never stopped developing its economic relations and ties with the majority of the African countries, as part of a South-South cooperation based on a win-win vision.

Today Morocco stands as the second largest African

investor in the continent and the first African investor in the West African region. It is from this perspective that Morocco is open to develop joint initiatives and investment with India towards Africa as the two countries are enjoying a positive image in the continent.

The big Moroccan Diaspora in Africa, in the Arab world and mainly in Europe, the Advanced Status that Morocco enjoys with the European Union and the Free Trade Agreements with the United States of America, with many Arab and Turkey as well as within the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) constitute serious assets, especially for India to benefit from in its relation with other countries, partners of Morocco.

Looking to the future perspectives in terms of development of their bilateral relations, Morocco considers India as its gateway for the rest of Asia. On the other hand, Morocco, which is at the crossroad of Africa, Europe, the Arab world and America, especially along the west coast of the Atlantic, could be a platform for India towards these regions.



# His Majesty King Mohammed VI Address to the 26th UN Climate Change Conference

The King of Morocco addressed the COP26 Climate Change conference held at Glasgow, Scotland. The speech was read out by Head of the Government, H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch.



His Majesty King Mohammed VI at the COP22 Climate Change Conference held at Marrakech

Here follows the full text of the royal speech, which was read out by the Head of Government, Aziz Akhannouch:

I should like, first, to congratulate the United Kingdom on successfully organizing and on chairing the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This is an opportunity to reinforce our collective commitment to face up to the

great perils threatening the future of humanity.

With the growing number of reports by climate change experts, everyone now realizes that the gloomiest predictions have unfortunately become a bitter reality. Mankind has but one of two choices: either surrender to self-destructing apathy, or engage honestly and unequivocally in a set of practical measures that can rapidly effect a real change in the current policy, which has proven its ineffectiveness.

The global response to the threat of the covid-19 pandemic has shown that there are possibilities and means which were presumably unavailable when it came to combating climate change. A number of countries, which bear the historical and moral responsibility for the deterioration of the current environmental situation, have managed to come up with huge financial resources. Moreover, experience has shown that it is possible to reduce these countries' activities which





Head of the Government,  
H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch read out  
the Royal Speech at COP26 held in  
Glasgow, Scotland

# COP26



are harmful to the climate and the environment without there being any unbearable consequences.

Clearly, real political will is urgently needed, as is a fairer commitment towards a broad category of humankind, which is currently bearing the brunt of a global economic system from which it is not benefiting equitably. Given the damage suffered by Africa as a result of climate change, the poor financial and technological support provided is a stark indicator of the shortcomings of the current international system.

It is our hope that this COP session will stimulate a global collective awareness which would pave the way for the establishment of sustainable, solidarity-based human

communities that uphold the values of fairness and coexistence.

With that firm belief in mind, Morocco has been enhancing its multi-faceted commitment to tackling climate issues, pledging to raise its Nationally Determined Contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 45.5% by 2030. This is part of an integrated, low-carbon development strategy to be implemented by the year 2050. Its aim is to help transition to a green economy that is in line with the sustainable development goals and to enhance resilience and adaptation in order to protect the environment, both of which

are pillars of the Kingdom's new development model.

With the same resolve, Morocco has been enhancing its engagement, along with African sister nations, to confront the destructive impacts of climate change. Thus, it has launched initiatives for agricultural adaptation, for the promotion of security and stability and for access to sustainable energy, in addition to setting up the three African Climate Commissions, within the framework of the Africa Action Summit, held in Marrakesh in November 2016.

The changes that must be introduced to curb the repercussions of the climate crisis are well known, and the international community should not keep hesitating but rather move forward and activate tangible solutions with a specific implementation agenda, backed by strong political will to change the worrying path towards which the world is heading.

We are calling for an awakening of the global conscience and for a collective, responsible commitment to tackle climate change in order to ensure a better future for all humankind.



# Morocco/UN: 1st Celebration of International Day of Argania Held in Agadir



The then Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests, H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch addressed the UN event to celebrate International Day of Argania

The opening ceremony of this high-level event initiated by Morocco and the United Nations, was chaired by the then Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests, H.E. Mr. Aziz Akhannouch.

Organized in a hybrid format, this event is followed around the world, live on the United Nations web TV, as well as on YouTube and on social networks.

It brought together senior officials including ambassador Omar Hilale, Morocco's Permanent Representative to the UN, Volkan Bozkır, President of the UN General Assembly, Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the UN and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO, Anita Bathia,

Deputy Executive Director of UN-Women, Maria Henela Semedo, Deputy Director-General of FAO, and Yannick Glemarec, Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund.

The proclamation of this International Day follows the adoption of a resolution, presented by Morocco, at the United Nations General Assembly in New York on March 3, 2021.

A resolution adopted by





The image from the hybrid event to celebrate International Day of Argania

**A resolution adopted by consensus of all member States and by which Morocco has mobilized the international community around the cause of safeguarding and development of the argan tree.**

consensus of all member States and by which Morocco has mobilized the international community around the cause of safeguarding and development of the argan tree.

This UN resolution recognizes the colossal contribution of the argan sector in the implementation of the 17 objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of sustainable development in its three dimensions: economic, social and environmental. It also highlights the role of this sector in the empowerment and emancipation of rural women,

strengthening the solidarity economy, poverty eradication and human development through the support and promotion of the role of cooperatives and other forms of agricultural organization active in the argan sector.

The proclamation by the UN of the International Day of Argania is a recognition of the efforts of the Kingdom at the international level, under the high guidance of His Majesty King Mohammed VI in the protection and development of the argan tree, including through the launch of a

comprehensive development program of argan farming on an area of 10,000 ha in Morocco.

This celebration recognizes the efforts of the Kingdom of Morocco in the promotion of the argan tree as an intangible cultural heritage of humanity and ancestral source of resilient and sustainable development.

**50,000 Hectares To Be Planted with Argane Trees by 2030 (Minister)**

By 2030, 50,000 hectares will be planted with Argane trees in Morocco, the then Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests Aziz Akhannouch said in Agadir.

Speaking at the ceremony organized on the occasion of the first celebration of the International Argane Tree Day,



initiated by Morocco and the United Nations, Akhannouch underlined that within the framework of the "Generation Green" strategy launched by HM King Mohammed VI, the Argane farming sector will be upgraded through the launch of other development projects with the aim of reaching a cumulative objective of 400,000 ha.

He added that, in 2018, a program touched on planting 10,000 hectares with Argane trees for a total cost of 49 million dollars, for the benefit of 26,000 beneficiaries, adding that the Agricultural Development Fund offers financial incentives to support Argane cultivation.

Akhannouch noted that the commercial demand for Argane products has experienced a tangible increase, adding that Moroccan exports of Argane oil have tripled between 2010 and 2020.

In order to strengthen the position of these products on international markets and protect this civilizational heritage, the Argane tree has had its own geographical declaration since 2010, recalled the Minister.

Underlining the importance of scientific research for the development of the Argane tree, Akhannouch announced the creation during this year of the National Argane Center, which will be an incubator for public and private initiatives and a platform for boosting research and documentation related to the Argane grove.

As part of efforts made to organize the sector, more than 500 cooperatives bringing together 10,000 women have been created, ie 10 times more than in 2004, he said.

22 nurseries were also set up for the production of Argane plantations approved by the National Office for Food Products Sanitary Safety (ONSSA), compared to 2 in 2015, and over 450 small and medium-sized enterprises were created and are operating mainly in the fields of development and export, with

• • • • •  
**Akhannouch noted that the commercial demand for Argane products has experienced a tangible increase, adding that Moroccan exports of Argane oil have tripled between 2010 and 2020.**  
• • • • •

an annual turnover currently estimated at more than one billion dirhams, he added.

Akhannouch stressed the collective responsibility of all countries to pay special attention to strengthening international cooperation and funding for the protection of this unique heritage, which plays a vital role in the preservation of the balance of nature and biological diversity.

The opening ceremony of this high-level event was held in a hybrid format and aired on United Nations web TV, YouTube and social networks.

It brings together high-ranking figures including President of the United Nations General Assembly Volkan Bozkır, UN Secretary General Deputy Amina J. Mohammed, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the UN, Ambassador Omar Hilale, Director-General of UNESCO Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of WHO Tedros Ghebreyesus, Deputy Executive Director of UN-Women Anita Bathia, Deputy Director-General of FAO Maria Henela Semedo, and executive director of the Green Climate Fund Yannick Glemarec.

The proclamation of this international day follows the adoption of a resolution, presented by Morocco, to the United Nations General Assembly in New York on March 3, 2021.

• • • • •  
Essaouira: Community of Nations Bolsters Universality of Argane Tree (Andr Azoulay)

Universal by nature, the Argane tree has seen the dynamics and the profound legitimacy of all its virtues bolstered by the International Day which is now celebrated every year on May 10 by the United Nations, declared, on Monday, Andr Azoulay, Advisor to HM the King and President of the Mohammed VI Foundation for Argane Tree Research and Preservation (FMVI.RSA).

Speaking at the opening of a virtual conference, organized by the FMVI.RSA for the celebration of this event, the







# New Security Council Resolution 2602 Confirms Moroccan Credibility of Initiative



Security Council Sticks to Western Sahara Resolutions

**U**nited Nations (New York) - The resolution 2602 of the UN Security Council adopted, confirms the "continuum" of the roundtable process as the "one and only" framework for the settlement of the regional dispute over the Moroccan Sahara, said in New York, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the UN, Ambassador Omar Hilale.

The new resolution, which is in line with the last four resolutions of the Security Council, "reinforces and confirms the continuum of the roundtable process with its modalities and with its four participants - Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania, and Polisario - as the only framework for the settlement" of the regional dispute over the Moroccan Sahara, Hilale explained

during a press conference at the Security Council following the adoption of the new resolution.

In this regard, the Security Council has decided, once again, that the ultimate aim of the political process is to achieve a realistic, pragmatic, sustainable, mutually acceptable political solution that is based on compromise, the ambassador noted.

"In this context and by reiterating in its 18th consecutive resolution the seriousness, the credibility of the Moroccan autonomy

initiative, the Security Council confirms, if still needed, that autonomy remains and will be the ultimate and final solution to this regional dispute," Hilale stressed.

He added that the adoption of this new resolution comes in a context "full of optimism" for the resumption of the political process, following the appointment of Staffan de Mistura as the new personal envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the Moroccan Sahara.

The Moroccan diplomat

.....  
**The Moroccan diplomat extended his "warm congratulations" to the new personal envoy of the UN SG and pledged Morocco's full support and cooperation for the success of his facilitation.**  
 .....





Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations, Ambassador Mr. Omar Hilale

.....  
**the Highest Authority of the Kingdom to the UN SG its commitment to the respect and maintenance of the cease-fire, as well as its cooperation with Minurso, he added.**  
 .....

extended his "warm congratulations" to the new personal envoy of the UN SG and pledged Morocco's full support and cooperation for the success of his facilitation.

In addition, the Ambassador said that the Security Council has exposed, in its new resolution, the "allegations, and lies" peddled by Algeria and polsario about a so-called "Hollywood" war in the Moroccan Sahara, "and this is ignoring their war narrative attesting to the calm, quiet and normality of life in our southern provinces."

The UN executive body confirmed the "irreversibility" of the peaceful action carried out by Morocco in the region

of Guerguerat last November, which allowed "to definitively and once and for all drive out the armed militias of the polisario," Hilale pointed out.

He added that the Security Council expressed its "deep concern" about the breaking of the ceasefire by the armed separatist group, the polisario, as well as its obstructions to the freedom of movement of MINURSO "dangerously compromising" its mandate of supervision of the ceasefire on the ground.

Morocco declared through the Highest Authority of the Kingdom to the UN SG its commitment to the respect and maintenance of the cease-fire, as well as its cooperation with

Minurso, he added.

The Ambassador also stated that Morocco welcomes the appointment of Alexander Ivanko as special representative and head of Minurso, reiterating the "assurances" of cooperation of the Kingdom.

Hilale noted that the Security Council welcomed, once again, the achievements and efforts of the Kingdom in the promotion and protection of human rights in its Saharan provinces, "thus inflicting a stinging disavowal on Algeria and its polisario" which is struggling with millions of dollars to misrepresent and misinform about the enjoyment by the populations of the Moroccan Sahara of their full rights.

The Moroccan diplomat also thanked the United States for the presentation and negotiation of this resolution as well as the members of the Security Council for their support.



# First UN Office of Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa Inaugurated in Rabat

The headquarters of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa (UNOCT), the first of its kind on the African continent, was inaugurated in Rabat.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Mr. Nasser Bourita, with the participation, by videoconference and in person, of senior UN officials and representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Morocco inaugurated the 1st UN Office of Counter Terrorism and Training in Africa. The virtual event was held in Rabat on June 25, 2021.

The inauguration ceremony was chaired by minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Nasser Bourita, with the participation, by videoconference and in person, of senior UN officials

and representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Morocco.

The ceremony was broadcast by video conference to allow participants in the second Counter-Terrorism Week in

New York to attend and follow its proceedings.

The new Program Office will work to develop and implement accredited programs that focus on capacity building and skills development in the area of





counter-terrorism, including security, investigation and prosecution, prison and border management, disengagement, rehabilitation and reintegration.

It will rely on the pooling of the expertise of Morocco and UNOCT in order to provide quality training for the benefit of African States, according to a collaborative and supportive approach reflecting a spirit of collective responsibility.

The choice of Morocco as a partner for the establishment of this Program Office is further

This project also consolidates the continuous commitment and sharing values adopted by Morocco and the privileged place of African issues in the Kingdom's diplomatic initiatives, in accordance with the Very High Orientations defined by HM the King.

The opening ceremony was marked by the online participation of the UN Under-Secretary General for Counter-Terrorism, Vladimir Voronkov, the Deputy Director of UNOCT, Mauro Miedico and Morocco's

Nations Resident Coordinator in Morocco, Sylvia Lopez-Ekra, and the ambassador of Cameroon, doyen of African ambassadors accredited to Morocco, Mohammedou Youssoufou.

Morocco and the UN had signed in October 2020, a headquarters agreement for the establishment in Morocco of this UN Program Office. Signed by Bourita and Voronkov, this agreement reflects the ambition to combine efforts to meet the challenges related to



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Nasser Bourita inaugurating the 1st UN Office of Counter Terrorism and Training in Africa

proof of the confidence and esteem in which the National Strategy to Combat Terrorism and Violent Extremism is held under the enlightened leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

Permanent Representative to the UN, ambassador Omar Hilale.

The ceremony brought together from Morocco the head of the new Program Office in Rabat, Carlos Reis, the United

the growing terrorist threat in Africa in recent years.

The office aims to build the capacity of member states through the development of national counter-terrorism training programs. The



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Mr. Nasser Bourita, with representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited to Morocco inaugurated the 1st UN Office of Counter Terrorism and Training in Africa in Rabat.

**The opening in Rabat of the United Nations Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa (UNOCT) is part of Morocco's vocation and engagement, under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, towards its continent, said Thursday minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Nasser Bourita.**

UNOCT was established in June 2017 to support the efforts of the various UN agencies in their missions to accompany member states in the implementation of the UN global counter-terrorism strategy.

Opening in Rabat of UN Office for Counter-terrorism is Part Morocco's Vocation and Engagement Towards Africa (FM)

The opening in Rabat of the United Nations Office for Counter-Terrorism and Training in Africa (UNOCT) is part of Morocco's vocation and engagement, under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, towards its continent, said Thursday minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Nasser Bourita.

The opening of this program office for Africa in Rabat "falls naturally within Morocco's vocation and engagement towards Africa under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI. It confirms Morocco's role as a regional hub, provider of stability and security, in West-Africa and the Sahel in particular and in the continent as a whole," he said in an address at the inauguration ceremony of the headquarters of this office, the first of its kind in Africa.

It is also an "eloquent example" of possible synergy between a Member State and the UN Secretariat to implement the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, added Bourita, who considers it as an illustration that "the operational action of training and sharing experiences and







# Counter-Terrorism: FBI and CIA Welcome 'Advanced Partnership' with Moroccan Intelligence Agency (DGST)

**T**he General Directorate of Territorial Surveillance (DGST) has received messages of congratulations and appreciation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI - New York Field Office) and the Central intelligence agency (CIA) for the distinguished level of cooperation and advanced partnership in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of both countries.

The Chief of the FBI New York Field Office expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude for the cooperation and strong support provided by the DGST, especially the timely and accurate information that helped neutralize a terrorist

threat, the DGST said in a press release.

This information helped expedite FBI's investigation into the U.S. soldier who was linked to ISIS and was planning a terrorist act to kill U.S. soldiers.

In its message, the FBI stressed that thanks to the cooperation and strong partnership with the DGST "we are able to ensure the security of our countries and the safety of our citizens, and to protect security for all," according to the same source.

The CIA headquarters in Washington, D.C. also "recognized the leadership and high level of professionalism of the DGST in joint security efforts, including those related to counter-terrorism and fighting against extremist groups," the DGST added. The Agency also expressed its consideration for the strong partnership with the DGST services.

These messages of thanks and gratitude from US security agencies come in response to specific information provided by the DGST regarding the extremist

.....  
**This information helped expedite FBI's investigation into the U.S. soldier who was linked to ISIS and was planning a terrorist act to kill U.S. soldiers.**  
.....







activities of a US soldier who was planning terrorist acts against US interests and soldiers in the Middle East, the press release said.

They underscore, once again, DGST's ongoing and unwavering commitment to strengthening international cooperation mechanisms to combat the threats of terrorism to the interests of the Kingdom and its regional and international partners, it concluded.

### **Fight against Terrorism: DGST Helps U.S Arrest Radicalized Soldier before Taking Action**

Faced with organized crime, terrorism and violent extremism, Morocco's General Directorate of Territorial Surveillance (DGST) deploys its action within the country, but also outside the borders through exemplary and recognized cooperation with key partners, including the United States.

