



KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

Morocco
between
Millennium Development Goals
and
Sustainable Development Goals

Achievements and Challenges

National Report 2015



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HIGH COMMISSION FOR PLANNING

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August 2015



[...] At the same time, we need to anticipate potential problems and start thinking about the broad lines of our action beyond 2015, so as to ensure the continuity of our endeavours and be prepared to meet new challenges. We should do this through collective action to strengthen the foundations of a global, harmonious, solidarity-based system to promote sustainable human development, in which efficient, equitable governance should play a key role so that we may offer upcoming generations a dignified life and build a future of peace, stability, progress and prosperity for all.



*Extract from the speech delivered by His Majesty King Mohammed VI
before the UN Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
held in New York from September 20 to 22, in 2010.*



Reporting Process

The present 2015 report is of a particular importance mainly for two reasons. It establishes an overall assessment of the MDGs achievements throughout the relevant period 1990-2015. The report is based on updated data drawn mainly from the 2014 Housing and Population General Census, the Consumption and expenditures Survey as well as the Demographic Survey of 2010. Second, the report also constitutes an analysis tool on the overall Moroccan social and economic context during the 1990-2015 period and a basis for an assessment of Morocco's achievements in the social, economic and institutional dimensions. The report identifies the main challenges to the attainment of the MDGs, and the post-2015 priorities of Morocco.

Since 2003, the High Commission for Planning (HCP) has been in charge of drafting the monitoring reports on Morocco's achievements related to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). Six reports (2003, 2005, 2007, 2009, et 2012) have thus been drafted according to a participatory approach and in concert with the UNDP, and the other United Nations Agencies (UNFPA, WHO, UN Women, UN-AIDS, UNECA, UNICEF) on the one hand, and the relevant government departments and civil society representatives, on the other.

This procedure has been constantly improved during the drafting of each of these reports. Thus, the gender dimension was integrated starting from 2005 by adopting specific targets and by the disaggregation of indicators by sex. Two chapters devoted to the analysis of the impact of the global economic crisis as well as to the effects of climatic change on the MDGs, have been incorporated into the 2009 report. In the 2012 report, other indicators of poverty measurement have been introduced, as well as a regional comparison of different development goals.

The participatory process adopted in the drafting of these reports was also marked by the organization of workshops on the presentation of the national report in some regions (Marrakech, Tangier, Meknes, Agadir, Oujda, Fez, and Casablanca) in order to broaden the debate with the economic and social partners at the territorial level.

It is partly because of the recommendations of these workshops that the HCP, in partnership with the United Nations Agencies, has begun the drafting of four regional reports (Grand Casablanca, Souss-Massa-Draâ, the Oriental and Fez-Boulemane), after the drafting of a pilot report on the Meknes-Tafilelet region in March 2010.

A communication plan will be implemented to raise the awareness of decision-makers, NGOs and the public at large as to the results of the MDGs, and the new commitments to be taken up by our country for the post-2015 period. A wider dissemination of the documents drafted for the occasion and translated into Arabic and/or English, will be ensured to allow all users as well as the general public to learn from the lessons retained.

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Morocco between MDGs and SDGs, achievements and challenges

By Ahmed Lahlimi Alami,
High Commissioner for Planning

One year after the advent of the reign of His Majesty Mohammed VI, the Kingdom of Morocco endorsed the commitments made by heads of state and government on the sidelines of the 55th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2000 to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

As regards economic growth and human development, Morocco still continued to bear the brunt of the painful legacy of the stressful and challenging period of the debt burden inherited from the structural adjustment programs during the 80s and 90s. The launching, in the mid of these years, of a policy of economic reforms, democratization and poverty alleviation contributed only fairly to limiting the levels of these deficits.

Thus, the Millennium Development Goals have been instrumental in contributing to strengthen the stated desire of the new reign, at the dawn of its advent, to put the country on a road for a gradual adaptation process of its economic, social and institutional structures to meet the standards required by both a wealth creation pattern and a value system made universal by a triumphant globalization. The political implementation of this approach to ensure access to global competitiveness for the economy and the society has bestowed upon it the dimension of a strategy of building a community-based project to which the young King, supported by the consent and adherence of the nation's vital forces, has proceeded resolutely to volunteering His historical, constitutional and popular leadership.

Institutional and societal reforms option for global competitiveness

To ensure ownership by the economic, social and political elites, the project was preceded by an uncompromising and intensive broad debate on abuses of authority and the social and democratic deficits

which the country experienced since independence on the basis of investigative findings carried out, in full freedom, by former political prisoners themselves and by human rights activists.

It was under the auspices of such announced changes that a reform-based process was initiated with clearly stated priorities with a view to reducing social, territorial and gender disparities and to stepping up the democratization process of the institutional governance system.

Significant progress has been made on the road to achieving these goals in synergy with the emergence in the political and social arenas of new generations that are open up to the world and aspiring to upgrading their consumption models.

The state's commitment to rehabilitate, compensate and ensure social reintegration to the victims of human rights violations was fully fulfilled. Historical pluralism with special reference to the linguistic and cultural diversity as well as to the national identity was recognized and valued. Personal human rights are now on the road to greater conformity with the provisions of the conventions and protocols laid down in the field by the relevant UN agencies.

Aided by the constitutional enshrinement of the primacy of international law in the field, the free exercise of these rights enjoys the support of an independent and pluralist council and of civil society organizations committed to perform lookout duties in the area. A policy of positive discrimination has contributed to open the doors for equal access to school enrolment, especially for girls from rural areas and for women as a way forward to increasing their presence in representative institutions. The successive gains made toward equality of rights linked to gender in matrimonial, social and political matters were crowned with success with the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

The involvement of business associations, trade unions and associations of civil society in the development, implementation and monitoring of public policies has taken on a new turn and in 2011 the constitutional enshrinement, particularly through the institutionalization of social dialogue and independent institutions that are concerned with overseeing the democratization process of governance. With the political clout they carry in the Chamber of Councilors of the Parliament and the central place they occupy in the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, the independent institutions for the protection of human rights, boosting moral integrity in public life, working toward ensuring equal access to public audiovisual communication media and to other institutions of governance, these economic and social actors contribute by their knowledge and expertise to give the democratization process of the country a growing participatory scope.

The desire to consolidate the independence of the judiciary and to enhance its role in upholding the rights and freedoms of citizens led to a major reform process of the judiciary system. The process set in motion in the 1990s was consistent with an approach to promote the specialization of the jurisdictions in the areas of trade, finance, administration and the gradual repeal of courts of exception. The competence of military courts was exclusively narrowed to deal only with military personnel who could be tried in cases of having committed a service offence. This was a flagship reform in the area. The judicial reforms process culminated in the promulgation of a new Organic Law on the Higher Council of the Judiciary as provided for by the Constitution and the adoption after a wide-ranging public debate of the National Justice Sector Reform Charter.

The religious sphere, whose overriding focus on values, personal and public behavior is known in Muslim communities, has also been subjected to an institutional realignment marked by a rigorous and a clearer demarcation of its area of competence. The king's leading prerogatives in this area by virtue of His historic and constitutional status as 'Commander of the Faithful' have been upheld in view of promoting those very values of tolerance and openness which are still contributing today toward shielding Morocco and warding off any populist drift.

In addition to this, a comprehensive reform of the legal and institutional framework governing territorial authorities was adopted by Parliament in June 2015. It consecrated the concept of "Advanced Regionalization" the contents of which were further detailed by His Majesty the King in his speech of 9 March 2011, while at the same time spelling out the broad outlines of the

constitutional reform, which, in this respect, laid the groundwork for the institutional map of the Morocco of the future.

With the entry of this great reform and after the regional and communal elections organized in September 2015, public policies will be largely decentralized to the new councils and presidents of the 12 Regions of Morocco. They enjoy, in this context, large proper skills, shared or transferred, under the principle of subsidiarity in the areas of economic and social development of their regions. Benefiting, for this purpose, of strengthened financial resources, they also have new institutional frameworks for the promotion of inter-regional solidarity, and special funding mechanisms at the service of their territorial economic integration and resorption of their social deficits. Both elected by direct universal suffrage, the legitimacy of their power must be consolidated and the control by citizens of their management enhanced.

Regionalization which, in the original plan of reforms, was to be the prelude to a new constitution was, with the instability that affected the geopolitical environment of the country in the spring of 2011, relegated to second priority, in favor of the constitutional reform adopted by referendum, July 29, 2011 and where regionalization has become one of its key provisions.

The new Constitution enshrines, in its general provisions, the character "constitutional, democratic, parliamentary and social" of the Moroccan monarchy, delimits the powers of the king to his double title of Head of State and of "Commander of the Faithful", strengthens Parliament's powers and broadens the scope of the powers of government and the prerogatives of its Head. In addition to the advanced regionalization, the new constitution enshrines the social and institutional reforms implemented since the 2000s, and opens the way for a new generation of democratic advances. The participation of citizens, particularly women, youth, and various types of association of civil society in the democratic management of public policies in the economic, social and political fields, which was till then rather far "circumstantial", falls now in the constitutional base. By an innovative provision, the Constitution provides, in addition, the balance of public finances the rank of a constitutional obligation for which both Government and Parliament are held accountable. Hence, Sustainability of the economic growth model, therefore, became a national demand and a state responsibility. These provisions of economic and societal nature are therefore the budgetary and institutional reference of this model.

A Partner-based Growth model

At the turn of the new millennium, Morocco inherited a rather middle-sized economy which was both relatively diversified and uncompetitive which pushed the country, in a context marked by an international environment dominated by the competitive nature of globalized markets, to place its bets on building an inclusive growth model on the basis of economic liberalism and democracy.

Within this prospect, updating the legal and institutional frameworks of a long time centrally managed economy was fast-tracked with a view to ensuring a greater convergence for compliance with the standards that globalization had identified as prerequisites for engaging in sustainable competitiveness. The liberalization of the economy and the privatization of state-owned enterprises, which were the corollary to that and initiated in the 80s and 90s, were extended to include a growing number of economic sectors. This measure was recently extended to cover the social sectors in order to enable them to capitalize on the new opportunities arising from technology transfer, know-how and management models to take advantage of the ongoing competitive restructuring. Similarly, in the case of some strategic sectors they had the added benefit of providing the state with fresh financial resources deposited in an extra budgetary fund allocated to deal exclusively with investments. Today, the partnership with the European Union enjoys an advanced status and the Free Trade Agreements (FTA's) with the United States of America, the countries of the Middle East and Africa were, for historic and geopolitical considerations, an opportunity offered right from the beginning to Morocco to avail itself of this convergence in order to better understand its requirements and benefits.

Sustained by the resolutely expansionary nature of the fiscal policy and a particularly accommodating monetary policy, both eased at the beginning of 2000 by an outstanding comfort of the external finances, investment and final household consumption were considered as strategic growth factors of physical capital, as well as means of upgrading human capital and improving the living conditions of the population.

With an average contribution to the overall investment by the state and public enterprises accounting for 24% between 2004 and 2014 and the growing importance for the state of resources mobilized within the framework of the public/private partnerships, the government was indeed in a capacity to acquire an operational tool for the steering of sector and territorial structuring of the national economy. Focus of investment efforts on social and economic infrastructure was the central axis of this strategy to enhance the competitive assets

of the country and to promote the attractiveness of its regions. To promote efficiency, the state invoking its stated mission as a developer and a private sector, whose main objective was to maximize secure profits, their relations far tended to seek forms of concrete partnerships when engaging in strategic investments.

Prompted by the specific momentum generated by the public-private partnerships, genuine regional development clusters emerged around large federating projects, such as ports, highways, railway systems, water and energy resources development, which were developed and implemented with the participation of representative professional organizations. Urban infrastructure management plans, renovation of the architectural heritage and the living environments of imperial and satellite cities were launched within the framework of agreements reached between public and semi-public institutions and with the local governments or even, in some cases, with civil society organizations.

The economic and social activities deployed around large scale regional projects contributed very significantly to a territorial redistribution of added value in terms of jobs and incomes. They opened the way for a fresh boost to the relocation process exhibited by the national economy in favor of regions that had been marginalized for too long. In this respect, the emergence of new development centers, in the North, East and South of the country, heralded a new economic landscape of Morocco. A case in point is the Saharan provinces with investment and consumption growth rates, on an annual average, equal or even superior to those registered in other regions of the kingdom, including Casablanca-Settat and Rabat-Salé-Kénitra.

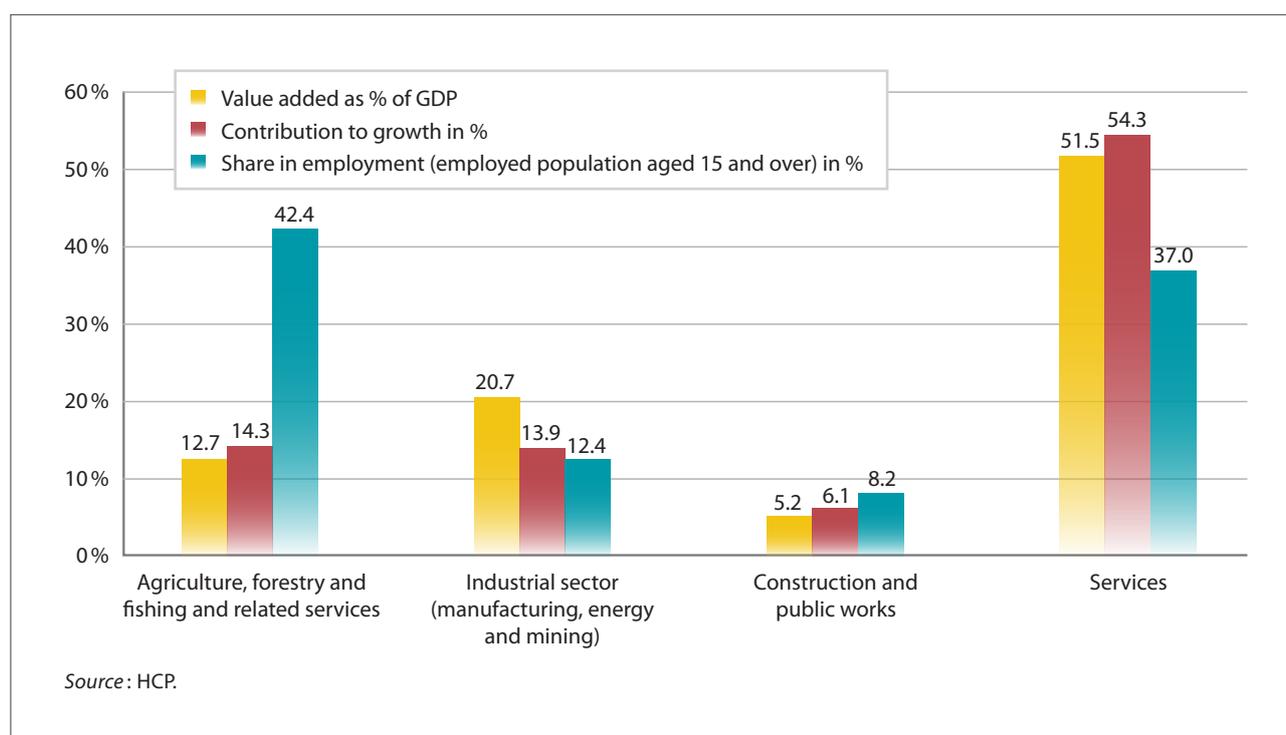
In this ongoing process of restructuring of its landscape and economic profile, Morocco invested a yearly average of 107.2% of its national savings between 1999 and 2014. With a rate of 31.7%-of the gross domestic product (GDP) rising from 25.8% in 1999 to 32.2% in 2014, Morocco multiplied the gross national investment made in value terms by more than threefold. Hence, Morocco enhanced its economy by building good quality economic and social infrastructures, which greatly contributed to improving the country's overall attractiveness, without, however, significantly changing its structures. With a contribution of 21% of total GDP, the traditional sectors of industry, mining and energy had been trending downward in terms of growth rates and their shares in exports. Recently, emerging products, such as automotive, electronics and aeronautic goods had, nevertheless, initiated a relative breakthrough in the national added value and provided an invaluable windfall to the exportable domestic supply. The fact remains that with 69.2% of

total GDP, agriculture, construction and service sectors continue to be the key drivers. These sectors are largely dominated by informal and low productivity activities, yet they are the main markers of the employment structure where they account for 87.5% of the total, with 42.7%, 36.8% and 8.1% respectively (Graph No 1).

and training. In this respect, the amount of the state budget allocated to social sectors increased from 41% to 55% between 1999 and 2014, with a proportion of 5.2% devoted on average to the health sector, 25% to education and vocational training amounting to 1.3% and 6.2% of GDP, respectively.

Graph No 1

Shares of economic sectors in GDP and employment, and their contributions to economic growth (annual average 2000-2014)



Three-quarters of jobs or what is referred to as precarious employment in terms of qualification, stability and remuneration are common to a big bulk of uneducated, seasonal or occasional male labor, subjected to a strong sectoral mobility depending on the economic situations.

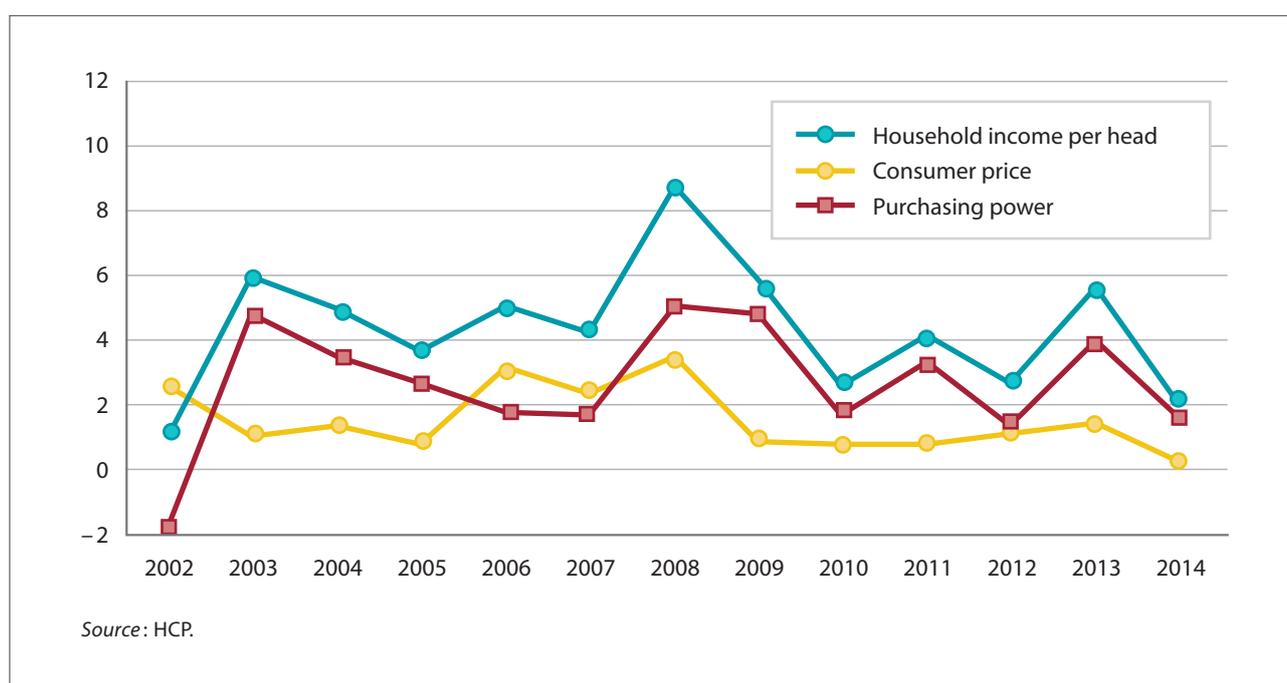
They have been, however, at the origin of 46.3% of the disposable gross national income of households, and with inflation kept at a particularly low level, a strong increase in their purchasing power. They have at the same time contributed, together with the generous fiscal policy adopted up to 2013, in terms of recruitment and payment in the public service and subsidies to consumption, to enhance access of the households to incomes, basic social services, healthcare, education

Through its integrated programs for combating poverty and vulnerability in most disadvantaged rural communes and suburban areas, the National Human Development Initiative (INDH) has provided, in this respect, an invaluable support for budgetary actions in the social sector. Combining improvement of the social infrastructures, literacy and training, support to local associations for development, and help in setting up income-generating projects by young people and women in particular, this major project designed by His Majesty the King Mohammed VI has provided since its inception in 2005 a specific added value to the dynamics underpinning income and employment distribution nationwide through the social and geographical targeting model of its poverty-reduction programs.

Under these circumstances, final consumption and investment have become the major drivers of growth contributing of approximately 73.9% and 39.6% to the economic growth rate. With a negative contribution of external demand, domestic demand has marked by its preponderance the identity of the Moroccan growth model and has heightened uncertainty about its sustainability.

climatic vagaries, posted a sustained growth rate of 4.7% compared with 0.3% in the 1990-1999 period. The rate of unemployment decreased from 13.9% to less than 10%. The gross disposable income of households improved with an overall growth rate of 6.3% per capita, compared with 5.1%. Given the change in consumer prices, kept at 1.6%, the purchasing power of the households improved by 3.5% yearly (Graph No 2). As will be explored in more

Graph No 2
Evolution of household income per capita of consumer prices and purchasing power (% change)



A shatter-proof growth model

Due to the willpower that has prevailed since the beginning of 2000 and to the dual policy of investment and consumption, the growth model, despite its potential fragility, has been able to achieve results which compare favorably with those countries of the same level as Morocco and sometimes more advantaged in terms of spatial dimensions, demographic weight and natural resources.

The annual average rate of performed investment, amounting to approximately one-third of national wealth, is one of the highest investment rates in the world. Households' final consumption expenditures grew by 4.2% a year. The economic growth rate recovered some relative strength increasing to 4.4% instead of 3% in the 90s. The primary sector, which is less subject to the

details in the chapter dealing with MDGs, poverty in all its forms has been globally overcome in urban areas and has recorded a marked decrease in rural environments. The rates of inequalities are beginning to drop and the MDGs have been achieved, or are expected to be achieved in 2015.

It was under those terms that the national economy, using the speed gained through its dynamism, managed to demonstrate a relative resilience in the face of the international crisis of 2007-2008. Dealing severe blows to the economies of the main European partners of Morocco, this crisis also affected the performances of the non-agricultural sectors of the national economy. By enduring, this impact was further aggravated by the effects of financial cutback policies and quasi- protectionist measures adopted by some countries.

During the 2008-2014 period in comparison with that of 1999-2007, the average annual performances achieved showed a marked decline. On a yearly average, growth of non-agricultural sectors decreased from 5% to 3.5% dragged down by the construction, mining and energy sectors and at a lower level by service sector, excluding the manufacturing industries which managed to maintain their growth rate (Graph No 3).

The average annual net job creation fell from 151,000 to 84,000. In addition to this, the growth rate volume of gross investment decreased by 4 points, resulting in an overall loss of 0.4 percentage points in the growth volume of domestic demand.

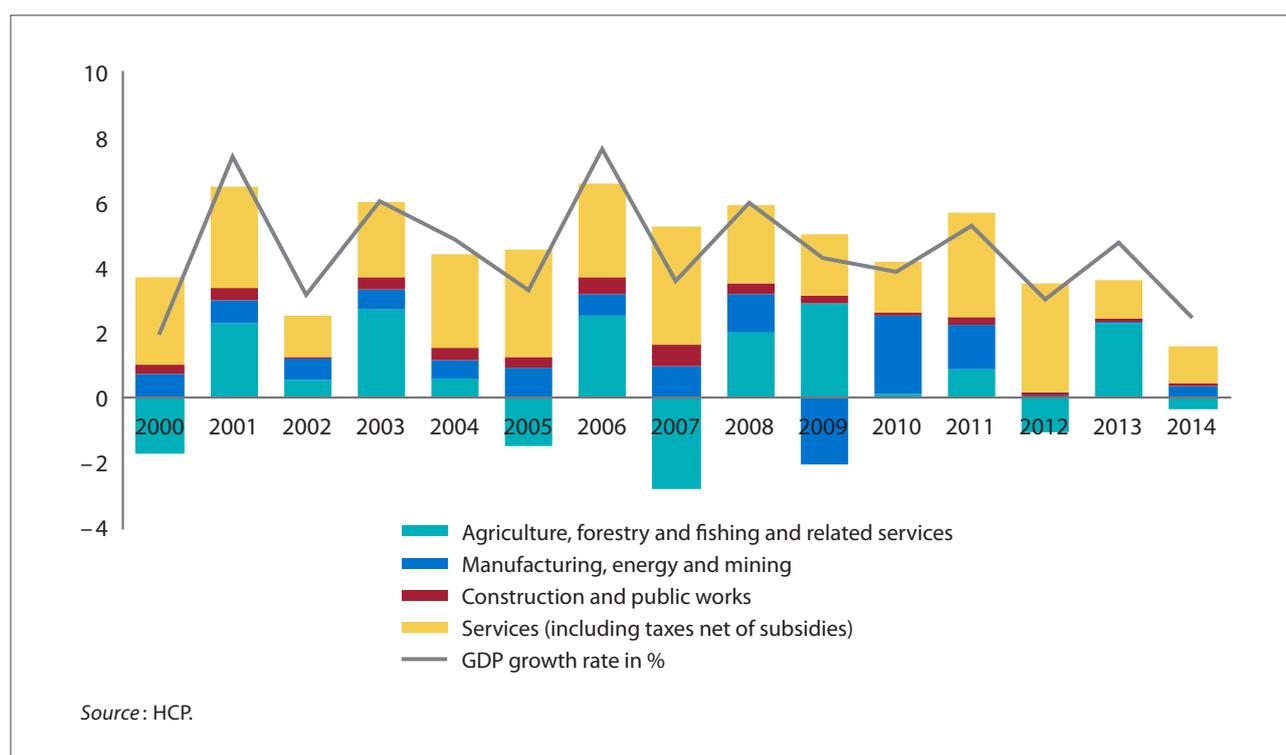
Under the circumstances, whereby domestic supply was losing ground in terms of growth rate and external market shares of exportable components, final consumption of households moved from 3.9% to 4.6% increasing pressure on trade deficit. Coinciding with hikes in the prices of basic food commodities and energy products as well as a fall in incomes from external inflows, the concomitant result was the deterioration of the public finance balances and the balance-of-payments current account reaching record deficit levels in 2012 with 6.8% and 9.5%, respectively (Graph No 4).

The international crisis has had the virtue of bringing to the fore the shortness of breath of a growth model driven by domestic demand without a competitive exportable domestic supply that can ensure ongoing sustainable financing. Aware as it is of the structural origins of these weaknesses, Morocco has embarked on an economic policy more focused on supply, particularly within the framework of a new generation of reforms which have been long overdue in order to restore the macro-economic balances, to provide adequate margins against any future deterioration of the social equilibrium and also to provide its growth model with the much needed levers to ensure greater sustainability.

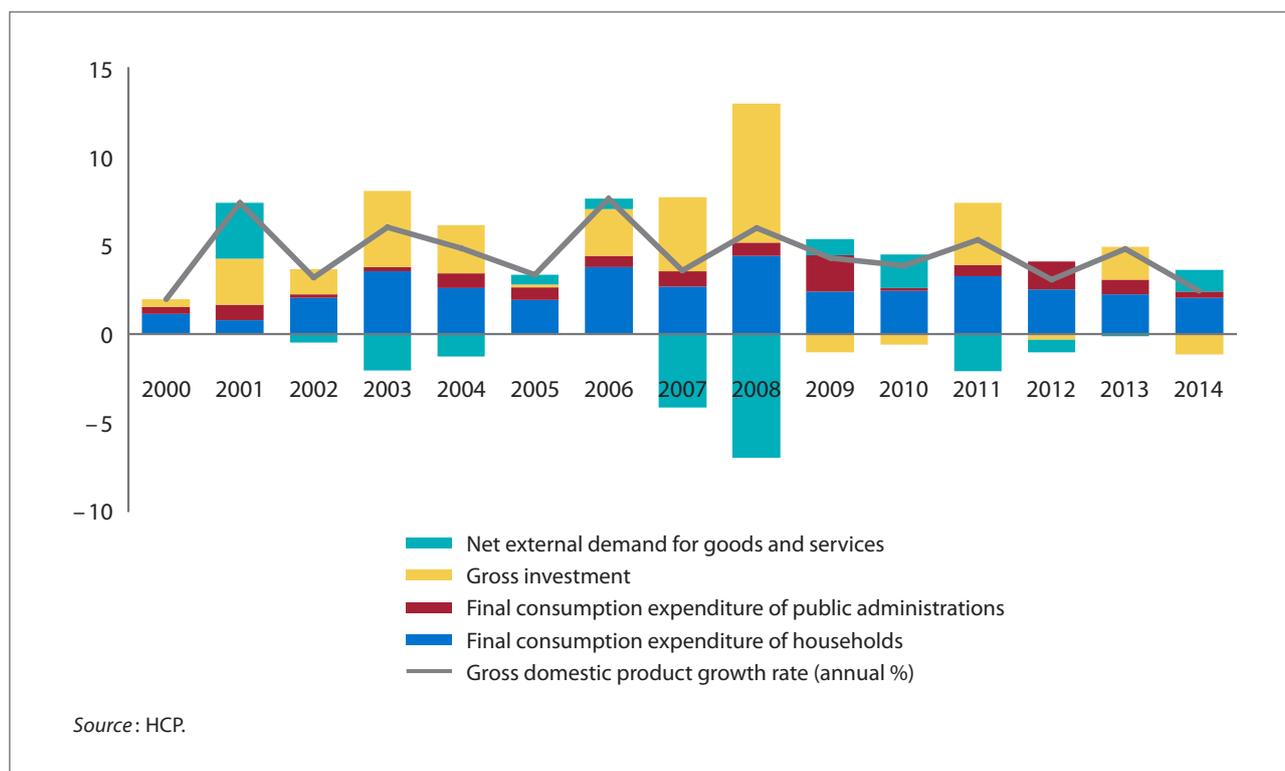
In this context, reducing the fiscal deficit, driven by the decline in the prices of energy, agricultural, and food products, has become a categorical national imperative. Subsidies to the consumption of these products have been largely removed, imports have become under rigorous control, and the reform of the pension system, partly threatened by insolvency, is on the agenda. Anticipating the rules established by the Organic Law of Finance, set out in the Constitution, the Laws of Finance should from now on be within a multi-annual nature of the budget programs, the breaking down into sector,

Graph No 3

Contribution of the production sectors to economic growth (in points of the GDP growth rate)



Graph No 4
Contribution of demand component to economic growth
(in points of the GDP growth rate)



region, and gender of policy to achieve them, and the structuring by project or action of credits devoted to their financing. Budgetary spending should become more transparent, parliamentary control more relevant and the coherence of public policies more visible. The State management expenditure continues, however, to show a big downward rigidity despite a relative tendency to rigor in recruitment policy, salaries and expenses of public administration.

