

CLIMATE ACTION IN

MOROCCO

Country context

Morocco has enjoyed sustained economic growth through the development of socio-economic sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, industry, infrastructure, tourism, and urban expansion; but this development also produced negative impacts on environmental quality. Thus the country is confronted with the need to develop effective adaptation and mitigation measures and to strengthen its capacity for prevention, research and information in the field of climate change.

Morocco was among the first countries to respond to the Copenhagen Accord (COP15; 2009) by notifying the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat in January 2010 of a long list of NAMAs (nationally appropriate mitigation actions). However, this list included only mitigation actions and projects that were identified and compiled in the National Plan to Combat Global Warming (2010) without being developed in accordance with international NAMA development approaches.

In addition, there was a clear need for greater cross-sectoral collaboration in Morocco, which had worked in what could be described as a 'silo approach,' characterized by a duplication of efforts by the different sectors. A solid inter-sectoral coordination mechanism was therefore needed to overcome this.

Given Morocco's relatively advanced climate change policy and compliance under the UNFCCC, the Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) project focused on rationalizing the country's NAMAs and bringing them into line with international approaches, which had developed significantly towards the end of 2011, when the project was being conceptualized.



LECB MOROCCO at a glance



Total financing
US \$939,500

4

Timeframe
4 years (2012–2016)



Sectors
Waste, agriculture, housing



Counterparts
Ministry of Energy, Mines,
Water and Environment



Thematic areas

- Institutional frameworks
- GHG inventory systems
- NAMAs
- LEDS
- INDC support
- MRV systems
- Private sector involvement
- Climate finance

LECB AFRICA

Development of a LEDS

The government developed and finalized a low emission development strategy (LEDS), which was informed by prior existing plans, programs and policies, as well as consultation among stakeholders and partners. Coordination mechanisms enabled by the LECB project helped to ensure that the LEDS development process was closely coordinated with the process of developing the Moroccan INDC, so that the implementation of NDC objectives will be achieved through the LEDS, and vice versa. Seven subnational/regional consultations on the LEDS and INDC were organized with the participation of local authorities, regional delegations of ministries, private sector, universities and NGOs.

Supported the INDC process

The INDC process was carried out in synergy with the development of the LEDS for Morocco thus ensuring a coordinated and complementary outcome. To support the development of the LEDS and the INDC the government undertook a broad stakeholder participation process, including a national workshop that convened all the sectors involved and an international Expert Forum that assembled over one hundred representatives from Moroccan institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, universities and international experts.

Development of NAMAs and MRV systems for the agriculture, housing and waste management sectors

The development of these NAMAs was achieved mainly as a result of the strong linkages of each sector to existing policies and programmes. As part of the finalization process, the LECB project organized nine workshops at national and subnational level to help raise awareness and socialize the objectives set out. Each NAMA was developed with an associated monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) system so tracking of progress is apparent. The agricultural NAMA to promote sustainable production of Argan oil, while simultaneously improving local livelihoods for women and reduce desertification was further developed into a Green Climate Fund (GCF) proposal.

+39
million dollars

received in funding from the GCF for Argan Oil NAMA to mitigate climate change.

RESULTS

77
entities benefitted

from NAMA capacity building through 9 workshops at national and subnational level.

148
entities trained

in MRV systems through national and regional workshops.

IMPACTS

Establishment of an information and knowledge platform

A web-platform was developed in cooperation with the Climate Change Competence Center project (funded by the Government of Germany and implemented by GIZ) and hosted on [the 4C Maroc website](#). 4C Maroc was officially launched on November 3, 2016. Through the knowledge platform and knowledge exchanges organized by the LECB project, knowledge is systematically collated and disseminated beyond Morocco to other countries, most notably those on the African continent.

+30

journalists trained

by the LECB project on the scientific basis of climate change and Morocco's policies, including the LEDS and INDC



Strengthened capacities on INDC and LEDS at the national and subnational level, and among private sector enterprises, journalists and academics

These training sessions gave participants the opportunity to test emission calculation tools and GHG reductions, carry out case studies, and even make a choice of NAMAs on the basis of, among other things, multi-criteria analyses. In total, the capacity building activities were able to benefit nearly **592 entities and over 1000 participants**.



Consolidated national institutional framework for climate change

Whilst the pre-LECB period was marked by the absence of a clear institutional, regulatory and predictable governance framework, the LECB project contributed to the consolidation of this framework, by establishing an official Inter-ministerial Monitoring Committee (CIS). This intervention was timely, and supported the submission of Morocco's INDC in the lead up to COP21, as well as the process of organizing and hosting COP22 in Marrakesh.



General overview of the UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building Programme

Since its inception, the UNDP LECB programme has paved the way for effective and lasting climate action by building capacities of government staff to develop policies, strategies and tools that help implement their climate change goals. Focusing specifically on essential building blocks such as strengthening GHG inventory data and systems; formalization of institutional arrangement for climate actions; development and alignment of low emission development strategies (LEDS); and the creation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), LECB provided much of the enabling environment necessary for countries to respond quickly to emerging needs, such as the submission of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) and socialization of the Paris Agreement. Given its flexible nature and strong country ownership, often the originally-envisaged and measurable LECB outputs have been exceeded, leading to some unplanned but highly welcomed additional impacts.

CASE STUDY

ENGAGING THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON LEDS, NAMAs AND THE NDC

Considering the importance of the private sector in mobilizing financing and implementing mitigation actions, the LECB project made considerable efforts to integrate private sector entities into consultation and exchange activities, notably within the framework of the various products (LEDS, NAMAs and INDC). For example, private companies were involved in the framework of the regional exchange workshops on NAMAs and their MRV systems. In the case of the waste management NAMA, companies involved in the management of communal waste participated actively in the workshops and contributed through their constructive exchange, notably on the reality of the implementation of mitigation actions on the ground.

In addition, LECB organized a workshop as part of Morocco's INDC preparation process, within the private sector General Confederation of Enterprises of Morocco (CGEM) in June 2016 to sensitize the various professional federations on the importance of the INDC and their roles in its implementation.

The awareness of the private sector was further reflected in its flagship commitment at COP22 through the launch of and participation in various climate initiatives and coalitions and a strong involvement in the green zone dedicated to solutions. This was manifested through the sharing of best practices, the exhibition of technological solutions and the proposal of financing solutions, notably by the national financial sector.

In 2016, during the preparation for COP22, the CGEM launched the Climate Business Initiative Morocco (ICM) aimed primarily at strengthening business capacity in climate governance, to enable business to access the new low carbon economy and support resilience to the effects of climate change.

To support this initiative, the LECB Morocco project organized a training cycle of four workshops over a year for the benefit of 30 Moroccan companies. These thematic trainings concerned the technical, technological, institutional, legislative and financial aspects of climate change.



The CGEM was a key stakeholder throughout. The Waste NAMA, for example, was a successful partnership with the private sector. Moreover the general context was one in which the CGEM developed a very ambitious climate initiative for enterprises and the LECB project contributed to capacity building for this



Mr Abdelfetah Sahibi,
LECB National project coordinator

LECB Morocco made possible by:

The UNDP Low Emission Capacity Building (LECB) Programme was launched in January 2011 as part of a joint collaboration between the European Union, the Governments of Germany and Australia and UNDP. It is a global programme that helps countries build the public and private sector capacities needed to scale up country-driven mitigation actions.



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Resilient nations.



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based on a decision of the German Bundestag



Australian Government



Kingdom of Morocco
Ministry of Energy, Water and Environment