It is within the framework of the security cooperation and coordination mechanism, one of the axes of the strategic partnership between Rabat and Washington, that the services of the DGST have just made, according to the U.S. press, a valuable contribution to the American security agencies to arrest a radicalized US soldier who was planning to carry out a bloody terror attack.

Thanks to this cooperation, U.S. Army private Cole Bridges was arrested last week while he was planning an attack on the National September 11 Memorial in Lower Manhattan.

"Bridges provided detailed diagrams and even training manuals to help ISIS fighters better kill American forces," according to

US daily newspaper Newstalk Florida.

Bridges joined the U.S. Army in 2019 the same year that prosecutors say he began immersed in the propaganda of terrorist groups and a pledged supporter of jihadi terrorists. The young cavalry scout with the 3rd Infantry Division based at Fort Stewart, Georgia soon sought went public with his radical views. He began promoting these views online through social media and interacting on extremist forums, according to the same source.

The case was brought to the attention of the United States government in September 2020 by the Moroccan intelligence agency known as the General Directorate for Territorial Surveillance but, better known by its French initials — DGST, the publication said.

DGST, headed by Abdellatif Hammouchi, "has worked closely with the United States on counter-terrorism efforts in the past and made the United States government aware of Bridges online activities," the source said, adding that from September until November 2020, Bridges was located at a U.S. military base in Germany.

Thanks to information provided by the DGST, Bridges began speaking online to someone he thought was in direct contact with ISIS fighters but, was, in fact, an online covert employee of the FBI.

"In interactions with an individual he thought was an ISIS affiliate, Bridges provided detailed diagrams and even

training manuals to help ISIS fighters better kill American forces. He also described ways to fortify and protect an encampment against an American special forces assault through the use of planted explosives", the source said.

Bridges stands accused of attempting to provide material support to ISIL and of attempting to murder U.S. military personnel. If convicted, each crime carries a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison though actual sentencing will be left to the judge.

The arrest of Bridges is another example of the close security cooperation between Rabat and Washington, which is part of the multifaceted strategic partnership binding the two countries.

As a sign of the importance given by the United States to this aspect of its solid relations with the Kingdom, former US Secretary of State, Michael Pompeo, during his official visit in 2019 to Morocco, went to the headquarters of the DGST in Temara for talks with the director general of the General Directorate of National Security (DGSN) and of the DGST, Mr. Abdellatif Hammouchi.

Last September, the former US ambassador in Rabat, David Fischer, held discussions with Mr. Hammouchi on several security issues of common interest, in particular the mechanisms of cooperation and coordination in the fight against terrorism, violent extremism, organized crime and their growing links in the region of North Africa and the Sahel.



# Morocco Hosts African Lion 2021 Combined Exercise with United States

The Morocco-US combined exercise "African Lion 2021" was held in Agadir. This was conveyed by Colonel Khalid Harouroud, Deputy Head of the Operations Cell of the Joint Task Force coalition.

"This exercise will allow FAR to capitalize on the achievements already made and to raise the level of planning and conduct of operations," Colonel Harouroud told the press.

"The various activities of African Lion 2021 are planned by the Operations Centre in

Agadir and conducted by the forces there," he added, noting that "the current threats of a hybrid nature require the conduct of joint operations with our partners as long as no single country can face this type of threat alone".

For her part, Julia Alvarez, commander in the US army underlined that "we are here

to develop partnerships with our Moroccan military counterparts. This has been so far an excellent experience during which we exchanged on several issues and we hope to develop other exercises for the next edition".

For his part, Paul Turner, commander in the British army stressed that "this exercise is







extremely important for all the allies working here together. It is extremely important for us to come and partake in these exercises. We are working with our Moroccan colleagues, with our American allies and many other partners."

"This edition has really been a great success. We are here to work with our partners, and beyond the success of this mission, the most important thing is to build links with our allies and our partners", he added.

The 17th combined Moroccan-US exercise "African Lion 2021" ran through June 18, 2021, in the regions of Agadir, Tifnit, Tan-Tan, Mehbes, Tafraout, Ben Guerir and Kenitra, involving thousands of troops from different countries

and a very large number of land, air and sea equipment.

In addition to the United States of America and the Kingdom of Morocco, this exercise is marked by the participation of Great Britain, Brazil, Canada, Tunisia, Senegal, the Netherlands, Italy as well as the Atlantic Alliance, in addition to military observers from nearly thirty countries representing Africa, Europe and America.

The objectives of this exercise, considered among the major combined exercises in the world, are numerous: to strengthen the maneuver capabilities of the participating units; consolidate interoperability between participants in the planning and conduct of joint operations in a coalition

framework; perfecting tactics, techniques and procedures; develop cyber defense skills, train the air component in the conduct of hunting, support and air refueling operations; consolidate cooperation in the area of maritime security; conduct exercises at sea in the field of naval tactics and conventional warfare and carry out humanitarian activities, the source points out.

It includes, in addition to training and simulations in command activities and training on operations to combat violent terrorist organizations, land, airborne, air, maritime and Nuclear, Radiological, Biological and Chemical decontamination exercises.

As part of parallel humanitarian



### **The importance of training and ability to learn how to operate in a COVID-19 environment made African Lion 21 a priority.**

activities, a field medico-surgical hospital will be deployed at Amlen (Taфраout) where medical and surgical services will be provided for the local populations of the region by medical teams made up of doctors and nurses from the FAR and the US Army.

#### **African Lion 21 Exercise Kicks off in Morocco, Tunisia, Senegal**

The African Lion, U.S. Africa Command's premier joint annual exercise in Africa, were held in Morocco, Tunisia and Senegal for its 17th iteration.

With more than 7,000 participants from nine nations and NATO, African Lion is U.S. Africa Command's largest exercise. The training is focused on enhancing readiness for U.S. and partner nation forces, said a statement by the U.S. Africa Command.

"African Lion 2021 is U.S. Africa Command's premier, joint and multi-national annual exercise. African Lion is an excellent example of the United States' long-term commitment to Africa and recognition of Africa's strategic importance to the United States," said U.S. Africa Command commander, U.S. Army Gen. Stephen Townsend, quoted in the statement.

African Lion 21 is a multi-domain, multi-component,

and multi-national exercise, which will employ a full array of mission capabilities with the goal to strengthen interoperability among partner nations and enhance the ability to operate in the African theater of operations, according to the same source.

"This exercise is all about readiness. Readiness of our partners, and readiness of our forces. It brings together various ideas, experiences, and capabilities--ultimately making us stronger partners and a more capable multi-national force," said Townsend.

African Lion activities are spread across Morocco, from Kenitra Air Base in the north to Tan Tan and the Grier Labouihi training complex further south. Activities are also occurring in Senegal and Tunisia.

An air training exercise, coordinated by the U.S. Air Forces Europe and Africa, will feature U.S. and Moroccan air maneuvers including bombers, fighters and aerial refueling.

Naval maneuvers include a naval gunfire exercise and multiple sea-based maneuvers involving U.S. and Moroccan navies and crisis response capabilities, said the statement, adding that U.S. Air Force Airmen from the Utah Air National Guard will conduct a humanitarian civic assistance event in Morocco.

Utah is partnered with Morocco as part of U.S. Africa Command's State Partnership Program. There are 15 African nations in the State Partnership Program.

"African Lion is key in building and strengthening partnerships in the region," said Townsend. "It provides an opportunity for mutual learning between the U.S. and our African partners and benefits participants by strengthening interoperability and collective efforts towards enhancing security and stability throughout the region," he added.

In Senegal, U.S. and Senegalese militaries will demonstrate their combined capability to rapidly deploy and integrate in response to a crisis, while in Tunisia, U.S. and Tunisian Armed Forces will conduct command post exercises and small unit tactical training.

The importance of training and ability to learn how to operate in a COVID-19 environment made African Lion 21 a priority.

"COVID-19 has not changed our focus on engaging with our Africa partners. Due to last year's cancellation of African Lion, we had a head start in planning this year's exercise," said Townsend.

"We understand how important this training is to our forces and our partners and how to better operate in a degraded COVID environment. We will ensure successful training while taking necessary COVID-19 precautionary measures in order to do so," he added.

The U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, Africa, assumed lead responsibility of exercise African Lion in 2019 from the U.S. Marine Corps, the statement concluded.





# Morocco Makes a Step Forward Towards Launching its Own Military Industry



A law governing the setting up of a military industry in Morocco has entered into force after it was published in the official gazette as the Kingdom plans to cut imports by locally manufacturing defense equipment.

The law lays down requirements for licenses for the setting up of plants to manufacture weapons, ammunition, and military and security equipment to be used for the Royal Armed Forces and exports as well.

The law includes provisions governing trade, transport and transit of military equipment as well as tracking systems.

The move is part of Morocco's plan to modernize its army after Morocco sealed agreements with partners to cooperate through joint-ventures.

Morocco's push to modernize its domestic military capabilities and arms industry comes at a moment marked by a surge of instability in north Africa and an arms race with Algeria that shows no signs of abatement.

The US is the Moroccan army's main supplier with cutting-edge weapons including F 16 fighter jets and Abram tanks and Morocco has ordered Apache helicopters and state-of-the-art weaponry from Washington.

Actually, the Royal Armed Forces have placed a \$9 billion order for the acquisition of 25 F16 jets and 36 Apache helicopter that will help it boost its defensive and attack capabilities.

By 2028, Morocco plans to have 48 F16 jets in total equipped with fifth generation radars and 36 Apache helicopters, according to FAR Maroc, a military portal specialized in the Moroccan army.

Besides aircrafts, the recent acquisition by Morocco of different types of frigates, Abram tanks, missile launchers as well as interest to purchase Patriot Air Defense Systems, show that the Royal Armed Forces remain consistent in their efforts to modernize weaponry.

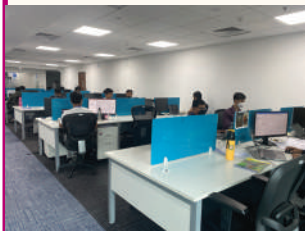
Morocco's recent US purchases would significantly tip the balance in the regional arms race with Algeria, a country whose chief of staff has trained and armed the Polisario separatist front and has described the north African kingdom as "the enemy".

A report issued by the Strategic Defense Intelligence (SDI) said Morocco is poised to become Africa's leading army in 2022 thanks to its advanced procurements. A prophecy that is set to become true as Morocco is on its way to unseat Algeria plagued by internal strife and dwindling revenues.

Morocco "consistently imports advanced arms and munitions such as fighter and training aircraft, ships, missiles, tanks and frigates to strengthen its armed forces; a trend expected to continue over the forecast period," reads the report dubbed The Future of the Moroccan Defense Industry-Market Attractiveness, Competitive landscape and Forecasts to 2022.



# Titagarh - A Global Conglomerat, Provider of Mobility Solutions



Equipped with advance design and train simulation software aiming to create first Indian Global brand with complete Design and Manufacturing capabilities



Our State of Art Aluminium Coach Manufacturing Unit at Uttarpara



Pune Metro - The best of Italian Technology and Indian Manufacturing



Medical Oxygen Plants manufactured by Titagarh are designed and built as per ASME & ISO standards

## RAILWAY COACHES, WAGONS, SHIPS, BRIDGES & OTHER MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

- Headquartered in Kolkata, India, the Titagarh group is a leading manufacturer of freight and passenger rolling stock. Established as a rolling stock foundry unit in the 1980's, Titagarh started its journey by producing railway castings such as bogies and couplers for the Indian railways. By 1997, Titagarh had produced its first railway freight wagon. This served as a benchmark for future endeavors and allowed Titagarh to establish itself as a leader in the Indian market. Soon after, Titagarh began to emerge as a significant exporter of freight wagons and wagon parts. In 2015, Titagarh acquired a 100% stake in Titagarh Firema, an Italian company with an esteemed reputation for manufacturing passenger rolling stock. Now with a presence in two different continents, Titagarh has stretched its global reach, far and wide, thus having transformed itself into a global conglomerate.
- The Indian operations from

an average revenue of around INR 300 crores in FY2016,2017 and 2018, have reached a level of average revenue of around INR 1200 crores in the last 3 years i.e., FY2019, 2020 and 2021. The order book for the Indian operations is also reasonably well placed at around INR 2800 cr.

- Titagarh Group has already invested more than Rs 50 crores in setting up new facilities for manufacturing and supplying state of art aluminum metro coaches and propulsion systems. The facility is being upgraded with further investments in order to make it suitable for International Railway Industry Standard (IRIS) certification after which it will have access to the international market.
- With a strong workforce, comprising of more than 1200 employees in India (Contractual & Permanent), Titagarh has dedicated design department committed to the development of new products. Separate project Management team takes care of projects viz. Metro, Wagons, Ships, Defence & Bridges, Exports, Foundry.

## PROPOSED INVESTMENT IN FUTURE

Recently Titagarh has introduced TAMS (Titagarh Advanced Manufacturing Systems), an industry 4.0 ready system to increase production using smart technologies. This improved data acquisition and communication system is self-monitoring that can analyse and diagnose issues without the need for human intervention. All the work instructions will be online and all measuring instruments will be directly connected to the server so that the process as well as the quality parameters are directly captured online and stored in the server without any human interface.

## MANUFACTURING FACILITIES OF TITAGARH WAGONS LIMITED, KOLKATA

Plant 1 (Titagarh Unit): The primary manufacturing unit of Titagarh, this plant manufactures 4100 wagons per year. The plant is certified by the Indian Railway with the G105 certificate. This standard lays down requirements of infrastructure, manufacturing, testing facilities, quality assurance systems and the procedure for approval as a Railway Wagon Builder.





**Plant 2 (Uttarpara Unit - Transit & Propulsion):** This manufacturing unit, also with a G105 certificate, has equipment conforming to the latest technology for coach manufacturing. This plant is currently being upgraded to state of art Aluminium coach manufacturing facility and the first aluminium metro trains in India are being manufactured here.

**Plant 3 (Bharatpur Plant):** This manufacturing unit, also with a ASME U Stamp certificate, has equipment conforming to the latest technology for defence equipment manufacturing, Titagarh possesses the Defence Industrial licence allowing us to manufacture various defence equipment's.

**Steel Foundry (TSL):** The Steel Foundry is the first multi-product large steel foundry specially catering to the railways, this unit specialises in the manufacturing of rolling stock & components, and railway track fittings – mainly bogies, couplers, draft gears for wagons and CMS crossings. It has a maximum melting capacity of 25000 MT per year.

**Design Office (Hyderabad):** With a strong in-house design team Titagarh has dedicated design department committed to the development of new products.

### **BUSINESS SEGMENTS OF TITAGARH WAGONS LIMITED, KOLKATA**

**Railway Transit:** The first private manufacturer of passenger rolling stock in India, Titagarh is also the first private company in India to possess modern day passenger rolling stock technology from Titagarh Firema SpA, Italy, with decades of experience is pioneering modern day commuter railway technologies. Titagarh is one of the few companies having expertise in propulsion &

Electrical Equipment business in India and Italy has entered into an exclusive cooperation agreement with ABB, to address the large and growing business of propulsion equipment for the Indian Railway EMU/ MEMU market.

**Railway Freight:** Titagarh is the largest manufacturer of Freight Rolling stock in India and have substantial experience in design and manufacturing wagons for various purpose viz. container, mining products, aggregates, fuel, cement, bagged products etc. In 2015, Titagarh acquired the brand rights and technical know-how of Sambre Et Meuse, France, this acquiring expertise in Cast bogies and couplers. Titagarh has substantial experience in export of wagons and components to countries like Myanmar, Bangladesh, South Africa, Burkina Faso Etc.

**Shipbuilding:** Titagarh having had acquired the experience of a 25-year company, is making waves in industry consistently delivering world-class ships. Titagarh has delivered 02 fuel barges to Indian Navy for catering fuel to lone Aircraft Carrier of India INS Vikramaditya, and delivered 02 Coastal research vessel to NIOT, Chennai for Ministry of Earth Science. Presently we are executing 05 different projects worth of 400 Crores including Patrol Vessel (FPV) for Indian Coast Guard (GRSE), Diving Support Craft for Indian Navy, 25 Ton Bollard Pull Tug for Indian Navy, Guyana Ocean going Passenger cum cargo ferry (GRSE) and PAX River Cross Ferry for West Bengal Government.

**Defence:** Titagarh is proud to have delivered a long range of prestigious products to different sectors. Recently, Titagarh delivered metal Canopies & Canisters to Ministry of defence (MoD). The Titagarh Defence Sector Is also manufacturing protected Integrated field shelters with various applications for the Ministry of defence. Titagarh possesses the Defence Industrial License allowing us to manufacture the Defence products such as mine Clearing Systems, Military Trailers, CBRNe Equipment, Medical Oxygen Plants, Armouring solutions as well as Naval Vessels & Warships.

**Bridges:** The Mati re Titagarh combine is now one of the worlds most experienced and well-equipped manufacturers with its range of Bailey bridges. The brand manufactures these products with modular fabrications designs that have multiple options in width and span. Also, they include unique, easy to move and ready to assemble panels. The bridges can be opened to traffic immediately after installation. So far, over 14,000 projects have been executed worldwide by the brand that has also earned international certification.

Recently Titagarh Bridges And international Pvt. Ltd. was awarded with a contract of 21 Medical oxygen plants of 500 LPM & 250 LPM capacity from Defence Research and Development Organization under the lab of Defence Bio-Engineering and Electro Medical Laboratory (DEBEL, Bangalore). The project was sanctioned and closely monitored by PM CARES.