In these circumstances, the budget deficit and that of the current account of the balance of payments have since 2013 taken the road to recovery, dropping, between 2012 and 2014, from 6.8% of GDP to 4.6% and from 9.5 % to 5.5 % respectively. Moreover, the debt ratio of the treasury and that of the overall public debt, both of which know an upward trend since 2009, should therefore be practically stable starting from 2015. Although these performances finds their origin partly in the major concern for budgetary control and the relative improvement in the trade balance, reflecting in particular increasing exports of Morocco's global business products, they remain also due, in large part, to the temporary favorable international

environment. Thus, Morocco has realized the low competitiveness of traditional sectors of its economy, namely agriculture, industry, mining and energy, and the economy's strong dependence on energy. This fact has become more marked with the profound changes in sectoral, technological and regional sources of competitiveness, and of the profits that the global economic environment experiences. The restructuring programs of these sectors were therefore accelerated to enhance the actual and potential comparative advantages. Thus, sectors such as agriculture, industry and energy, are experiencing a new dynamic of structural reforms, investment and mobilization of public and private initiatives.

With the agricultural development plan called "Green Morocco Plan", (PMV), the agricultural sector, which has for a long time benefited from State support in favor of hydraulic equipment much more than for agricultural development, has joined the priority sectors in terms of access to public-private partnerships. Aspiring to transpose the organizational, management, and marketing techniques of the industry to the agricultural sector, the PMV aims to ensure the country's food

security, improve the trade balance and promote technology-based packages in irrigation and use systems that helps water-saving and soil-conserving. For this purpose, the plan is built on a dual approach: the creation of large development poles to meet traditional external demand with sustainable competitiveness, and the bringing together of small and medium farms suffering from land fragmentation and farmers' weak organization in order to promote new labeled local products for new market demands.

In this context, industry has also become the central issue of the national strategy of diversification of the exportable supply and the provider of sustainable jobs. Thus, capitalizing on the experience acquired in traditional areas such as textiles, agro-industry and extractive industries, Morocco is ardently is developing ecosystems around the new global businesses, particularly in the automobile industry, aerospace, electronics, offshoring, agribusiness and phosphate by-products. This approach aims to achieve greater integration of these activities in the national productive structure and boost their competitive insertion in the international value chain.

The expected growth of 6% per year in energy demand between 2014 and 2020 and the context of high dependence on external supplies in this area, make of the energy question a strategic issue for the future of the national economy. In line with Morocco's international commitments to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), and in order to contribute to the improvement of the trade balance, the national energy development program bets on ambitious projects to exploit important national deposits in renewable hydraulic, solar and wind energy. The various program components are deployed in order to build, in the long run, a diversified energy mix where renewable energy share would increase from 4.8% of the 2014 consumption to 12.8% in 2020. Morocco's energy dependence should accordingly decrease from 93.6 % in 2013 to 86.82 % in 2020 and the share of oilproducts would also decrease from 58.4 % to 48.5%.

With the policy of diversifying its exportable supply, the advanced regionalization of its economic and social governance and the economic and societal repository enshrined in its Constitution, Morocco is poised to pave the way for the necessary sustainability of its economic growth and set up new requirements of the no less necessary sustainability of its social cohesion. The new international development agenda for the next fifteen years presents a new horizon for the country to reframe its social model in this double perspective.

Between MDGs and SDGs, achievements and challenges

While at the end of 2015, the international community makes an overall assessment of the achievements of the MDGs and draws under the banner of sustainability those of the new agenda for development, Morocco must align with the future vision of the Royal Message addressed on September 20, 2010 in New York during the UN General Assembly on the MDGs and should undertake the assessment of the achievements to be consolidated, the strengths to be valued, and the challenges to be faced with respect to the objectives set by the international development agendas. This was precisely the purpose of the national consultations on post-2015 prospects, conducted across the country on the initiative of the HCP especially, together with other governmental and nongovernmental institutions, involving a broad participation of representatives of administrations, socio-professional organizations, universities, elected representative institutions and civil society with the support of UN bodies and interested regional and international organizations.

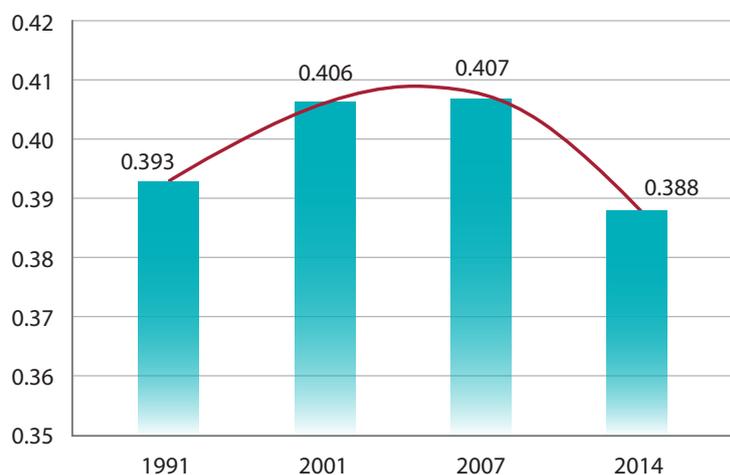
In the light of these discussions, surveys and studies carried out by the HCP, the independent institution in charge of statistics, Morocco can claim to have been able to honor its commitments under the MDGs by 2015. These objectives were, almost entirely, achieved or in the process of being achieved.

According to the preliminary data from the National Survey on Households Consumption and Expenditure, the per capita living standard improved by 3.3% between 2001 and 2014, with more favorable rates for modest and intermediate social categories. Thus, the share in the overall consumption of 10% of the least affluent households increased by 7.7 %, and the most affluent 10% falling by 5.4%. Under these circumstances, social inequalities assessed by consumption brought about, between 2007 and 2014, a first inflection of their stubborn downward rigidity. Measured by the Gini Coefficient, they decreased by 4.7% nationally (from 0.407 to 0.388). They dropped sharply by 6.8 % in urban areas and 4.8% in rural areas (Graph No 5).

The overall improvement of living standards and the reduction of social inequalities have contributed to a significant reduction of poverty and vulnerability. Extreme poverty is almost eradicated (Graph No 6).

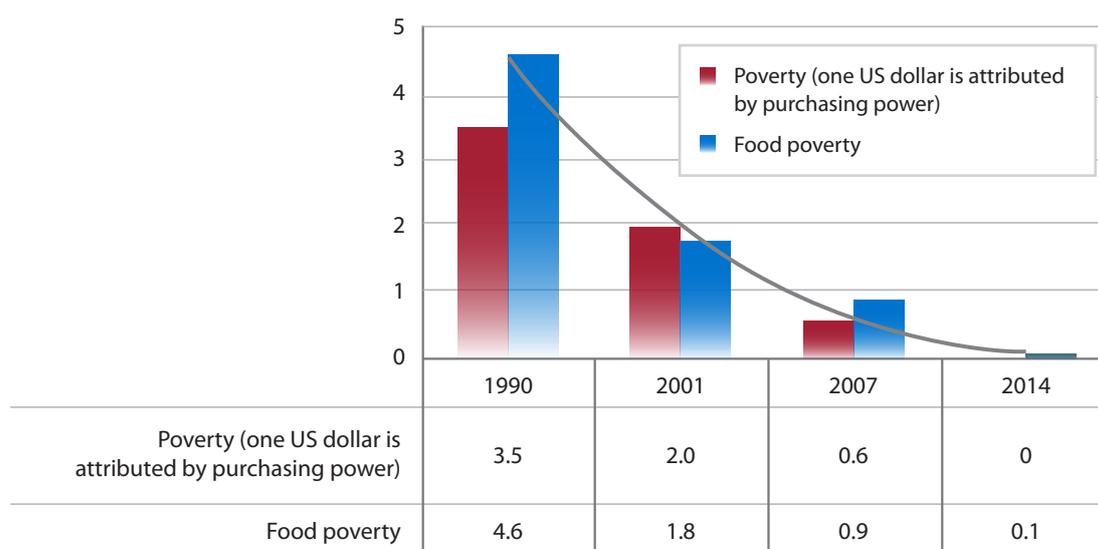
The absolute poverty rate today is not statistically significant at the national level, insignificant in urban areas and heavily dropped to 8.9% in rural areas (Graph No 7).

Graph No 5
Evolution of household consumption inequalities
 – Gini Coefficient –



Source: HCP.

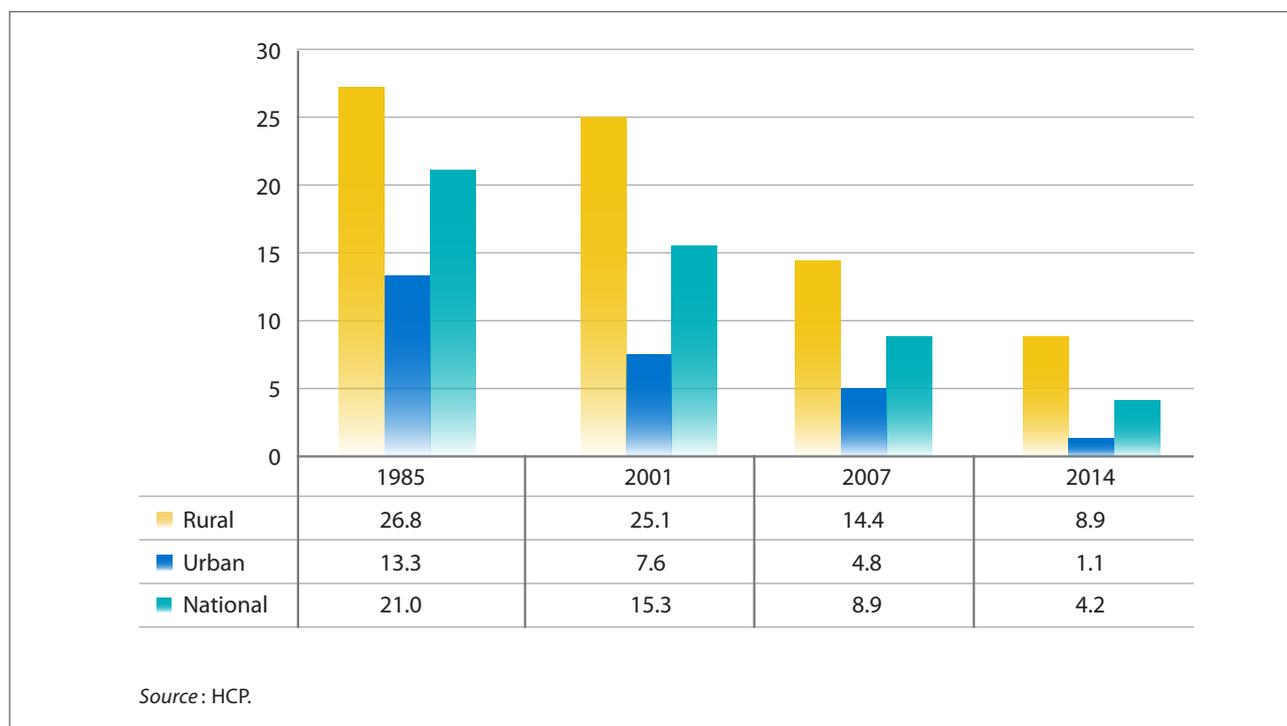
Graph No 6
Evolution of food and extreme poverty rates (in %)



Source: HCP.

Graph No 7

Evolution of the absolute poverty rate by area of residence (in %)

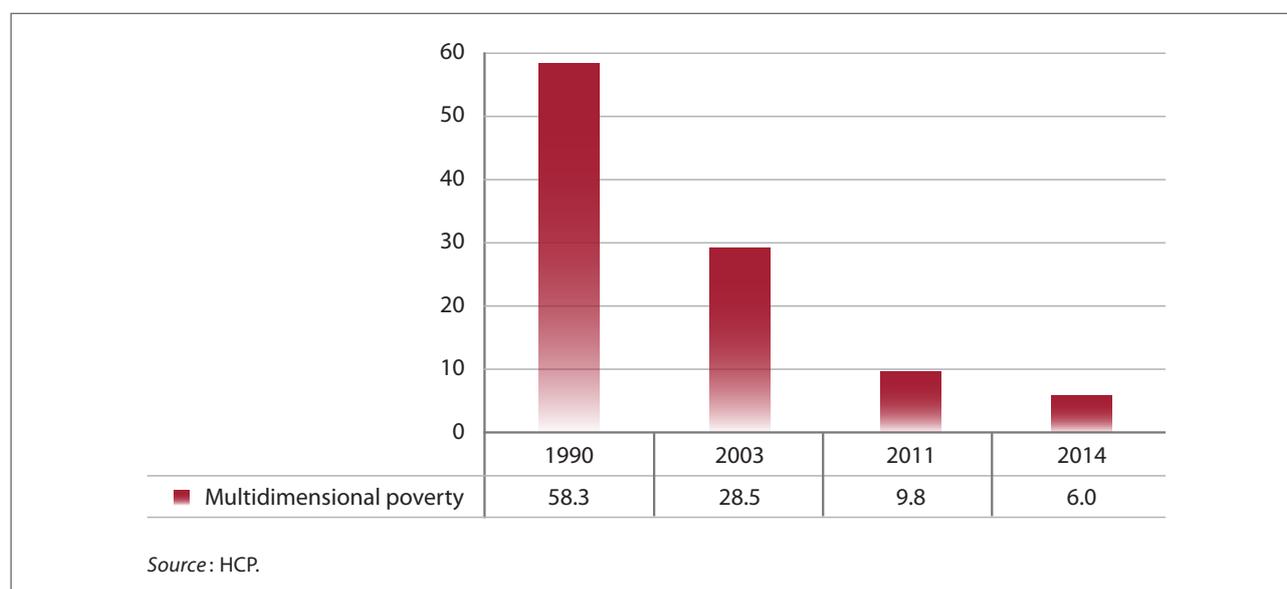


The multidimensional poverty, according to the approach adopted by UNDP called Oxford approach, with a 6% rate nationwide is without statistical significance in urban areas and heavily dropped to 13.1% rural areas (Graph No 8).

Although the vulnerability to poverty, assessed by the approach of the World Bank, is weak in urban areas with an incidence rate of 6.9%, it remains stable, despite a sharp decline in rural areas where it decreased from 30% to 18%.

Graph No 8

Trend of multidimensional poverty (in %)



Primary education is almost universal. The literacy of the population aged 15-24 years is in the process of being universalized, with a most significant improvement among girls than boys. However, the literacy rate of the age group 10 years and older is below the target set by the MDGs. At all educational levels, gender parity is almost achieved through positive discrimination, with a higher growth rate in rural areas.

Infant and child mortality decreased by 60% during the last 20 years and will be between 26.2‰ and 27.6‰ as estimated by the Inter-agency Group of the United Nations system and the HCP experts for a target of 25‰ in 2015. However, the rate of maternal mortality will have achieved the targeted goal by the end of 2015. AIDS HIV prevalence remains relatively low, indigenous malaria was eradicated together with cases of imported malaria in relatively small numbers. The incidence of tuberculosis was reduced to 82 new cases per 100,000 in 2014 against 113 in 1990.

The access of the population to drinking water and electrification was extended to a steady pace while liquid sanitation is in on track in urban areas with a rate of almost 90% in 2014, in a context where the proportion of the urban population in slums or basic housing dropped from 9.2 % in 1994 to 5.6% in 2014.

Furthermore, positive discrimination which made possible catching up with the historical delay in the education of girls in rural areas was also behind the improvement in the proportion of seats held by women in Parliament which increased from 0.7% in 1997 to 17% in 2011. This proportion should rise to 30% in local and regional authorities. Although the representation of women is relatively high at almost 40% in Government departments and in senior managers in public administration, it remains particularly weak in senior positions in ministries and among ministers.

The achievement of MDGs was set by 2015 and extends beyond it, in the international agenda for sustainable development in the context of the triple demographic, economic, and societal transition which constitutes the basic dimensions of the fundamental trends of the development process in Morocco.

A Context of Advanced Demographic Transition

With a population where people under 40 years account for more than 62 % and those less than 30 years for more than 54% , Morocco benefits from the bonus of a particularly advanced demographic transition.

Under the effect of a decline in mortality and fertility, the sharp decrease in the relative weight of the population under 15 years, from 31.2% in 2004 to 28% in 2014 and to 20.9 % expected in 2030, is one source of this bonus. The other source comes from the continuous increase until 2030 of the population at working age between 15 and 59, which is, moreover, accompanied by a decline in the population aged between 15 and 29 years, which constitutes the reproduction matrix of these numbers (Graph No 9).

Despite the gradual improvement in the level of training of this age group, the employment available has remained more accessible to the labor force with low and average educational levels, except for technicians and engineering graduates, and detrimental to labor force with general training and advanced degrees.

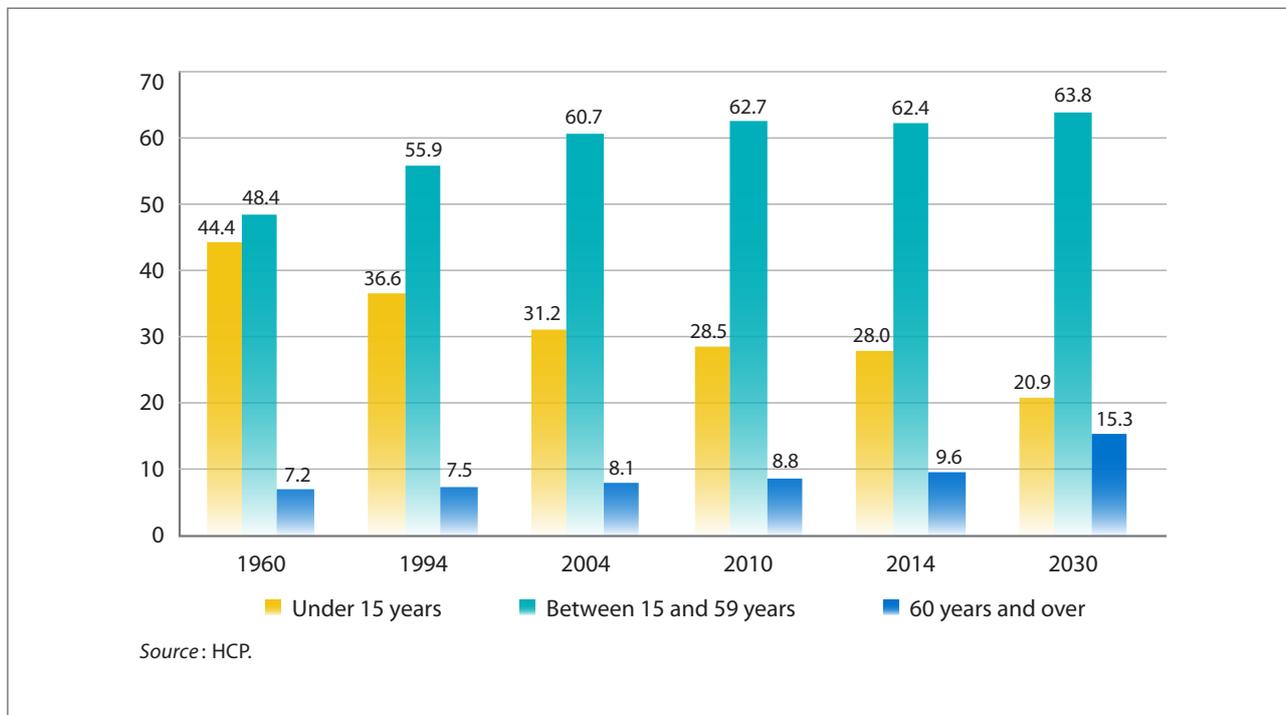
Thus, in 2013 the unemployment rate ranged from 2.3% among those who never attended school to 18.2% among those who have been schooled for 10 to 12 years. This situation improves relatively only beyond a schooling period of 17-19 years with, however, an unemployment rate of around 16%.

Such a level of valuation of a working population in the prime of age is particularly worrying in that the support of the cost of an increasingly aging population depends on the level of its productivity. With a life expectancy at birth increasing from 47 years in 1960 to almost 75 years in 2010, the number of people aged 60 and over will increase from nearly 3.3 million in 2014 to 6 million in 2030 and to 10 million in 2050. By granting people aged 60 and over increasing weight in the structure of the population, the aging phenomenon in a young society with little salaried employees becomes a growing economic and societal challenge.

The effectiveness of this potential bonus brought by the demographic transition in actual dividend to economic and human development is thus closely linked to the country's ability to reform the educational and training system in order to reduce the continuing quantitative deficits, improve internal efficiency and empower beneficiaries to adjust to an increasingly demanding labor market demand. However necessary and urgent the education reform may be, it remains insufficient without a creative domestic supply of an increasing added value and purveyor of quality jobs capable of promoting the skills acquired by a better-trained labor force. Thus, this reform should be part of the process initiated by the necessary restructuring of sectoral and technological sources for a stronger and sustainable competitiveness of its economy.

Graph No 9

Distribution of the Moroccan population by broad age group between 1960 and 2030 (in %)



The Context of an Economy undergoing Restructuring

As mentioned above, Morocco addresses the international agenda for sustainable development in an economic context marked by inflection that its growth model is experiencing, with proactive diversification of productive structures of the national economy, the strengthening of the infrastructural and institutional bases of its attractiveness and rebalancing in favor of a more endogenous way of financing of investment required for this purpose.

Also, the sustainability of achievements in terms of economic growth, accumulation of physical capital, human capital improvement and reducing inequality and poverty, being part of a preservation over time of macroeconomic balances, which has become a constitutional obligation, should be the challenge that Morocco will have to face over the next fifteen years to fulfill its commitments of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

To this end, keeping investment at the same rate levels achieved over the last 10 years should be at

the heart of this challenge to accelerate the pace of accumulation of physical capital. This implies a greater allocation of available resources to emerging economic sectors producing exportable added value and purveyors of quality employment to improve the path of economic growth and to “endogenize” funding prospects. In this context, more efficient management of their programming should also help to improve the marginal return, which remained low compared to that of countries of the same level of development, in favor of sustainable growth in the overall productivity of economy and the creation of wealth and income.

The other challenge that Morocco should face is measured by its ability to consolidate the accumulation of human capital, together with physical capital, as a lever of social and economic development. The HCP’s studies on the productivity of the national economy have shown that both the number of years of schooling and life expectancy at birth that provide information as to the efforts made by public authorities in providing education and health services, experienced significant improvement in recent years. The average number of years of education per person employed has increased by more than half (59.3%) over the last two decades, rising from 3.2 in 1991 to 5.1 in 2013, and the rate of

survival of the population aged 15-59 years was 920 per thousand in 2013, an increase of 9.6% between 1988 and 2010. Thus, the human capital index rose by 15.8% between 1991 and 2013 to be now at 2.9 at a level comparable to that of Brazil (2.6) and China (3.0) (Graph No 10).

For its part, the enhancement over time of the living standards between 2001 and 2014 should also be part of the dynamic of the pace and the rate of access of modest categories, which are poor and vulnerable, to this enhancement. The initiated trend of an inclusive economic growth with a pro-poor content should continue to mark the context of achieving the SDGs over the next 15 years.

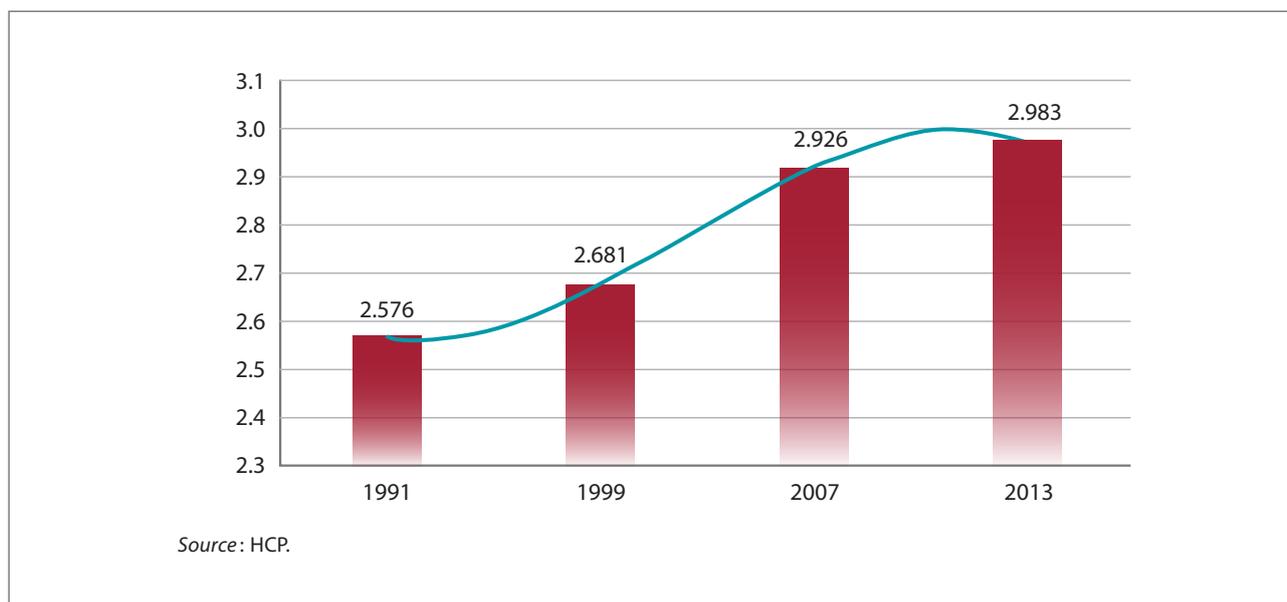
In this respect, the work undertaken by the HCP has shown that in each of the years 2000, 2007 and 2014, assuming a reduction of 1% of the inequality, the decline in poverty would have been about 2 times compared to that which an increase of 1% of economic growth would have brought about. However, the same studies show that the more poverty tends to fall, the more a sense of being poor and disproportionate perception of inequality tend to spread among several social classes and in particular the middle ones.

Reducing inequalities as the main source of perpetuation of the decline in poverty and a factor of social cohesion should thus equally be of the same priority as economic growth.

Besides, this goal has become a constitutional obligation and is part of the High Royal Instructions, addressed regularly to the Government, and in particular those relating to the promotion of the middle classes and the fair distribution of the fruits of growth in the nation's intangible capital that have been addressed in the Royal Speeches of 30 July 2008 and 30 July 2014 respectively.

The Royal Call on the public policies to adopt the INDH modus operandi in the implementation of social programs and its extension to the 29,000 territorial units selected because of their low level of human development, is part of the same approach. Several aspects have been highlighted during public meetings held to discuss post-2015 development goals. These aspects are described in the appendix of this report. Those relating to inequality between men and women and between urban and rural areas were particularly highlighted and analyzed in the same way as those on social groups in vulnerable situations. It is the case of 1.4 million people with specific needs or the 3.3 million people aged 60 and over, among whom 84% do not have pensions and 85% do not have medical coverage. The fight against the vulnerability of these social groups was considered as a permanent obligation on public policies in the social field. For their part, inequalities between men and women and between urban and rural areas, inherited from social structures and norms, were considered as examples to benefit

Graph No 10
Evolution of the index of human capital



from specific actions and positive discrimination within pro-active programs of fighting for equality of status and opportunity for all citizens.

Reducing inequality in all its forms should be in any case a decisive factor in the consolidation of social cohesion in a society with old traditions and where the values and behavior of a dominant youth are undergoing profound changes.

