



MOROCCO

Southern Neighbourhood



Last updated: 11/2024



Euro-Moroccan partnership for shared prosperity



Enhanced cooperation on security



Build an area of shared knowledge through cooperation on education, employment and research



Convergence of values, economic and social cohesion



Cooperation in the field of migration and mobility



Cooperation in the field of the environment and the fight against climate change



TRADE & INVESTMENT

The European Union is Morocco's leading trade partner, with **€56 billion** in trade in goods in 2023, including **€33 billion** of EU exports to Morocco and **€23 billion** of imports. The EU is both Morocco's leading supplier and its first customer representing more than **60%** of Moroccan exports. Morocco is also the EU's first partner in the Southern Mediterranean, and the EU is the biggest foreign investor in Morocco, accounting for more than half of the country's FDI stock.



MOBILITY

Since 2014, **9 528** Moroccan students, professors and university staff travelled to Europe and **4 672** European counterparts travelled to Morocco through Erasmus+.



EU FUNDING

- The **Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-GE)** is the main financial instrument for EU's international cooperation with partner countries, including Morocco, for the period 2021-2027. The EU bilateral indicative allocation to Morocco for the period 2021-2024 amounts to **€931 million** in grants, mainly in the form of **budget support**. It is complemented by other NDICI thematic programmes to support civil society organisations and local authorities (**€6 million** in 2021-24) and to promote human rights, democracy, and governance (**€6 million** in 2021-24).
- In 2023, the European Commission provided a financial assistance package amounting to **€225 million** to support the reconstruction and comprehensive upgrade of

the disaster areas, which was drawn up by the Moroccan authorities following the earthquake that struck the Kingdom on 8 September 2023.

- Over the period 2021-2023, around **€193 million** have been allocated to Morocco under the regional migration envelope, focusing in particular on global migration governance, voluntary returns from Morocco, legal migration, border management, the fight against migrant smuggling and the protection of migrants.
- In 2014-2020, the EU provided bilateral assistance to Morocco mainly through the **European Neighbourhood Instrument** with **€1.4 billion** in grants.



THE ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT PLAN IN MOROCCO

In 2021, the EU launched the **Economic and Investment Plan for the Southern Neighbourhood** to support human development, strengthen resilience, build prosperity, and increase trade and investments in the region. In Morocco, the EIP has been implemented so far via **29 projects** in several fields including, among others, energy, governance, education, social protection, green transition and resource efficiency, as well as cooperation through the Mohammed VI Investment Fund. More than **€1.1 billion** has been committed, including grants, blending and guarantees, with expected mobilised investments amounting to about **€5.4 billion**.

Under the EIP, the EU and Morocco are implementing the **Green Partnership** signed in October 2022 through four main thematic axes: energy transition and decarbonation of the economy, climate resilience and adaptation, the environment including marine and maritime issues; and the green economy.

EIP projects include:

Support to Green Energy (Energie verte)

EU grant contribution: €50 million (mainly budget support)

This programme aims to support transition to a low-carbon economy by promoting greener practices in the energy and industry sectors. It supports the EU Green Deal and the EU-Morocco Green Partnership to combat climate change and foster sustainable production by supporting regulatory reforms, facilitating market integration with Europe, and promoting alternative green energies and coal phase-out. The intervention also contributes to Morocco's Multi-Annual Indicative Program, focusing on a resilient economic recovery and backing two Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs): the Green Partnership and economic recovery.



Flagship 9: Green Growth and Climate action

Flagship 10: Energy transition and energy security

Support to higher education, research, innovation and mobility

EU grant contribution: €46 million (mainly budget support)

This programme supports Morocco's ongoing reform for higher education, scientific research and innovation to meet the challenges of economic and social change and the country's structural competitiveness in the global market. It promotes access to quality

education and opportunities for students, graduates, researchers and teachers to improve the employability of higher education graduates through training, enabling Moroccan Universities to respond to the needs of the economic sectors and companies.



Flagship 1 – Social sector, education, skills and health

Support to Social Protection (Karama) and Financial Inclusion

EU grant contribution: €181 million (mainly budget support)

The KARAMA programme supports specific actions to ensure a fair access for the Moroccan population to universal health coverage, family allocations, unemployment insurance and pensions. At the same time, the programme reinforces social assistance and rights of vulnerable persons, including migrants. In parallel, the Support Programme for Financial Inclusion promotes a more resilient economy and a more inclusive private sector growth by increasing access to finance.



Flagship 6 – Inclusive economies

Rehabilitation of the railway

Estimated project cost: €626.4 million

EU grant contribution: €15.4 million

EIB: €250 million loan partly covered by an EU guarantee

The project will consist of an investment programme to renew the existing conventional rail infrastructure and modernise some systems by introducing state-of-the-art technologies. In particular, the related activities concern the renewal or rehabilitation of track, engineering and electric traction facilities on selected sections of the network, improvement of signalling and telecommunication systems, safety improvements, implementation of flood protection and acquisition of equipment for infrastructure maintenance.

Flagship 3 – Resilient economies



Flagship 5 – Connected economies

KEY MILESTONES

MARCH 2000

The EU-Morocco Association Agreement entered into force

OCTOBER 2008

The EU grants Morocco the Advanced Status within the European Neighbourhood Policy providing a roadmap for the progressive alignment of Morocco to the EU's common rights and obligations (EU *acquis*)

JUNE 2013

The EU and Morocco sign a Joint Declaration on a Mobility Partnership

JUNE 2019

The EU and Morocco adopt a Joint Declaration to give a new impetus to the strategic, multidimensional and privileged relationship between the EU and Morocco

OCTOBER 2022

The EU-Morocco Green Partnership is signed

ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement
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