# WHY MOROCCO ?

## PRO-BUSINESS

Business-friendly environment with political stability, resilient economy and Government incentives



## COMPETITIVE

Advanced infrastructure, high qualified human resources and strategic position giving access to potential markets worldwide



## SUSTAINABLE

Strong Royal vision with ambitious energy transition plan to make Morocco among the greenest and lowest carbon platforms in the world

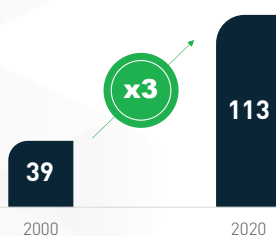


## PRO-BUSINESS RESILIENT ECONOMY

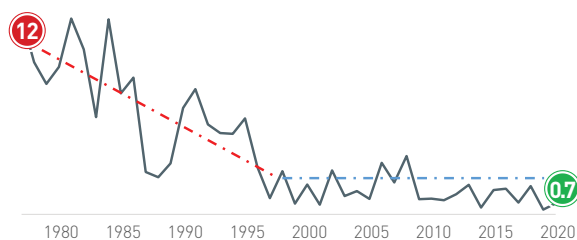
### STRONG MACRO-ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS

Ranked **1<sup>st</sup>** Among 141 countries  
in terms of inflation rate stability

**GDP has tripled in less than 20 years**  
(USD Billion)



**Stable inflation rate maintained under 2% since 2010**  
(annual inflation %)



Source : The World Bank / Global Competitiveness Report WEF 2019 (\* Among the countries ranked first)





PRO-BUSINESS

## STABILITY WITH ROYAL VISION



### A CONTINUING DRIVE FOR **OPENNESS** AND **DEMOCRACY**

*Release energies and restore confidence to accelerate the march towards progress and prosperity for all*

#### The New Development Model launched by His Majesty King Mohammed VI

- A productive and diversified economy that creates added value and quality jobs
- Human capital strengthened and better prepared for the future
- Opportunities for all and a consolidated social link
- Resilient territories, anchor points for development

PRO-BUSINESS

## BUSINESS-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

### EASINESS FOR BUSINESS TO GROWTH

MORE THAN 50 NON DOUBLE TAXATION AND INVESTMENT PROTECTION AGREEMENTS

NO RESTRICTIONS ON CAPITAL FOR NON-RESIDENTS

FREE REPATRIATION OF PROFIT AND CAPITAL FOR NON-RESIDENTS



Source : WEF / RMB



### PRO-BUSINESS GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES

#### AN ATTRACTIVE INCENTIVE PACKAGE

##### GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES

- **Investment:** tailor-made offer for investors.
- **Recruitment & Training:** financial incentives to cover costs

##### SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

- **Land, office space, and industrial plants** in main economic zones
- **Financial support** for building and equipment

##### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

- **Support from** Moroccan Investment & Export Development Agency (AMDIE): end-to-end assistance



### COMPETITIVE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED

#### TANGIER MED PORT, THE 1ST TRANSHIPMENT PLATFORM IN AFRICA

**186**

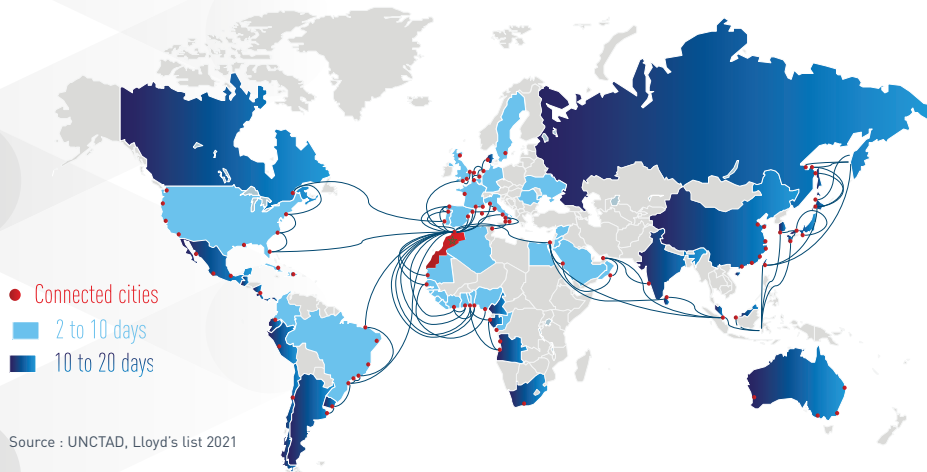
186 connections  
with 77 countries

**14 km**

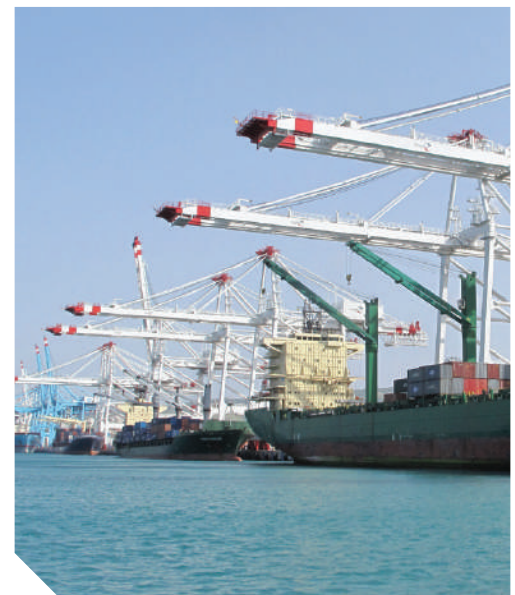
14 km from Europe

**9M**

Traitment capacity for  
9 millions of containers per year



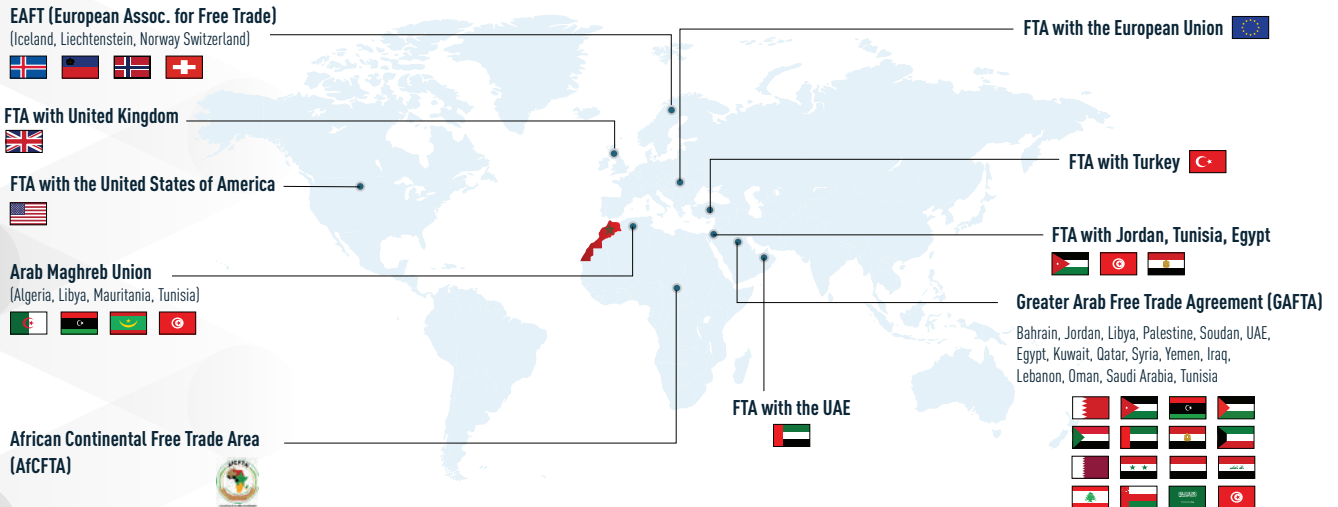
Source : UNCTAD, Lloyd's list 2021





## COMPETITIVE ACCES TO MARKETS OF OPPORTUNITIES

MORE THAN 50 FTAS GIVING ACCESS TO 1.3 BILLION CONSUMERS

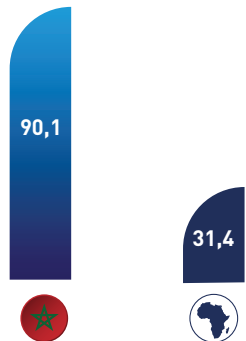


## COMPETITIVE WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

1ST IN AFRICA IN TERMS OF INFRASTRUCTURE & DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY



Bandwidth per  
internet user (kbit/s)

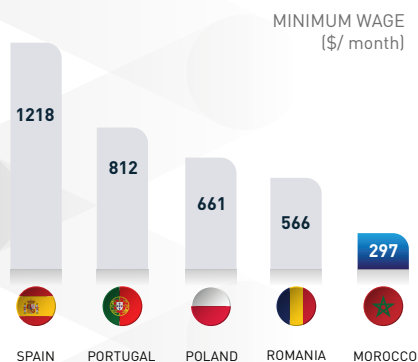


2020 Global ICT Regulatory Outlook benchmark  
across 193 countries worldwide

## COMPETITIVE DEMOGRAPHICS

DYNAMIC, COMPETITIVE AND QUALIFIED LABOR FORCE

### COMPETITIVE LABOR FORCE



Source : Global Wage Report 2021/2020 / World Bank

### A TALENT POOL

- A **young** and **competitive** workforce
- **42%** population under **25 years**
- **< 5%** Turnover in Aerospace
- **Ad hoc training** centers jointly developed with investors
- **152.000 graduates** per year
- A growing number of **partnerships** with leading international universities





### COMPETITIVE AVAILABILITY OF INDUSTRIAL LAND

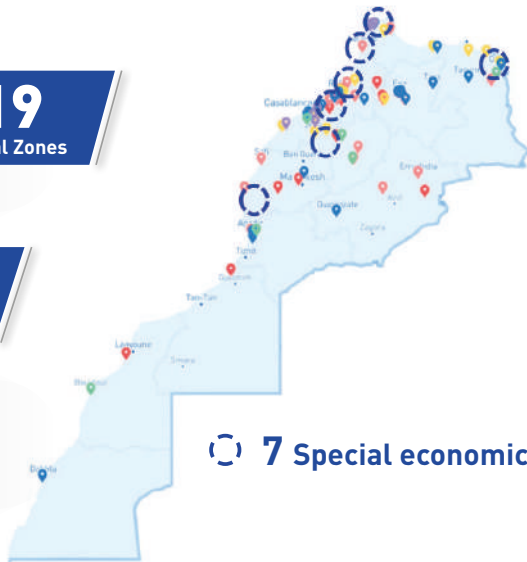
#### STRATEGIC INDUSTRIAL ZONES ACROSS THE COUNTRY

**119**

Industrial Zones

**>10.000**

Industrial operators

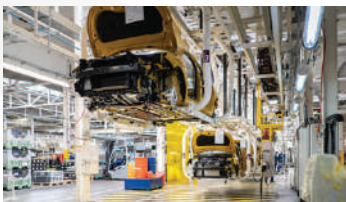


**7** Special economic zones



### COMPETITIVE OUR LEADING GLOBALLY INDUSTRIES

#### RICH AND DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES



##### AUTOMOTIVE

1ST EXPORTING SECTOR  
60% LOCAL INTEGRATION RATE



##### AERONAUTICS

+20% ANNUAL GROWTH  
+140 AERONAUTICAL OPERATORS



##### TEXTILE

AMONG THE 1ST INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYER IN MOROCCO



##### AND MORE ...

- ELECTRONICS
- MECHANICAL AND METALWORKING INDUSTRIES
- CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
- HEAVY TRUCKS
- PLASTIC PROCESSING
- LEATHER



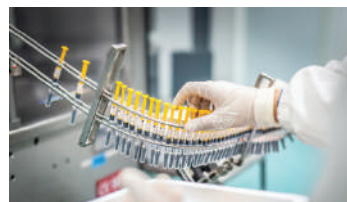
##### AGRO-INDUSTRY

1ST MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN MOROCCO



##### OUTSOURCING

MOROCCO, A COMPETITIVE OUTSOURCING PLATFORM



##### PHARMACEUTICAL

MOROCCO, AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL LABORATORY

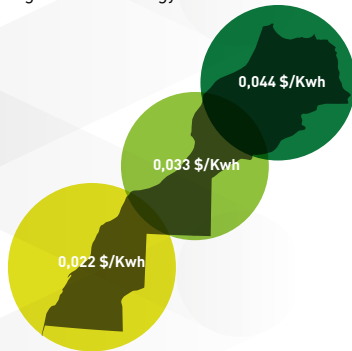




## SUSTAINABLE GREEN ENERGY

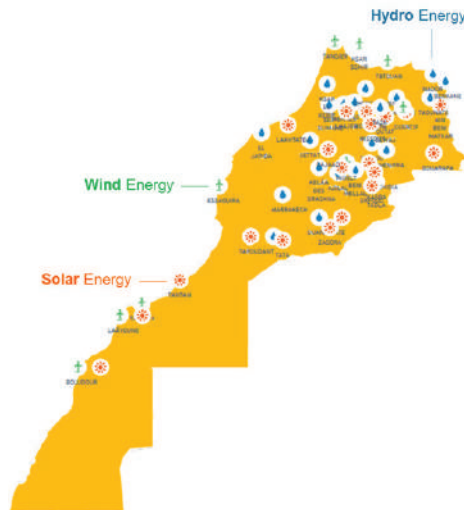
**52%** energy mix by 2030

Morocco will get 52% of its electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030, thanks to an ambitious plan with a strong Royal vision to increase the share of renewable energies in the energy mix



Source : ONEE / Moroccan Agency for Sustainable Energy

Morocco's Renewable Energy Projects Map



The avant-garde renewable energy plan, position Morocco as one of the most competitive **low-carbon industries** in the World

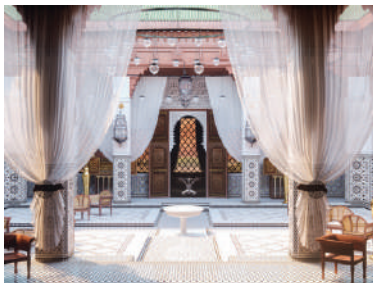
### Stay connected

2 hours flight to Europe  
7 hours to North America  
7 hours to UAE



### Open to the World with multicultural education

Major international Schools across the country



**A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE**  
AMONG THE MOST STUNNING COUNTRIES  
IN THE WORLD



### Art of living and cultural heritage

A multicultural country, recognized as World Heritage by UNESCO  
The 2nd Best gastronomy in the world



### A unique place to live

Thanks to a rich & diversified landscape including a serene coastline, the desert, the Atlas mountains and more

# AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY



## MOROCCO: A PLATFORM TO SOURCE, TRANSFORM & EXPORT

### DYNAMIC AND DIVERSIFIED AGRICULTURAL UPSTREAM...

- **Easy access to local sourcing** thanks to a well developed **agricultural upstream** and **Additional raw materials** at reach with short lead times
- **Innovative , Green & structured** upstream

### ...A TRANSFORMATION PLATFORM WITH UNIQUE **COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES**

- **Agri-food industry: good overall performance** (2100 companies, High Added value,...), with **real investment & export opportunities**
- **Competitive platform** : best cost offer, modern infrastructure & Connectivity,..
- **Attractive set of Government incentives:** tailored government support, Tax free zones & Agropoles

### ...ALLOWING TO ADDRESS **DYNAMIC LOCAL AND EXPORT MARKETS...**

- **Short Lead Times & FTA'S** facilitate access to **major food markets** : EU, UK , US , AU & GCC
- **Success stories:** MONDELZ, BEL, NESTLE







## EASY ACCESS TO LOCAL SOURCING THANKS TO A WELL-DEVELOPED AGRICULTURE UPSTREAM

Annual prod. (2019-2020, tons)

	Cereals	Soft wheat	1 770k
		Barley	645k
		Durum wheat	790k
	Sugar	Sugar beet	3 630k
		Sugar cane	790
	Forage crops		14 460k
	Citrus	Orange, clementine...	1 780k
	Olives		1 400k
	Fruits & Vegetables		7 190k
	Meat	Poultry	710k
		Red meat	600k
	Milk		2,6bn litre

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Rural Development, water and Forest



High **diversity** of soil and climates over the Moroccan territory



Over **70 variety** of fruits & vegetables with remarkable organoleptic properties

Over **4.200 species** of aromatic & medicinal plants



**Additional raw materials** at reach with short lead times

## INNOVATIVE, GREEN AND STRUCTURED UPSTREAM

### #INNOVATIVE

- **Irrigation capacity extension** + 288% in 10 years
- **Digitalized agriculture** (Development of Agriculture 4.0, use of Internet of Things - IoT, sensors, etc.)



### #GREEN

- National agriculture plan « **Green Generation** » 2020 - 2030 promotes sustainable agriculture practices :
  - Use of renewable energy
  - Use of soil conservation techniques
  - State incentives for organic agriculture



### #STRUCTURED

- **Successful and well-organized aggregators** supported by government incentives
- **Aggregators' success stories** in dairy and sugar industries





## THE AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY: A GOOD OVERALL PERFORMANCE

### THE AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY IN 6 KEY FIGURES



**> 161K  
JOBS**



**697 Mn\$  
Investments  
2014-2020**



**> 2100  
COMPANIES**



**3,5Bn\$  
EXPORT  
TURNOVER**



**4Bn\$  
YEARLY ADDED  
VALUE**



**17 Bn\$  
ANNUAL  
REVENUES**

Source : Ministry of Industry, Trade, Digital and Green Economy(2019), CNSS(2019) , Exchange Office(2020)

“

Morocco is of particular interest for Danone as it is stable, booming and features an economic environment conducive to investment.