The Concern for a Green Economy

Faced with major “disorders” of climate change, Morocco is, regardless of the severity level of scenarios developed by the experts in this area, forced to join the effort of the international community to mitigate its effects by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to strengthen the sustainability factor of its growth and its human development.

Certainly, Morocco is a country whose greenhouse gas emissions are insignificant, its effort will have a marginal impact on global pollution level. However, the choice of a production model based on clean energy and the adaptation of sector strategies to climate change constitute for the country the way to give its growth model a sustainability perspective beside its commitment to participate in the efforts of the international community.

To this end, strategies for the initiation of a green growth in the sectors of energy, transport, industry, construction, solid waste were formulated and are in the process of being implemented. The renewable energy strategy, for example, should target the production of 6000 MW and the reduction of 18 million tons of CO₂ by 2020 through, among others things, the achievement of 42% of the installed electrical power from renewable solar, wind and hydraulic sources by 2020. The 12% energy saving by 2020 and 15% by 2030 in buildings, industry and transport is now a goal that would fit in with the ODD.

In this context, the major challenge facing Morocco would be at the heart of its ability to maximize its adaptation to the effects of climate change. This objective should be based on an integrated water resources management with a view to ensuring an upstream and downstream spacial and intergenerational solidarity favoring ecological time in planning. The reversal of the trends of degradation by reducing losses of land from 30 to 50%, and the reduction of siltation dams would help save an irrigation potential of about 10,000 hectares per year, are intended to be fully supported by the national action plan for watershed

management, the National water Plan and the national irrigation water saving plan.

Similarly, a major shift of farming models towards a greater respect for the vocation of the land and the potential of natural ecosystems implies redirecting sectoral development plans with a greater concern for sustainable development.

Finally, the sustainable management of forest ecosystems included in the guidelines of reforestation master plan, the fire-fighting master plan or in the national strategy of forest's health should know a better implementation rhythm to consolidate the current trend of recovery of these ecosystems and reach 5% by 2030.

Adaptation to the effects of drought would therefore constitute a major operational aspect of the preservation of a trend with less potential inequality between regions and generations.

The Emergence of a new Societal Context

In a context of advanced demographic transition, a growth model being restructured and the threats of climate change impacts, the process of achieving sustainable development goals is designed to be part of a context marked by the emergence in the Moroccan society of new material and cultural needs reflected with a growing weight by new social groups, particularly youth, women and civil society associations.

Analysis of the results of the demographic panel survey in 2010 had already shown, through demographic behavior, the deep transformations in the systems of values and societal behavior within a strong intermingling of populations, the effect of increasing urbanization, rapid rise of nuclear families and the persistence of strong internal and external mobility of the population, especially among the young and women. Fertility increasingly controlled was, in this respect, noted as an indicator of these mutations in that it implies personal or couples choices that break with the values of a traditional society. The latter being often pro-natalist, a high number of children, as is known, is a source of security, although in reality it is detrimental to the well-being of parents and children. A sharp drop in fertility is, in this respect, an indicator of the emergence of individualism in society with the accompanying societal, economic, and even political implications. With the breakdown of traditional solidarity frameworks that are intended to reduce the cost of the entry of young people into working life and to provide support for older people, this evolution

has a tendency to shift a population with a majority of youth within the system and the traditional elites of social and political intermediation. In a context of openness to new consumption patterns, new values and social behaviors that have become increasingly internationally hegemonic, social needs, aspirations to welfare and the cultural norms of part of this population are looking for new frames of expression and had to take on, at least for a while, a corporatist or spontaneous-like character.

In this context and as the Welfare Survey conducted by the HCP in 2012 has shown, new perspectives emerge in the perception by the population of sources to improve their living conditions. Among these, education is a priority for 78% of Moroccans, proximity to schools to 58% of them, medical coverage to 49%, proximity to health facilities for 38% and the quality of health services for 36%. Furthermore, for 60% of Moroccans, having a personal housing and for 38% having comfortable housing, are priority sources of well-being. Girls' right to respect the legal age of marriage, for example, or gender equality and participation of youth and civil society in public management, both enshrined in the constitution, have become new requirements whose failed satisfaction is at the origin of a new set of potential frustrations.

In general, the dimensions selected in the MDGs, such as access to water, electricity and schooling lose their qualitative content and the acuteness of their presence in the social demand. However, the proximity and quality of social services, the sustainability and decency of employment and income, the moralization of public life, old age support and equality of status and opportunity are requirements that are gaining momentum. In addition, new environmental concerns and sensitivities mobilize more and more civil society in creative harmony with the Royal Initiatives in the areas of renewable energy, water and forests and urban planning. The wide expression of all these aspects is accompanied, in general, with a strong desire of citizens to participate in the process of defining and leading public policy.

The 2011 Constitution has responded accurately to the emergence of this strong social demand by enshrining its democratic aspects constitutionally and by granting social groups that express it the institutional framework for dialogue, proposal and participation to make the policymakers consider them. It is to this end that, besides other provisions of economic and societal character, the constitution provided for the establishment of an Advisory Council of the Youth and Associative Action, a Council of Family and Children and the establishment of the Authority for Parity and the fight against all forms of discrimination.

The Social cohesion that this constitutionally enshrined participatory aspect is meant to strengthen should constitute as a last resort the aim of economic growth at the service of Sustainable Development Goals. This social cohesion must find the basis of its strength and the factor of its sustainability in a double process of decreasing position inequality and inequality of opportunity. The decline in position inequality should be reflected in a fair way of distributing the fruits of growth and a democratic functioning of the social dialogue, which has also become a constitutional requirement. The decrease of opportunity inequalities would remain dependent on a staffing strategy for all citizens regardless of their class affiliation, sex and area of residence with an equal capacity to have access to knowledge and power.

In this respect, all the studies conducted by the HCP on poverty, vulnerability, inequality and social mobility happened to agree that unequal access to education and training is at the heart of inequality of opportunity. It penalizes economic integration, enhances the reproduction of poverty and inequality and reduces the propensity to participate in the institutions and weakens confidence in the efficiency of their powers. Economically, it appears that an additional year of education improves the earnings of employees by 9.6% on average, with 2.4% for junior high school-level, 9.6% for high school level, and 11% for higher education level (Graph No 11).

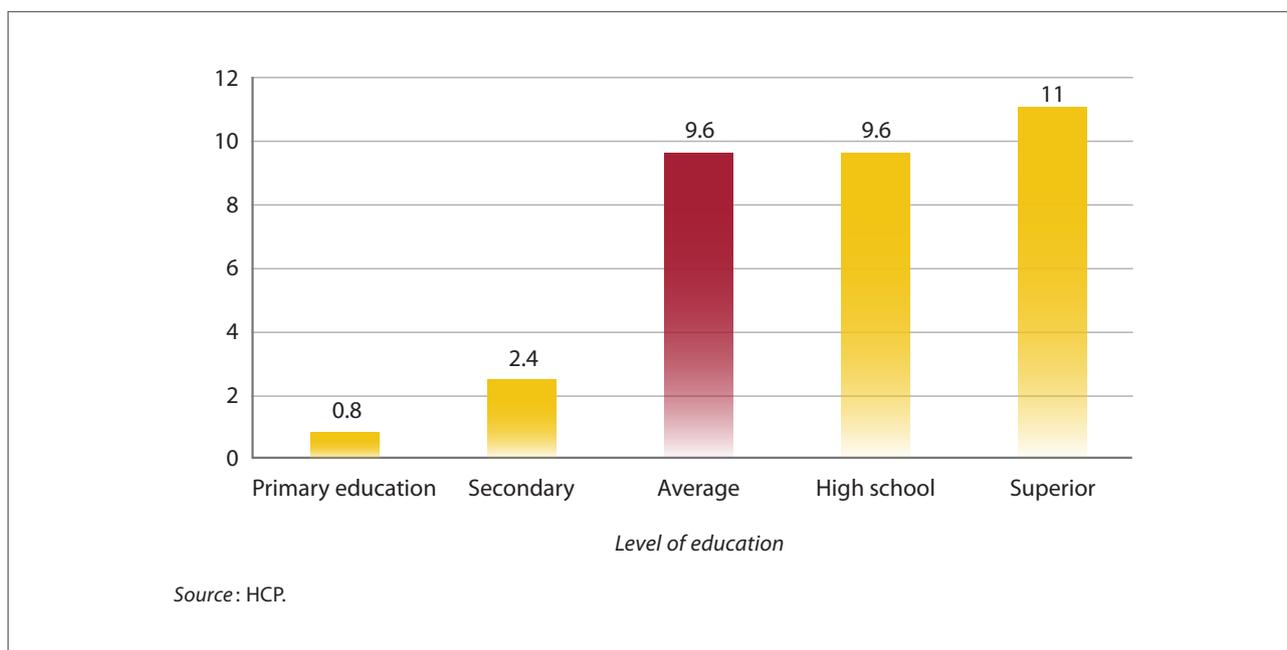
In terms of social mobility, with the same age, area of residence, education level and social origin, a worker with a level of basic education is 1.6 times more likely to achieve an upward social mobility than their "uneducated" counterpart. The odds ratio is 4.6 times for people with a secondary education level and 16.2 times for those with higher education.

Under these conditions, the major reform of the educational and training system, by enshrining the compulsory nature of preschool education, positive discrimination in access to education by children from disadvantaged backgrounds and people with disabilities or in vulnerable situations, and strengthening the private sector contribution to the effort of making education universal should make Moroccan school one of fairness and equality of opportunity.

It should be recalled, however, that if education is, as noted above, a key factor in improving the income of individuals and in the fight against inequality, it is still true that in terms of employability the number of years of education today tends to be accompanied by a rise in unemployment and its duration, especially among the graduate labor force. In scientific and technical areas, the unemployment rate increases until the 9th grade

Graph No 11

The average yield for one year by level of education and training in 2013 (in %)

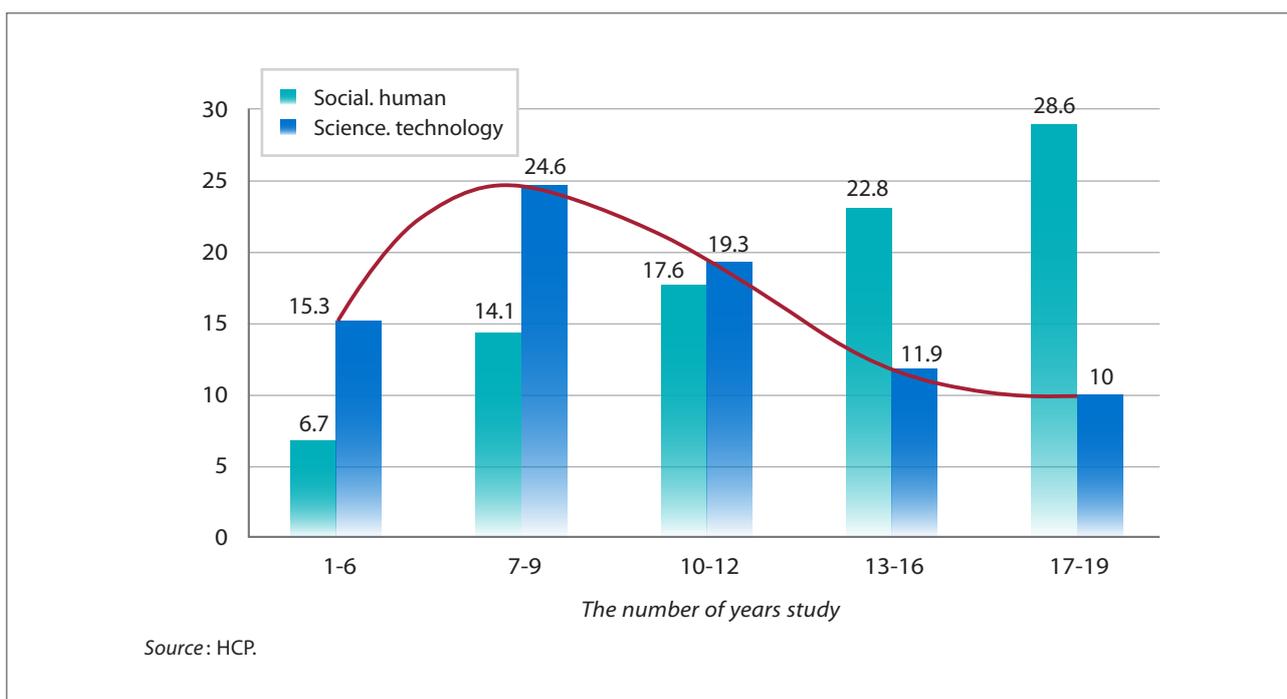


to reach 24.6%. Beyond this level of education, the unemployment rate declines as the number of years of

schooling increases to stabilize at 10% for more than 16 years of education (Graph No 12).

Graph No 12

The unemployment rate by area and duration of training in 2013 (in %)



This paradox can be explained by the weak diversification of sectors of high added value and purveyors of quality and well-paid jobs capable of better using the skills acquired by available human resources. Morocco is thus destined to succeed in its planned promotion of a successful educational and training system liable to anticipate the needs of an economy being restructured

and achieve by a high level of internal and external performance the necessary adjustment of supply and demand of employment as a factor of growth sustainability, productivity and strengthening of social cohesion.

A. LAHLIMI

Achievement
of
Millennium Development Goals

by
Goal



Goal 1

Reduce Extreme Poverty and Hunger

The fight against poverty constitutes a major line in public policy, as evidenced by the substantial State budget allotted to the social sectors, and the strengthening of protection mechanisms and social assistance. This policy has had a positive impact on the evolution of poverty in all its dimensions, as well as on the decline of social inequalities. However, the consolidation of the decline of inequalities, experienced between 2007 and 2014, constitutes a real challenge for the preservation of the achievements in the field.

1. Monetary Poverty Trend 1990-2014

From 1991 to 2014, Morocco has practically put an end to low threshold absolute poverty and reduce, in high proportions, high-threshold absolute poverty, both measured according to the High Commission for Planning (HCP) threshold and the one set by international institutions (table No 1 below).

Extreme Poverty

The Eradication of extreme poverty: Morocco has reduced the rate of poverty, measured by US\$ 1 PPPs per day and per person, from 3.5% in 1985 to a level practically statistically insignificant (near zero) in 2014, against a targeted value of 1.8% up to the 2015 MDGs (Graph No 13). In urban as in rural areas, this kind of poverty is practically eradicated. At a threshold of US\$ 2 PPPs per day and per person, poverty affected in 2014 not more than 1.3% of Moroccans, 0.3% of whom are urban dwellers and 2.9% are rural dwellers.

Eradication of hunger: the proportion of the population below the minimum level of nutritional intake, measured by the rate of nutritional poverty¹, has been, in turn, reduced from 4.6% in 1985 to 0.1% in 2014, for a targeted value of 2.3% in 2015. In 2014 only 0.6% of rural dwellers were in a situation of nutritional poverty. In cities, hunger is practically eradicated.

¹ The nutritional poverty threshold is measured by the cost of a basket of goods and food services ensuring the minimum level of dietary consumption required by the standard recommended by the FAO and the WHO. The minimum level of dietary consumption required per person and per day has been established by applying the chart of recommended dietary needs (Recommended Daily Allowance, FAO-WHO) to the structure of the population according to sex, age, and women's situation during pregnancy and breastfeeding.

Reduction by 65.6% of the incidence of underweight: the incidence of underweight among children under the age of five, indicator of weight deficiency in relation to age, has been reduced by about 2/3 between 1992 and 2011. This reduction has been fully noted between 2003 and 2011. Between 1992 and 2003, the proportion of children in a state of underweight has risen from 9.0% to 10.2%. It was between 2003 and 2011 that it diminished to a level (3.1% in 2011) exceeding the targeted value by 4.5% up to the 2015 MDGs. This drop has benefited for both rural dwellers and urban dwellers, and to both boys and girls as well (table No 1 below).

In short, extreme poverty indicators, just like those of hunger, reach statistically insignificant levels in 2014. That is to say, from now on the monitoring of absolute poverty should be based on a national threshold² (a threshold of absolute poverty of US \$ 2.4 PPPs per day and per person and the susceptibility poverty threshold of US\$ 3.6 PPPs per day and per person in 2014), and also on new poverty lines measured by fractions of the median of consumer spending.

Absolute Poverty

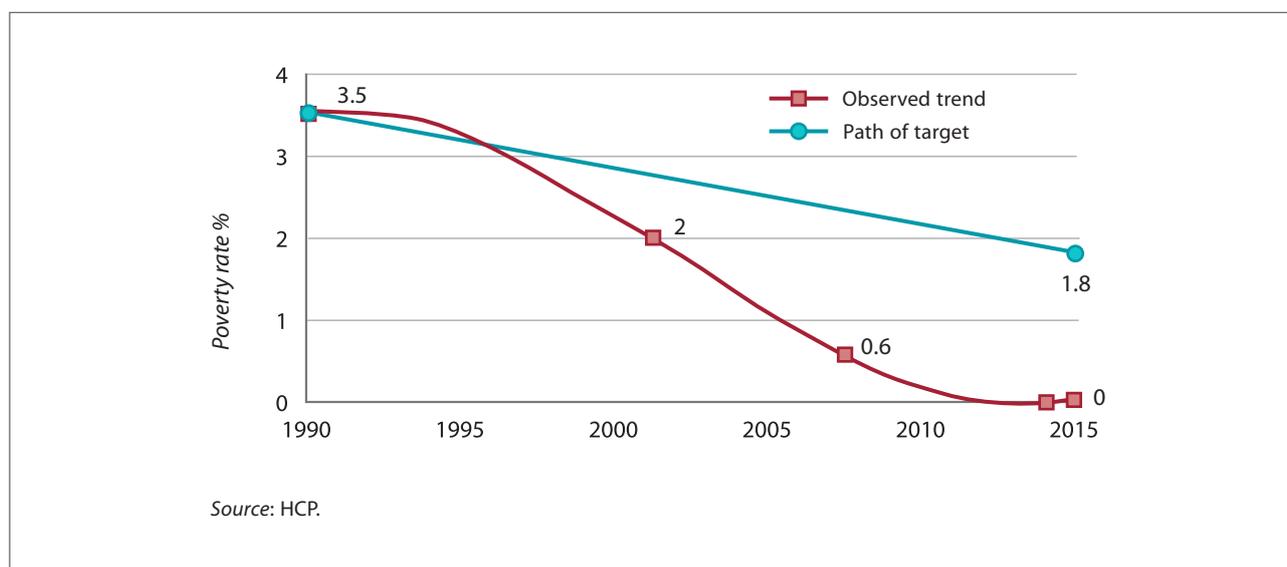
Reduction by more than two-thirds of poverty measured by the national threshold: absolute poverty, measured by the high national threshold³, has presented an upward trend during 1990s. It was only starting from 2001 that this trend was reversed resulting in a sustained down-trend during the 2000s and 2010s.

² The national threshold is just above the international threshold set in 2005 to US\$ 2 PPPs per day and per person.

³ The High Commission for Planning – Morocco (HCP) measures the absolute poverty threshold in conformity with the standards of the FAO-WHO (the dietary component) and the World Bank estimation method, and the non-dietary component of this threshold. In 2014, the absolute poverty threshold– high threshold– is established in 4395 DH per person and per year for city-dwellers, and in 4266 DH for rural dwellers. It is worth an average of US\$ 2.5 PPPs per day and per person (US\$ 1 PPPs = 4.88 DH). Any household whose spending per head is between the absolute poverty threshold and 1.5 times this same threshold, is said to be vulnerable. It is a population that is not poor, but which runs a high risk of being poor. It is worth noting that absolute poverty– the high threshold– has risen from 13.1% in 1991 to 16.3% in 1999.

Graph No 13

Evolution of proportion (%) of population living on less than U.S 1 \$ PPPs per day



Indeed, between 2001 and 2014:

- The absolute poverty rate has been reduced by more than two-thirds:
 - by 72.5% on the national level, going from 15.3% to 4.2%;
 - by 85.5% in urban areas, from 7.6% to 1.1%,
 - and by 64.5% in rural areas, from 25.1% to 8.9%.
- The vulnerability rate⁴ has decreased by more than 40%:
 - by 49.6% on the national level, going from 22.8% to 11.5%;
 - by 58.4% in urban areas, from 16.6% to 6.9%;
 - and by from 39.7% in rural areas, from 30.5% to 18.4%.

In total, 5.3 million Moroccans in 2014 were in a situation of absolute poverty (1.4 million) or in a situation of vulnerability (3.9 million). For a demographic weight of 40%, rural areas count 85.0% of poor people and 64.0% of vulnerable people.

For its part, relative poverty, measured by 60% of the median consumer spending per capita, has dropped on the national level from 22.0% to 18.8% between 1990 and 2014. It has stagnated close to 10.0% in urban areas against a light decrease from 32.6% to 31.3% in rural

areas. It is worth noting that the poverty threshold set this way rises with household income.

In sum, whatever the threshold, poverty has been significantly reduced in Morocco. This trend has been corroborated by the decline of multidimensional poverty.

Multidimensional Poverty, 1990-2014

Like monetary poverty, multidimensional poverty (MP) assessed by the UNDP adopted approach, called the Oxford approach⁵, or according to the Alkire-Foster approach is in rapid decline in Morocco. Its trends indicate significant progress with respect to living conditions.

The MP rate has decreased between 1992 and 2014 by:

- 78.9% on the national level, going from 58.3% to 6.0% ;
- 84.5% in urban areas, from 25.8% to 1.3% ;
- and by 75.8% in rural areas, from 84.3% to 13.1%.

In sum, MP tends toward eradication in urban areas. In rural areas, although it still affects a little more than one in ten people, it is decreasing. In 2014, nearly 2.015 million Moroccans were living in multidimensionally poor households, 87.3% of whom are rural dwellers.

⁴ It should be recalled that it is the proportion of the population whose consumption per capita is between 1 and 1.5 times the absolute poverty national threshold.

⁵ Source: Sabina Alkire & James Foster (2008): "Counting and Multidimensional Poverty Measurement". OPHI, working paper series.



Subjective Poverty

Since 2007 the HCP has established the measurement of felt poverty, called subjective poverty, on a spectrum of welfare⁶ classifying households according to whether they consider themselves very rich, relatively rich, average, relatively poor, or very poor.

In 2014, 42.3% of Moroccans consider themselves in a situation of poverty, 37.9% in urban areas and 49.0% in rural areas. Seven years earlier, in 2007, the rate of subjective poverty was 39.3% on the national level, 37.3% in urban areas and 42.0% in rural areas.

It is true that subjective poverty affects all social classes, but on different levels⁷. Its incidence is also higher among the households in a situation of monetary (income) poverty and/or of multidimensional poverty and of vulnerability.

2. Inequality Trends between 1990 and 2014

The decline in monetary poverty forms in Morocco between 1990 and 2014 resulted mainly from the economic growth and the widening of access to services and social facilities, and from the decrease in social inequalities starting from 2007.

In fifteen years, from 2001 to 2014, consumption per capita knew a significant rise (3.3% per year), going, in constant DH, from 10,286 DH to 15,609 DH. This rise in consumption⁸ constitutes, together with the fall in multidimensional poverty and the decline of social inequalities between 2007 and 2014, the main factor in the reduction of absolute poverty during the period. In 2014, the Gini coefficient was 0.388, lower than in 2007 (0.407) or in 2001 (0.406) and in 1985 (0.399).

Furthermore, the downtrend in inequalities is accompanied by an increase of their impact on poverty⁹. In 2014, a rise by 1% in inequalities would have nullified the effect on poverty by 2.4 percentage points of economic growth against 2.0 percentage points de at the end of 2000s, whence the drop or at least the stabilization of inequalities in the fight against poverty.

According to the distribution model, the very wealthy 10% added up more than 30% of the total of household's consumption throughout the 1990-2014 period. As for the less wealthy 10%, the year 2014 shows for the first time an improvement of their share in consumption (2.8%) against a stagnant rate (2.6%) between 1985 and 2007.

This reallocation of resources for the benefit of the less wealthy also involved the less wealthy 50% of the population who improved their share in consumption expenditures from 23.4% in 2001 to 23.6% in 2007, and to 24.5% in 2014.

In sum, the decrease in inequalities and the fall of incidence in types of poverty and in vulnerability show that the economic growth achieved between 2007 and 2014 has been an inclusive growth. It has profited the poor and vulnerable more than the non-poor groups (pro-poor growth)¹⁰.

On the territorial level, the rural-dwellers record in 2014 a rate of poverty significantly higher than that of urban-dwellers, 10 times for multidimensional poverty, and 9.8 times for absolute poverty¹¹. Although these discrepancies are still significant, they have undergone a sustained decrease since 1990, which will be necessarily activated in the years to come (Graph No 14).

⁶ This scale is based on the following question, addressed to heads of households: "In which social status would you classify your household in comparison with what predominates in your social environment: among the very rich, the relatively rich, the average, the relatively poor, or the very poor?"

⁷ In 2014, the rate of felt or subjective poverty was 61.7 % among humble classes (whose per capita expenditure is lower than 75% the median of per capita consumption spending), 37.7% among the middle classes (whose per capita spending is between 75% and 2.5 times the median of per capita consumption) and 9.4% among the wealthy classes (whose spending per capita is higher than 2.5 times the median of per capita consumption spending).

⁸ The growth-poverty elasticity shows that growth has an increasingly notable impact on the reduction of poverty: an economic growth of 1% gave rise to a reduction of poverty rate by 2.7% in 2001, 2.9% in 2007, and 3.9% in 2014.

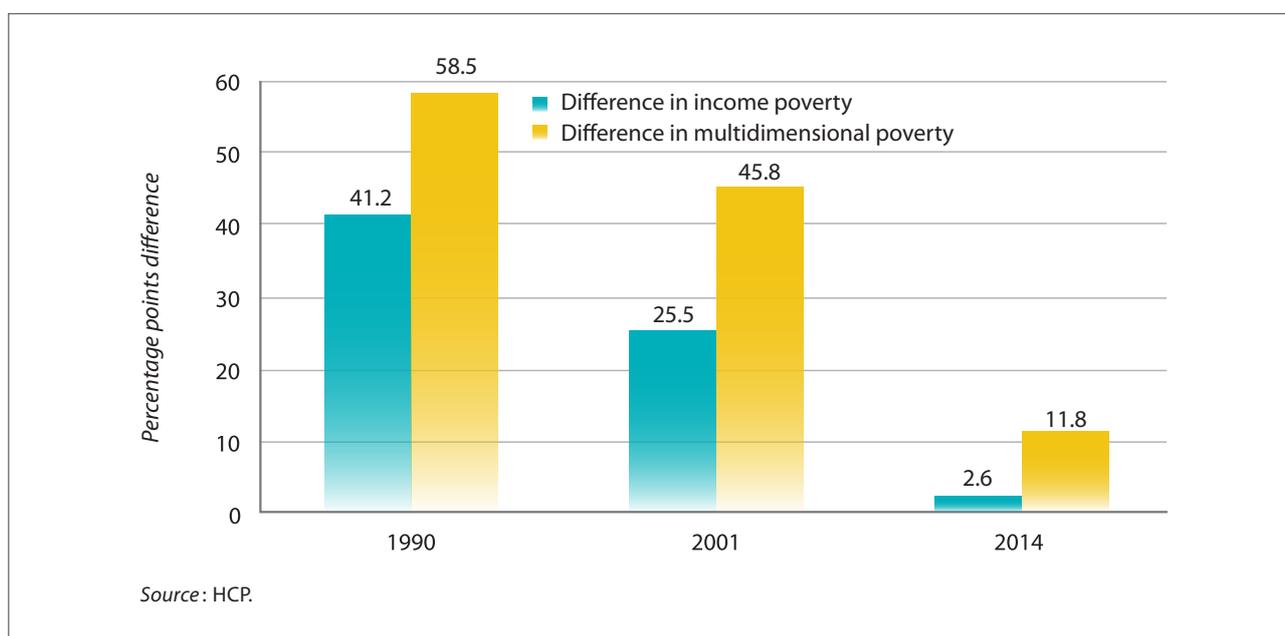
⁹ A rise in inequalities by 1% occasioned a rise of poverty by 2.6% in 1985, by 4.1% in 2001, by 5.9% in 2007, and by 10% in 2014.

¹⁰ The average annual growth in expenditure per capita between 2007 and 2014 is estimated to 3.9% for humble classes, 3.6% for middle classes, and to 2.4% for wealthy classes.

¹¹ Monetary poverty is measured by the threshold of US\$ 2 PPPs; Multidimensional poverty according to the Alkire-foster approach.

Graph No 14

Difference [Rural-Urbain] between income and multidimensional poverty rates (in %)



3. Major Challenges in the Fight against Poverty and Inequality

The heavy trends in the living conditions of the population show that high threshold absolute poverty and multidimensional poverty tend towards eradication in urban areas, but remain despite their strong decrease quite significant in rural areas. They operate in a context marked by a reversal in the rise of social inequalities, and a significant incidence of felt poverty, especially among the humble and middle classes. Three challenges ensue from this:

- **The first challenge is to activate the decline of social inequalities.** The decrease in inequalities observed between 2007 and 2014 constitutes the first inflection of its rigidity to drop, recorded since the 1990s, and thus constitutes an achievement of Morocco in the fight against poverty and vulnerability. This decrease in inequalities constitutes not only a support in decreasing poverty and vulnerability, but also a broadening and a strengthening of middle classes¹².

¹² The fourth national MDGs report in Morocco (HCP, 2009) indicates in turn that the minimization of social and territorial inequalities stem not only from the geographic targeting of public resources, but also from an ascending social mobility centered on lower and central income ranges.

- **The second challenge is to mitigate “felt poverty” by relieving its causes including those attributed to low levels of education and training, employment insecurity, and to financial and social insecurity hereafter.** These recent years the proportion of Moroccans who felt poor has been insensitive to qualitative and quantitative changes that the country is experiencing in connection with living conditions, including those assessed in terms of monetary or multidimensional poverty; whence the interest of a reshaping of the fight against poverty, prioritizing, together with Medical Assistance Scheme for the Economically Disadvantaged (RAMED) and INDH, the equality of opportunities in the development of human capabilities, decent work, social protection, and financial security.
- **The third challenge is to activate the pace of the decrease of vulnerability and of the different aspects of poverty in rural areas** in such a way as to make the urban-rural gap in relation to the living conditions socially tolerable.

4. Axes for Fighting Poverty and Inequality

The decline in monetary and multidimensional poverty between 1990 and 2014 results just as much from the reinforcement of public investments in social



Reduce Extreme Poverty and Hunger

development as from geographic and social targeting of socio-economic programs dedicated to poor populations and poor areas.

On the level of public investments, the share of social sectors in the general budget has known an increase by 51.1% between 1994 and 2014, going from 36% to 54.4%. This increase has benefited more to the sectors of education and health whose budget has increased by more than three times during that period.

On the level of socio-economic programs targeting deprived areas and populations, there is, among other things, the National Initiative for Human Development (INDH) and the Medical Assistance schema for the Economically Disadvantaged (RAMED).

In fact, the launching of INDH in 2005¹³ and the generalization process of RAMED in 2013 give further impetus to the development dynamic and to the process of the fight against absolute and human poverty. The INDH is today in its second phase, 2011-2015¹⁴, marked by the mobilization of a budget of 17 billion DH, as well as by a broadening of targets to cover 702 rural districts and 532 urban neighborhoods. It was conceived to reinforce government and local authorities action and to target the most deprived rural districts and urban neighborhoods based on poverty maps (HCP, 2004 and 2007). In turn, the RAMED, generalized in 2013, consists in taking over partly or totally the medical care provided by hospitals and public health institutions to poor and vulnerable populations as determined by the HCP.

Along with this, Morocco created in 2012 the Support Fund for social cohesion aimed at financing and reinforcing social actions that target populations in a difficult situation (precariousness and social exclusion, schooling support, and the fight against school drop-out), taking over of people with special needs, and financing RAMED. Likewise, a community outreach program has been adopted. It consists in financing projects championed by associations that mainly involve income-generating activities, employment, and basic infrastructure.

Other programs and sectoral strategies contribute today in the fight against poverty. For example, in the agricultural sector, the Green Morocco Plan (GMP) whose second Pillar, dedicated to solidarity-based agriculture, envisions an approach oriented toward the fight against poverty by significantly increasing the agricultural income of most vulnerable farmers, especially in unfavorable areas relying on rain-fed agriculture.

¹³ In the first phase of 2005-2010, it has carried out more than 22 thousand projects and development actions, among them 3700 income-generating activities for the benefit of more than 5.2 million recipients for a global investment amount worth 14.1 billion DH.

¹⁴ In the second phase of 2011-2015, it planned to carry out more than 18,600 projects and development actions, among them 4,300 income-generating activities for the benefit of more than 4 million recipients for a global investment amount worth 17.6 billion DH.

Table No 1
Evolution of MDG1 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	Disaggregation	1990	2001	2007	2014	2015 target value	
Target 1 Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people whose income is less than one US\$ a day in PPPs	Proportion of the population living on less than US\$ 1 per day in PPPs (%)	All	3.5	2.0	0.6	(*) —	1.8	
		Male	3.5	2.0	0.5	—	—	
		Female	3.5	2.0	0.6	—	—	
		Urban	1.2	0.3	0.1	—	—	
		Rural	5.7	4.0	1.2	—	—	
	Poverty gap index	All	0.0271	0.0346	0.0192	0.0064	—	
Target 1 second Achieve productive employment and decent work for all, including women and youth	Labor force participation rate of the population aged 15 and over	All	—	51.3	51.0	48.0	—	
		Male	—	77.9	76.1	72.4	—	
		Female	—	25.2	27.1	25.2	—	
	Proportion of the population living on less than \$1 PPPs per day (in %)	All	2.4	1.2	0.3	0.0	—	
		Proportion of own-account workers in total employment	All	—	25.8	24.4	27.4	—
			Male	—	30.6	29.0	32.3	—
	Female		—	12.1	12.2	14.5	—	
	Proportion of contributing domestic workers in total employment in %	All	—	31.1	26.8	22.4	—	
		Male	—	22.9	16.8	12.5	—	
		Female	—	54.5	53.1	49.2	—	
	Target 2 Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger	Proportion of underweight children under five years of age (%)	All	(1992) 9.0	(2003) 10.2	—	(2011) 3.1	4.5
			Male	9.5	10.4	—	3.6	—
Female			8.4	10.0	—	2.6	—	
Urban			3.3	6.5	—	1.7	—	
Rural			12.0	14.0	—	4.5	—	
Proportion of population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption (%)		All	(1985) 4.6	1.8	0.9	0.1	2.3	
		Male	4.6	1.8	0.8	0.05	—	
		Female	4.6	1.8	1.0	0.07	—	
		Urban	2.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	—	
		Rural	6.2	3.7	2.0	0.2	—	
Target 3 Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of the population whose income is less than US\$ 2 a day in PPPs (%)	Proportion of population earning less than US\$ 2 per day in PPPs (%)	All	(1985) 30.4	20.2	8.2	1.3	15.2	
		Urban	13.3	8.7	3.6	0.3	—	
		Rural	54.5	34.2	14.3	2.9	—	
Target 4 Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of the population living in absolute poverty and vulnerability	High threshold absolute poverty rate (%)	All	(1985) 21.0	15.3	8.9	4.2	10.5	
		Urban	13.3	7.6	4.8	1.1	—	
		Rural	26.8	25.1	14.4	8.9	—	
	Vulnerability rate (%)	All	(1985) 24.1	22.8	17.5	11.5	12.05	
		Urban	17.6	16.6	12.7	6.9	—	
		Rural	29.2	30.5	23.6	18.4	—	



Reduce Extreme Poverty and Hunger

Targets	Indicators	Disaggregation	1990	2001	2007	2014	2015 target value
Target 4 second Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of the population living in multidimensional or subjective poverty	Poverty rates drawn at 60% threshold of median consumption expenditure per capita	All	22.0	20.4	19.4	18.8	—
		Urban	10.0	8.9	10.3	10.5	—
		Rural	32.6	35.0	31.2	31.3	—
	Multidimensional poverty rate- Alkire-Foster approach	All	(1992) 58.3	(2003) 28.5	(2011) 9.8	6.0	—
		Urban	25.8	8.4	2.3	1.3	—
		Rural	84.3	54.2	20.2	13.1	—
	Subjective poverty rate	All	—	—	39.3	42.3	—
		Urban	—	—	37.3	37.9	—
		Rural	—	—	42.0	49.0	—
Target 5 Halve, between 1990 and 2015, consumption expenditure inequalities	Share in total expenditure of the less wealthy 50% of population (%)	All	(1985) 24.2	23.4	23.6	24.5	—
		Urban	23.5	24.2	23.7	24.8	—
		Rural	28.8	28.7	27.7	29.0	—
	Share in total expenditure of the very wealthy 10% of population (%)	All	(1985) 31.7	32.1	33.1	31.3	—
		Urban	31.8	30.9	33.7	30.6	—
		Rural	25.3	25.9	25.9	25.4	—
	Share in total expenditure of the less wealthy 10% of population (%)	All	(1985) 2.6	2.6	2.6	2.8	—
		Urban	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.9	—
		Rural	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.5	—

Source : HCP, NSHCE 1985, 2001 et 2014, NSHSL 2007, NSPFH 1992 et 2003-04 et NSE 2001, 2007 et 2014.

(*) The poverty rate measured by \$1 PPPs for the year 2014 is statistically insignificant.

NSHCE : National survey on household consumption and expenditure ;

NSHSL : National survey on household standard of living;

NSPFH : National survey on population and family health;

NSE : National survey on employment.

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity	X		
Recent information quality	X		
Statistical Capacity building	X		
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	X		

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Goal 2

Achieve Universal Primary Education

The main goals of education policies initiated since independence were to improve access to the educational system and training, and to improve their quality. Since 1990, new approaches in the development of the educational system have been adopted. They are based mainly on seeking effectiveness, the rationalization of means, devolution and the involvement of new partners.

The educational system has made progress in what relates to improving access to schooling, but it was at the detriment of the quality of learning. Hence, a Special Commission of Education and Training (SCET) was constituted in 1999, whose task was to develop a project of the reform of Moroccan school. The work of the commission led to the adoption of the National Charter for Education and Training for the period of 2000-2010.

A mid-term assessment of the charter, carried out in 2007, has shown that despite the progress observed in many domains, the achievement outcomes remained mixed.

Thus, His Majesty King Mohammed VI, in a speech delivered on the occasion of the opening session of the parliament in autumn 2007, gave his High Instructions for the reactivation of the High Council of Education, which represents a permanent and independent source of monitoring and assessment of the public policies in education, as well as for the development of an Emergency Plan on the period of 2009-2012, in the form of a road map for accelerating the implementation of the charter for the remaining years, with the orientations of this same charter as a frame of reference.

In 2014, the High Council of Education was replaced by the High Council of Education, Training and Scientific

Research which, after a global assessment of the charter, developed a new strategy for the period of 2015-2030, called "Strategic Outlook 2030", whose three broad orientations are based on three main principles, namely school of equity and the equality of opportunities, quality schooling for all, and school for individual and social promotion.

1. Current Situation

1.1. Preschool Education

Preschool education plays an important role in the development of child personality and his/her cognitive capabilities. It allows early introduction to basic civic values, facilitates the child's pursuit of primary education and his/her school success, and thus contributes to the retention of pupils in the educational system by reducing school failure and the inequality of opportunities.

The evolution of the number of pre-schooled children was marked by a drop amounting to 8.2% between 1990-1991 and 2013-2014, since the number decreased from 812,487 to 745,991 pupils, showing the same evolution trend of the population at schooling age (children aged between 4 and 5) which declined from 1,289,000 in 1994 to 1,154,000 in 2014, a drop of 10.5%.

By contrast, the evolution of the numbers of pre-schooled girls was marked by a growth rate of 31%, which reflects the efforts made, especially in rural areas, to encourage the pre-schooling of girls. The following table illustrates these developments:

Table No 2

Evolution of the numbers of pre-schooled pupils by sex

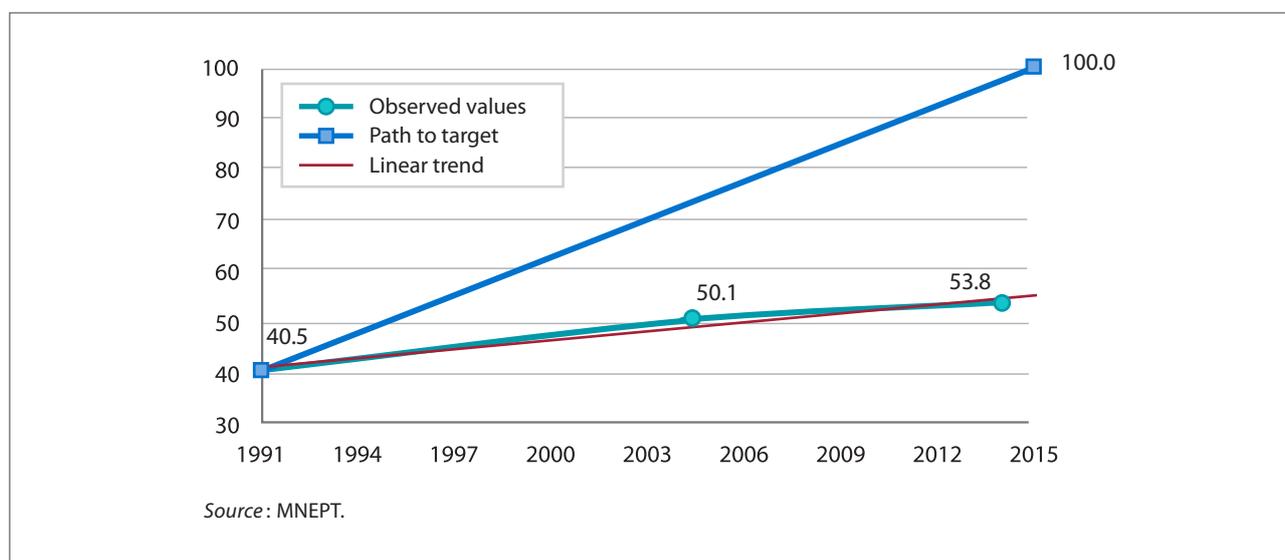
	1990-1991	%	2000-2001	%	2013-2014	%
Boys	563,913	69.4	491,974	64.4	419,955	56.3
Girls	248,574	30.6	272,226	35.6	326,036	43.7
Total	812,487	100	764,200	100	745,991	100

Source: Ministry of National Education and Professional Training (MNEPT).

The pre-schooling net rate (children aged from 4 to 5) has increased thus from 40.5% in 1990-1991 to 53.8%

in 2013-2014 (Graph No 15). For girls, the rate has gone from 25.1% to 47.6% during the same period.

Graph No 15
Evolution of preschool education net enrolment rate 4-5 years (in %)



The universalisation of preschool education constitutes a major line in the policy of the upgrading of the national educational system. However, the territorial coverage of pre-school provision is very varied. It remains marked by a very high coverage in cities, and a lower one in poor provinces and rural areas.

It should be noted that the pre-school education Law No 05-00 of the year 2000 was issued to secure equal

access opportunities of all Moroccan children aged between 4 and 5 to this type of education.

1.2. Primary Education

The number of pupils in primary education has recorded a sustained growth during the period extending from 1990-1991 to 2013-2014, increasing from 2,483,973 to 4,030,142 pupils, a global growth rate of 62.2%. This evolution is illustrated in the following table:

Table No 3
Evolution of the number of pupils in primary education

		1990-1991	%	2000-2001	%	2013-2014	%
Rural	Boys	678,940	70.6	1,033,099	56.9	1,013,738	52.8
	Girls	282,224	29.4	781,184	43.1	907,839	47.2
	Total	961,164	100	1,814,283	100	1,921,577	100
All	Boys	1,494,479	60.2	2,088,940	54.4	2,111,789	52.4
	Girls	989,494	39.8	1,753,060	45.6	1,918,353	47.6
	Total	2,483,973	100	3,842,000	100	4,030,142	100

Source: MNEPT.

The net rate enrolment in primary school reached 99% in 2013-2014 against 52.4% in 1990-1991 (Graph No 16). This evolution shows the effort made by Morocco in order to improve schooling from which girls have benefited more. In rural areas, the net rate schooling of the latter has clearly improved since it increased from 22.5% to 100% for the same period.

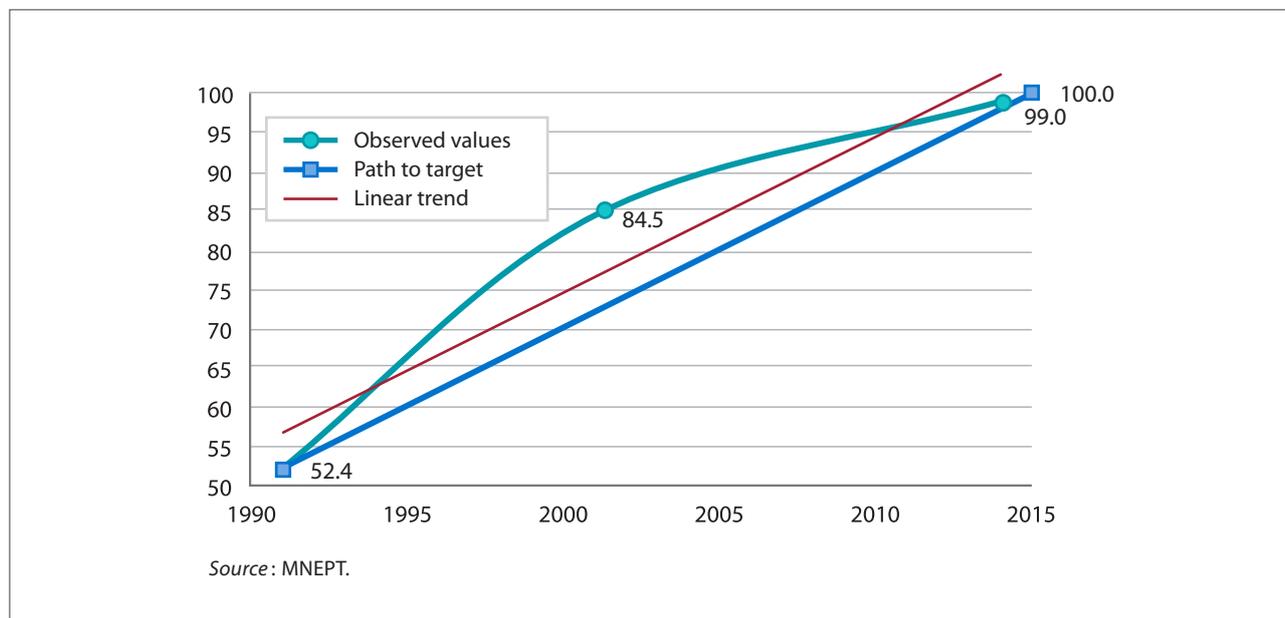
These results can be explained by the social support programs, in particular the financial aid program «Tayssir», the Royal Initiative «a million schoolbags», and the creation of boarding schools.

Furthermore, a large number of school institutions have been provided with latrines, drinking water, electricity, and school libraries to improve the schooling conditions.



Graph No 16

Evolution primary education (6-11 years) net enrolment rates (in %)



Similarly, the number of primary school institutions has doubled during the period extending from 1990 to 2014 by going from 3,686 to 7,541 schools and the number of classrooms has recorded a growth rate of 43%, going from 62,779 to 89,739 classrooms for the same period. The following table shows the evolution trend of classrooms created:

Table No 4

Evolution of classrooms in public primary education by area of residence

	1990-1991	2000-2001	2013-2014
Urban	27,233	35,602	35,621
Rural	35,546	48,523	54,118
Total	62,779	84,125	89,739

Source: MNEPT.

The creation of 69 community-based schools in rural areas these recent years has also encouraged this significant improvement of schooling.

1.3. Junior Secondary Education

The number of pupils in junior secondary school has doubled between 1990-1991 and 2013-2014, going

from 811,411 to 1,618,105 pupils. Rural areas have benefited more from this evolution, especially the girls whose number has been multiplied by 14 during the same period.

The net rate of schooling in the secondary education has known a clear improvement, going from 17.5% in 1990-1991 to 61% in 2013-2014 (Graph No 17). This evolution shows the effort made in schooling throughout this period, in particular for the benefit of girls. In fact, their rate at this level, has gone from 31.9% to 84.9% in urban areas and from 1.1% to 30.7% in rural areas for the same period.

The improvement of the accommodation and schooling conditions in the junior level has, especially in rural areas, facilitated the transition of pupils from primary school to junior high school, as evidenced by the establishment/creation of « dar Taliba » and « dar Talib », in addition to the connection of school institutions to the wastewater, drinking water and electricity infrastructure.

The number of junior high schools increased from 740 in 1990-1991 to 1,781 in 2013-2014 with an average construction trend of 43 junior high schools per year. Rural areas have benefited more, since the coverage rate in rural districts has reached 60.9% in 2013-2014 against 48.2% in 2007-2008.

Table No 5

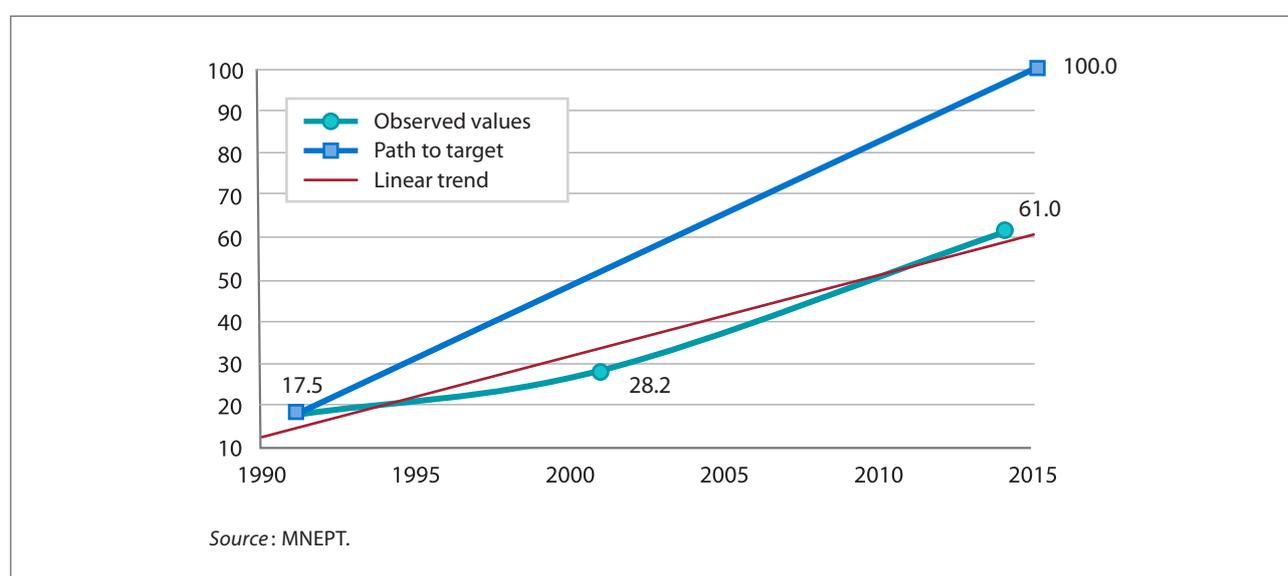
Evolution of the number of pupils in junior secondary school according to sex

		1990-1991	%	2000-2001	%	2013-2014	%
Rural	Boys	42,177	77.2	116,156	70.4	370,602	68.1
	Girls	12,425	22.8	48,797	29.6	173,396	31.9
	Total	54,602	100	164,953	100	543,998	100
All	Boys	478,012	58.9	595,525	57.1	894,568	55.3
	Girls	333,399	41.1	447,818	42.9	723,537	44.7
	Total	811,411	100	1,043,343	100	1,618,105	100

Source: MNEPT.

Graph No 17

Evolution of lower education net enrolment rate (12-14 years) (in %)



Source: MNEPT.

1.4. Completion Rate

The completion rate of primary education has gone from 53.4% in 1990-1991 to 87.8% in 2013-2014, showing thus that among 100 pupils registered in the first year of this level, 88 pupils managed to complete primary education in 2013-2014.

Taking into consideration both primary and junior high school levels, the completion rate has gone from 32.1% in 1990-1991 to 65.6% in 2013-2014. In other words, out of 100 pupils registered in the first year of primary education, 66 pupils managed to finish junior high school in 2013-2014.

This progress was possible due to the social support of pupils, which consists in removing the socio-economic and geographic barriers that hinder access to compulsory education and facilitate the retention of pupils by fighting against the causes of school dropout.

The set of services of social support put in place has generated a sustained upward trend of pupils. The schooling support actions are about:

- the expansion of the network of school canteens and boarding schools, and raising the number of grant recipients;
- the development of school transportation to the benefit of pupils living far from the school institutions ;
- the improvement of school health services by putting in place a program of cooperation with different partners operating in the field of health and childhood ;
- the pursuit of awareness-raising campaigns to encourage schooling.

In this context, the Royal Initiative « a million schoolbags » imparted further dynamism to the universalisation of



compulsory schooling. In 2013-2014 a number of 3, 915,000 pupils benefited from this initiative, among whom 63% come from rural areas. As to the program of monetary aid «Tayssir », it involved 783,833 pupils and 465,913 families in 2013-2014.

1.5. Literacy

According to the 2014 Population and Housing General Census provisional data, the literacy rate of

the population aged 10 and over reached 68% in 2014 against 50.1% in 1991 on the national level. In rural areas, this rate increased from 30.9 % in 1991 to 52.3% in 2014.

According to the same source, the literacy rate among youth aged 15 to 24 has reached 90% in 2014 against 58% in 1994 (Graph No 18). This improvement is much more significant for girls as the rate has gone during the same period from 46% to 85.9% against 71% and 94.1% for boys respectively.

Table No 6

Evolution of literacy rates among youth aged 15 to 24 by area of residence and by sex (in %)

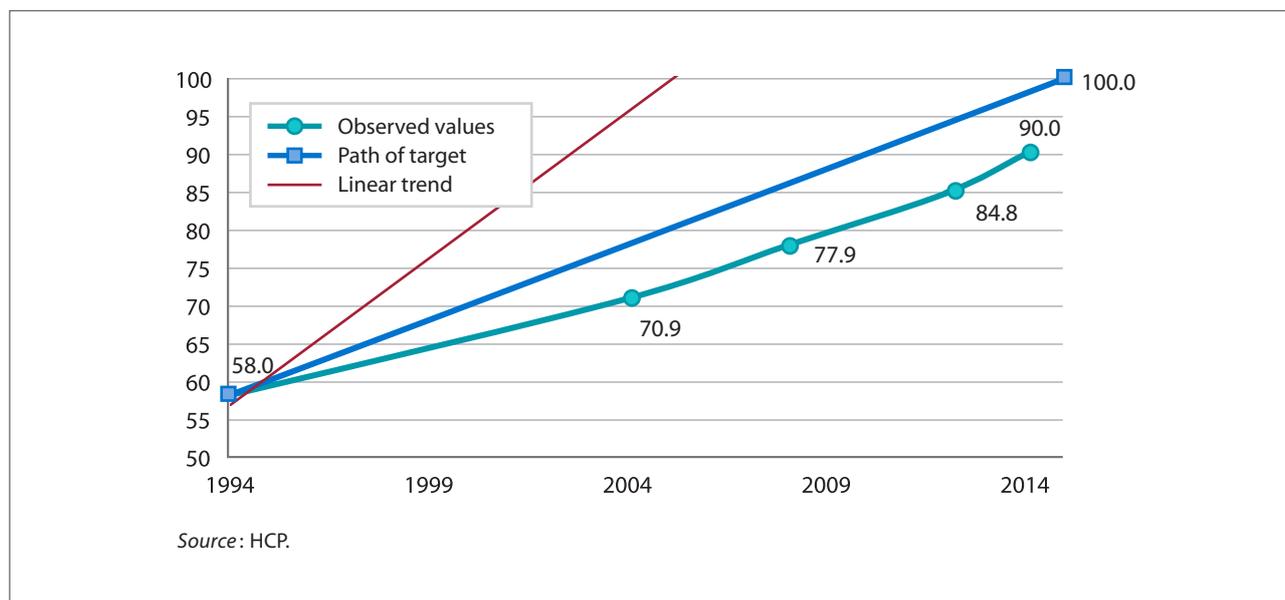
		2004	2008	2012	2014 (*)
Urban	Male	92.4	93.8	96.0	97.4
	Female	83.7	88.1	92.5	94.3
	Total	88.0	90.9	94.2	95.9
Rural	Male	69.0	76.6	83.0	89.4
	Female	33.6	48.5	63.9	73.6
	Total	51.1	62.7	73.8	81.6
All	Male	81.6	85.8	89.9	94.1
	Female	60.4	69.9	79.6	85.9
	Total	70.9	77.9	84.8	90.0

Sources : National Employment Survey, HCP.

(*) Population and Housing General Census provisional data(RGPH 2014), HCP.

Graph No 18

Evolution literacy rate of the population 15-24 years (in %)



2. Constraints

Pre-school education remains the weak link in the educational system. Pre-schooling deficiency constitutes currently a strong factor of deepening inequalities of access and success, in particular between the urban areas on the one hand, and the peri-urban areas and the rural areas on the other. The latter experience a high deficiency in pre-school education or they do not dispose of conditions that meet the norms established for this kind of education.

A large number of children among 6-15 aged are still out of school for different reasons, either they have never had access to schools or they have left it early.

The rate of transition from primary education to junior high school or to professional training remains weak.

3. Adopted Strategy

The priorities are based on four strategic choices:

1. Supporting schooling by prioritizing equity and equality of opportunities through the implementation of concrete and efficient measures aiming at generalizing schooling by adopting different approaches that take into account the specificities of regions, provinces, and districts, and resolving the problematic of school dropout.

2. Improvement of the quality of learning through the improvement of the quality of education by focusing on the necessary competencies and the acquisition of basic knowledge, contributing to the development of

learner autonomy and his/her mastery of concepts, ways of thinking, and means of expression and communication.

3. Developing the educational system through good governance, which allows for the development of leadership capabilities and the improvement of efficiency and effectiveness of the system in the institutional, administrative, and financial management. The relevance and the priority of this goal lie in its being part of the accompaniment to devolution by linking responsibility to accountability.