”



**FRANCK RIBOUD**  
Ex-CEO Of the Danone Group



## THE AGRI-FOOD INDUSTRY: REAL INVESTMENT & EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES

### PRIORITY SECTORS

### INVESTMENT & EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES



**Valorization of citrus and other fruits & vegetables**

- Significant growth of Moroccan exports of **high quality and organic juices**



**Fruit and vegetables processing**

- Morocco **1st worldwide exporter** of canned capers
- Morocco **3rd worldwide exporter** of canned olives
- Morocco **5th worldwide exporter** of frozen strawberry
- Morocco **7th worldwide exporter** of valorized aromatic plants



**Dairy industry**

- Morocco **1st supplier** of cheese to **Mauritania , 2nd to Benin & Ivory coast, 3rd to Burkina Faso**
- Morocco **Growth local consumption** at 5-7% annually



**Pasta & couscous industry**

- **Strong export potential:** Positive growth in exports to all continents
- **Untapped local pasta market**



**Biscuits, confectionery and chocolate industry**

- World consumption growth of **8%**
- **Untapped export potential** in Middle-East and Africa



**Olive Oil Industry**

- **Input availability:** 140k tons of olive oil produced each year
- Morocco **5th worldwide exporter** of olive oil



**Processed meat industry**

- **Local increasing market**
- **Strong potential export to halal market**





## COMPETITIVE PLATFORM : BEST COST OFFER

### WELL-TRAINED HUMAN RESOURCES

**+3,600** Specialist engineers & Technicians

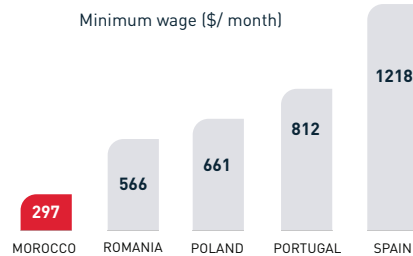


**+15,000** Generalist engineers



### COMPETITIVE LABOR COST

Minimum wage (\$/ month)

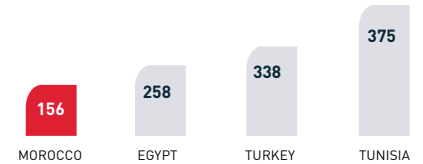


Source : Global Wage Report 2021/2020 / World Bank



### COMPETITIVE COST TO EXPORT

Cost to export (\$ per shipment)



## COMPETITIVE PLATFORM : BEST CONNECTIVITY

### TANGIER MED PORT, THE 1ST TRANSHIPMENT PLATFORM IN AFRICA

**186**

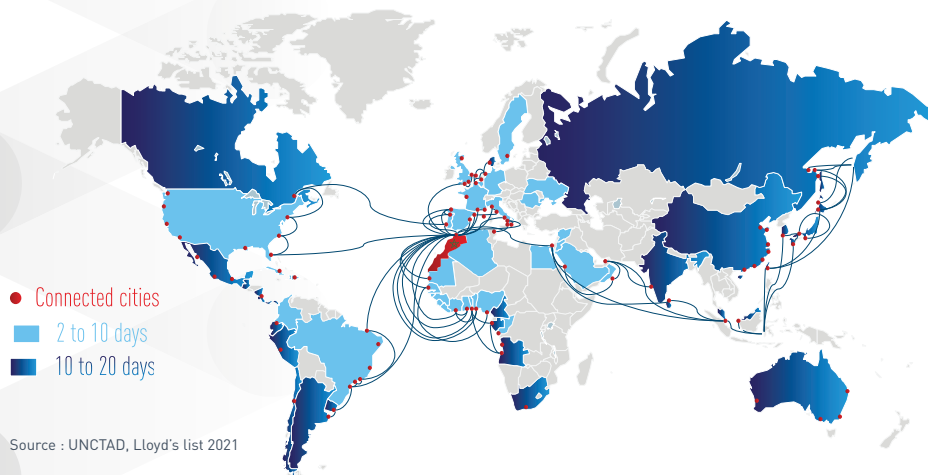
186 connections  
with 77 countries

**14 km**

14 km from Europe

**9M**

Traitment capacity for  
9 millions of containers per year



Source : UNCTAD, Lloyd's list 2021





# COMPETITIVE PLATFORM : WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE

## 1<sup>ST</sup> IN AFRICA IN TERMS OF INFRASTRUCTURE & DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

1<sup>st</sup>

high speed train  
in Africa  
Tangier-Casablanca



1.808 km  
of highways



18

airports

1<sup>st</sup> in Africa in terms of  
accredited airports



Bandwidth per  
internet user (kbit/s)



2020 Global ICT Regulatory Outlook benchmark  
across 193 countries worldwide

## AN ATTRACTIVE SET OF GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES

### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

- Development of new valorization capacities, new technologies and new products
- exports development
- Technical assistance to reach international standards
- Training & R&D

### TAX FREE ZONES

- Tax exemption
- Unlimited exemption on custom duties

### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

- Integrated offer of key services : sanitary control, research labs, R&D, training, export control...
- Strong connectivity (air, road, rail)
- Proximity of raw material







## SHORT LEAD TIMES & FTA'S FACILITATE ACCESS TO MAJOR FOOD MARKETS



- **1<sup>st</sup>** worldwide food market: **338 bn \$** imports in 2020

- **2 days** transportation by land

- **2012** - Free Trade Agreement Morocco-UE



- **3<sup>rd</sup>** worldwide food market: **100 bn \$** imports in 2020

- **10 days** transportation by sea

- **2005** - Free Trade Agreement Morocco-USA



- **4<sup>th</sup>** worldwide food market: USD 48 bn \$ imports in 2020

- **6 to 10 days** transportation by sea

- **2018** - Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) signed by 44 countries



- **5<sup>th</sup>** worldwide food market: 42 bn\$ imports in 2020

- **2,5 days** transportation by sea

- **2019** Morocco-UK Post-Brexit Association Agreement



- **8<sup>th</sup>** worldwide food market: 26 bn \$ imports in 2020

- **6 to 7 days** transportation by sea

- **2003** - UAE Agreement
- **1998** - Arab League Agreement

Source: TRADEMAP

## THEY HAVE ALREADY SUCCEEDED IN MOROCCO...

### SUCCESS STORY 1#: MONDELEZ



- Established in the Moroccan market **since 2001**, the American **group has invested 11 million dollars in Morocco** in the largest Oreo biscuit factory in Africa
- Employ about **1000 people** and produces **900 million biscuits** per year.

### SUCCESS STORY 2#: BEL



- Established in the Kingdom in **1972**, Bel has become the leader in spreadable cheeses in Morocco
- More than **1,200 employees** and three major sites, Fromagerie Bel Maroc produces more than **500 products**.

### SUCCESS STORY 3#: MITSUI & CO






























- **Japanese conglomerate** "MITSUI & CO" became, **in 2018**, a shareholder of the Moroccan company "ZALAGH Holding SA"
- Leader in the Moroccan poultry sector
- **Investment of 25 million dollars.**





## LARGE INTERNATIONAL GROUPS OPTED FOR MOROCCO AS AN AGRO-INDUSTRIAL PLATFORM

DAIRY INDUSTRY	BISCUITS, CONFECTIONERY AND CHOCOLATE INDUSTRY	PASTA AND COUSCOUS INDUSTRY	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES PROCESSING	OLIVE OIL INDUSTRY	PROCESSED MEAT INDUSTRY	BEVERAGES & INGREDIENTS
						
   	   	 	  	 		   

## A STRONG SECTOR TO BE ONE OF THE LEVERS OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF MOROCCO

- **Food autonomy** : new production capacities, R&D
- **Competitiveness** : technological integration, digitalization, Biodegradable food packaging, optimization of distribution channels
- **Decarbonization** of production







# TEXTILE INDUSTRY



## WHY MOROCCO ?

### Large & rich textile industry...

- Large existing local market 157k jobs
- 1bn items annual production
- 7th largest supplier to Europe
- An anchored historic know-how

### ...to serve the world's largest markets...

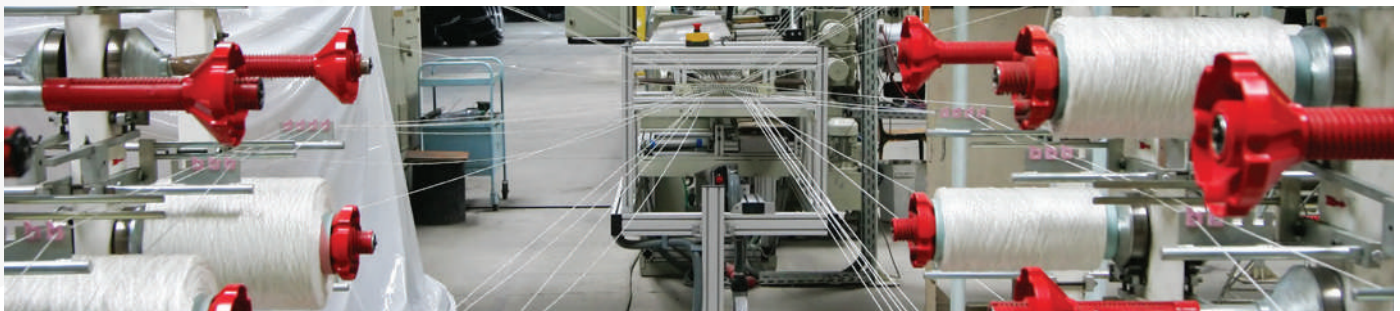
- Competitive lead time
- Trade Agreements with more than 50 countries
- International recognition from leading textile players

### ...leveraging a unique combination of competitive advantages...

- Strategic position 14km to Europe
- 1st sea connectivity in Africa
- Highly qualified and well-trained workforce
- Attractive export costs

### ...in an overall attractive environment for investors

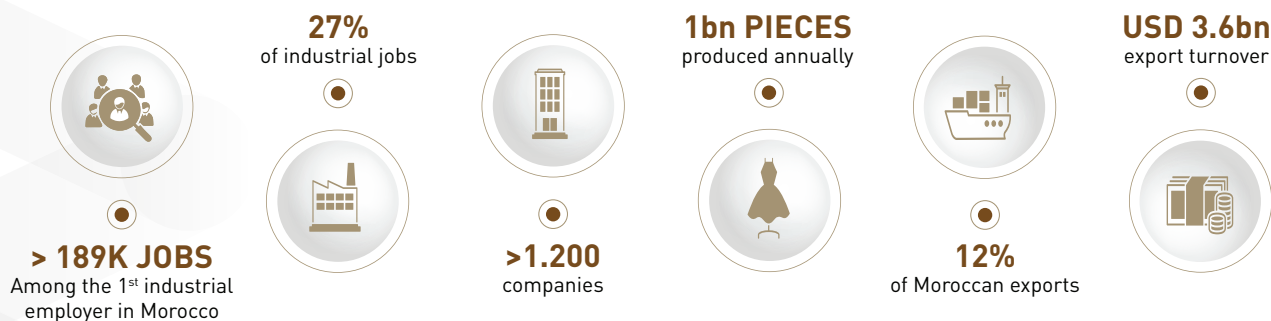
- Green production with access to renewable energies and new eco-friendly Industrial zones
- Development of the Upstream industries through the use of new local raw materials as hemp
- Markets diversification





## TEXTILE INDUSTRY AT GLANCE

### THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN 6 KEY FIGURES



## STRATEGIC POSITIONING WORLDWIDE

MOROCCO IS THE 7TH EXPORTER OF APPAREL ITEMS TO THE EU...

...SHOWING A ROBUST PERFORMANCE OVER H1 2021

MARKET SHARE IN EU IMPORTS (%) S1-2021			
1		CHINA	26,4%
2		BANGLADESH	20,7%
3		TURKEY	13.4%
4		INDIA	5.8%
5		VIET NAM	4.1%
6		PAKISTAN	3.7%
7		MOROCCO	3.6%
8		CAMBODIA	3.2%
9		TUNISIA	2.9%
10		MYANMAR	2.2%
11		OTHERS	14%

Source: HS codes 61 & 62 / Source: Trademap  
\*1st semester 2021



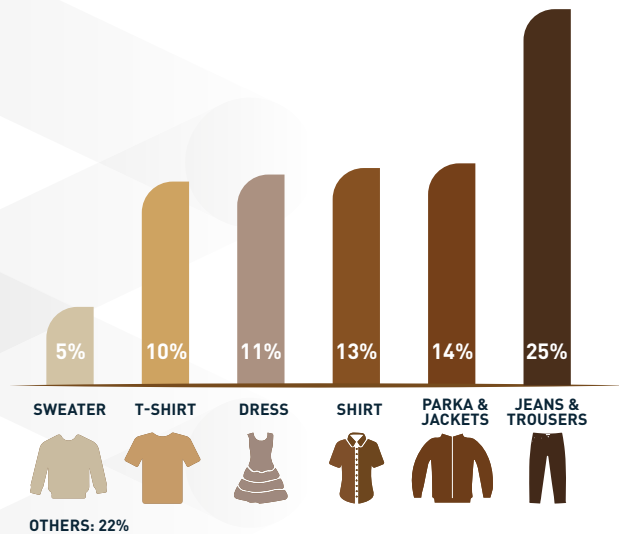
**+23.2%** growth in textile exportation compared with the same period of 2020\*





## MULTIPLE SEGMENTS WITH EXTENSIVE PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES

### A MULTI-SEGMENT POSITIONING *(by value)*



### EXTENSIVE CAPABILITIES



**1bn** ITEMS a year

*Morocco's total installed textile production capacity*

## A UNIQUE COMBINATION OF COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

### CAPACITY TO QUICKLY ADAPT TO CHALLENGES

- Swift reallocation of capacity towards health equipment during the pandemic (e.g. masks)

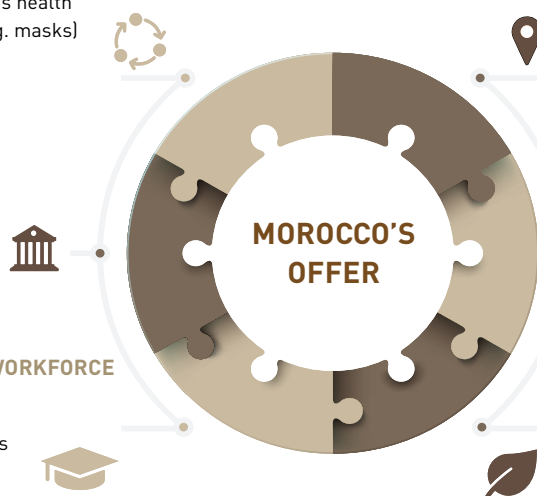
### SET OF GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES

- Government Subsidies
- Tax Free Zones
- Special Economic Zones

### ABUNDANT AND WELL-TRAINED WORKFORCE

- Large and young workforce
- Dedicated training centers & schools
- Predominantly feminine work force

Source: BCG Analysis



### SHORT LEAD TIME

- 14km from Europe: Closest African country to the US and Europe
- High connectivity: The 1<sup>st</sup> transshipment platform in Africa

### TRADE AGREEMENTS

- More than 50 free Trade Agreements worldwide among which the US & EU
- Only African country having an FTA with the US

### SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE

- Morocco's proximity to the main retail markets is an opportunity to a lower carbon footprint textile



## HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND WELL-TRAINED WORKFORCE



### A LARGE AND YOUNG WORKFORCE

1/3 of total Moroccan population between 20 and 45 years old



### A DEDICATED TRAINING ECOSYSTEM

Education offer from production engineering and manufacturing to fashion design



### A PREDOMINANTLY FEMINE WORK FORCE

Women represent 60% of the Moroccan textile industry work force



## STRONG TRADE TIES WITH US & EUROPE

### FREE TRADE AGREEMENT MOROCCO - USA



SINCE 2005

Free access to the **US Market**:

**Triple transformation rule**

- Products triply transformed on Moroccan soil can be exported in the US with 0% tariffs
- Steps: Thread, fabric & garment manufacturing

- Exception of the triple transformation for textile products manufactured with cotton produced in **sub-Saharan LDCs**

- **Morocco, the only African country** having an FTA with the USA

### FREE TRADE ZONE EU28 - MOROCCO



SINCE 1996

- Complete **dismantlement of tariffs** on textile products

- **Mandatory EUR1 certification**

**Pan-Euro-Mediterranean rules of origin**

- Applied between Morocco & 42 countries, among which EU, EFTA or Turkey
- Enables the transformation of imported raw material

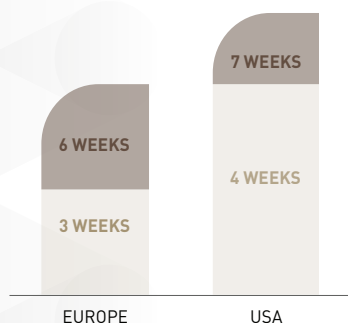




## COMPETITIVE LEAD TIME AT A GLOBAL SCALE

### AN EASY ACCESS TO EU AND US MARKETS

#### AVERAGE LEAD TIME TO PRODUCTION & SHIPPING



Source: BCG Analysis

*We have produced almost one million pieces since the beginning of this year. All these items are made in Morocco and we present them in our Moroccan stores as "Made in Morocco" items, and this is now a source of pride for us*

DeFacto

Elif Cam  
Director of Global Sourcing DeFacto Group

*At the time when the health crisis reached its highest level, we signed a memorandum with the Ministry of Industry in July 2020. We chose to settle in Morocco for its political stability, its privileged location and its available and skilled workforce*



Cai Jie  
Country Manager Omega Groupe

## GOVERNMENT INCENTIVES

### AN ATTRACTIVE INCENTIVE PACKAGE

#### GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES

- Investment: tailor-made offer for investors.
- Recruitment & Training: financial incentives to cover costs

#### SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

- Land, office space, and industrial plants in main economic zones
- Financial support for building and equipment

#### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

- Support from Moroccan Investment & Export Development Agency (AMDIE): end-to-end assistance

## A BRIGHT AND GREEN FUTURE

### Green investment, today a strategic priority

#### GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

**Access** to competitive renewable energies

**Availability** of new eco-friendly industrial zones generation

#### UPSTREAM INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT

**Development** of alternative raw materials

New law of the valorization of **hemp**

#### MARKET DIVERSIFICATION

**Access** to new markets as scandinavian countries, Japan and United Kingdom





# Morocco Now to Increase Awareness about Morocco's Capabilities - DG of AMDIE

In an interview with "Morocco In Focus" the Director General of the Moroccan Investment and Export Development Agency ( AMDIE ), Mr. Youssef El Bari answers questions related to the launch of brand "Morocco Now". Transcript is as follows;



The Director General of AMDIE, Mr. Youssef El-Bari

**You have just launched the Morocco Now brand? Why did you do it? Why did you choose the term "Now"?**

.....  
Indeed, we have launched our national brand of investment and export promotion "Morocco Now" a month ago in Dubai as part of Expo 2020. This brand is intended to create visibility and enhance the attractiveness of Morocco by formalizing a distinctive value proposition.