4. Efficient management of human resources and strengthening their capabilities and competencies through the proper use of these resources and their redeployment in reinforcing decentralization based on an integrated and sustained balance between supply and demand in all disciplines. It's also through the improvement of working conditions, increasing yields, and the development of professional and continuous training with a view to improving the capabilities of actors and their competencies.

In addition, the general vision of the sector of non-formal education is based on the extension of school supply and the improvement of its administrative and educational efficiency through a two-step action plan:

1. remedy the non-schooling of children;
2. make non-formal education part of the educational system with prospective approach and pedagogical watch.

The aim of this plan is to help students at risk and provide them with pedagogical, psychological, and social support to improve pupils' retention.



Table No 7
Evolution of MDG2 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	1991	2001	2014	2015 target value
Target 6 Ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling.	Net rates of enrolment in primary school (6-11 years) (in %)				
	All	52.4	84.5	99.0	100
	Boys-urban	77.5	94.8	99.1	
	Girls-urban	71.7	91.2	97.1	
	Boys-rural	48.8	82.5	100.0	
	Girls-rural	22.5	70.4	100.0	
	Proportion of pupils starting 1 st grade in primary school and completing 6 th grade				
	All	53.4	59.8	87.8	100
	Literacy rates of 15-24 years old (in %)				
	All	(2000)	(2004)		
	All	62.5	70.9	90.0	100
Male	73.2	81.6	94.1		
Female	51.7	60.4	85.9		
Target 7 By 2015 achieve universal preschool enrolment for girls and boys.	Net enrolment rates in pre-school for 4-5 years old (in %)				
	All	40.5	53.4	53.8	100
	Boys	55.2	65.6	59.8	
	Girls	25.1	40.7	47.6	
Target 8 Ensure that, by 2015, all children, girls and boys alike, complete a full course in junior secondary schooling.	Net enrolment rates in junior secondary education for 12-14 years old (in %)				
	All	17.5	28.2	61.0	100
	Boys-urban	39.5	52.1	81.5	
	Girls-urban	31.9	46.8	84.9	
	Boys-rural	3.4	10.6	36.4	
	Girls-rural	1.1	5.9	30.7	
Target 9 Halve, by 2015, the 1990 global illiteracy rate (10 years of age and over).	Literacy rate of the population aged 10 and over (in %)				
	All	(2000)	(2004)		
	All	50.1	55.9	68.0	80.0
	Male	62.4	67.9	78.9	
	Female	38.1	44.2	58.1	
	Urban	65.1	69.6	78.8	
Rural	30.9	38.1	52.3		

Source: Ministry of National Education and Professional Training, and HCP.

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity	X		
Recent information quality	X		
Statistical Capacity building	X		
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	X		

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Goal 3

Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

Significant breakthroughs in gender equality and women's empowerment has been made due to the convergence of two factors: A political will expressed at the highest level of the State as well as the involvement and the dynamism of leading forces in society, and of different political and associative actors.

During the last decades major deep structural reforms have been engaged in the field of gender equality, whether legislative, institutional, political or social. This period has also been marked by an international commitment through the harmonization of national policies and legislations in the field of equality with the recommendations issued by international and regional human rights instruments ratified by Morocco.

As a United Nation member State, Morocco has taken part in all historically significant phases, such as the introduction of the UN Declaration on the elimination of violence against women, the Beijing Platform (1995), the signature of the Millennium Declaration and Morocco's commitment to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in particular the 3rd MDG, which aims at promoting gender equality and women's empowerment.

The ratification of the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), the withdrawal of some reservations and the adoption in 2012 of the optional Protocol related to this convention attest to this commitment.

This period was also marked by the adoption of the new Constitution in July 2011, which instituted the equality

between men and women in all domains, and reforms to promote human rights and sustain the economic and social development of our country.

1. Current Situation

Education

Morocco is committed to:

- eliminate in 2015 gender disparities at all levels of education;
- contribute to the promotion of equality of opportunities between the sexes in general and more particularly in the educational system;
- universalise girls' schooling in rural areas as well as in urban areas.

The **gender parity index** experienced a clear improvement at all educational levels between 1990-1991 and 2013-2014. This improvement has been more important in rural areas due to the social support services put in place as well as to the **Royal Initiative** « a million schoolbags », in which 63% of the recipients come from rural areas.

Thus, in primary education, the gender parity index reached **91%** in 2013-2014 against **66%** in 1990-1991, a rough equality of chances of access to education by boys and girls alike (Graph No 19). In rural areas, this index has more than doubled, going from 41.6% in 1990-1991 to 89.6% in 2013-2014.

During the same period, the junior secondary education parity index went from 69.7% to 81%. In rural areas this indicator has recorded a more significant improvement, going from 29.5% to 61.8% (see table No 8).

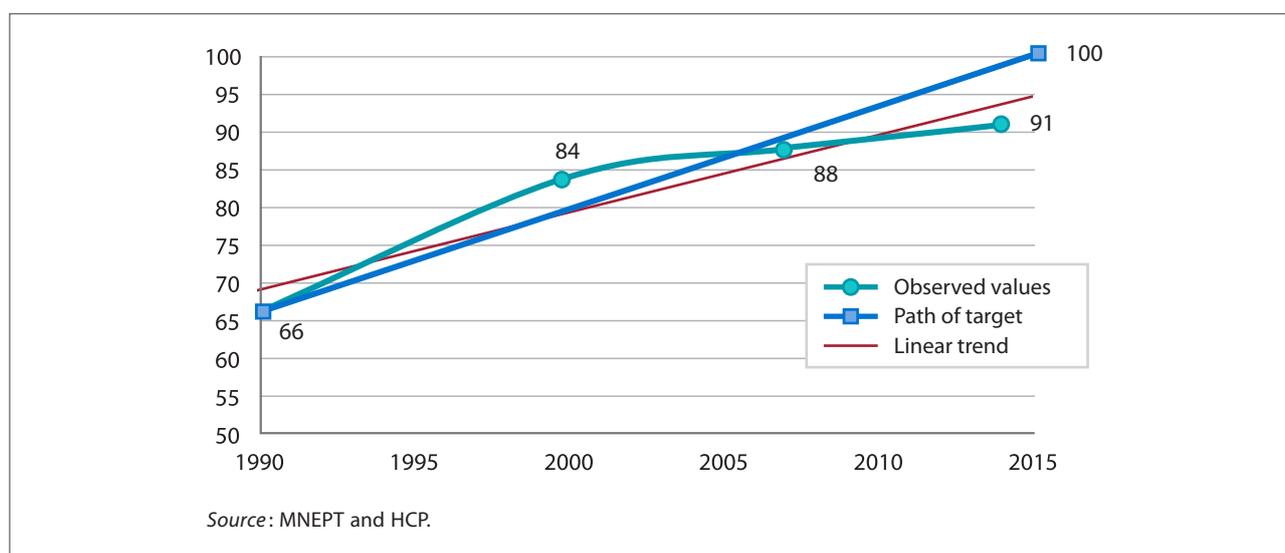
Table No 8

Evolution of the gender parity index in primary and junior secondary school (in %) by area of residence

Level of education/year		1990-1991	2000-2001	2007-2008	2013-2014
Primary	Rural	41.6	75.6	82.5	89.6
	Urban	86.7	92.0	92.3	92.0
	Total	66.0	83.9	87.6	90.8
Junior secondary	Rural	29.5	42.0	53.7	61.8
	Urban	73.6	83.2	90.5	89.6
	Total	69.7	75.2	81.1	80.9

Source: MNEPT.

Graph No 19
Evolution of parity index in primary education (in %)



Secondary vocational education has experienced a clear improvement of the parity index which increased from 65% in 1990-91 to 90% in 2013-2014.

For higher education, within 24 years the gender parity index went from 56.6% in 1990-91 to 93.3% in 2013-2014. This index exceeded 100% for staff training institutions (124.4% in 2013-2014).

Employment

The women's participation in economic activity has witnessed a downtrend between 2000 and 2014 both nationally and by area of residence. In fact, the female labor force participation rate went nationally from 27.9% to 25.3% and from 21.3% to 17.8% in urban areas. In rural areas this drop was relatively lower making the rate go from 37.5% to 36.9%.

Table No 9
Evolution of labor force participation rate of 15 and over years old by area of residence and sex (in %)

		2000	2004	2008	2012	2014
Urban	Male	74.0	71.5	71.6	69.6	68.2
	Female	21.3	20.5	19.3	17.6	17.8
	Total	47.0	45.5	44.7	42.8	42.1
Rural	Male	85.4	84.2	82.0	79.7	78.7
	Female	37.5	38.8	37.0	35.6	36.9
	Total	61.4	61.2	59.0	57.0	57.2
Total	Male	78.8	77.0	75.9	73.6	72.4
	Female	27.9	28.3	26.6	24.7	25.3
	Total	52.9	52.2	50.6	48.4	48.0

Source: HCP.

The women's participation in the economic activity seems to deteriorate between 2000 and 2014. Thus:

- The feminization rate of employed working population remained nearly stagnant in 27% during this period;
- 41.7% of women working in the agricultural sector in 2014 against 35.1% in 2000 ;
- about 60% of women working as domestic workers in 2014 against 48.7% in 2000 ;
- and only 20.6% working as employees in 2014 against 21.9% in 2000.



Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

Female unemployment rate recorded a downtrend in between 2000 and 2014. It stood at 10.4% in 2014 against 9.7% for men, whereas in 2000 this rate was at 13 % against 13.8%.

In urban areas, even though the female unemployment has declined significantly between 2000 and 2014 by going from 26.7% to 21.9%, it remains very high compared to that of men (see table No 10).

Table No 10

Evolution of unemployment rate of the population aged 15 and over by area of residence and sex (in %)

		2000	2004	2008	2012	2014
Urban	Male	19.8	16.6	13.0	11.5	12.8
	Female	26.7	24.5	20.3	20.6	21.9
	Total	21.4	18.4	14.7	13.4	14.8
Rural	Male	6.5	3.9	5.1	4.9	5.5
	Female	1.7	1.4	1.8	1.9	1.8
	Total	5.0	3.1	4.0	4.0	4.2
Total	Male	13.8	10.7	9.5	8.7	9.7
	Female	13.0	11.1	9.8	9.9	10.4
	Total	13.6	10.8	9.6	9.0	9.9

Source: HCP.

Similarly, even though the unemployment rate of women who have a high degree has decreased from 39.2% to 27.8% between 2000 and 2014, it remains significantly higher compared to that of men, which declined from 23.9 % in 2000 to 17.2% (see table No 11).

Table No 11

Evolution of unemployment rate of high diploma-holders by sex

	2000	2004	2008	2012	2014
Male	23.9	22.3	14.9	14.0	17.2
Female	39.2	35.1	28.2	27.4	27.8
Total	28.9	26.7	19.5	18.7	21.0

Source: HCP.

To enhance women's participation in economic activity, many departments and entities have set up specific actions and programs. These include namely:

- the **Government Plan for Equality** with a view to achieving parity " ICRAM" 2012-2016, in particular field 8 of this plan which relates to women's economic and social empowerment;
- the **National Initiative for Human Development (INDH)**, which has particularly targeted women in extremely insecure conditions and lacking in resources : through its diverse support activities, the INDH contributes to the improvement of women's income and their standard of living as well as their working conditions. Income generating activities

particularly foster the integration of rural women in the economic fabric. These activities, which value work and the participatory approach, encourage the creation of cooperatives and contribute to the restoration of certain informal channels. Similarly, women benefiting from women's centers and welfare centers receive training in trades (handicraft, restaurant and hotel industry, senior care assistant, etc) which ensure an economic and social autonomy ;

- the **Social Development Agency** strategy which is structured around three main lines, namely the strengthening of local players' capabilities, social integration via economic activity (338 out of a total of 498 projects have been carried out for the benefit of women) which take shape in three major programs (Tatmine, Mouwakaba et Moubadara) and local support to national social program;
- **Guarantee Fund «Ilayki»**, set up in 2013, which aims at encouraging and accompanying women in the development of private businesses by enabling women business managers to gain access to loans to develop their projects;
- **National Mutual Aid** programs destined to the education of women, the support of women's cooperatives and to the program entitled «Developing and strengthening the institutionalization of equity and of gender equality in public policies » in partnership with Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development (MSWFSD), Social Development Agency(SDA), and UN-women.

Participation in Decision-making Processes

Morocco is committed to gradually achieve women's full enjoyment of their rights by undertaking legal reforms and developing strategies aiming at minimizing or eliminating the discrepancies that perpetuate gender-based discriminations. These efforts have been enhanced by the adoption of the new Constitution of 2011 which aims at institutionalizing the equality and equity principle in the enjoyment of civil and political rights in particular. Article 154 stipulates that «public services are organized based on equal access of female and male citizens...».

In relation to the presence of women in decision making political bodies, the adoption of the organic law No27-11, of October 14, 2011, on the access to the House of Representatives sets a quota of 60 seats (15%) for women out of a total of 395 seats, aiming at improving women's representation in the national political landscape. Thus, in the elections of November 2011 the total number of elected women has reached a total of 67 parliament members, nearly 17% of the total number of parliament members against 10.5% in 2007 and 0.7% in 1997. In June 2015 the House of Representatives voted unanimously in favor of a proposal whereby women will be granted 27% of seats in the municipal elections. (The rate was 12.1% in 2009).

In addition to the amendments of the communal charter (law No17-08) in 2009, aiming at creating an advisory committee called «Committee of parity and equal opportunities» and the development by the

communes of a Communal Development Plan (CDP), which should take into account the gender variable, a quota reserving 12% for women in local councils.

An incentive system for political parties has been set up and a support fund has been created to encourage and raise the representation of women. This fund is destined to enhance women's capabilities in the general parliamentary and municipal elections. A provisional assessment of support projects destined for strengthening women's capabilities has reached at the end of December 2012 a total of 119 projects whose effects were felt in the coverage level in the additional district during the last parliamentary elections.

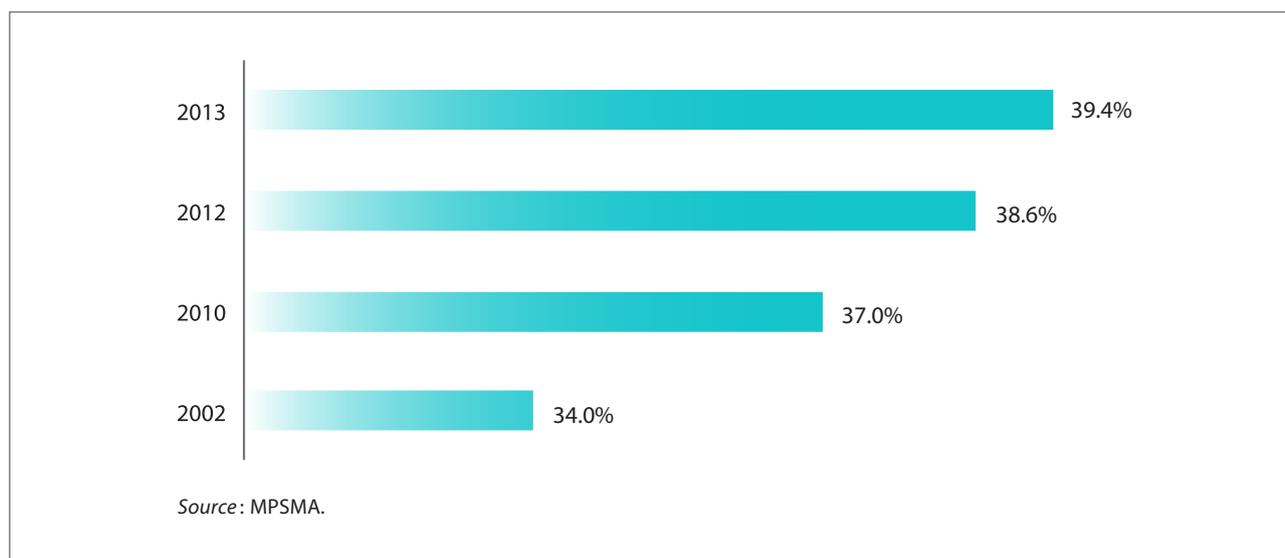
Furthermore, article 4 of the organic law No 02-12, promulgated in 2012, on appointments to senior government positions encourage the implementation of the parity principle and the strengthening of women's situation in administrative decision-making positions. It sets the following principles and criteria of appointments to higher positions of responsibility:

- equality of opportunities, merit, transparency and equality between female and male candidates;
- non-discrimination, in all its forms;
- parity between men and women.

The feminization rate in ministry departments has reached 39.4% in 2013 against 38.6% in 2012, 37% in 2010 and 34% in 2002 (Graph No 20). As for the rate of female government employees' access to positions of responsibility, it has gone from 10% in 2002 to 15.3% in 2010 to reach 16% in 2013.

Graph No 20

Evolution of the feminization rate of employees in public administration (in %)





Legal arsenal

Many laws have been amended. The amendment concerned the family code, the penal code, the labour code, the nationality code, the electoral code, and the communal charter. This reform process culminated in **the adoption of the new Constitution in 2011** which stipulates that women enjoy on an equal footing with men all civil, political, economic, social, and environmental rights and freedoms, and insists in the preamble on the banning and the fight against all forms of discrimination on grounds of sex, race, faith, culture, social or regional belonging, language, disability or any other personal situation.

Furthermore, article 30 stipulates the necessity to inscribe into law «provisions that facilitate equal access of women and men to elective office », while article 146 related to regions and to territorial governing bodies stipulates that an organic law set « the provisions destined to ensure a better participation of women in territorial councils.»

Laws and regulations have been set in place to institutionalize the equality principles, the protection of women and the fight against discrimination, and the enhancement of women's representation in positions of responsibility. Thus, diverse mechanisms and bodies were established or are in the process of being established:

- **For the dissemination of the principles of equity and equality, and the improvement of women's image, we can cite:**
 - the adoption of the National Charter for the improvement of women's image in the media, 2005.
 - the creation of a Parity Authority and the fight against all forms of discrimination (articles 19 and 164 of the new constitution), as a body responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of public policies on the enhancement of women's rights and the fight against all forms of discrimination against them. The bill was approved by the Government Council in 2015.
 - the creation of the Consultative Council of Family and Childhood, whose bill has been prepared and submitted to the General Secretariat of the Government;
 - the setting up of the National Observatory for the improvement of women's image in the media in June 2015;
 - the creation and attribution of an Excellence Prize « Tamayuz » for Moroccan women in 2014.
- **For the fight against all forms of discrimination and violence against women, we can cite:**
 - the amendment of law No 14-05 on the set-up and management conditions of social protection

institutions to include the female students' homes (Dar attaliba) and the shelter centres for Women and young girls Victims of violence in 2014;

- the bill on fighting violence against women in 2014;
- the setting up of the National Observatory for fighting Violence against women, created in 2014, as well as the project of setting up regional observatories for the denunciation of cases of violence and discrimination that affect women and young girls;
- **the adoption of organic law No 27-11 dated October 14, 2011, on access to the house of representatives** which sets a quota of 60 seats (15%) for women;
- the adoption in 2015 of the new organic law on financing which stipulates that gender be taken into account in defining the goals and performance indicators of sectoral departments during the development of their budget planning.
- **The promulgation of law No 41-10, in 2010 which defines the conditions and procedures of benefiting from the Family Mutual Fund (entered into force in 2012)**, managed by the deposit and management fund to support divorced women who are incapable of covering their palimomies. The number of women recipients has reached almost 3640 in may 2014 against 562 only in October 2012.
- **The promulgation and the implementation of the application decree of organic law No 02-12 on appointments in senior government positions in 2012** which introduces the criterion of parity between men and women.
- **another law on domestic work (No 19-12)** which sets the hiring and working conditions of domestic workers was adopted in 2013 by the Government Council (but it is still in the process of amendment). It is within the scope of article 4 of the labor Code which stipulates the promulgation of a special law determining the hiring and working conditions of domestic workers. This law aims to define the relation between this category of employees and their employers with a view to ensuring the formers' social protection and enable them to benefit from their economic and social rights. The text also aims to fight against the hiring of young girls under the age of 15 and to criminalize this form of employment.
- **the amendment of article 475 of the penal Code** on minor young girls victims of rape. This amendment proposal is related to the suppression of the raper's right to marry his victim and thus avoid prosecution, as well as on the aggravation of prison penalties from 1 to 5 years in case of minor diversion without sexual intercourse.

The application of laws was accompanied by many actions. They are mainly about:

- the improvement and the implementation of the institutional information system on violence against women ;
- the project formulation of the study on «early marriage » in Morocco ;
- carrying out of the survey on « women’s and men’s time-use » 2011-2012, whose first results were published by the HCP in October 2014.

2. Constraints

Despite the measures adopted by the government to promote gender equality and women’s empowerment, several constraints still remain. These concern mainly:

- the delay in the implementation of the provisions of the new constitution on the reduction of inequalities between men and women ;
- the delay in bringing the legal status of Moroccan women into line with international standards;
- the weak convergence in the development policies and programs on equality;
- the slow pace in integrating equality in the development policies and programs ;
- social perceptions and traditional values that impede the promotion of gender equality;
- the role of the media and communication in the promotion of values related to gender equality which remains little if perceptible at all ;
- the predominance of unpaid work of more than half of the employed working women with the status of domestic workers; this increases their economic precariousness.

3. Adopted Strategy

Important national strategies and legal reforms have been engaged in the field of women’s rights. These concern mainly:

- **the process of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) :** within the framework of the promotion of women’s empowerment, the gradual experimentation with a result-based GRB with respect to Morocco, conducted by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, in partnership with UN-Women since 2002, has been an important vector in introducing the gender perspective within the framework of the budget reform and has enabled Morocco to equip itself with

analytical instruments of monitoring and evaluation of public policies with respect to gender.

After 12 years of application, GRB has been marked by major achievements such as the drafting of gender-based reports accompanying the Finance Law and the creation of the GRB excellence Centre. The adoption of the new Organic Law on Financing crowns this process by allowing for an institutionalization of GRB and a systematic integration of the gender dimension in programming and planning practices (articles 39 and 48);

- **program (INDH) for fighting against poverty, vulnerability and begging 2005 :** the integration of the gender dimension in the different programs of fighting against poverty, vulnerability, and begging;
- the adoption in 2006 of the **National Strategy for gender equality and equity** by integrating the gender-based approach into the development policies and programs. This strategy shows the government orientations and the policies to be undertaken in the field of equity and gender equality, and recommends defining specific action plans in different sectors with a view to reducing gender inequalities based on social roles penalizing women;
- **Government Plan for Equality 2012-2016** which allowed for the tackling of the question of rootedness of gender equality in public policies within the global framework of coordination and monitoring, open to all stake-holders.

On fighting violence against women

Morocco has undertaken several initiatives that touch upon different fields in order to eradicate violence against women. In addition to the reforms introduced into the penal code, other actions have been undertaken. They concern:

- the adoption in 2002 of a **national strategy of fighting violence against women** and an operational plan for its implementation within the framework of a partnership between the State and civil society ;
- the launching in 2008 of **the program TAMKINE**, a gender-based, multi-sectoral program of fighting gender-based violence by the empowerment of women and girls. This program, innovating in matters of coordination and governance, aims at coordinating and converging actions of gender-based violence by targeting the territorial dimension. It includes 13 ministry departments and 8 UN agencies within the framework of the Fund for the scaling-up of MDGs;



Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

- the carrying out in 2009 of the national survey, one of its kind, on violence against women by the HCP, in partnership with the relevant departments and the support of UNFPA;
- **the integrated Program of consciousness raising in the fight against violence and discrimination against women, 2013** : this concerns the signing of two partnership agreements between the Ministry of Family, Solidarity and Social Development, the Ministry of Communication and the Ministry of Culture. These agreements aim to reinforce the principles of equity and gender equality.
- **other institutional measures** have been taken, such as the support of civil society projects that have contributed to the achievement of equality and the reduction of women’s marginalization, the funding of counseling and legally oriented centers that take care of women victims of violence, as well as the expanding and the reinforcement of unit services that take care of women and children victims of violence.

Table No 12
Evolution of MDG3 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	1990	2012	2014	2015 target value
Target 10 Eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education by 2005 if possible and at all levels of education no later than 2015.	Ratio of girls to boys in education :	(1990-1991)			
	Primary education	66	91	91	100
	Junior high school education	70	78	81	100
	Vocational Secondary education	65	92	90	100
	High education	56	91	93	100
	Literacy rate of women aged between 15 and 24 against that of men	(1994)(**) 64.8	87.7	(*) 91.3	100
	Proportion of women employees in the non-agricultural sector	(2000)			
	Urban	26.2	24.8	24.9	
	Rural	8.3	7.3	8.2	
	Total	23.5	21.5	21.7	
	Proportion of parliament seats held by women (%)	(1997) 0.7	(2011) 12.5	Nov. 2011 17.0	
Target 11 Eliminate gender disparities in access to labor market	Feminization rate of employed working population according to different branches of activity :	(2000)			
	Agriculture, forestry and fishing	36.3	40.1	41.7	
	Industry	37.7	26.7	26.2	
	Construction and civil engineering	0.7	0.7	0.8	
	Services	17.2	18.5	18.9	
	Feminization rate of employed working population according to socio- professional status:	(2000)			
	Wage earners	22.0	20.3	20.6	
	Self-employed workers	14.3	14.7	14.3	
	Employers	6.6	8.0	8.8	
	Domestic workers	48.7	57.0	59.5	
Apprentices	14.9	11.6	10.9		
Cooperate member, partner	7.5	12.0	11.3		
Target 12 Reach one-third benchmark in the legislative, executive, and judiciary governing bodies	Proportion of women ministers (%)	(1994) 5.1	(2011) 3.2	15.8	
	Proportion of women public administrations directors (%)	9.8	11	—	
	Proportion of women public administration senior officials (%)	(2001) 29.5	(2009) 35.0	(2013) 37.0	
Target 13 Reduce violence against women	Overall prevalence rate of violence against women (%)	—	(2009) 62.8	—	

Source: HCP, Ministry of National Education and Professional Training, Ministry of Justice and Freedoms, Ministry of Interior.
(*) Population and Housing General Census provisional data, 2014. (**) Population and Housing General Census data, 1994.

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity	X		
Recent information quality	X		
Statistical Capacity building	X		
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	X		

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Goal 4

Reduce Child Mortality

Since 2000 the ministry of Health has adopted a series of action plans in order to accelerate the process of reducing child mortality rate by targeting the perinatal period. The goals of the recent action plan of 2012-2016 go beyond the target of MDG4, since they aim at reducing infant and child mortality by 20‰, infant mortality by 19‰, and neonatal mortality by 12‰ by 2016.

1. Current Situation

In Morocco, under-five child mortality has highly declined during the last 3 decades from 76‰ of live births in 1987-1991 to 47‰ through the period of 1999-2003, then to 30.5‰ in 2007-2011 (NSPFH/MH, 2011) (Graph No 20). It would decrease even more to reach 27.5‰ in 2015 according to the estimations of the Inter-agencies group of the system of the United Nations*.

The infant mortality rate has declined from 57 deaths for each 1000 live births in 1987-1991 to 40 in 1999-2003, then to 28.8 in 2001-2011, dropping by 30% and 49% respectively. It would be 23.7‰ in 2015, according to the Inter-agencies group of the System of the United Nations.

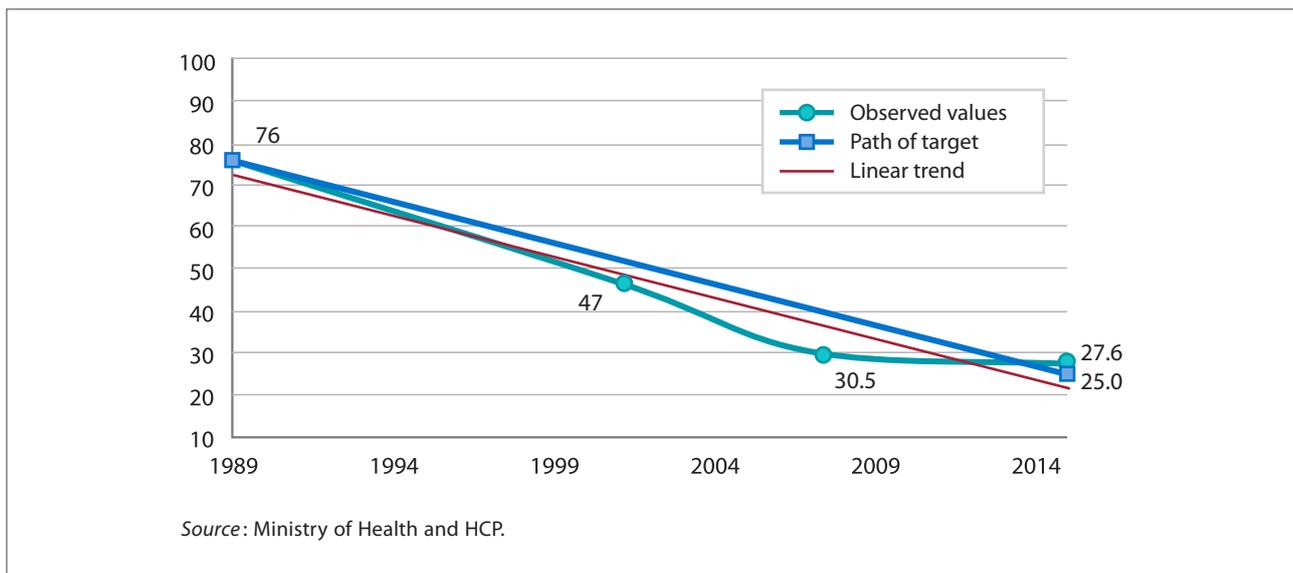
The juvenile mortality rate has significantly dropped from 20 to 7‰, then to 1.7‰, successive decreases of 65% and 91.5%.