The post-COVID period is a

momentum for Morocco by means of which we would like to capitalize on to accelerate investment and economic growth in accordance with the New Development Model carried by His Majesty King Mohammed VI.

Indeed, the transformation carried out, over the past 20 years, with determination, under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, has enabled Morocco to emerge as a competitive industrial and

export platform, illustrated in particular by the automotive cluster - the fastest growing in the world - and supported by first-rank infrastructures - Tanger Med, the leading maritime connection in Africa and one of the top 30 in the world.

Moreover, visionary decisions provide Morocco with specific competitive advantages in a global context of climate emergency and reorganization of value chains: Morocco is ready for decarbonized production - 37% of the installed capacity is based on renewable energies in 2021, with a target of 52% in 2030 - and Morocco offers privileged access to a market of more than 1 billion consumers thanks to its 54 Free Trade Agreements.

Morocco is therefore today - **Now** - a choice investment and export platform whose assets deserve to be highlighted.

"Now" evokes both:

1. The world has changed and needs an agile and decarbonized production platform.
2. Morocco is ready to meet this need thanks to the path it has taken to reach





this level of maturity and competitiveness - which is the result of a long-term vision and determination to implement.

**Is this brand also intended to promote exports?**

“Morocco Now” is the national brand for investment and export promotion.

By conveying the positive image of a modern, competitive and open production platform to more than 100 countries through its free trade agreements, Morocco Now also appeals to foreign actors seeking sourcing. Through Morocco Now, it is Morocco - and its entire economic fabric - that benefits from visibility and highlighting its assets.

By conveying, internationally, the positive image of a modern, competitive and open production platform to more than 100 countries through its free trade agreements, “Morocco Now” also appeals to foreign actors seeking sourcing. Through “Morocco Now”, it is Morocco - and its entire economic fabric - that benefits from visibility and highlighting its assets.

Additionally, “Morocco Now” will accompany Moroccan actors in major exhibitions, events and export missions.

**What do you think are the assets of Morocco for investors?**

“Morocco Now” rightly aims to raise awareness of Morocco's production platform and its new competitive elements to international investors. It highlights Morocco's

successful and often overlooked infrastructure and industrial achievements and reveals to the world its future-proof development potential based on renewable energies, access to a market of more than 1 billion consumers, the development of young people's skills and an agility that is part of the Moroccan DNA.

**In detail, the brand is based on 4 major assets:**

- Sustainability through which the investor discovers a country definitively enrolled in decarbonized production - 1st producer of renewable energy in Africa with 4GW of capacity installed in 2021, that is, an investment of 6 billion USD.
- Competitiveness that sums up a "Best Cost" offer thanks to competitive production and export costs and above all a privileged access to more than 1 billion consumers thanks to 54 free trade agreements and a gateway to integrate into Africa's rapid growth potential.
- A guarantee of success with a successful history of foreign investment and the realization of mega-projects. Not to mention the rise in skillful youth, which is a real competitive advantage today.
- Finally, agility was particularly notable during the COVID period, but we could also mention the incredible launch of the Siemens Gamesa factory in 6 months or the 40 Moroccan engineers called upon by one of our partners

to start up its subsidiary in a Nordic country!

**The brand was launched during Expo Dubai 2020. What was the impact of this international launch? How was this new brand received?**

Indeed, we wanted to create an event with a strong international impact to draw attention to Morocco in the world of business and investment from Dubai to New York through Japan, India, China, Mexico ..... where we are gradually deploying our communication. The media impact and the enthusiasm of the national and international media was indeed present.

Additionally, “Morocco Now” has also been very appreciated by many global economic actors and has especially marked the minds by the visibility it gives to investors and exporters by unveiling a unique destination with very high potential. In the economic context of reconfiguration of the world trade scene, this is extremely important.

Our main international partners, who have already chosen Morocco as an industrial production base, have also supported the launch of “Morocco Now” and I take this opportunity to thank them warmly. “Morocco Now” is above all a real dynamic that we reveal to the world. A dynamic that we build with our national and international partners. Their support and mobilization during the launch event and thereafter is important in the context of a true "team" approach.



# Morocco's Green Energy Drive

The country is increasingly turning to renewable resources and natural gas to diversify its energy mix

Morocco has long depended on international markets to fulfil its energy generation needs. Unlike nearby countries such as Algeria and Libya, Morocco has not had the advantage of large-scale hydrocarbons reserves to fuel its economic development. Although this has left the country vulnerable to fluctuating global oil prices, it has also led policymakers to make strategic decisions regarding future generation capacity. As such, Morocco has embarked on a major rollout of renewable energy sources, alongside the modernisation and expansion of its electricity transmission and distribution networks and an acceleration of its hydrocarbons exploration efforts. The country is also looking to phase out its pollutant fossil fuel generation infrastructure for cleaner

natural gas. These measures aim to reduce energy imports and carbon emissions, two critical long-term goals for the sector.

Since the government embarked on a programme to incorporate renewables into the energy mix in 2008, the country's generation capacity has changed significantly, with solar and wind power infrastructure playing an increasingly important role. Although Morocco still relies largely on fossil fuel power plants, there are also plans to expand natural gas capacity in the years ahead.

This is particularly crucial as energy consumption continues to rise. Morocco's development in the past two decades has led to the emergence of new industrial sectors and an expansion in economic activity, resulting

in the growth of the middle class and a rise in income for this section of the population, affecting consumption patterns throughout the economy. As such, Morocco's total primary energy consumption rose at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of five per cent between 2004 and 2018, compounding the need to boost generation capacity. However, the country must strike a balance between meeting its future energy demand and promoting efficient usage. In 2016 the government committed to reducing greenhouse emissions by 17% by 2030 under the Paris Agreement, and have provisionally agreed to a further 25% reduction in emissions over the same period if the necessary international support mechanisms are put in place. Accomplishing these goals will require a significant amount of investment, and will also depend on the





government's capacity to implement regulatory reforms and effectively manage the series of energy-related projects in the pipeline.

The main government body responsible for managing the sector is the Ministry of Energy, Mining and the

independent power producers are active in the kingdom, including Taqa Morocco, which operates the coal-fired plant at Jorf Lasfar. In 2018 Jorf Lasfar produced 14,772 GWh of electricity, accounting for 42.8% of the country's total output.

According to the most recent figures from MEME, 91.7% of Morocco's energy was provided by imports MW and its overall production was recorded at 34,519 GWh. The government initially aimed for a 12% reduction in electricity consumption by 2020 and a 15% reduction by 2030, but these targets were revised in 2017 to the more ambitious goal of a 20% reduction in electricity usage by 2030.

The government's focus on renewables has brought a host of new state entities to the forefront of Morocco's energy sector. One key player is the Moroccan Agency for

• • • • •  
**Since the government embarked on a programme to incorporate renewables into the energy mix in 2008, the country's generation capacity has changed significantly, with solar and wind power infrastructure playing an increasingly important role**  
 • • • • •

Environment (Ministere de l'Energie, des Mines et de l'Environnement, MEME), which is charged with overall policy making. The National Office of Hydrocarbons and Mines (Office Nationale des Hydrocarbures et des Mines, ONHYM) is tasked with handling the processing of contracts for mining and oil and gas exploration projects, as well as supporting international firms looking to enter the kingdom's energy sector. Another key player is the main utilities company, the National Office for Electricity and Drinking Water (Office National de l'Electricite et de l'Eau Potable, ONEE), which manages the production, transmission and distribution of electricity, and water access and infrastructure. In 2018 ONEE's power stations produced 10,911 GWh of electricity, accounting for 31.8% of the country's total output. Additionally, several



Total primary energy consumption rose at a compound annual growth rate of 5% between 2004 and 2018, compounding the country's need to boost generation capacity.

In 2018 the country's installed power generation capacity totalled 10,938 MW and its overall production was recorded at 34,51 Gwh.

Sustainable Energy (l'Agence Marocaine pour l'Energie Durable, Masen), formerly known as the Moroccan Solar Agency, which was established in 2010 and plays a critical role in developing solar energy projects. The Moroccan Agency for Energy Efficiency is charged with directing the country's energy efficiency strategy across the business, industrial and residential sectors.



Although the government initially aimed for a 12% reduction in electricity consumption by 2020 and a 15% reduction by 2030, these targets were revised in 2017 as part of the National Energy Efficiency Strategy, which set the more ambitious goal of a 20% reduction in electricity usage by 2030.

In order to advance these efforts, the National Authority for the Regulation of Electricity

Although coal, oil and gas still account for most of the energy mix, hydroelectric power production rose by 42.9% from 1184 GWh in 2017 to 1693 GWh in 2018. Additionally,

solar energy output rose by 128.8% that same period, from 415.3 GWh to 950.2 GWh. Wind power production grew by 26.6%, from 3034.8 GWh to 3840.7 GWh.

.....  
**Total primary energy consumption rose at a compound annual growth rate of 5% between 2004 and 2018, compounding the country's need to boost generation capacity.**  
.....



was established to act as an independent watchdog for the electricity segment. Although the decree to create the organisation was passed in 2016, the regulator became fully operational in 2019. Its main tasks include overseeing competition in the electricity market, ensuring producers have fair access to transport infrastructure and establishing tariffs.

The energy sector is highly dependent on coal, oil and gas imports. In 2018 the installed power generation

capacity totalled 10,938 MW and its overall production was recorded at 34,519 GWh, according to ONEE. The majority of electricity was produced by thermal generation, which accounted for 27,653 GWh, a 3.9% increase on 2017. Of this total, the country's four coal-fuelled power stations contributed 21,260 GWh, an additional 5197 GWh originated from two gas-fired, combined-cycle power plants and 1028 GWh was produced by oil-based thermal generation.

While the energy sector plays a significant role in Morocco's economy, it continues to rely on imports for the majority of its supply. The country spent Dh76.4bn (\$8bn) on energy imports in 2019, down 7.2% from Dh82.3bn (\$8.6bn) the previous year. Nevertheless, the energy sector accounted for 15.6% of total imports in 2019. The financial resources required to secure annual energy consumption has meant that the country is highly dependent on global energy markets.

According to the most recent figures from MSME, 91.7% of Morocco's energy was provided by imports in 2018, which has substantial implications for the country's annual budget planning and trade balance. Although the country has been able to take advantage of lower international oil prices since mid-2014, which have enabled it to reduce its fossil fuel subsidies, unpredictable global economic conditions — compounded by tensions between the US and Iran in early 2020 — have highlighted the potential for further disturbances in energy





markets in the shorter term and Morocco's need to reduce its exposure to international energy markets.

As the country's economy has developed, electricity consumption has risen, with demand increasing at a CAGR of 5.7% between 1998 and 2018. Per capita electricity consumption grew by 134.7% over the same period, from 453 KWh to 1063 KWh. Although demand continues to rise, it has slowed slightly in recent years due to government measures to encourage a reduction in electricity usage. In 2014 ONEE signed a programme contract with the government aimed at restoring the organisation's financial viability, which involved tariff adjustments to encourage customers to reduce their consumption of electricity.

Rural electricity supply has improved significantly, rising from 45% in 2000 to 99.6% in 2018. In 2018 ONEE claimed that it had been able to connect 40,000 villages across the

country as part of its rural electrification plan launched in 1995, with 513 villages and 13,800 homes connected in 2018 alone. In order to connect isolated communities, the authorities are increasingly turning to off-the-grid methods, with some 71,000 homes using small-scale solar energy kits to supply electricity.

In addition to extending the reach of electricity access, investment is also being directed at modernising and improving the country's existing production, transmission and generation infrastructure. In July 2019 ONEE approved a Dh51.6bn (\$5.4bn) investment programme, which will run until 2023. Approximately Dh8.6bn (\$896m) was allocated to thermal and renewable energy generation projects, and Dh8.7bn (\$906.3m) was earmarked for regional electricity interconnection projects between Mauritania and southern Morocco, and between Portugal and the north of the country. In addition, Dh4.2bn (\$437.6m) will be

directed to rural electrification programmes across the country, while the remaining Dh25.5bn (\$2.7bn) will be allocated to the water segment.

Investment has also been directed towards the creation of new regional transmission links. In May 2019 the authorities signed an agreement with the government of Spain to develop a new electricity line between the two countries. This will be the third electricity line between Morocco and its northern neighbour. The project comes in the wake of recent efforts to expand electricity trading ties with European partners. In 2018 the country signed a deal with the European Internal Electricity market, which includes Germany, Portugal, Spain and France. Additionally, in 2015 Morocco and Portugal signed a deal to construct a 1000-MW transmission cable connecting the two countries.

Much like the electricity segment, water access and distribution infrastructure have



also benefitted from Morocco's economic development, attracting expansion projects across different regions of the country. Much of this has been geared towards improving water access in rural areas, although significant investment has also been directed to upgrading water treatment systems in order to increase access in urban and industrial areas. For example, in 2016 the African Development Bank approved a €88.8m loan to improve water provision in the country's north-west. The project included improvements to water treatment systems supplying larger cities

will be allocated to increasing water distribution in rural areas, supplying an additional 308,000 people. According to government estimates, these measures will expand rural water access to 99.3% of the population. The remaining Dh4.6bn (\$479.2m) will fund the construction of 64 new water treatment units.

Although the country continues to search for viable hydrocarbons reserves, it has also accelerated the development of renewable energy.

According to local media,

significant wind generation potential, measured at approximately 5000 TWh per year, and a potential useful capacity of 25,000 MW. The most recent ONEE figures stated that the country had an installed capacity of roughly 1770 MW in hydroelectricity generation, 1220 MW in wind power and 711 MW in solar energy as of the end of 2018.

While the implementation of the National Energy Strategy has already brought many changes to the structure of Morocco's generation infrastructure in the last decade, the country is still likely to face some difficulties in meeting its ambitious energy targets. "The biggest challenge will be reaching the goal of 52% renewables on the grid by 2030," Taoufik Laabi, general manager of local consultancy Glob Energy Conseil, told Oxford Business Group. "Not only will the pace of existing projects need to be accelerated, but additional medium-sized projects will need to be developed alongside an updated regulatory framework."

These measures will require considerable financial commitment. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), Morocco is expected to require as much as \$30bn to achieve its stated renewables goals by 2030. As such, the country has sought funding and assistance from both international companies and multilateral organisations in order to develop its renewables capacity.

Morocco's renewable energy drive has made considerable



such as Rabat and Casablanca, as well as nearby smaller towns and rural areas.

Of the Dh25.5bn (\$2.7bn) earmarked by ONEE to upgrade water treatment and distribution systems between 2019 and 2023, Dh15.2bn (\$1.6bn) has been set aside to improve water supply in urban areas through the construction of 3400 metres of new piping. In addition, Dh5.7bn (\$593.8m)

the country is on track to have renewables supply around 42% of its installed power generation capacity by the end of 2020 and 52% by 2030, objectives set by the National Energy Strategy in 2009.

Morocco's geographic location and climate conditions give it a strategic advantage in the renewable energy segment. According to government estimates, the country has around 3000 hours of sunlight per day and an annual solar energy potential of 5 KWh per sq metre. Morocco also has





strides in recent years. A major development, and the first of its kind in the country, was the completion of the first stage of the 580-MW Noor Ouarzazate concentrated solar power unit, which began operation in 2016. Noor I has a generation capacity of 160 MW and was delivered by Saudi developer ACWA Power. In 2018 Noor Ouarzazate II, III and IV became operational, adding 200 MW, 150 MW and 70 MW, respectively.

Other significant solar projects are already in progress, including the Noor Midelt solar generation project, which is set to be built in the Atlas Mountains. The development will be funded by a host of multilateral institutions, such as the World Bank, the European Commission, the Clean Technology Fund and the African Development Fund. The project will involve the construction of 800 MW of solar generation capacity and is estimated to cost \$781m. The tender was launched by Masen, and will comprise a hybrid system with both photovoltaic and concentrated solar generation technologies.

Sector players are confident that partnerships with multilateral institutions will help accelerate the country's renewables agenda. "The Clean Technology Fund, which supports large infrastructure projects with low greenhouse gas emissions, has seen promising results, with more than 85 projects already registered worldwide and more in the pipeline. It has contributed significantly to helping Morocco reach its objective of 52% renewable

energy consumption by 2030," Badis Derradji, regional managing director of Saudi Arabia-headquartered power generation company ACWA Power, told OBG.

In May 2019 a consortium of French energy company EDF Renewables, Abu Dhabi-based firm Masdar and Morocco's Green Energy of Africa were awarded a contract to construct the first section of the Noor Midelt plant. In June 2019 the Moroccan authorities launched the pre-qualification phase of the second section of the project, which will include 230 MW of solar generation capacity. Industry

told OBG.

Alongside promising developments in the solar segment, Morocco continues to expand its wind and hydropower generation capacity. The Integrated Wind Energy Programme was launched in 2010 with the aim of establishing 2000 MW of annual wind energy capacity by 2020. As a result of these efforts, wind generation grew 10-fold from 0.3 TWh in 2007 to 3 TWh in 2017. With 1207 MW of capacity across 12 wind farms as of 2018 and 1330 MW set to come on-



line between 2019 and 2021, Morocco is on track to achieve its goal.

stakeholders are confident that these developments will enable the country to meet its aim of 42% renewables on the grid in the short-term future. "With these two projects and what has already been accomplished at the Noor Ouarzazate development, Morocco should be able to achieve its 2020 goal in the next few years, even if these projects do not come on-line until 2022 or 2023," Laabi

A considerable amount of new capacity will be installed as part of the government's plans to develop five wind farms with a combined capacity of 850 MW. The new sites will be located in Midelt, with a capacity of 180 MW; Essaouira (200 MW); Tarfaya (100 MW); Tangier (70 MW); and Boujdour (300 MW). In November 2019 Masen and



ONEE announced that an agreement had been signed with Morocco's Nareva Holding and Italian firm Enel Green Power for the construction of the Dh4bn (\$416.7m) wind farm at Boujdour.