In parallel, neonatal mortality has decreased from 31‰ in 1987-1991 to 21.7‰ in 2011 (a relative variation of 30%); however, it continues to represent almost 71% of infant and child mortality. It would reach 17.6‰ in 2015 according to the same source mentioned earlier.

These results were achieved through the strengthening of primary health care, and the involvement of a number of programs and activities that had an impact on the health of mothers and children. Among these national programs, we can mention the program of supervision of pregnancy and childbirth, the family planning program, the integrated child support, the National Immunization Program (NIP), and the Program against micronutrient deficiencies and the promotion of infant and young child feeding. In addition, the NIP has integrated a vaccine against rotavirus in order to reduce severe forms of diarrhea caused by rotavirus, and an anti-pneumococcal vaccine in order to prevent invasive pneumococcal infections caused by pneumococcus. In 2013, in the perspective of the elimination of measles and rubella, Morocco has led a National Immunization Campaign that

Graph No 21

Evolution of under-five mortality rate (for 1000 live births)



* Estimations of the Inter-agencies group of the system of United Nations (WHO, UNICEF, the World Bank, and the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations System).

targeted children and teenagers aged between 9 months and 19 years of age.

Morocco was able to eradicate polio since 1987 and diphtheria since 1991, thanks to the vaccination coverage of 90% of children less than one year. According to the WHO-UNICEF protocol in march 2002, Morocco is the first country in the region to have validated the removal of neonatal tetanus.

Furthermore, according to the National Survey on Population and Family Health of 2011, the nutritional status of children has known a significant progress, as shown by the decrease in the prevalence of the delay of chronic malnutrition (growth delay), which has fallen from 18.9% in 2004 to 14.9% in 2011. The underweight among children under the age of five had been reduced from 9.3% in 2001 to 3.1% in 2011. The new national calendar of micronutrient supplementation promotes a preventive systematic iron supplementation for pregnant women, vitamin A supplementation for children under two years of age, and vitamin D supplementation for pregnant women starting from 7th month.

In addition, being aware of the importance of improving the quality of primary health care, the ministry of Health has adopted the children's Integrated Care Strategy as an efficient approach to achieve MDG4.

2. Constraints

Despite the progress achieved, there is still some inequality in terms of the access to infant and child care between regions, urban and rural areas, and socio-economic levels. As a matter of fact, the decline in child mortality has more benefited the children from the wealthiest families. The under-five mortality rate is 2.5 times higher among children from households belonging to the poorest quintile (37.9‰) than among those in the richer quintile (15.2‰), and 1.4 times higher in rural than in urban areas.

In fact, the problems of physical and financial access to infant and child care, the lack of a structured chain of neonatal care, and the insufficient quality of pediatric health services are considered the essential constraints targeted by the 2012-2016 action plan. Besides, the social determinants are considered as constraints on access to infant and child care and require an integrated multi-sectoral collaboration.

3. Adopted Strategy

The ministry of Health has adopted an action plan to accelerate the reduction of infant and child mortality over the period 2012-2016 by targeting the perinatal period. This action plan is based on effective and efficient interventions that aim to ensure equity of healthcare provision between urban and rural areas, and to facilitate its access for poor people, especially in rural areas. The purpose of this plan goes beyond MDG4 target. The aim is to reduce child mortality to 20‰, infant mortality to 19‰, and neonatal mortality to 12‰ by 2016.

As recommended by UNICEF and the WHO, more than half of the measures of this action plan are addressed to the newborn. The plan is structured around six areas of action and 24 measures to reduce neonatal mortality and accelerate the reduction of child mortality. The areas of intervention revolve around the organization and the reinforcement of healthcare through the upgrading of childbirth structures and the reinforcement of the neonatal supervision during the postpartum period, the improvement of the quality of the care for the newborn, the setting up of an appropriate information system, and the development of research in the field of perinatal health. The strengthening of communication and social mobilization is considered as a measure which accompanies the action plan. In addition, the ministry of Health has launched a number of programs and national strategies that target the rural areas in order to achieve MDG4 such as:

- The universalisation of RAMEC as a medical assistance for people who are economically disadvantaged, giving grants free care to over eight million citizens in public hospitals. RAMEC consolidates the mandatory health insurance initiated in 2005 and currently covers more than 34% of Morocco's population.
- The national nutrition strategy (2011-2019) as a major lever to improve population's health throughout life.
- To win the stake of equity, the rural health plan aims to improve the use of health services in this environment and to revitalize the mobile team and community involvement with the setting up of a system control of obstetric or obstetric emergencies.
- The National Immunization Program that aims for a vaccination coverage higher than or equal to 95%, evenly distributed at national level.
- The universalisation of the Integrated Child Support Strategy (ICSS) as an approach to child primary health care.



Reduce Child Mortality

Table No 13
Evolution of MGD4 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	Disaggregation	1982-1991	1994-2003	2002-2011	2015 target value
Target 14 Reduce the mortality rate of children under the age of five by two-thirds between 1990 and 2015	Under-five mortality rate (‰)	All	76 (#)	47 (-)	30.5(**)	25
		Boys	88	59	35.2	
		Girls	80	48	25.5	
		Urban	59	38	25.4	
		Rural	98	69	35.0	
	Infant mortality rate (‰)	All	57 (#)	40 (*)	28.8(**)	19
		Boys	69	51	33.8	
		Girls	57	37	23.5	
		Urban	52	33	23.6	
		Rural	69	55	33.5	
	Neonatal mortality rate (‰)	All	31 (#)	27 (-)	21.7(**)	10
		Boys	39	33	28.3	
		Girls	29	23	14.9	
		Urban	30	24	18.3	
		Rural	36	33	24.7	
	Juvenile mortality rate (‰)	All	20 (#)	7 (-)	1.7(**)	
		Boys	20	8	1.4	
		Girls	24	11	2.0	
		Urban	7	5	1.9	
		Rural	31	15	1.6	
	Proportion of children completely vaccinated (%)	All	(1992) 75.7	(2003-2004) 89.1	87.7	
		Boys	75.5	86.8	88.7	
		Rural	76.0	91.2	86.8	
	Proportion of children immunized against measles (%)	All	(1992) 79.8	(2003-2004) 90.4	89.3	
		Boys	79.7	88.2	90.6	
		Girls	79.9	91.2	88.1	
	Exclusive breastfeeding rate in the first 6 months (%)	All	(1992) 51	(2003-2004) 31	27.8	

Sources: Ministry of Health, NSPH (1985 et 1992), NSMCH (1997), NSPFH (2003/2004), NSPFH 2011, HCP, NDS 2009-2010
 (-) 1999-2003.
 (#) 1987-1991.
 (*) NDS, HCP 2009-2010;
 (**) 2007-2011.

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity		X	
Recent information quality		X	
Statistical Capacity building		X	
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms		X	

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Goal 5

Improve Maternal Health

Morocco has made a significant progress during the period 1990-2015 in the area of maternal health. This progress had been achieved through the consolidation of the efforts made by the government and its partners during the implementation of a series of action plans related to the reduction of maternal mortality. Although the target of the reduction by three quarters of the rate of maternal mortality during the period can be reached by 2015, if the downward trend is sustained, the maternal mortality rate still remains at a relatively high level. On one hand, over the coming years, an emphasis should be put on universal health coverage, particularly for women and young people. On the other hand, the focus should be on the reduction of the inequalities that persist between areas of residence, regions, and socio-economic groups.

1. Current situation

The maternal mortality rate has decreased by almost 66% in twenty years, declining from 332 maternal deaths for 100,000 live births in 1985-1991 to 112 in 2009-2010. Since the target is to reduce the maternal mortality rate by three quarters between 1990 and 2015, Morocco has to reduce the rate to 83 deaths for 100,000 live births by 2015 (Graph No 22).

It should be noted that the main causes of maternal mortality are Hemorrhages (33%) and pre-eclampsias/eclampsias (18%) (Graph No 23).

This drop in maternal mortality is mainly due to the improvement in the use of health services offered to women. Thus, the contraceptive prevalence rate (married women 15-49 years old) significantly increased from 42.5% in 1992 to 67.4% in 2011. The proportion of eight months pregnant women who have had an prenatal visit went up to 77.1% in 2007-2011 (against 32% in 1987-1991), and the proportion of births attended by qualified staff is estimated at 73.6% (against 31% in 1987-1991).

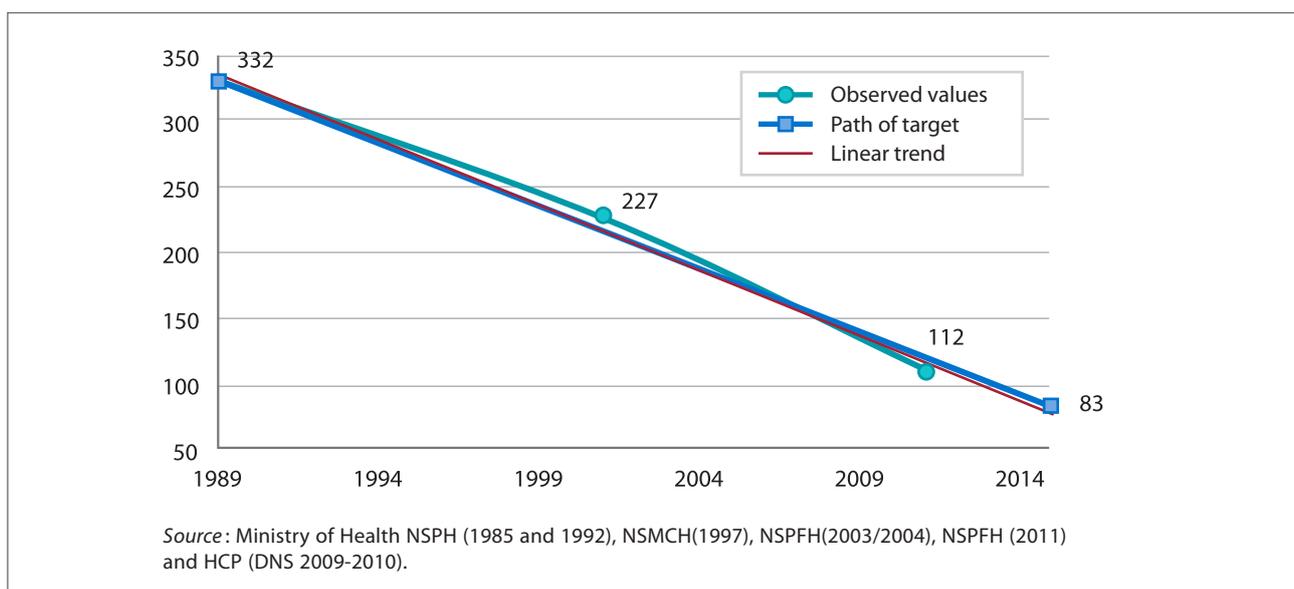
The national reproductive health strategy is in the process of implementation in order to ensure the availability of integrated, accessible, and acceptable services in terms of reproductive health throughout the life cycle of the population, allowing individuals to make responsible decisions.

To this end, several measures have been adopted since the year 2000 in order to achieve MDG5. They namely include:

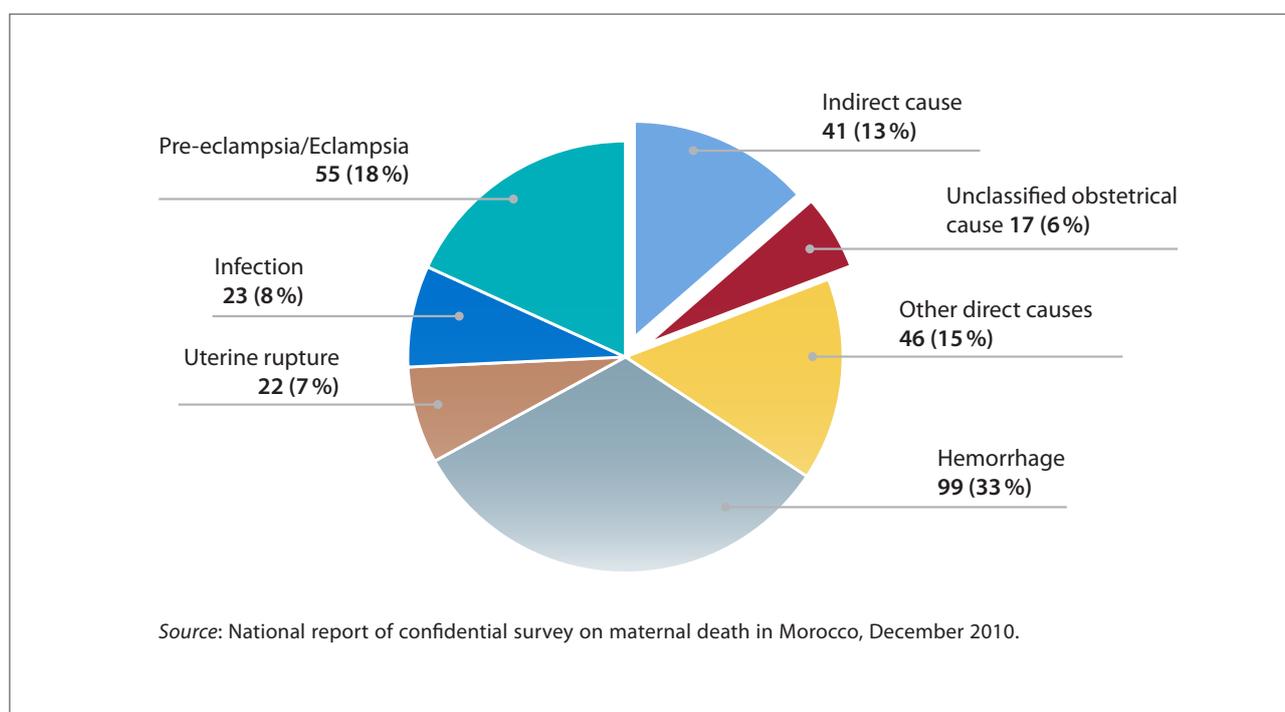
- The complete autonomy of the National Program for Family Planning in procurement of contraceptives since 2001, and in the acquisition of medical-technical equipment in 2005.

Graph No 22

Evolution of maternal mortality rate (for 100,000 live births)



Graph No 23
Main maternal death causes



- The development and the expansion of the use of “Woman’s health booklet” in 2006.
- The progressive integration of early detection of breast and cervical cancer in primary health care in 2010, and the institutionalization of a National Program of early detection of breast and cervical cancer in 2012.
- Referral centers of family planning have been raised to the status of centers of reproductive health in 2012.

2. Constraints

Despite the achieved progress, there are still some inequities in the access to obstetric care between regions, urban and rural areas, and socio-economic levels. Indeed, the maternal mortality ratio in rural areas is two times higher than in urban areas (148 against 73 deaths for 100,000 live births), and the proportion of births in supervised environment does not exceed 55% among rural women. For this reason, the different efforts made to reach this goal will benefit from integrating the actions aiming to improve the health social determinants while adopting a multi-sectoral approach.

The availability, distribution, and the competence of human resources constitute another constraint to the achievement of MDG5.

3. Adopted Strategy

Since 2008, two action plans were developed (2008-2012 and 2012-2016), taking into consideration the effective and efficient interventions in maternal mortality. The particularity of the 2012-2016 plans is to integrate a specific component for the reduction of neonatal mortality.

The goals of the 2012-2016 action plan go beyond those of MDG5. By 2016, they aim to reduce maternal mortality to 50 deaths for 100,000 live births.

To this end, the ministry of health intends to carry out the following coverage goals:

- increase birth coverage in supervised environment from 73% to 90% (from 55% to 75% in rural areas);
- reach a cesarean rate of 10%;
- increase prenatal visit coverage from 80% to 90%;
- achieve coverage of 95% for post-partum care consultation;
- maintain a contraceptive prevalence rate higher or equal to 67%.

The action plan of 2012-2016 for the acceleration of the reduction of maternal mortality is built around four action lines. They are as follows:



Improve Maternal Health

1. The consolidation of the policy of exemption from the obstetric and neonatal emergency care.
2. The improvement of care quality for obstetric complications.
3. The reinforcement of local responsibility on the supervision of pregnancy and childbirth.
4. The improvement of the management of regional program.

Likewise, the ministry of Health has adopted the National Strategy for Health and Reproduction 2011-2020, which

is still in the process of implementation. It consists in reinforcing and reorganizing existing services in order to turn them into an access point to allow for applying new actions while ensuring maximum synergy. In addition, it seeks to change the contraceptive organization that is still dominated by oral hormonal contraception (pill), with a prevalence of 48.4% (against 4.2% for the Intra-Uterine device in 2011). Moreover, it seeks to cover the unsatisfied family planning needs, and to reinforce the diversification of the range of available contraceptive products.

Table No 14
Evolution of MDG5 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	Area	1987-1991	1999-2003	2011	2015 target value	
Target 15 Reduce maternal mortality rate by three-quarters between 1990 and 2015	Maternal mortality rate (for 100,000 live births)	All	(1985-1991) 332	(1995-2003) 227	(2010) 112 (*)	83	
		Urban	284	186	73		
		Rural	362	267	148		
	Proportion of deliveries assisted by qualified attendant (%)	All	31.0	63.0	73.6 (**)		
		Urban	64.0	85.0	92.1		
		Rural	14.0	40.0	55.0		
Target 16 Achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015	Proportion of women who had at least one prenatal visit (%)	All	33.0	68.0	77.1 (**)		
		Urban	61.0	85.0	91.6		
		Rural	18.0	48.0	62.7		
	Fecundity rate among teenagers (15-19 years old) for 1,000	All	(1994) 28.6	(2004) 19.1	32.0		
		Urban	20.7	13.5	21.0		
		Rural	36.4	25.2	46.0		
Unsatisfied family planning needs (%)		(1992)# 19.7	(2003-2004) 10.0	10.9			
Target 17 Ensure that reproductive health decisions are jointly taken by women and men	Cesarean rate (%)		(1999-2003) 5.4	(2008) 6.4	11.7 (**)		
	Proportion of women who had at least one postnatal visit (%)	All		6.6	22.3		
		Urban			16.3	31.1	
		Rural			3.6	13.6	
	Contraceptive use rate (%)	All	(1992) 42.0	(2003-2004) 63.0	67.4 (**)		
		Urban	55.0	66.0	68.9		
Rural		32.0	60.0	65.5			

Sources: (*): High Commissioner for Planning – National Demographic Survey, 2009-2010.

(**): NSPFH, 2011.

(#): Reproductive Health in Morocco : Socio-cultural and Demographic Factors, 1998, DRSC.

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity		X	
Recent information quality		X	
Statistical Capacity building		X	
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms		X	

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015 ?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Goal 6

Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases

The national response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria was organized and coordinated within the framework of national strategies to combat these three infections, with the involvement of governmental departments, of civil society and benefitting from the support of different partners in coherence with the international commitment of our country.

1. Current Situation

HIV/AIDS

1. Since the first case in 1986, the number of HIV/AIDS infections has reached 10,017 at the end of 2014, of which 5,803 are AIDS (58%) and 4,214 are asymptomatic carriers of HIV.
2. Heterosexual transmission is dominant (85%).
3. 61.5% of concerned people are aged between 20 and 39 years.
4. The proportion of women who are concerned has reached 50%.

During the period 2010-2014, 51% of infections were reported and 52% were diagnosed in asymptomatic stage (HIV).

The data shows a low HIV prevalence concerning the total population (0.085% in 2014) (Graph No 24). However, in some areas, a concentrated epidemic level is observed among the population the most exposed to the risk of HIV infection. According to the results of transmission modes exercises of HIV conducted in 2013, these populations and their networks would be connected to 70% of new infections and 73% of women would be infected by their partners.

According to recent estimations, the number of people living with HIV would be 29,000 in 2014 which would make it 65% of the proportion of people living with HIV (PLHIV) and not knowing their HIV status.

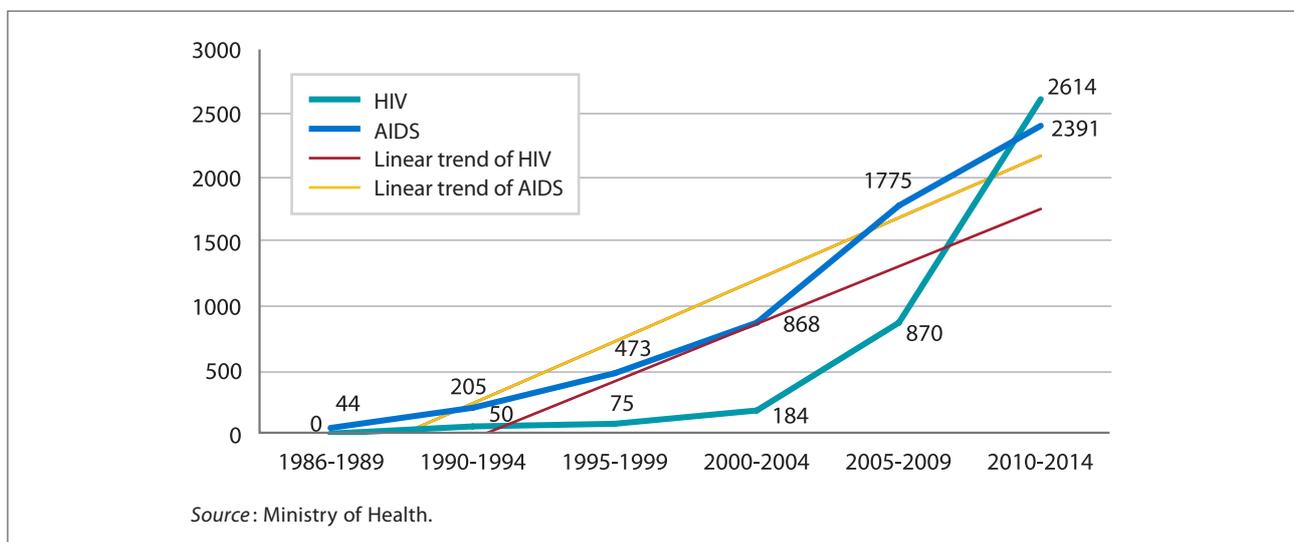
The 2012-2016 National Strategy Plan to combat AIDS aims to "Achieve a zero new HIV infection, zero deaths, and zero discrimination related to AIDS in Morocco". The ultimate target is to achieve a universal access to prevention, treatment, and support and care for HIV.

For this reason, three outputs are expected:

- New HIV infections are reduced to 50%.
- The mortality of people living with HIV is reduced to 60% in 2016.
- The governance and management of the national response are optimized at both central and decentralized levels.

Graph No 24

Evolution of the number of cases of HIV/AIDS reported (1986-2014)



In the same framework of implementing the plan of national strategy to combat AIDS 2012-2016, several interventions were carried out.

The combined prevention programs for all populations that are most exposed to the risk of infection or key populations that are implemented with partnership of NGOs allowed to reach 172,259 people in 2014. This includes 56,875 of sex professionals (SP), 43,065 of men engaged in sexual relationship with other men (MSM), and 3,446 drug users. The mapping of key population (MSM and SP) were achieved and allowed a better planning, coordinating, and networking among stakeholders. In addition, national guides of norms and standards of proximity interventions for these populations have been developed and shared between partners in order to ensure the quality of these interventions.

Prevention programs have also covered almost 530,000 of vulnerable people including 450,000 young people and women; 17,226 migrants; 6,890 prisoners; 24,116 truck drivers and 22,394 workers in 2014.

The risk reduction program (RRP) concerning injecting drug users (IDU) which started in 2007 was extended in Tetouan and Nador, with the availability of a range of services that include reception, listening, distributing injection kits and condoms, social support, and the substitution treatment with methadone.

The National Elimination of HIV Transmission Plan of Mother and Child 2012-2016 provides the expansion of HIV prenatal counseling and testing, and the creation of functional clusters to prevent HIV transmission of mother and child, in order to ensure the continuity of healthcare from detection to cover the infected pregnant women and their newborn. Thus the number of HIV tests for pregnant women increased to 136,576 at the end of 2014 against 83,661 in 2013. Also the coverage of HIV-positive pregnant women with antiretroviral treatment (ARVs) increased from 12% in 2007 to 45% in 2013 and 51% in 2014.

The enlargement of the screening offer in the years 2012, 2013, and 2014 constituted pivotal years in terms of expanding access to HIV counseling and testing in Morocco, with respectively 222,620; 583,440; and 632,520 tests in contrast with 60,000 tests in 2011. In addition, 70 screening, free, and anonymous centers of NGOs are being implemented in 764 structures of the ministry of Health. This includes mostly Basic Health Care Facilities (BHCF), 52 Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases Diagnosis Centers (TRDDC), 34 delivery units, and 10 maternity hospitals. The target is to achieve a performance of a million tests in 2016, while targeting the most vulnerable exposed populations.

Since 1997, Morocco has a national management strategy for HIV that concerns the coverage with antiretroviral treatment. It's regularly reviewed and adapted to international recommendations. The support of people living with HIV requires an ARV treatment which is provided in 17 regional centers including 4 university hospitals.

The number of people living with HIV that are followed in the referral centers has exceeded 9,000 from which 7,498 are on ARV treatment, against 6,464 in 2013 and 4,047 in 2011. Moreover, the number of PLHIV that are on ARV treatment has reached 26, 1%. This number is estimated to reach 29,000 in 2014 (Graph No 25).

To identify the weaknesses in the chain management from screening to the access to care and retention on ARV treatment, an exercise in the analysis of HIV "test-treat-retain" had been conducted with the support of the WHO in 2004, and has identified the problem of lost of sight and non retention of PLHIV in the health care system after they have been diagnosed.

In addition, the Ministry of Health's new prescription drug policy including the elaboration of a new drug pricing system, and the continuity of the effort of tax exemption for expensive drugs, has benefitted from ARV price reduction strategy which was initiated in 2000 by the Ministry of Health and AIDS association, and reinforced by the support of the WHO in 2007.

Furthermore, **with regard to the decentralization of the national response to HIV**, the 2012-2016 National Strategic Plan (NSP) of combating AIDS has spread to Strategic Regional Plans (SRP) at the level of 12 regions. The National Committee of Coordination of the response has been restructured, and the regional committees of combating AIDS have been revitalized and others were formed.

In terms of human rights, a strategy was elaborated and coordinated with the National Council for Human Rights (NCHR), and was presented to all partners in may 2014. Furthermore, a specific communication strategy on fight against stigma and discrimination towards key populations and PLHIV was elaborated and would be implemented in 2015. Thus an evaluation of the integration of gender approach within the framework of the national response to HIV was conducted, and a training kit related to human rights and gender development for the benefit of actors combating AIDS was elaborated.

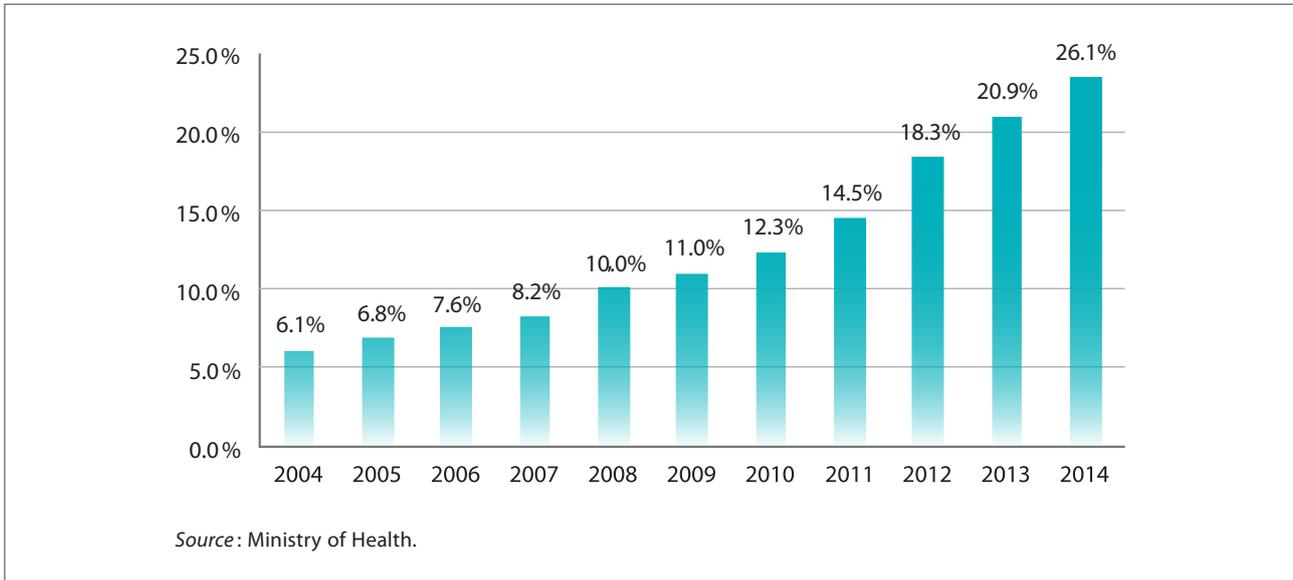
Malaria

The national program against malaria was launched in Morocco in 1965. Since then, the epidemiological situation of indigenous malaria favorably developed towards a significant reduction in the morbidity in



Graph No 25

Evolution of de ARV treatment coverage rates (2004-2014)



affected areas. Thus, the number of indigenous cases decreased from 30,893 in 1963 to 781 case in 1990. However, the epidemiological situation of indigenous malaria has only been controlled by the end of the late nineties to reach 68 cases in 1998 (Graph No 26).