Additionally, in December 2019 the authorities signed a deal with a consortium of Japanese contractor Mitsui and France's EDF to construct the first phase of the 150-MW Taza Wind Park, located 12 km north of the town of Taza in the north of the country. The

in Morocco since the 1960s, new dams are expected to open in the coming years. According to the most recent I EA figures, the country had roughly 1770 MW of installed hydropower capacity in 2017. While there is little scope for new largescale hydroelectric power stations, several small and medium-sized projects are in progress.

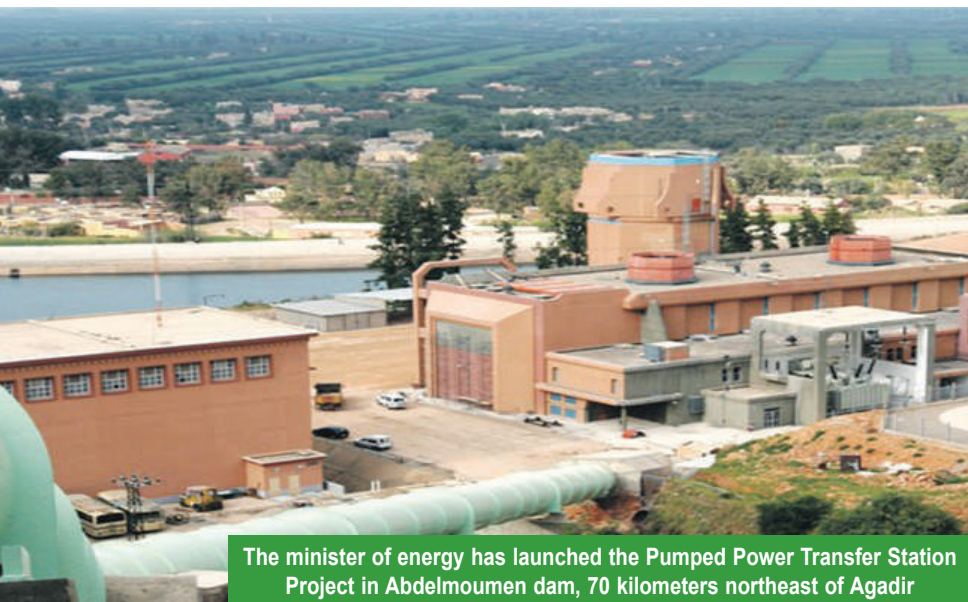
The largest project currently underway is the Dh3.8bn (\$395.9m) Abdelmoumen pumped storage station in

least explored areas in terms of hydrocarbons resources, highlighting the possibility for future discoveries. To this end, the government has sought to establish favourable fiscal conditions to encourage upstream operations. Furthermore, through ONHYM, the country has accelerated its investment promotion efforts, which has helped to attract international interest in both onshore and offshore exploration projects. In 2018 the upstream sector received a total of Dh27.5bn (\$2.9bn) in investment, according to ONHYM. Foreign upstream operators, which accounted for 90% of these investments, had been allocated 70 exploration permits and 10 exploitation licences.

Morocco is looking to increase its use of natural gas as a substitute for some of its coal and fuel oil generation capacity. In addition to reducing the use of pollutant fuels, a rise in gas-powered plants would provide the flexibility needed for Morocco to prepare for greater use of renewables, as supply can often be inconsistent.

The country began using natural gas to power some of its units. The Tahaddart power plant, Morocco's first gas-powered unit, has a 384-MW capacity. In 2009 the kingdom began operating a second plant at Ain Beni Mahtar, which has a capacity of 452 MW.

As of February 2020 all of Morocco's imported natural gas came from Algeria, transported via the Maghreb-Europe pipeline, which carries



The minister of energy has launched the Pumped Power Transfer Station Project in Abdelmoumen dam, 70 kilometers northeast of Agadir

first phase will bring 87 MW of wind generation capacity on-line and is set to be completed in late 2021. It will comprise 27 general electrical wind turbines with a capacity of roughly 3.2 MW each. According to the authorities, the first phase of the park will result in the removal of 200,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Local media reported that the project is budgeted at a total of Dh2.5bn (\$260.5m).

Although hydropower generation has been in place

Taroudant, which is expected to commence operations in the first half of 2022. The authorities have also identified sites for 300 MW of small-scale hydropower projects.

Alongside efforts to expand its renewables capacity, Morocco is taking steps to develop upstream exploration in order to reduce reliance on energy imports and provide more revenue for the sector. Although confirmed oil and gas discoveries have been minimal, the country is one of the region's





Algerian natural gas to Spain and Portugal. Morocco imports approximately 600m cu metres of natural gas per year under a 10-year contract signed with Sonatrach in 2001, Algeria's state-owned energy company. The kingdom also receives an additional 500m cu metres of Algerian gas transported through Moroccan territory. While the agreement with Sonatrach has enabled Morocco to supply its two gas-fuelled plants, as of early 2020 there had been no indication whether the agreement would be renewed or extended beyond its expiration date of 2021.

Additionally, in January 2020 UK industrial firm Sound Energy announced that it had received approval from the Moroccan government to build and operate a 120-km gas pipeline, which will connect a proposed new gas treatment plant and compression station to the Maghreb-Europe pipeline. By 2030 Morocco aims to add 2400 MW of combined-cycle technology to expand its gas-fuelled power generation capacity, as well as increase its use of natural gas in energy-intensive industries.

To this end, there are plans to develop a new liquefied natural gas (LNG) import terminal, two 1200-MW, combined-cycle power plants, an onshore regasification unit and a pipeline to link the terminal to the Maghreb-Europe pipeline. The terminal is set to be built in Jorf Lasfar, on Morocco's Atlantic coast, and the two new power plants will be located in Jorf Lasfar and Kenitra, respectively. Overall, the gas-

to-power project is estimated to require approximately \$4.5bn in investment. Although the tender for the gas-linked infrastructure was expected to be launched in 2019, the project was delayed and, as of February 2020, there had been no further updates on the tender's progress.

In order for these projects to run smoothly and to attract further investment in the up, the country will need to ensure that a robust regulatory

growth as it continues to receive significant public and private investment to expand generation capacity and distribution networks. At the same time, efforts to increase the role of renewable resources and natural gas in the country's energy mix are set to lower the energy import bill and reduce fossil fuel emissions. However, in order to ensure that private investment objectives are met, upgrades to the sector's regulatory framework will need to be completed.



The Tahaddart Thermal Power Plant

framework is in place for the use of gas by both the power sector and industrial clients, as well as transportation and pricing. "Studies are being implemented to establish the legal framework. Once this has been done, a gas code will be submitted to Parliament for approval," Laabi told Oxford Business Group. "In any case, a new gas-fired power plant is needed imminently in order to offset the intermittent nature of renewable energy."

The energy sector is poised for promising medium-term

Meanwhile, ongoing hydrocarbons exploration efforts are likely to continue to support the expanding upstream sector, particularly as much of the country's territory remains underexplored. Morocco has already shown that it can be a reliable partner in the exploration and development of hydrocarbons resources, and the policies it is currently pursuing should help the country reduce its reliance on energy imports in the years ahead.



# Morocco – A Regional Shipment Hub

The government of the Kingdom of Morocco is upgrading the country's ports with an eye to transforming Morocco into a regional shipment hub

Morocco has 27 commercial ports that see a combined annual traffic of 92.3m tonnes in goods. The Kingdom's 2030 National Port Strategy, spearheaded by the National Ports Agency (Agence Nationale des Ports, ANP), allocates investment of close to \$7.5bn to expand and upgrade the country's ports along the Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts. The ANP will oversee the management and development of all ports, except for Tanger-Med, whose renovations will be administered by the Tanger

Med Port Authority (TMPA). "The Moroccan port landscape is evolving to better integrate regional economies and increase the role of the private sector in specific development strategies," Sghir El Filali, the director of strategy and regulation at the ANP, told OBG.

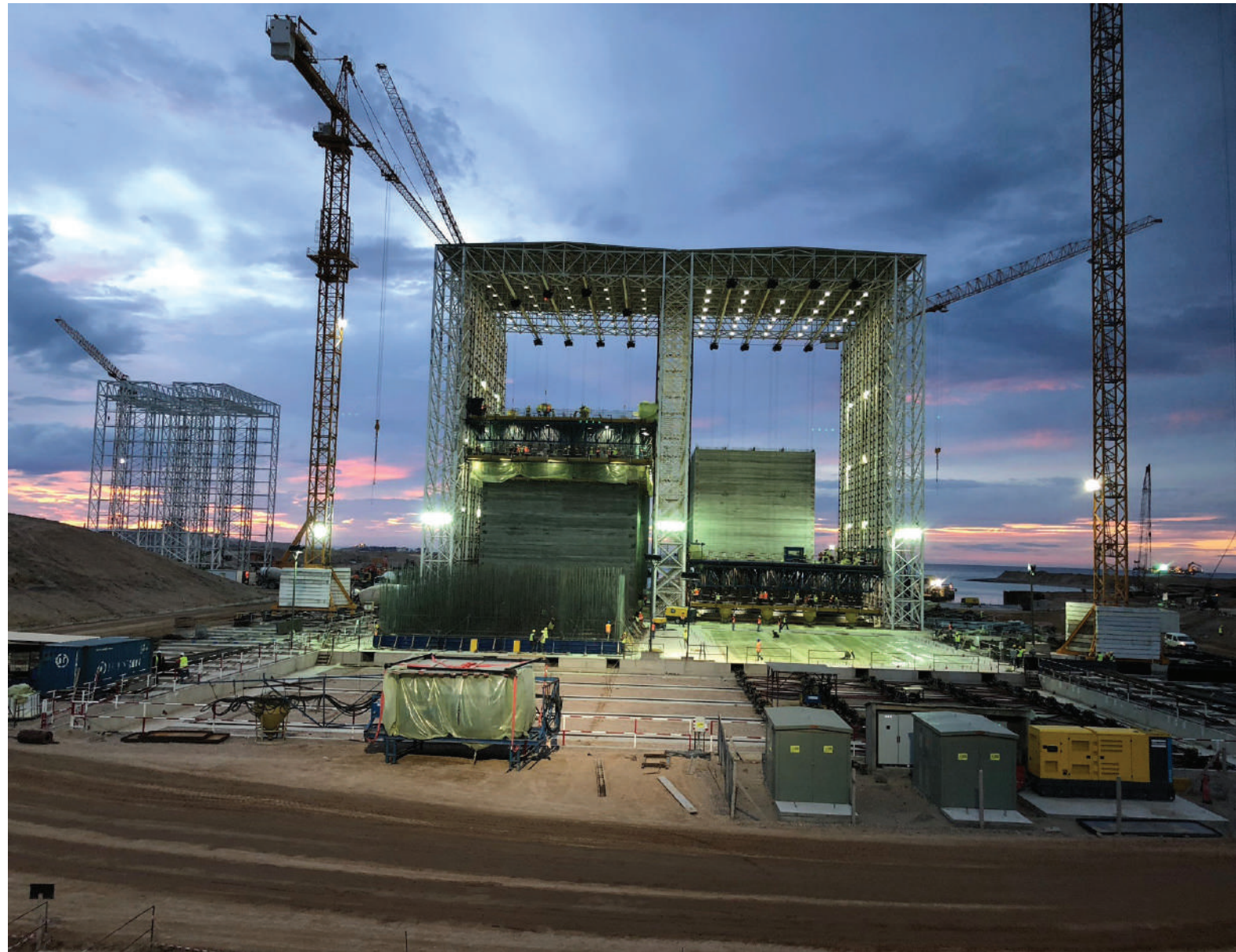
Since a 2007 restructuring of its port management operations, the ANP has worked to designate land for infrastructure development and increase private sector involvement in port management. The restructuring

also unified pricing across ports, introduced upskilling programmes to bring staff training up to international standards and defined overall strategic development plans. Efforts so far have led to increased productivity and reduced shipment delays, shortening the average time a container is parked at a port from 10 days in 2017 to 6.5 days in 2019. "The ANP is working to transform Moroccan ports from areas for just importing and exporting into real economic centres driving the development of their surroundings," El Filali

## TANGER MED IN THE GLOBAL TRADE







told Oxford Business Group (OBG).

With the future trade landscape and shipment volumes in mind, the ANP has projected port capacity will need to reach 300m tonnes per annum in 2030 to keep up with demand, from its current capacity of 40m tonnes as of the end of 2019. Investments worth Dh6bn (\$625.1m) have been planned to this end, with Dh2.7bn (\$281.3m) already spent in 2018, and another

Dh3.2bn (\$333.4m) earmarked for further infrastructure development and upgrades by 2020.

**TANGER-MED:** Morocco's Tanger-Med was the first African port to be awarded EcoPort status by the European Sea Ports Organisation, following a previous ISO 14001 certification for its environmental management. Beyond port and trans-shipment activities, the TMPA oversees the Tanger Free

Zone, Tanger Automotive City, Tetouan Park and Tetouan Shore for outsourcing activities, a Logistics Free Zone and Renault Tanger-Med. At end-2019 there were around 900 companies operating within Tanger-Med, with combined investments nearing Dh100bn (\$10.4bn), of which more than half came from private actors. Tanger-Med 1 comprises two container terminals with a total capacity of 3.5m twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), in addition to a railway terminal,





a hydrocarbons terminal, a goods terminal and a car terminal. "When we envisioned Tanger-Med, we did not expect to have such significant traffic," Mostafa Al Mouzani, the former director of TMPA, told OBG. "So when we decided to build Tanger-Med 2 and Nador West Med, we took into account future volumes."

Following an investment of Dh14bn (\$1.5bn), Tanger-Med 2 opened in June 2019 with two container terminals and a total capacity of 6m TEUs. As of January 2020 Tanger-Med covered 1000 ha, offered a capacity of 9m TEUs and was one of the largest port hubs in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean. Tanger-

Med provides end-to-end logistics services for goods and is connected to 186 ports, including 38 in Africa. In 2018 the port saw Dh30bn (\$625.1m) in revenue.

The success of Tanger-Med has led other ports in the country to adopt similar development models. "Tanger-Med was a leap forward for transshipment activities in Morocco, having introduced innovations like twin-lift handling and reduced the operating time of its containers from 20-30 moves per hour (mph) to 40 mph within three years," Al Mouzani added. Additionally, innovations throughout the port have led to shorter

.....  
**About 400 km east of Tanger-Med, the port of Nador West Med, expected to come on-line in 2021, is set to increase regional market opportunities, play a major role in the kingdom's energy strategy and reduce the burden on Tanger-Med**  
.....







**In January 2020 there were three dry ports in the country in Casablanca, Fes and Marrakech with four more planned throughout Morocco's northern region.**

connection times between the kingdom and Asia, dropping on average from 60 to 25 days.

To unleash the full potential of Tanger-Med, the country needs to further tap into the port's wider import-export potential. The Moroccan National Railways Office (Office National des Chemins de Fer, ONCF) currently connects inland industrial zones with Tanger-Med 1 by rail, but capacity may soon be reached. Increasing development in Tangier is also making land availability an issue; the city's population doubled over 2003-12, creating new transportation challenges in residential and economic areas.

About 400 km east of Tanger-Med, the port of Nador West Med, expected to come on-line in 2021, is set to increase regional market opportunities, play a major role in the kingdom's energy strategy and reduce the burden on Tanger-Med. The port's management will be split between the ANP and the TMPA, at 51% and 49%, respectively. In 2018 a consortium consisting of SGTM Maroc, Luxembourg-based Jan De Nul Group and Turkish STFA Group won the bid for the construction of the new port, expected to cost around Dh7.6bn (\$791.8m). Once completed, the port will be able to process 25m

tonnes of hydrocarbons, 7m tonnes of coal and 3m tonnes of general cargo. In terms of trans-shipment capabilities, the port will have a capacity of 3m TEUs, with the potential to add another 2m TEUs.

The southern city of Dakhla is also expecting to see the construction of a new port. A call for tenders went out in December 2019. For this project of 60-ha, Dh10.2bn (\$1.1bn). The port is expected to act as a hub for West Africa, and will have connections to Casablanca, Tanger-Med and Las Palmas in Spain. Dakhla Atlantic Port is expected to boost the regional fisheries, agriculture, mining, energy and tourism trade sectors, eventually building capacity to process an estimated 2.2m tonnes of goods per year.

With more highways and railways being constructed throughout the kingdom, its ports have seen significant reductions in congestion and more goods arriving as scheduled. In January 2020 there were three dry ports in the country in Casablanca, Fes and Marrakech with four more planned throughout Morocco's northern region. In 2019, the ANP acquired 146 ha of land for a planned a 200-ha dry port at Zenata, at a cost of Dh700m (\$72.9m).

The country's first blueprint for

digitisation, Digital Morocco 2013, saw the creation of PortNet. Under the direction of the ANP, PortNet has led the charge in digitising all clearance processes at the kingdom's entry points. Since 2011, PortNet has gradually been rolled out at ports across the country, significantly increasing logistics productivity. By the second quarter of 2020 the operation of several port activities were planned to be externalised to private companies, with the goal of easing traffic at entry points. "The digitisation of documents and processes has helped reduce logistics costs and accelerated trade flow, especially around Gibraltar," Alexis Rhodas, the general manager of local logistics company GEFCO Maroc, told OBG. In 2019, PortNet partnered with Royal Air Maroc to create E-Freight, a platform that extends electronic clearance to cargo arriving by air.

The modernisation of Moroccan ports has enhanced the nation's logistics sector through increased cooperation with private actors to boost efficiency across the value chain. The country has gained experience working with global operators and has emerged as a training centre for both Morocco's and Africa's workforces. Anticipated increases in trade volumes are going to require more investment to better connect inland economic regions with international markets and to unleash the full potential of Morocco's new and burgeoning industrial zones.



## Tangier Med Retains Position as Leading Container Port in Mediterranean

All port activities in Morocco's Tangier Med have posted sustained growth in 2020, thus allowing the port complex to retain its position as the leading container port in the Mediterranean basin.

The overall tonnage processed during the past year is 81 million tonnes, an increase of 23% compared to 2019, said the Tangier Med Port Authority (TMPA), noting that the Tangier Med port alone processed 47% of the total port tonnage of the Kingdom of Morocco.

A total of 5,771,221 TEU containers (Twenty foot equivalent) were processed at the Tangier Med port complex in

2020, i.e. a significant increase of 20% compared to 2019, the TMPA said in a press release, noting that this traffic confirms Tangier Med's position as the leading container port in the Mediterranean basin.

With regard to liquid bulk traffic, it has grown by 26% compared to 2019 and recorded a total traffic of 7,968,485 tonnes of processed hydrocarbons. This growth is mainly due to the bunkering activity for

the benefit of ships transiting the Strait of Gibraltar, which generated traffic of nearly 1.6 million tonnes.

As for solid bulk traffic, it recorded a total of 303,705 processed tonnes, an increase of 18% compared to last year, mainly thanks to the traffic of steel coils, wind turbine blades and cereals.

In terms of international road transport (TIR) truck traffic, despite the slowdown in the





# TANGER MED GROUP

## ABOUT TANGER MED

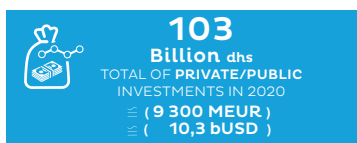
Tanger Med is a global logistics hub, located on the Strait of Gibraltar and connected to more than **180** ports and **70** countries, providing handling capacities for 9 million containers, 7 million passengers, **700 000** trucks and 1 million vehicles.

Tanger Med is an industrial platform for more than **1 100** companies representing an annual business volume of **5,9** b USD in various sectors such as automotive, aerospace, logistics, textiles and trade.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

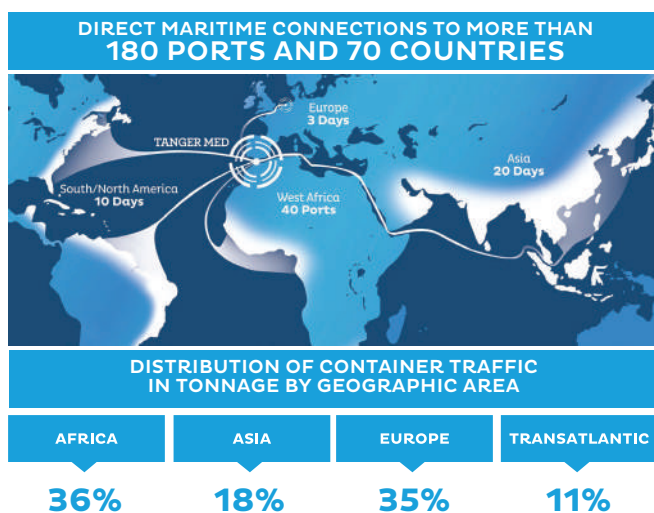
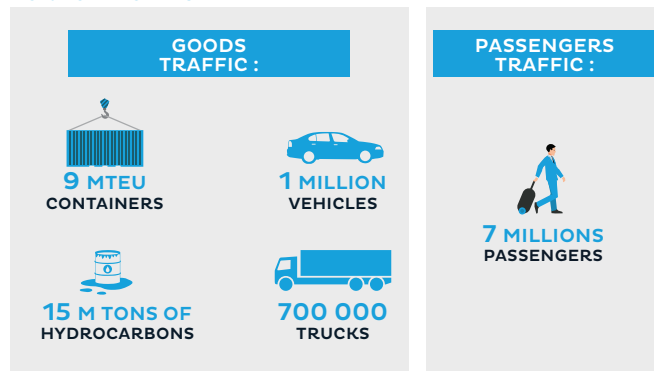
- A port complex comprising **3 ports** over **1000 HA**
- An industrial platform comprising **6 activity zones** over **2000 HA**

## PUBLIC / PRIVATE INVESTMENTS



# PORT COMPLEX

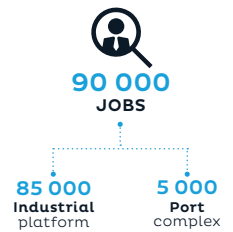
## PORT CAPACITIES



## NUMBER OF COMPANIES IN TANGER MED



## CREATED JOBS



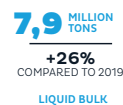
## INTEGRATED AND STRUCTURING PROJECT



OVERALL TONNAGE



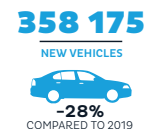
CONTAINER



LIQUID BULK



SOLID BULK



MARITIME TRAFFIC

## RANKING





## LOGISTICS HUB

**840 000 M<sup>2</sup>**  
OF COVERED AREAS

**300 HA** OF LOGISTICS  
AREA IN THE FUTURE

### MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Added-value logistics of grouping, supplying and distributing
- Order preparation, storage, packaging, labelling, assembly and quality control
- Direct logistics exchanges with more than 100 countries in the world

### CLIENTS OF THE LOGISTICS ZONE



**9 of the world leaders**

3PLs are present in the Tanger Med Logistics Zone

### INDUSTRIAL SECTORS



**World leaders** from Europe, America, Asia :

**11 of the 20 most important** in the world are located in Tanger Med (wires and cables, metal / stamping, vehicle interior and seat, plastic injection)

### RANKING

**2<sup>nd</sup>**  
ECONOMIC ZONE IN THE  
WORLD  
(Financial Times Ranking)

**1<sup>st</sup>**  
AUTOMOTIVE ZONE  
IN THE WORLD  
(Financial Times Ranking)

## INDUSTRIAL PLATFORM

### INDUSTRIAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2020

**95**  
NEW INDUSTRIAL  
PROJECTS IN 2020

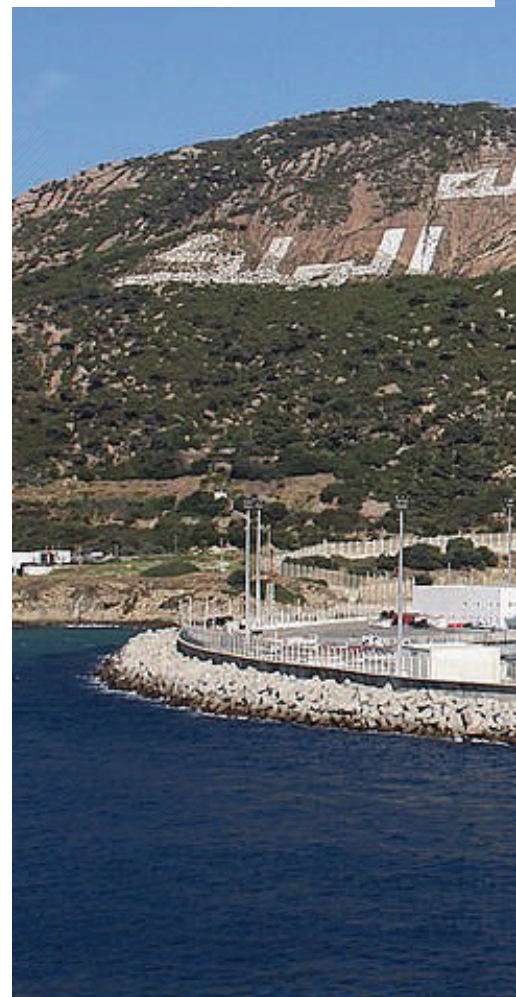
**9**  
UNIT EXTENSIONS  
IN 2020

**2,6 Billion dhs**  
OF PRIVATE INVESTMENTS IN TANGER MED  
INDUSTRIAL PLATFORM  
= ( 230 MEUR )  
= ( 260 M USD )

**7 458**  
NEW JOBS

**59 Billion dhs**  
OF EXPORTS FROM TANGER MED  
INDUSTRIAL PLATFORM  
= ( 5 300 MEUR )  
= ( 5,9 b USD )

**322 361**  
LOGISTICS FLOWS  
TRUCKS/CONTAINERS UNITS







activity of several industrial units, the Tangier Med port ended the year with traffic similar to 2019, i.e. 357,331 TIR trucks processed mainly in the agri-food sector, the source said.

In addition, the press release noted that 358,175 new vehicles were handled at the two vehicle terminals of the Tangier Med port in 2020,

down 28% compared to last year. This variation is explained by the drop in vehicle sales in Europe and by the slowdown in automobile production by Renault and PSA during the period (March-May) caused by the health context linked to Covid-19.

Passenger traffic was also impacted by the health context since passenger activity has

been suspended since March 2020 due to the closure of borders because of the health crisis, then picked up slightly in June 2020 in the strict compliance with health measures, explained the press release, indicating that a total of 701,599 passengers passed through the Tangier Med port in 2020, down 75% compared to 2019.







# Discover Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez in Morocco

**S**idi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University (USMBA) is located in Fez, the spiritual capital of the kingdom of Morocco. It is named after one of the prominent sultans in the noble Alawite dynasty, the Sultan

at the forefront of Moroccan universities, and within the top twenty universities in Africa. Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez hosts 94 430 students belonging to 12 affiliated faculties and schools. It offers 291

accredited undergraduate and graduate branches. With more than 1740 Professors. The university aims to empower its students and graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in their academic career, to facilitate their access to the job market and to contribute effectively to the development of society and the country in general. Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez is keen to provide a good university life for its students in its various components, by providing them with pedagogical, cultural and sports facilities equipped with the latest equipment and technologies.

Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez seeks to be an effective force for change and progress by contributing



Dhar Al Mahraz Campus

Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah (1790 – 1757). It was founded in 1975 and is thus one of the oldest Moroccan universities. At the same time, it is a modern university that places the student at the center of its concerns and offers innovative and cutting-edge education programs that combine knowledge and professional competencies. It is a university keen on excellence, proud of its intellectual heritage and its rich education and research programs. It strives to be always



The screening of the documentary film Meanings of India





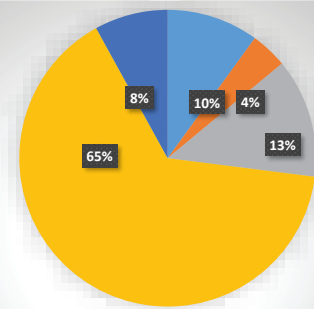
## President's Statement



Pr. Radouane Mrabet

Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University of Fez has maintained its national leadership in the international ranking of "Times Higher Education" universities for the year 2021 while remaining competitive at the African, Arab and international levels. This performance is the fruit of constant work and continuous improvement in a number of areas, including scientific research and innovation.

## COOPERATION



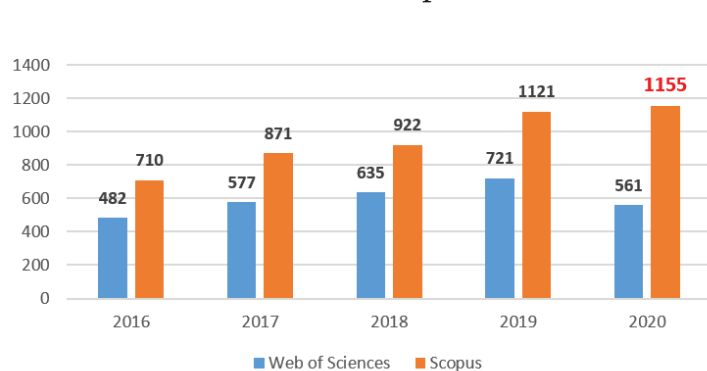
quality and quantity, and it now is considered among the largest universities in Morocco in terms of numbers of students enrolled, fields of study and unique specializations offered.

The university has also strengthened its position in the field of education and scientific research, both nationally and internationally, as it is ranked first among Moroccan universities this year and for the fourth time in a row, according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings.

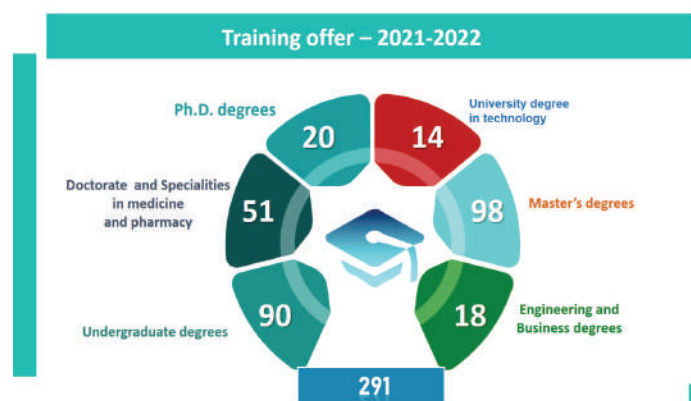
USMBA internationalization strategy is part of the university strategic development plan that aims to promote the visibility of the university and the mobility of its students and researchers; to improve the quality of the university management, to share good practices and start new cooperation ties with international partners.

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & INNOVATION

### Web of Sciences & Scopus Publications



## THE UNIVERSITY'S TRAINING CURRICULA



to sustainable development of the Fez-Meknes region, the Moroccan and international community, with full respect

for environmental obligations. Since its creation, the university has maintained a steady progress in terms of both



# Decarbonizing the Economy: A View from the South



By Rim Berahab\*

**H**ow can the world achieve higher levels of decarbonization without compromising economic development? This column explores the case of Morocco, a developing country committed to contributing to the global effort against climate change. Assessment of possible decarbonization pathways suggests that particular attention should be paid to expanded penetration of renewable energy to meet future electricity demand. Financial and non-financial incentives will be needed to reduce the economic cost of the transition.

The climate crisis is a latent threat that has been brewing for several years. Its consequences affect both individuals and economies. Tackling climate change is the 13th Sustainable Development Goal. As such, many governments committed to take action to address it in the Paris Agreement. But a recent report of the United Nations (UN) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) shows that achievements have not lived up to the promises made.

This underscores the urgency of accelerating the pace of global containment of carbon emissions. Countries now face

a dual challenge in a worldwide environment punctuated by frequent crises: ensuring economic development and preserving the environment. In this sense, the energy transition can be a crucial element.

## Evidence from Morocco

The latest census of greenhouse gas emissions in Morocco shows that they are following an upward trend. They increased by 17% between 2000 and 2016, reaching 86,128 gigagrams of carbon dioxide equivalent in 2016. The energy industry – which consists of electricity and

But its emissions levels are likely to increase over the next few decades, given the country's continued economic development and demographic growth.

To combat climate change, Morocco submitted its revised 'nationally determined contribution' (NDC) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in June 2021. In its new NDC, the country set an ambitious target of a 45.5% reduction in emissions instead of 42% compared with the 'business-as-usual' scenario by 2030, including an unconditional target of an

• • • • •  
**According to a recent study, Morocco can achieve its decarbonization goals through extensive electrification of end-use sectors and increased use of renewable energy in the electricity generation mix. In particular, transport, power generation, and, to a lesser extent, residential sectors are all vital sectors for decarbonizing energy consumption.**  
• • • • •

heat production, as well as oil refining – is responsible for 26% of the country's emissions, followed by agriculture (23%) and transport (20%).

Morocco accounts for about 0.2% of global emissions.

18.3% reduction instead of 17%. In addition, Morocco aims to increase supply security by reducing dependence on energy imports and increasing the use of renewable energy in electricity generation.





According to a recent study, Morocco can achieve its decarbonization goals through extensive electrification of end-use sectors and increased use of renewable energy in the electricity generation mix. In particular, transport, power generation, and, to a lesser extent, residential sectors are all vital sectors for decarbonizing energy consumption.

Economic modeling conducted as part of the same study shows that Morocco can achieve national emissions reductions of the order of 40% and 70% relative to a business-as-usual scenario in a cost-effective manner by

19% of the electricity generated in 2020 compared with 15% in 1990 (hydro only). As for nuclear power, Morocco does not currently foresee it playing a significant role in the energy mix of the future due to the high costs and extended period of infrastructure construction, as well as the potential environmental risks.

According to the aforementioned study, the electrification of Morocco's end-use sectors will increase electricity demand. In the context of decarbonization, this demand must be met primarily by renewable energy, which would imply reducing the share

A clear and supportive regulatory framework is needed to enable participation in the renewable energy market and to sustain the development of BESS and other system flexibility tools. Moreover, according to a recent report, concessional and blended financing can also be used to unlock private investment for clean electricity.

### Electrifying the transport sector

Reducing the transport sector's carbon footprint is a critical issue in the fight against climate change, given its dependence on fossil fuels and its contribution to emissions. Electric mobility is seen as a promising solution for the low-carbon transition of this sector.

Research shows that several barriers hinder the technology switch from fossil-fueled mobility to electric mobility:

- Electric vehicles (EVs) have higher upfront costs than internal combustion engines, leading to higher investments.
- Electric mobility development is strictly dependent on BESS technology cost improvement, and the development of charging infrastructure.
- Procurement and tendering models commonly center on upfront costs without considering EVs' entire cost structure and benefits.
- Uncertainties about the long-term performance of BESS and a market that is not mature may limit the attractiveness of EVs

## Studies from the United States and Morocco show that a combination of policies to phase out polluting vehicles and introduce low-carbon technologies are needed.

2030 and 2050, respectively. But it should be noted that these calculations are for energy-related greenhouse gas emissions only, excluding land use, land use change, and forestry.

### Greater demand for power

Electricity generation in Morocco is dominated by thermal sources, mainly coal, followed by oil and natural gas, all three accounting for 80% of the country's total electricity generation. But this share has experienced a downward trend since the 1990s with increased use of renewable energy.