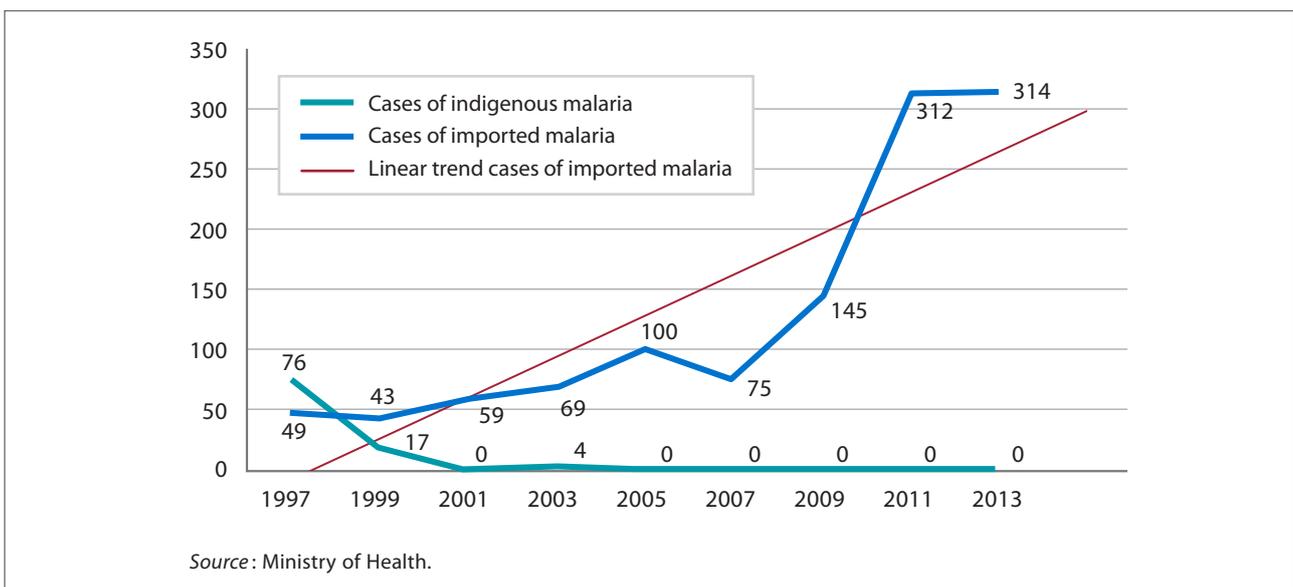
To maintain this tendency, the elimination of Indigenous Malaria Strategy (IMS) was adopted in 1999. This strategy helped neutralize the recent focus of transmission in Chefchaouen in 2002, and the last case

of indigenous malaria was detected in 2004. Since that date no serious cases have been recorded in Morocco.

This result was reached thanks to the efforts made during four decades of struggle. This allowed Morocco to be certified by the WHO in may 2010 as a **country free of indigenous malaria**. Consequently, the goal of the elimination of indigenous malaria which enters in the framework of the six objective of the Millennium development is actually achieved.

Graph No 26

Annual evolution of Malaria cases (1997-2013)



However, the risk of its reintroduction and its re-emergence is not eliminated:

1. On the one hand, the notification of the imported cases from abroad is in a permanent increase due to the increase of international travels and migration from endemic countries;
2. On the other hand, the persistence of risk factors and vulnerability, particularly in relation with environmental conditions favorable to the outbreak of the mosquito vector.

Tuberculosis

Combating tuberculosis has always been given a priority in all health policies implemented by the Ministry of Health. Since 1995, this helped in making a significant progress in this fight against tuberculosis by maintaining to more than 85% both detection and successful treatment rate. In 2010, these efforts allowed the achievements of MDGs in terms of reducing the prevalence of tuberculosis to half compared with the year 1990. Tuberculosis prevalence also was reduced from 210 for 100,000 people in 1990 to 105 for 100,000 people in 2010, with a mortality rate of 6.2 for 100,000 people in 2010.

In 2014, the reported incidence of tuberculosis was 82/100,000 people (Graph No 27). 27,745 new cases are reported with more than 46.2% of cases of extra-pulmonary forms, and 43.2% bacteriologically confirmed pulmonary forms. 2/3 of cases are those of young adults aged between 15 and 44 years.

Males are more affected than females, 59% of cases are those of men against 41 of women. The study of the geographical distribution reveals that five regions on their own count 59% of the reported tuberculosis cases and the incidence in these regions is above the national average. These regions are represented by the Grand Casablanca, Tangier-Tetouan, Rabat-Sale-Zemmour Zaer, Gharb-Chrarda-Beni Hssen, and Fez-Boulemane. These regions generally correspond to most urbanized, most economically active areas, and in which there are diversified and developed care services, and which are most affected by migratory phenomena. The analysis of treatment results of the new cohort of cases managed in 2013 shows that the success rate is 89.5%, 7.6% of lost cases, 0.5% treatment failure, and 5% of deaths.

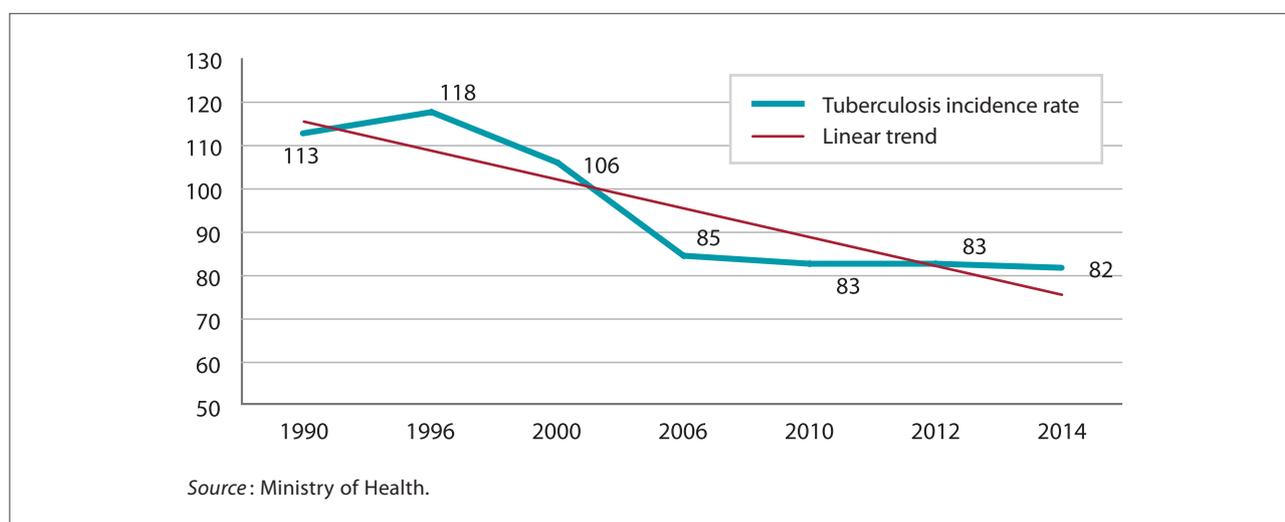
2. Constraints

HIV-AIDS

Despite the significant progress, Morocco is aware of the weaknesses and the obstacles related to the implementation of the programs of prevention, especially the prevention of key populations that are most exposed to the risk of infections. This is due to the difficulties in the access to this population in order to estimate its size, to universal access to antiretroviral treatment due to low use of screening, late diagnosis, weak coverage of pregnant women with ARV prophylaxis for preventing the transmission of HIV from mother to child, and stigma and discrimination of key populations and people living with HIV.

Graph No 27

Evolution of the Tuberculosis incidence rate (for 100,000 inhabitants)





Malaria

Among the constraints and the difficulties identified in the fight against malaria, there are:

- Inadequate human resources, responsible for the supervision in regional structures.
- Inadequate staff in rural and limited access areas.
- Inadequate inter-sectoral collaboration for the implementation of supervision and prevention actions against the reintroduction of malaria.

Tuberculosis

The decrease in the tuberculosis incidence is far from meeting the goal set by the national program which targets a decrease rate of 6% in the coming years in order to achieve the elimination of this disease within the period fixed by the WHO, that is 1 for 100,000 people in 2050.

The epidemiological analysis of tuberculosis and its dynamic shows the powerful influence of other determinants on the incidence of this disease. Indeed, since this disease is highly concentrated in urban areas, it has tight links with substandard housing, high population density, crowding, malnutrition, insecurity, and poverty.

3. Adopted strategy

HIV-AIDS

A number of measures are being implemented to improve and reinforce the support system for PLHIV, namely:

- An expansion plan of support services, and a human resources reinforcement plan, including capacity development, and task shifting;
- The implementation of the recommendations of applying HIV analysis steps “test- treat-retain”, and a better organization of the care sector;
- The improvement of financing to ensure the sustainability of treatment by the involvement of the State, the mobilization of additional resources, namely the Global Fund to fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis, and malaria, and the support of PLHIV within the framework of the mandatory health insurance system, and the RAMEd;
- The implementation and monitoring of the strategy on human rights related to HIV, and the development of a strategy to fight stigma and discrimination;
- The reorientation of the response in the light of the mid-term review of the 2012-2016 National Strategic Plan against AIDS, in progress since February 2015.

Malaria

The strategy adopted in 2011 for the phase of post-elimination of indigenous malaria

This strategy will be taken into consideration by our country within the framework of the continuity and the consolidation of MDG 6 beyond 2015. It has

Two major objectives:

- prevent the reintroduction of malaria in our country;
- avoid imported malaria-induced mortality.

And specific objectives

- providing early support for imported cases from abroad;
- reinforcing awareness and providing advice for travelers bound for endemic countries;
- targeting screening activities;
- ensuring entomological supervision and vector control in areas of high risk;
- revitalizing inter-sectoral and community-based collaboration within the framework of the Integrated Management of Vector Control (IMVC);
- reinforcing the capacity of staff involved in the management of malaria control program;
- strengthening supervision and assessment in various actions of the program.

The adopted strategy that was implemented since 2011 by the Ministry of Health to maintain the elimination of indigenous malaria and avoid its reintroduction in our country will be continued in 2015.

This strategy focuses on four axes:

- **Axe 1: Early diagnosis and management of imported cases of malaria.**
- **Axe 2: Prevention of the reintroduction of malaria** and the reinforcement of the supervision activities in vulnerable areas, and the prevention of imported malaria by raising the awareness of travelers and the prescription of chemoprophylaxis.
- **Axe 3: Support action:**
 - basic training and retraining;
 - training and retraining of relevant staff;
 - inter-sectoral collaboration.
 - information, Education, Communication (IEC) activities.
- **Axe 4: Monitoring and evaluation:**
 - supervision;
 - evaluation.

Tuberculosis

The fight against tuberculosis was organized by the National Program of Fight against Tuberculosis (NPFT) that dates back to several decades. NPFT implemented DOTS¹⁵ in 1991 and Stop Tuberculosis Strategy (STS) in 2006. The Ministry of Health in Morocco has elaborated the 2012-2016 National Acceleration Plan for the reduction of the incidence of Tuberculosis, launched in 2013 with the aim of reducing significantly the burden of tuberculosis. This plan set some ambitious goals in terms of improving detection and treatment of Tuberculosis, as well as improving the management of the National Program of fight against Tuberculosis.

The implementation of key interventions of this plan targets areas with highest TB burden, particularly the disadvantaged neighborhoods in and around large cities, the population with high risk of TB, in this case people in contact, people living with HIV, and incarcerated persons.

General target:

By 2016, achieve an annual reduction of TB incidence rate of 6% in order to achieve the target of TB elimination by 2050.

Specific targets:

- increase the detection rate of Tuberculosis cases by more than 95% by 2016;
- increase TB treatment success rate of positive smears by more than 90% by 2016;
- tackle the TB vulnerability factors among the targeted population;
- ensure a good governance of the fight against tuberculosis and improve management and coordination at all levels.

¹⁵ DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course) is a strategy of fighting against tuberculosis recommended by the WHO.



Table No 15
Evolution of MDG6 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2014	2015
Target 18 Have halted, by 2015, the spread of HIV/AIDS and begun to reverse the trend	1. HIV prevalence among pregnant women (%)	—	(1994) 0.03	(1999) 0.07	0.06	(2009) 0.17	0.15	
	2. Prevalence among sex professionals			(2001) 2.30	2.04	(2009) 2.38	(2012) 2.02	
	3. Contraception use rate among married women 15-49 years old	(1992) 42	(1997) 58	—	(2003-2004) 63	(2011) 67.4	—	
	4. Share of condom use in contraception (%)	(1992) 2	(1997) 3	—	(2003-2004) 3	(2011) 1.6	—	
Target 19 Have, halted by 2015, and begun to reverse the incidence of malaria and other diseases	Indigenous malaria incidence rate (for 100,000 inhabitants)	Men	7.0	1.2	0.02	(2006) 0	0	0
		Women	5.0	1.4	0.02	0	0	0
		All	6.2	1.3	0.02	0	0	0
	Incidence of Imported malaria (Number of new cases)	(1992) 54	33	56	(2006) 83	(2008) 142	(2013) 314	
Target 20 Have halted, by 2015, tuberculosis and begun to reverse the current trend	Tuberculosis incidence rate (for 100,000 inhabitants)	113	(1996) 118	106	(2006) 85	83	82	

Source: Ministry of Health.

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity	X		
Recent information quality	X		
Statistical Capacity building		X	
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	X		

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Ensure Environmental Sustainability

Morocco has made the protection of the environment and the promotion of the principles of sustainable development its national priority. This was confirmed at the highest level of the State. Indeed, in the **throne Speech on July 30, 2009**, His Majesty prompted the development and the implementation of a National Charter for the Environment and Sustainable Development for the protection of spaces, reserves, and natural resources.

Also, in the **2010 throne Speech** His Majesty called upon the government to give substance to the main lines that arose from the dialogue and the broad consultations on the Charter in an integrated action plan with specific and achievable goals in all sectors. In the same context, His Majesty urged the government to elaborate the plan within a framework law which will be a genuine point of reference to all national public policies in this field.

Thus, the National Charter for the Environment and Sustainable Development (NCESD) was developed as a part of a participative approach that involved all components of Moroccan society at both national and territorial level, and **was adopted** by the National Council for the Environment in **2011**.

For the Charter to be operational, **Framework Law No 99-12** was adopted in the first quarter of **2014**. This Law fixes the essential objectives of the action of the State in terms of the preservation of the environment and sustainable development, and defines the commitments of all stakeholders, namely the State, local authorities, public institutions, private companies, and civil society associations, and citizens.

The new Constitution of 2011 gave a new impetus to this process by ensuring the citizens' right the right to a healthy environment and a sustainable development.

Legally, several laws designed for the protection of the environment and sustainable development as well as the accompanying regulations were adopted, including namely the law on water, the law related to the protection and the enhancement of the environment, the law of environmental impact studies, the law on the fight against air pollution, the law of the management of garbage and its disposal, the law on degradable and biodegradable bags and plastic bags, the law on protected areas, the law on renewable energies, law related to the protection and enhancement of the coastline and the decree related to the fight against accidental marine pollution. Other laws, like the draft

law specific to environmental soil protection, are in the process of approval.

Institutionally, a significant progress has been achieved by the Creation of a Ministerial Department for the Environment, the National Council for the Environment (1995), the National Agency for the Development of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (2010), the Moroccan Agency for Solar Energy (2010), the Energy Investment Company), the National Agency for Energy Regulation, and the expansion of the missions of the Economic and Social Council to include the environmental aspect.

In the **international** and **bilateral** context, Morocco has ratified several international environmental agreements:

- The Montreal Protocol on the substances that deplete the Ozone Layer in 1992, the Vienna Convention, and the London and Copenhagen amendments in 1995;
- The climate Change Convention in 1995 and the Kyoto Protocol in 2002;
- The Bale Convention on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes in 2002;
- The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs);
- The Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea in 1999;
- The Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol¹⁶;
- The Convention on desertification;
- The Convention on the Law of the sea;
- The Convention on the Preservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals;
- The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;
- The Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean.

¹⁶ The Nagoya Protocol is an international agreement on regulating Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization which was adopted in October 2010 during the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya (Japan).

1. Current Situation

Several measures have been taken to reduce the delay in the control of managing the environment, restore natural environments, and rationally use and enhance the environmental resources while fulfilling the requirements of socio-economic development and improving the quality of life of citizens.

Preservation of natural environments and biodiversity

In this field, the main actions involved are:

- **Safeguarding the forest estate:** the real estate demarcation operations treated 98% of forest area while the registration concerned 1.8 million ha at the end of 2014 against 18,000 ha before 2005.
- **The restoration of forest ecosystem:** the pace of plantations increased from 20,000 ha per year in 1992 to more than 40,000 ha per year in recent years, giving priority to indigenous species such as cedar, cork oak, and the Atlas cedar.
- **The protection of forest and climate risk management:** a Master Plan for the Prevention and the Combat of Forest Fires has been developed since 2001. Its implementation helped to reduce substantially the average size of areas affected by fire from 14 hectares (1960-1995) to 9 hectares (1996-2006) to 4 hectares currently.
- **The fight against erosion:** the pace of annually treated areas increased from 10,000 to 30,000 ha to reach 200,000 ha over the past ten years. The combat operations of desertification increased from 440 ha to 660 ha per year, with a total of 39,000 ha of dunes fixed in 18 provinces and 7 green belts created in the southern provinces.
- **The Development and the implementation of the Protected Areas Directory Plan** that allowed the identification of more than 150 sites of biological and ecological interest, covering all its ecosystems, in an area that exceeds 2.5 million ha which are the subject of development and rehabilitation plans according to the order of priority.
- **The laying out by decree** of 10 national parks with a total of 750,000 ha.
- **The establishment of three UNESCO Biosphere Reserves** (the Argan tree grove, the south oasis, the occidental Rif).
- **The inclusion of 24 wetlands in the Ramsar list**¹⁷.

¹⁷ It is an international treaty adopted in 1972 in Ramsar in Iran on the conservation and the sustainable management of wetlands,

- **The Creation of the National Agency for the Development of Oasis and Argan Areas (NADOAA) in 2010** for the establishment of a warning system of the risks and the impact of climate change on the relevant area of intervention and its surroundings. Also, the Agency aims to encourage the rationalization of the management of water resources and their development, as well as to fight against desertification.

The oasis areas

The oases cover 15% of the country where 5.3% of the population is concentrated. These areas are very vulnerable, suffering of the consequences of climate change that they are subjected to. The diagnosis has shown that they constitute the last barrier against the advance of desertification. However, they remain a subject of strong natural constraints (desert climate, poor soils, erosion, etc) that are aggravated by the significant pressure exerted by humans on natural resources (overgrazing, overexploitation of woodlands, extension of agricultural lands, hardly optimal water management).

Some actions have targeted the conversion of oasis agriculture into landscape-based agriculture and the development of organic culture, the development of the conditions for the promotion of oasis tourism, water conservation and the maintenance of ecosystems, as well as the enhancement of the architectural style and local heritage.

The aims of the Tafilalet Oasis Program consist in the preservation of the Tafilalet oases and their sustainable development, taking into consideration the climate change and involving districts, local population, the strengthening of the capacity of stakeholders, and the coordination of action with those launched within the framework of National Initiative of Human Development (INDH). The actions involved the creation of jobs by setting up income generating activities, particularly in terms of the enhancement of local products (dates, olive oil, etc.), the rationalization and the enhancement of water resources, solid waste management, and renewable energy development.

Drinking water supply

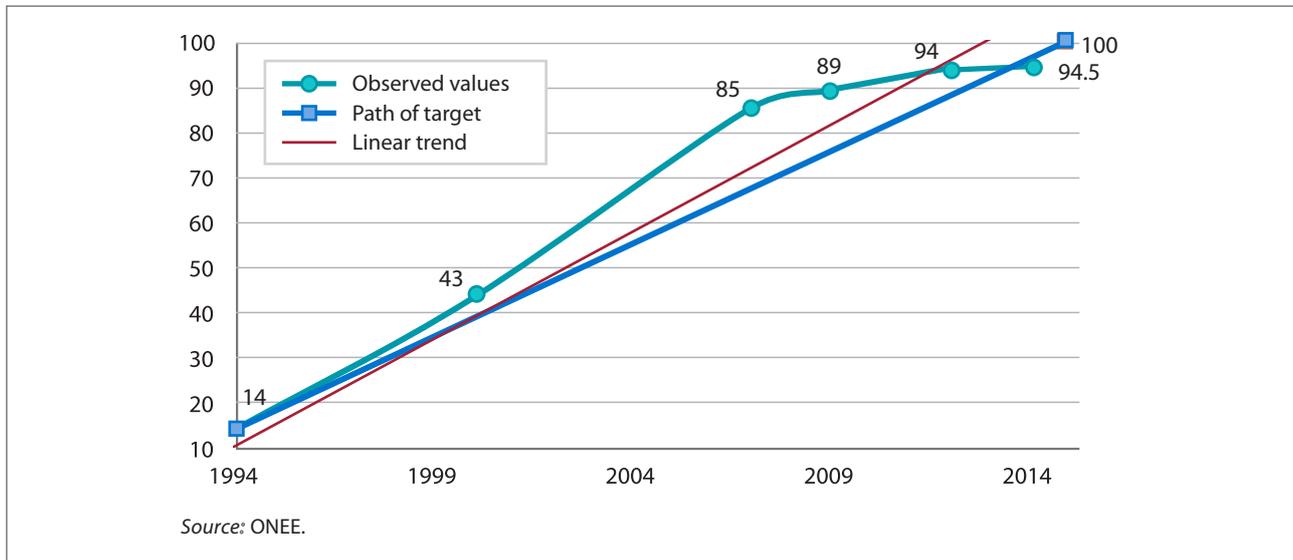
Since 1995, access to drinking water has been universal in urban areas. In 2013, 94% of the urban population was supplied by piped drinking water at home whereas 6% are served by public standpipes.

planning to identify important wet areas and put them on a list and ensure their conservation.



Graph No 28

Evolution of the proportion of the rural population connected to the clean water network or having access to a source of clean water (in %)



In rural areas, since the launching of the Grouped Supply Drinking Water Program (PAGER18), the rate of access to drinking water increased from 14% in 1994 to 85% in 2007 to achieve 94.5% at the end of 2014 (Graph No 28).

The beneficiary population number increased from 3.4 million people in 1995 to 12.6 million people in 2012. The overall cumulative investment over the period 1995-2012 has reached nearly 13.5 billion DH (excluding VAT).

Access to sanitation and wastewater treatment in urban areas

In order to catch up on the delay in the field of liquid sanitation and upgrade this sector, a **National Program for Liquid Sanitation and Wastewater Treatment (NPS)** was developed in 2006 and reviewed in 2008 to speed up its progress particularly through the optimization of the financing mechanisms and cost recovery. The total investment needs of the PNA were estimated at **43 billion DH** to equip 330 cities and urban centers in favor of a population of 10 million.

Since its launching in 2006, the PNA has allowed the implementation of several projects in consultation and partnership with relevant stakeholders, namely the National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water, and the autonomous State-owned companies of water and

electricity distribution through the **Liquid Sanitation Fund and Wastewater Treatment** created by the Finance Act of 2007.

Thus, until **2014**, the funding allocated by the government via this fund reached **4 billion DH**.

The proportion of urban households that have access to a sewage disposal network increased from **74.2%** in **1994** to **79.4%** in 2004 to reach **88.5%**, according to the results of the last general census of the population and housing of 2014 (Graph No 29).

If we add the population that has septic tanks sanitation type, the proportion of urban households having access to an improved sanitation increased from 90.0% in 2004 to 97.3% in 2014.

However, rural areas continue to experience a great delay in this domain since the proportion of households with access to a wastewater network was only 1.7% in 2004 and 2.8% in 2014.

The proportion of the rural population having access to an improved sanitation system (including septic tanks) increased from 38.1% in 2004 to 53.3% in 2014.

Management of household solid waste

In 2013, the collection of solid urban waste covered almost 74% of generated waste and only 35% of the total generated waste was deposited in sanitary landfills against 10% in 2008.

In order to upgrade this sector, Morocco has promulgated Law 28-00 on the management of solid waste, and set

¹⁸ It should be noted that since 2004, the PAGER has been replaced by the program of universal access to drinking water in rural areas, wherein ONEE (National Office of Electricity and drinking Water) has become the key stakeholder in the supply of drinking water. In rural electrification, the rate of access has gone from 18% in 1995 to 98.95% at the end of 2014 according to the ONEE figures.

up a National Program of Solid Waste (NPSW). When it was reviewed in 2012, the program helped in:

- Increasing the organized collection rate to 80.5% against 44% before 2008;
- Increasing the rate of disposal in controlled landfills to 37% of generated household waste against 10% before 2008;
- Achieving 16 controlled landfills (Fez, Oujda, El Jadida, Essaouira, Rabat, Berkane, Figuig, Guelmim, Al Hoceima, Agadir, Nador, Dakhla, Mohammedia, Laayoune, Ifrane, and Khouribga) against two controlled landfills before 2008;
- The rehabilitation of 26 uncontrolled landfills.

Combating air pollution

Morocco is increasingly giving special attention to the problems of atmospheric pollution caused by increasing industrial activity or heavy traffic, given its direct and dangerous impact on the health of the population, especially on children.

The legal and institutional framework has been reinforced by the promulgation of the law on combating air pollution in 2003. Its implementation text identified the air quality standards and the methods of air monitoring (2009), and also by establishing a National Air Quality Monitoring Committee.

Four regional air quality monitoring committees were created (regions of Marrakech-Tensift-El Houaz, Rabat-Sale-Zemmour-Zair, Souss-Massa-Drâa, and Chrarda-Bni Hssen). In addition, emission limit values for certain industrial branches are being developed, particularly

for thermal power plants, cement plants, the phosphate industry, automobile manufacturing, sugar mills, brick factories, and olive oil mills.

A program of implementation of atmospheric emission registers in major cities of the Kingdom concerned four regions (Grand Casablanca, Tadla-Azilal, Fes-Boulmane and Gharb-Chrarda Bni Hssen), and 13 cities (Safi, El Jadida, Youssoufia, Tangier, Tetouan, Rabat, Sale, Temara, Marrakech, Essaouira, Benslimane, Khouribga and Settat).

In 2014, the National air quality Monitoring network was made up of 29 fixed stations.

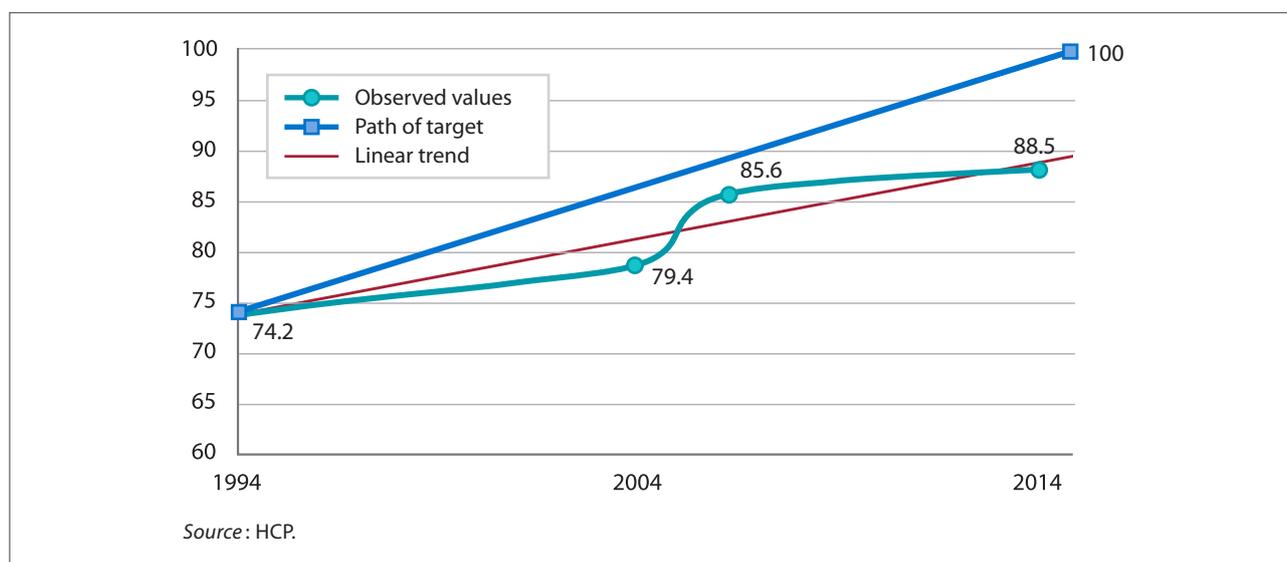
Decent housing

In order to eradicate all slums in urban centers, the Program "Cities without Slums" was set up in 2004 and concerned 388,400 households (figures updated as the achievement of this program went on), in 85 cities in which a huge number is concentrated on the Atlantic area "Casablanca- Kenitra". The overall cost of this program is estimated at 32 billion DH in which 10 billion DH, that is 31% is a government subsidy. The rest is divided between operator revenue equalization (54%), and the contribution of beneficiary households (15%).