The renewable sources of solar, wind, and hydro accounted for

of coal in the electricity mix.

But the low production costs of fossil fuels, which have a low marginal price, can affect the profitability of renewable energy projects. Furthermore, the additional renewable electricity capacity injected into the grid can pose new challenges related to grid management.

This means that adequate grid development and increased system flexibility are required. A diverse portfolio of technologies such as Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), demand response, pumped hydro storage, and biomass plants can provide such flexibility.



for public and private investors.

Studies from the United States and Morocco show that a combination of policies to phase out polluting vehicles and introduce low-carbon technologies are needed. These policies can take the form of indirect incentives, such as

economically sustainable to ensure that no one is left behind.

The need for increased investment to drive decarbonization is inescapable. These expenditures, mainly borne by the state, risk burdening the public debt. Hence the need for financial

to stimulate private sector participation. The liquefied natural gas subsidy reform will need to be addressed while providing protection mechanisms for the most vulnerable social segment. In addition, defining technical and environmental standards will be essential for new construction and renovation and for specific sectors.

Any roadmap for decarbonization must be cost-effective and socio-economically sustainable to ensure that no one is left behind.

emissions and life-cycle caps on polluting vehicles or driving privileges for users of EVs, such as special lanes, preferential or free parking, and waived tolls.

They can also take the form of direct financial incentives to reduce the higher upfront capital costs of EVs (capital expenditure subsidies or import duty exemptions on vehicles and components) and to encourage customers to buy EVs (purchase rebates).

In addition, significant investment will be needed to develop charging infrastructure and stimulate research and innovation to improve performance and reduce costs. In this sense, Morocco would gain from developing a domestic industry to avoid technological dependence.

### A just and cost-effective transition

Any roadmap for decarbonization must be cost-effective and socio-

and non-financial incentives specific to the different sectors of the economy to support the transition.

Financial measures would mainly cover incentives on the capital expenditures of low-carbon technologies, like renewable energy for the power sector, EVs for the transport sector, efficiency interventions for the industry and tertiary sectors, and heat pumps, solar thermal and induction boilers for the agriculture and residential sectors.

They could also include the removal of subsidies for fossil fuels in the power sector and the gradual implementation of a carbon pricing scheme. Public development for grid infrastructure will also be needed to sustain sectors' decarbonization.

Non-financial measures may include reforms to the regulatory and institutional framework governing energy projects

In the long run, the increase in investment should be offset by the decrease in the social cost of carbon, thus reducing the total economic cost of the transition. In addition, cleaner technologies have the potential to increase productivity.

Ultimately, the energy transition will create new jobs and industries while transforming others, if not eliminating them. Employment and industrial competitiveness must therefore be preserved. In this sense, Morocco should address the challenge of converting the workforce from carbon-intensive activities to greener alternatives and ensure that enough new jobs are created in clean industries and related sectors.

*\*Rim Berahab is an economist at the Policy Center for the New South, a think tank based in Rabat that she joined in 2014. She is currently working on themes related to energy issues and their impacts on economic growth and long-term development. Her research areas also cover trade and regional integration challenges in Africa. Previously, she has also worked on questions related to gender inequalities in the labor market of North African countries. Rim spent three months at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in 2016, in the Commodities Unit of the Research Department. She holds a State Engineering degree from the National Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (INSEA).*





# ~~Space for ad of~~ ~~Southern~~ ~~Morocco~~



# US Reiterates Support to Morocco on Sahara. US Delegation Visits Dakhla

The United States Government of President Mr. Joe Biden has extended support to the Government of Morocco on the issue of Moroccan Sahara. In this context a high level US delegation visited Dakhla and Laayoune to explore business opportunities and also set up a Consulate Office in near future.



A high-level US delegation, led by Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Mr. David Schenker, on January 10, 2021 visited the premises of the future Consulate General of the United States in Dakhla. The US delegation, accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Mr. Nasser Bourita, and the US ambassador to Morocco, David Fischer, toured the various offices of this future US diplomatic representation.

During this visit, the Wali of the Dakhla-Oued Eddahab region, Governor of the province of Oued Eddahab, Lamine Benomar, and the presidents of the elected councils were also present. The US Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs arrived on January 10, 2021 in Dakhla, the second stop on a tour in the Moroccan Sahara after Laayoune.

The visit to Dakhla of this high-level US delegation is the result of the telephone conversation held, on December 10, 2020, between His Majesty King

Mohammed VI and the then US President Mr. Donald Trump who had announced the signing of a proclamation, with all that this act entails as an undeniable legal and political force and with immediate effect, on the decision of the United States of America to recognize, for the first time in its history, the full sovereignty of the Kingdom of Morocco over the entire region of the Moroccan Sahara.

In this regard, and as the first concrete expression of its sovereign initiative of great importance, the United States





of America has decided to open a consulate in Dakhla, with a primarily economic vocation, to encourage U.S. investments and contribution to economic and social development, mainly for the benefit of the inhabitants of the southern provinces.

As a result of several consultations between the

consecration of the Moroccan Sahara, confirmed by the positions of support by a group of friendly countries, as well as by the decisions of many countries to open consulates in the Kingdom's Southern Provinces.

On this occasion, His Majesty the King expressed, on his personal behalf and on that

David Schenker, early this year commended in Dakhla the leadership of HM the King Mohammed VI in promoting "a bold and far-reaching reform agenda" over the past two decades.

The recent developments in US-Morocco relations "have been made possible through the leadership of HM King



Kingdom of Morocco and the United States of America and following phone conversation between His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco and the then US President, Mr. Donald Trump, the United States of America recognized officially, through a presidential decree, with all that this act entails as an undeniable legal and political force and with immediate effect, the full and entire Moroccaness and Sovereignty of the Kingdom over its Sahara, an historic decision reinforcing the dynamics of the

of all the Moroccan people, to the American President His deep gratitude to the United States of America for this historic position, conveying equally His sincere thanks to the US President for this frank and unambiguous support to the Moroccan Sahara, as such support strengthens the powerful strategic partnership between the two countries and raises it to the level of a true alliance that encompasses all fields.

US Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Mr.

Mohammed VI in promoting a bold and far-reaching reform agenda over the past two decades", Mr. Schenker stressed at a press briefing following talks with Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccans Abroad, Nasser Bourita.

The US official also praised HM the King's "continued and precious support" on issues of common interest, including peace in the Middle East, stability and development in Africa and regional security.

"The American-Moroccan



relations are stronger than ever. Our best years are ahead of us," he said, recalling the announcement made last month by President Donald Trump to recognize Morocco's full sovereignty over its Sahara.

Mr. Schenker underlined that the United States is determined to deepen and strengthen its ties with the Moroccan people through the promotion

of trade relations, cultural exchanges, in addition to the governmental level.

He also highlighted Morocco's efforts to "promote religious tolerance and harmony" which are "a model to follow in the region", mentioning in this regard "its historic tradition of protecting its Jewish community" as well as the signing of the Marrakech Declaration on the Rights of

### Religious Minorities in the Islamic World.

Morocco "is a key partner for regional stability and our two nations enjoy a broad military-to-military partnership," he pointed out.

The US official added that the Kingdom is the only African country with which the United States has signed a free trade agreement, noting that Moroccan exports to the United States have more than doubled since the entry into force in 2006 of the agreement.

"The value of our bilateral trade has quintupled during this period," he said.

Mr. Schenker recalled that the year 2021 marks the 200th anniversary of the opening of the first United States diplomatic mission in Morocco, in Tangier, where "the oldest US diplomatic installation in the world" is located.





# Agreements & MoUs Signed between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India

1981	
1	Trade Agreement
2	Cultural and Scientific Cooperation Accord
3	Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation
1992	
4	MoU between the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO) and Casablanca Chamber of Commerce and Industry
1996	
5	MoU between the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO) and the Moroccan Export Promotion Centre (CMPE)
1998	
6	MoU on regular consultations between the two Foreign Ministries
7	Convention on Avoidance of Double Taxation
1999	
8	Agreement on Tourism
9	Agreement for Cooperation between Maghreb Arab Press (MAP) and Press Trust of India (PTI)
2000	
10	Agreement for cooperation in the fields of Merchant Shipping and Maritime
11	Agreement between Doordarshan and RTM (Radio-diffusion Television Marocaine)
12	MoU between the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the General Confederation for Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) for setting up a Joint Business Council
13	MoU between the National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) and the Moroccan Association of Professionals and Information Technologies (APEBI)
2001	
14	Agreement on Plant Protection and Plant Quarantine
15	Agreement on Veterinary Sanitation
2004	
16	MoU in the field of Agricultural Research and Education
2006	
17	MoU on bilateral cooperation in housing sector
2013	
18	Protocol amending the India-Morocco Double Taxation Avoidance Convention (DTAC)
19	MoU between National School of Applied Sciences, Tangier in Morocco, and Jaypee University of Information Technologies, Solan in India
2014	
20	Agreement on Environmental Cooperation signed in Marrakech
21	MoU on Cooperation in Marine Fisheries signed in Marrakech
22	MoU concerning setting up of a Centre for Excellence in Information Technology (CEIT) in Morocco
2015	
23	MoU between the General Confederation for Moroccan Enterprises (CGEM) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) for strengthening commercial relations by expanding and deepening economic, trade and investment cooperation



24	Agreement on Exemption of Visa requirement for Holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service Passports between India & Morocco signed in Delhi
25	MoU between the Moroccan Centre for Export Promotion (Morocco Export) and the Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO)
26	MoU between the Moroccan Centre for Export Promotion (Morocco Export) and the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Republic of India
27	MoU between the Attijariwafabank and ICICI Bank Limited on the establishment of a wider cooperation framework between the two groups
28	MoU between the Moroccan Association of Exporters (ASMEX) and the Indian Association of Importers
<b>2016</b>	
29	Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) for 2016-2019 between India and Morocco
30	MoU between the Foreign Service Institute at the Ministry of External affairs of India and the Moroccan Academy for Diplomatic Studies at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Morocco
<b>2017</b>	
31	MoU between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Mohammed V University on the Establishment of ICCR Chair for Hindi Language
32	MoU between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Mohammed V University on the Establishment of ICCR Chair of Indian Studies
33	MoU between the Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA) of India and the Royal Institute for Strategic Studies (IRES) of Morocco on Cooperation in Institutional Relations
34	MoU between “Prasar Bharati” of India and “la Société Nationale de Radiodiffusion et de Television (SNRT)” of Morocco
35	MoU between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Health of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in the field of Health
36	MoU between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in the field of Water Resources
37	Cooperation Agreement between Indian Railways (IR) Moroccan National Railways Office (ONCF)
38	Agreement to establish Cooperation between Indian Maritime University (IMU) and the Higher Institute of Maritime Studies (ISEM) of Morocco
39	Framework Agreement for Cooperation in Training between the Indian Maritime University of the Republic of India and the National Ports Agency (Port Training Institute) of the Kingdom of Morocco
40	Cooperation Framework Agreement between the Institute of Training in Engines and Road Maintenance (IFEER) under the Ministry of Equipment, Transport, Logistics and Water of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) under the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways of the Republic of India
41	MoU between Marrakech Mohamed VI University Hospital in Morocco and Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research (JIPMER) in India for Telemedicine collaboration
<b>2018</b>	
42	Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation between the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in India and the National Centre for Scientific and Technical Research (CNRST) in Morocco
43	MoU on Cooperation between the Ministry of Law and Justice of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Justice of the Kingdom of Morocco
44	MoU for Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy

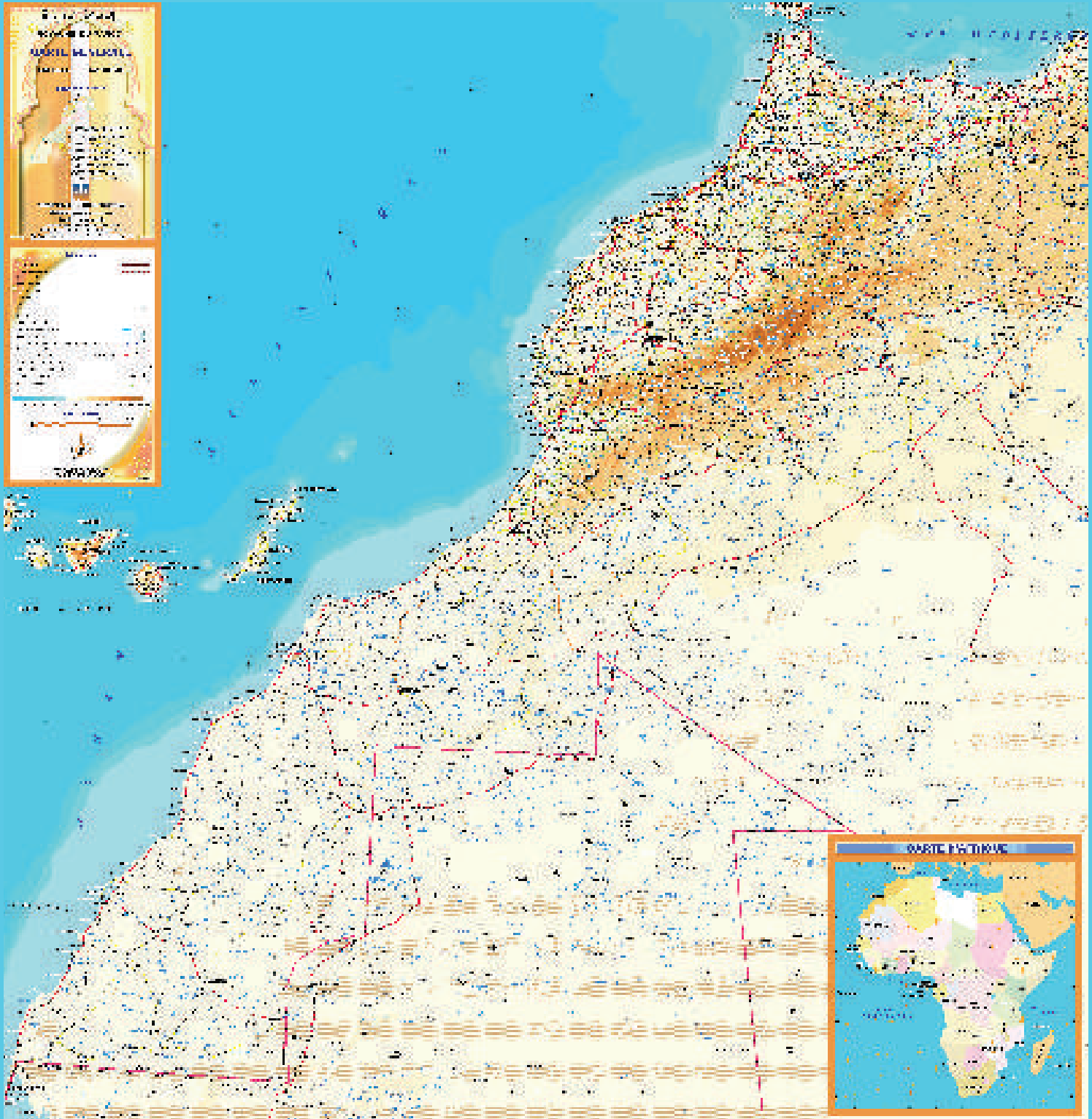




45	MoU in the field of Mining and Geology
46	Work Plan for the Years 2018-20 between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Fisheries, Rural Development and Waters and Forests of the Kingdom of Morocco under the MoU on Cooperation in the field of Agricultural Research and Education
47	MoU on Cooperation between the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in New Delhi, India and the Moroccan Centre for Strategic Studies (CMES) in Rabat, Morocco
48	MoU on Cooperation between the Moroccan Agency for Tourism Development (SMIT) and the India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC)
49	Air Services Agreement between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
50	MoU between the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) of the Republic of India and the National Agency for the Promotion of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (Maroc PME) of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises between India and Morocco
51	MoU between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
52)	MoU between the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India and the Moroccan Computer Emergency Response Team (ma-CERT), of the National Defence Administration of Morocco, on Cooperation in the area of Cyber Security
53	Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
54	Agreement on Legal and Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Commercial matters including the service of Summons, Judicial documents, Letters of Request and Execution of Judgment and Arbitral Awards
55	Joint Declaration of Intent between National Informatics Centre, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India, and the Ministry of Justice of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in the field of Modernization and Use of Information Technology
56	Extradition Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco
<b>2019</b>	
57	MoU on Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
58	Partnership Agreement on the field of Vocational Training between the Office of Vocational Training and Employment Promotion of Morocco and the National Skill Development Corporation of Morocco
59	MoU on setting up of Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
60	MoU on Cooperation in Youth Matters between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
61	MoU on Housing Settlement between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
62	MoU on Facilitation of Business visa between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of India
63	MoU between the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Service of the Region Fez-Meknes (CCISFM) in the Kingdom of Morocco and the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Republic of India
<b>2020</b>	
64	MoU on judicial cooperation between the Superior Council of the Judiciary (CSPJ) of the Kingdom of Morocco and the Supreme Court of the Republic of India
65	Memorandum of Understanding between Exim Bank of India and Bank of Africa, signed in December 2020



# Map of the Kingdom of Morocco



Source: Moroccan National Tourist Office  
Website: [www.visitmorocco.com](http://www.visitmorocco.com)





INVEST AND EXPORT



**NOW  
SUSTAINABLE**

Low carbon  
productions



**NOW  
COMPETITIVE**

Access to 1 bn  
consumers  
based on 54 FTAs



**NOW  
WELL-PROVEN**

Successful track  
record in mega projects



**NOW AGILE**

Morocco DNA illustrated in  
COVID19 management

[www.morocconow.com](http://www.morocconow.com)





## 4 GENERATIONS AND 100 YEARS OF COMMITMENT.

OCP celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A century shaped by exceptional women and men.

Find out about their achievements on:  
<https://centenaire.ocpgroup.ma>