At the end of August 2014, a total of 52 cities and centers were declared free of slums, that is 61% of the cities involved, and 1,300,000 inhabitants have seen their living conditions improved. The proportion of urban population living in slums has gone from 9.2% in 1994 to 5.9% in 2012 to 5.6% in 2014 (according to recent results of General Population and Housing Census in 2014).

Graph No 29

Evolution of proportion of urban households with access to a sewage disposal network (in %)





Struggle against climate change

Despite low emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG), Morocco joined very early the efforts of the International Community in mitigating GHG emissions and adapting to their impact.

In addition, Morocco hosted in Marrakesh the 7th Conference of the Parties on Climate Change "COP7", which made the Kyoto Protocol operational, and ratified it in 2002. Morocco has been one of the first countries to establish National Designated Authority for the Clean Development Mechanism. Furthermore, Morocco supported the Copenhagen agreement by notifying the secretariat of the UNFCCC (in January 2010) of a list of Mitigation Measures Appropriate at the National level (NAMAs) by 2020.

Concerning investment, Morocco has developed a **Green Investment Plan** which was presented at the summit on climate change held in September 2014 in New York, during the UN General Assembly. This helped the identification of a portfolio of projects in 7 sectors: water, energy (renewable energy and energy efficiency), the forest, agriculture, urban planning, transportation and solid waste management.

This portfolio of 30 projects which requires an investment budget of **USD25 billion** over a period of 15 years will enable the mobilization of additional funding from the private sector, as well as providing a range of opportunities for the development of public-private partnership.

In addition, Morocco was a candidate for the organization of the 22nd Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, which he will effectively host in December 2016.

2. Constraints

Despite the importance of the adopted measures and the actions and efforts made, there are still some several constraints and difficulties:

- The absence of a regulatory framework related to domains and environmental aspects (land, wastewater treatment, sludge disposal from wastewater treatment operations, etc.)
- The insufficient application of texts related to the preservation and valorization of the environment.
- Different forms of pressures on natural resources in terms of quantity and quality, by human activities (domestic and industrial discharge, exploitation, etc.).
- The effects of climate change remain unpredictable.
- The importance of investments in order to increase the implementation of environmental programs and projects in areas that are affected by certain

forms of degradation (universalize and maintain access to water, sanitation, solid waste management, mitigating climate change and its impact, etc.).

- Lack and cost of land for the acquisition by commons to implement environmental projects (sewage, solid waste management, etc.).
- Not enough awareness and involvement of some actors and civil society when it comes to the preservation of the environment.
- The need to reinforce the capacity of national and local actors concerning the protection of the environment and sustainable development.
- The need of clean technology transfer in the framework of North-South cooperation.

3. Adopted strategy

Many plans, programs and strategies are scheduled or being implemented in the areas of:

Preservation of water resources

In order to meet the numerous challenges in this domain, a **National Water Plan** was developed in 2014 for a demand management policy and resource valorization. This policy includes also the development of the offer by the mobilization of conventional and non conventional water resources, rainwater harvesting, desalination of sea water, and the reuse of treated water. In addition, this policy is based on the conversion of polluted areas, the preservation of resources, and natural and fragile zones (aquifers, wetlands, oases, natural lakes and coastal).

In this context, Morocco has launched a huge project to improve the drinking water supply of Grand Agadir by the desalination of sea water.

Access to liquid sanitation and wastewater treatment

At the urban level, the National Plan of Liquid Sanitation and Wastewater Treatment was developed in 2006 and reviewed in 2008 with the aim of:

- Achieve a total rate of connection to sewage in urban areas of 75% in 2016, 80% in 2020, and 100% in 2030.
- Decrease domestic pollution by 50% in 2016, 60% in 2020, and 100% in 2030.

In rural areas, to overcome the delay caused by the structure of the habitat, a National Rural Sanitation Project was set up in order to serve 32,000 villages within 1,300 of cities.

Improve solid waste management

- Achieve a collection rate of 85% in 2016 and 90% in 2020.
- Set up recovery and treatment centers of household waste for the benefit of all urban areas (100%) in 2020.
- Restore and close all uncontrolled landfills in 2020.
- Organize and promote the “recycling” sector in order to reach a recovery rate of 20% of generated waste.

The global cost of this program is 40 billion DH.

Preservation of forest and biodiversity

The forest is environmentally important, and socially and economically necessary for sustainable development of Morocco. Several projects are developed to reinforce those functions for the preservation and sustainable management of the forest. This includes the restoration of forests by 200,000 ha in 2020 in which 8 million people would benefit from (50% of rural population), watershed upstream dams to fight against water erosion, the conservation of soil fertility and services provided by forestry-pastoral ecosystems, the strengthening of basic socioeconomic infrastructure, and the promotion of income generating activities.

Promotion of renewable energies

The National Energy Strategy sets up these objectives:

- Reach by 2020, 44% of installed electrical power from renewable sources in which 2000 MW are solar power, 2000 MW in wind power and 2000 MW in hydro power.
- Achieve efficiency energy by saving 12% of energy in 2020 and 15% in 2030, essentially in building, industry and transportation sectors.

The first solar complex NOOR I with a capacity of 500 MW was initiated in Ouarzazate since June 2013. The selection of developers for NOOR II and NOOR III is well advanced, and the delivery of electricity from this complex is planned for the end of 2015.

In addition, the first step of environmental upgrading and improvement of citizens living conditions through targeted programs will be continued by a second step which is the National Strategy for Sustainable Development. This latter is being finalized and adopted in order to transform the country's commitments into sustainable development.



Table No 16
Evolution of MDG7 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	1995	2000	2006	2009	2012	2015
Target 21 Integrate the principles of sustainable development into the country's policies and ensure the preservation of biodiversity by reversing the trend of loss of environmental resources	Proportion of forest areas	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7	12.7	
	Average annual regenerated area (reforested and regenerated) (ha)	20,000	20,000	29,651	39,160	(2011) 42,469	
	Size of protected areas for biodiversity preservation national parks (ha)	(1994) 193,380	(2001) 545,000	606 000	(2008) 808 700		
Target 22 Limit emissions of health-affecting, environment-unfriendly gases	Carbon dioxide emissions in millions of metric tons E-CO ₂	(1994) 48.0	(2000) 63.4	(2004) 75.0	(2010) 65.2	71.6	
	Emissions of ozone-depleting substances (metric tons)	(1996) 814	564	(2001) 435			
	GDP per unit of energy use (PPP US\$ per kg of oil equivalent)	(1990) 10.2	(2001) 9.9	5.1	(2008) 6.0		
Target 23 Halve, between 1990 and 2015, the percentages of population without sustainable access to a supply of safe drinking water and improved sanitation	Proportion of population connected to a clean water network or having access to a source of clean water:	1994		2007		2014	
	• urban	81	88	100	100	100	
	• rural	14	43	85	89	94	
	Proportion of urban households with access to a sewage disposal network	(1994) 74.2		(2004) 79.4	(2006) 85.6	(2014) 88.5	
Target 24 By 2020, eradicate all forms of housing not meeting the safety criteria	Proportion of urban population living in slums and basic housing	(1994) 9.2		(2004) 8.2		(2014) 5.6	
	The proportion of the urban household owning or acceding to their house ownership (%)	(1994) 48.5		(2004) 56.8		(2014) 62.7	

Sources: Ministry in charge of Environment, Ministry in charge of Water, Ministry of Energy and Mining, Water and Environment, Ministry of Interior, High Commissioner for Planning, High Commissioner for Water, Forestry, and Fighting against Desertification, Ministry of Housing and Urban Policy, Ministry of Urban and Regional Planning, and National Office for Water and Electricity (ONEE).

Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity

	High	Medium	Low
Data collection capacity	X		
Recent information quality	X		
Statistical Capacity building	X		
Statistical analysis capacity	X		
Capacity to incorporate statistical analysis in the mechanisms of the development of planning policies and resources allocation	X		
Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms	X		

Situation Outlook

Will the goal have been reached by 2015?			
Probably	Potentially	Unlikely	
State of favorable environment			
High	Medium	Low but improving	Weak



Goal 8

Develop Global Partnership for Development

1. Official Development Assistance

Official Development Assistance (ODA) reached at the international level, 125.6 millions of dollars in 2012, a decrease of 4% compared to 2011. In 2013, it increased by 6.1 % in real terms compared to 2012, after two years during which it dropped. Net ODA of member countries of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (DAC-OECD) has reached 134.8 billion dollars. This represented 0.3% of developed countries' combined gross national income, far from the promised 0.7%.

In total, 17 out of 28 DAC member countries have recorded an increase in their allocations to ODA, while 11 of these countries have reported a decrease. In 2013, the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, and France were the largest donors in volume. Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway and Sweden continued to exceed the UN ODA target of 0.7 % of gross national income, while the United Kingdom reached that goal.

2. The financing of social sectors in Morocco

The government devotes more than half of its general budget to the financing of social sectors. Education and health, two key sectors in the achievement of MDGs, directly involved in the achievement of four goals, have benefited from substantial budget increases these last years. Thus, the budget allocated to these two sectors increased by 48% and 61% respectively throughout the period 2008-2015, with an average annual growth rates in the range of 5.7% and 7%.

Table No 17

Evolution of the budget of social sectors in the government general budget and GDP

	1994	2001	2008	2012	2014
In % of general budget	36.3	47.4	53.0	55.2	54.4
In % of GDP	8.6	12.0	12.3	16.2	15.6

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance, and HCP.

The share of social sectors in the government general budget currently represents 54.4% against 36% in 1994. This sustained fiscal effort should allow for the continuation of the different programs that aim to improve the health of mothers and children, to fight diseases, to improve the rates of schooling, and to fight illiteracy and school dropout.

In fighting poverty, a total budget of 2.54 billion DH has been devoted to the implementation in 2014 of INDH and 5.55 million DH (on september 19th, 2014) constituted the resources allocated to the support fund for social cohesion which aims to strengthen social actions in favor of poor populations. In 2015, the INDH support fund and the Social Cohesion Fund benefited from 3.1 and 3.8 billion DH respectively. Likewise, an amount of 1.3 billion DH is allocated to the Fund for the development of rural and mountainous areas.

The Compensation fund

The cost of compensation followed an upward trend, affecting heavily the budget balance and public accounts. From 2002 to 2012, the compensation cost rose from 4 billion DH to 56.3 billion DH, thus going from 0.9% to 6.8% of GDP. In 2013, it reached 44.4 billion DH, representing thus 5.1% of GDP. Throughout the period 2009 - 2013, the combined amount of the compensation cost reached a total of 194.8 billion DH, of which 162.2 billion DH, that is 83.3%, for petroleum products, 19.5 billion DH, that is 10 %, for sugar, and 13.1 billion DH, that is 6.7%, for flour.

The compensation cost has become a non-reducible and uncontrollable expenditure over which the government has little control as to its forecast and the mobilization of the necessary resources to handle it. This cost has for some years become a major problem for the balance of public finances. Its weight creates tight constraints on the budget deficit, and therefore reduces the margin of financing public investment and slows down the country's major strategic projects.

Faced with this unsustainable situation, the government took two important decisions in 2013 to limit the impact of higher oil prices on the local market: the partial indexation of petrol, diesel, and industrial fuel prices to world market prices and the signing of a price hedging arrangement. In addition, a conventional support system for the transportation sector has been established.

In 2014, the government took the decision to remove the compensation for petrol and industrial fuel and to reduce following a set schedule the diesel subsidy. It is true that these measures allow for containing the compensation cost within the limits of the budget appropriations earmarked in the government budget, but they are far from being a sustainable solution to the problematic of compensation since it's is very costly, compromising the chances of a sound and sustainable growth.

Table No 18

Evolution of the subsidy share granted to the compensation fund in government budget and GDP

	1994	2001	2008	2012	2014
In % of general budget	3.5	5.9	12.5	21.5	12.0
In % of GDP	1.0	1.5	2.9	6.8	3.5

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance, and HCP.

National Initiative for Human Development (INDH)

Since its launch by His Majesty King Mohammed VI in 2005, INDH has recorded probing results whether qualitatively or quantitatively, demonstrating thus the relevance of its method and the accuracy of its approach.

In fact, the launch of the INDH has given a new impetus to the development dynamic and to the process of

fighting against poverty. It was designed to strengthen the action of the central and of local authorities. It is based on the targeting of the poorest areas and vulnerable population as well as on the participation of the population for better ownership, and sustainability of projects and actions. It favors the contractual approach and partnership with associations, local development actors, and community development organizations.

The 2005 priority program signaled the actual start-up of the INDH with the establishment of the governance bodies, the initiation of the strategic and participatory approach, and the launch of short-term, high-impact human development actions: the fight against school drop-out, health care, and the improvement of people's living conditions.

Throughout the period 2005-2015 about 38,341 projects have been launched within the framework of the INDH, of which 12,868 projects for fighting poverty in rural areas. As to the program of the fight against social exclusion in urban areas, 6,388 basic social amenities projects were programmed.

The positive effect of the INDH has led to the launch of a second phase over the period 2011-2015, with a budget of 17 billion DH dedicated to the extension of targeted areas, of which 9.4 billion DH constitutes the contribution from the government general budget, that is 55.3%. The distribution of this budget per year and per source is as follows:

Table No 19

Evolution of allocated budget to the second phase of INDH (in millions DH)

Source/Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Government general budget	1,680	1,780	1,880	1,980	2,080	9,400
Local authorities	1,100	1,105	1,145	1,130	1,120	5,600
Public institutions	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
International Cooperation	200	200	200	200	200	1,000
Total	3,180	3,285	3,425	3,510	3,600	17,000

Source: INDH.

3. Morocco's commitment to South-South and triangular cooperation

South-South cooperation translates Morocco's political will. It is inscribed in the Constitution adopted on July 2nd, 2011, which asserts the commitment of the Kingdom to « consolidate the relations of cooperation and solidarity with African peoples and countries, namely the sub-Saharan and Sahel countries» and to «strengthen the South-South cooperation». Armed

with state of the art expertise and a strategic presence in several economic sectors, Morocco is particularly well positioned to play a leading role in and beyond the region.

The Moroccan Agency for International Cooperation (MAIC) was created in 1986. It constitutes a flexible and efficient tool for the execution of the cooperation policy designed by the Moroccan government within the framework of South-South cooperation. It is responsible for the implementation of this policy in its bilateral and



tripartite forms while putting the human factor at the heart of the development strategy.

The intervention of the Agency is built around the following priority areas: Staff training, technical cooperation, economic and financial cooperation, and humanitarian action.

a. Staff training

The Kingdom's new foreign policy orientations have given a new and strong impetus to bilateral cooperation actions, namely in foreign staff training in Morocco's high public education institutions. These actions have in the last few years taken important dimensions. Thus, the Kingdom has become a favorite destination for a growing number of foreign students, especially African students willing to continue their higher and specialized studies.

The number of countries that have benefited from Morocco's scholarship offer has substantially increased since the year 2000 and reached 96 countries in 2013. Nevertheless, only 83 countries have submitted applications. The total number of students who have benefited from a registration with a scholarship granted by Morocco since the creation of the MAIC has reached 16,600 students, distributed according to geographic areas (sub-Saharan Africa: 11,200; Arab world: 4,648; South America and the Caribbean: 186; Europe: 80).

The total number of foreign laureates in Morocco since 1990 is 15,173 according to the statistics available at MAIC.

b. Technical cooperation and skills development

Technical cooperation is available in bilateral form within the framework of agreements signed with some countries, or in tripartite form, associating Morocco with donor countries, International Organizations or with multilateral capital providers.

As a matter of fact, tripartite cooperation has several advantages, and allows for the possibility of making countries of the south profit from Morocco's know-how and expertise appreciated in Africa with the involvement of international capital providers.

Morocco's offer of cooperation can take many forms: long-, medium-, and short-term training, on-site training, training in recipient countries, training sessions in Morocco, advanced training courses, study tours, dispatching experts, carrying out joint programs, etc.

The technical assistance that Morocco provides is a means of promoting know-how and Morocco's

potential in a multiplicity of fields where Morocco's expertise is given credit, recognized and appreciated at the regional, continental, and international levels. Currently, Morocco witnesses a strong foreign demand, especially from Africa, soliciting the expertise gained by Moroccan professionals in the fields of health, agriculture, drinking water, sea fishing, infrastructure, justice, etc.

Thus, more than 600 training courses, internships, and fact-finding visits have been organized since 2001 in the form of short- and medium-term training cycles in some twenty fields related to administration, and the technical and professional domains.

Furthermore, since several years Morocco has experienced a special interest of African countries in Morocco's expert missions, particularly in the carrying out of technical studies, in designing infrastructure, as well as in productive and social sectors, and in services.

More than 250 expert missions have been carried out since 2001. Nevertheless, judging by the requests registered, a great potential is still available for Morocco in this field. In tripartite cooperation, since 2000 more than 900 African managers and executives have benefited from training courses in Morocco in priority sectors, particularly those related to drinking water, sea fishing, merchant navy, space technologies, customs, road maintenance, and health. This was achieved through the association of Morocco with capital providing countries and/or international organizations.

c. Economic, financial cooperation and capacity building

The economic and trade cooperation constitutes a corner stone of the Morocco's strategy in foreign action, particularly with regard to sub-Saharan Africa. Thus, the Kingdom of Morocco has developed a diversified cooperation with its African partners, and launched a series of initiatives in favor of these countries, particularly the least developed countries (LDC). In 2000, Morocco has cancelled the debt of a number of these countries and launched the initiative of duty-free, above-quota access to local Moroccan market in favor of the LDC of Africa, an initiative notified to the World Trade Organization in 2011.

The efforts of public authorities have been strengthened by the Moroccan private sector which is encouraged to invest in the LDC of Africa based on a legal framework adequate for a Morocco-Africa partnership. In effect, in 2010 Morocco was the second investor in Africa with a budget of 582 million DH, about 91% of Morocco's foreign direct investments. 56% of these investments were carried out in the Economic Community of

Western African States (ECOWAS), mainly in mining, telecommunications, finance, and construction and civil engineering. Moroccan investments carried out in Africa during the last five years amounted to more than 1.7 billion DH despite a difficult global economic environment. The Moroccan investments carried out by the private sector experience a diversification in sectors and concern basically sectors with high added value (financial services, telecommunications, energy, mining, construction and civil engineering, ICT, electrification...).

In addition, to further encourage the Moroccan public sector to get involved in the process of building the African economies, the government of Morocco has undertaken in the 2011 fiscal year the implementation of measures in favor of Moroccan investors in Africa which consisted in allowing the ceiling of investment allowed in Africa to go from 4 million to 13 million dollars. Furthermore, Morocco has in several occasions expressed its willingness to work towards a specific and renewed partnership with countries of the South within a framework of regional and inter-regional cooperation, particularly with Small Island Developing States (SIDS), in accordance with the Barbados and Mauritius Strategies. As for the MAIC, it is more and more active in the field of economic and financial cooperation with countries on the African continent, in Central and South America, in the Caribbean, and in Oceania. Within this framework, several countries benefit from financial assistance devoted to the carrying out of economic and social development projects, particularly in the fields of education, health, and agriculture.

The years 2014 and 2015 were marked by the Royal visit to several African countries, which culminated in

the signature of about a hundred **agreements and bilateral conventions** between Morocco and some African countries, namely **Mali, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Guinea-Conakry, Senegal, and Guinea-Bissau** in several domains of cooperation: **agriculture, aquaculture, livestock, forestry and sea fishing, aviation, industry, mining, the oil and gas sector, electricity, transport, tourism, real-estate, infrastructures, water, health, education, technical education, professional training, and human development.**

Thus, since his accession to the throne, His Majesty Mohammed VI made 8 visits to Africa and went to more than 17 African countries. These visits culminated in the signature of about 500 agreements and partnership agreements.

d. Humanitarian actions

There are also humanitarian operations carried out by Morocco in favor of countries affected by natural disasters, which constitute a significant portion of the MAIC, and whose budget went from 8,848,200 DH in 2001 (that is US\$ 1,040,964.70) to 81,523,536 DH (that is US\$ 9,591,004.24) in 2006.

Humanitarian action has always constituted a lever of Morocco's active solidarity towards African countries, and for more than twenty-five years it took the form of emergency operations that generally consisted of drug donations, food, and equipments. For example, in 2008 an amount of 23 million DH was allocated to this component and profited some countries in Africa, Latin-America, and South-East Asia, which were for the most affected by natural disasters.



Table No 20
Evolution of MDG8 Indicators

Targets	Indicators	1990	2000	2009	2012	2014	2015
Target 25 Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable non-discriminatory trading and financial system	Net ODA in % of GNP of donor countries		0.22	(2008) 0.30	0.29		
	Proportion of ODA to basic social services (%) *	(1990-1996) 18.6	(1997-2001) 14.8				
Target 26 Deal comprehensively with the debt problems of developing countries through national and international measures in order to make their debt sustainable in the long term	External debt service in % of exports of goods and services *	15.0	5.7	1.4			
	Proportion of ODA provided under the debt relief						
Target 27 In cooperation with developing countries, develop and implement strategies that enable young people to find decent and productive work	Unemployment rate 15-24 years of age *						
	All	—	19.6	17.9	18.6	20.0	
	Male	—	21.1	18.5	18.4	20.3	
Female	—	15.8	16.2	19.2	15.3		
Target 28 In cooperation with pharmaceutical companies, provide access to affordable essential drugs in developing countries	Share of household expenses reserved for drugs in total health expenditure (%)	(1997-1998) 60.0	(2001) 59.1	(2006) 45.6	—		
Target 29 In cooperation with the private sector, make available the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies	Number of telephone lines per 1,000 inhabitants **	(2000) 50.5	(2009) 108.9	(2012) 110.8	(2013) 89.0	75.0	
	Number of Internet subscribers per 1,000 people**	(2000) 1.2	(2009) 33.6	(2011) 99.0	—	294.5	
	Percentage of households with a personal computer **	(2004) 11.0	(2007) 17.2	—	—	—	
	Number of subscribers to mobile phones per 1,000 people	(2000) 104.0	(2009) 804.4	(2011) 1 135.7	—	1 300.0	

Sources: * HCP, ** Observatory of information technology.

Appendix: Summary of the results of the National Consultations held during 2013-2014 around the post 2015 development priorities

Themes	Participants' aspirations	Recommended measures
Education: Universal and quality education	Moroccans aspire to universal quality education, based on equality and parity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Universalization of preschooling and schooling in remote regions. – Improving educational support, training and qualification of teachers. – Improving school facilities that are inadequate and without the slightest sanitary conditions, especially in rural areas. – Improving the quality of education: the fight against congestion classes and multi-level classes. – Fight against school dropout. – Promoting investment to make schools attractive (green spaces, access to water and sanitation, etc.).
Health: Access to quality health services	Universal access (including accessibility) to quality health services is a major challenge for Moroccans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increasing budget allocations for the health sector. – Reducing child mortality and improving women's health. – Production of generic drugs. – Strengthening of prevention and support. – Strengthening a quality training of health care professionals, medical and paramedical staff. – Improvement of quality of health services (reception, health infrastructure). – Universalization of coverage by social security. – Support for HIV.
Fight against urban/rural disparities	Ensure balance in development between the territorial components, enhancing investment in suburban areas and reducing the isolation of the rural world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promotion of rural areas by encouraging a solidier agriculture and economy, and by reconciling the population with their territory. – Adoption of a territorial approach by encouraging production. – Promotion of ecotourism and capacity building in the marketing of local products. – Harmonization of public policies based on a partnership ethic and a solidier economy. – Dealing with inequality of access to health care, inadequate funding and lack of human resources in the health field. – Promoting people's access to basic infrastructure (rural roads, sanitation...) and to mobility. – Résorption of slums. – Strengthening of centers and proximity structures. – Creating Sociocultural infrastructure.
Promotion of men/women equality and empower women	Moroccans aspire to a Morocco where women enjoy greater security and more freedom to go out and work. Access to employment should also help increase empower women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Eradication of all forms of violence against women. – Improved Equity in retention and success of girls' access to scientific, technical and professional careers. – Integration of the gender dimension in any action for economic, social and environmental development. – Ensure gender equality in all areas: education, employment... – Fight against underemployment and precariousness of female employment, as well as any other form of discrimination against women. – Strengthening the role of women in politics.

Themes	Participants' aspirations	Recommended measures
Promote employment, especially the one of youth		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Insertion of young people in the labor market. – Promotion of training and professional qualification of young people in new jobs of the future. – Promotion of youth participation in political life. – Provide support for the private sector. – Promotion of investment and access of Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) to funding. – Promotion of professional training. – Fight against child labor, particularly in rural areas.
Support and integration of people with special needs, the elderly and the vulnerable		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Setting up health policies towards vulnerable people (elderly, people and people with special needs). – Positive discrimination in access to education of people with special needs. – Access of categories the most vulnerable of the population to education, particularly in rural areas. – Generalization of social and medical coverage for people with special needs and vulnerable population. – Take in charge of old age people with pension and social welfare systems. – Support the elderly, street children, and people with disabilities. – Support the mentally ill.
Governance and Rule of Law: A responsible political class is the guarantor of rights and institutions respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensuring social justice and equality. – Ensure compliance and enforcement of laws. – Allow greater participation in decision making processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Need to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders as “conspower vis-à-vis politicians” by providing audit institutions and good governance, with necessary means. The need also to “increase transparency” and to establish the principle of accountability of policy makers. – Community-Management of basic public services and simplifying administrative and legal procedures.
Moroccan advocate a return to values of citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The promotion of values of citizenship. – The return to “traditional” values of equity, solidarity, respect and assistance to the poor. The family is seen as the main element of a serene social integration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dynamisation of civil society and strengthening of its capacity. – Participation in political and social life to promote active citizenship and pacified social relations. – Promotion of the cultural dimension.
Environmental sustainability: Respect for the environment is above all a civic value	Protection of the environment, of the quality of life and preservation of natural heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improvement of the well-being of the population through increased green spaces, the development of the living space. – Improving sanitation, solid waste collection and recycling. – Fight Against climate change by reducing GHG emissions and adaptation of sectoral strategies to the impacts of climate change. – Preservation of historical and architectural heritage of the regions (Ksours, Kasbah, imperial cities, Agoudar, etc.). – Integration of gender in the field of the environment. – Fight against desertification, preservation of forest heritage and oasis zones. – Preservation of water resources. – Preservation of biodiversity. – Inverse the trend of degradation of water resources, forestry and soils. – Promotion of sustainable agriculture. – Promotion of the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency. – Launch of a Green growth. – Promotion of environmental education, particularly through the promotion of “green schools”.
Human rights: Moroccans want the same rights for all without inequalities or disparities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Respect and realization of human rights enshrined in the Constitution and in international conventions signed by Morocco. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Promotion of access to education and health services to people with special needs and the elderly. – Development of monitoring indicators and means for tracking the effective implementation of international conventions.

Themes	Participants' aspirations	Recommended measures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – These rights concern freedom of expression, the right to decent housing, decent work, security, freedom of movement of persons and goods, to non-refoulement, access to information, to peace, health, to a healthy environment, to justice, recreation, fairness and equal opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The fight against corruption and cronyism by establishing a system of control and sanction mechanisms. – Access to the labor market, education, and health. – Promoting equal opportunities and status of all citizens. – Reduced Social and regional inequalities. – The fight against social exclusion.
Funding development goes together with South-South cooperation and the strengthening of the UN role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The United Nations should play a greater role at the global level for conflict resolution, respect for fundamental rights, the protection of refugees, the mobility of people, mobilization of resources for development and coordination. – The need for greater involvement of civil society and the private sector, development (or reinforcement where they exist) of mechanisms of transparency and accountability, and promote access to the economic system, for example through bank dedicated to small enterprises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Suggestion to link funding of development to the effective respect for human rights and women rights. – Strengthening regional integration and South-South cooperation would help share experiences and capitalize on the expertise and know-how of countries.
Peace and Security: The Peaceful coexistence and international peace can guarantee the security of individuals and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Moroccans are aware that security concerns all individuals and all communities. – Security is identified as a major challenge post 2015 because of poverty, unemployment, terrorism, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Opening of a constructive dialogue between all partners at regional and global levels, based on cooperation within the framework of solidarity security policies to better intervene in the conflict zones. – Enhancing the role and capacity of the United Nations, in coordination with civil society and governments to develop a common vision to build bridges between peoples, not forgetting to ensure the safety and security of minorities.

List of Acronyms

ARV	Antiretroviral	NHRI	National Initiative for Human Development
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	NSDS	Implementation strategy national Sustainable Development Strategy
CEDAW	Convention Elimination Discrimination against Women	NSE	National Survey on Employment
DCTD	Diagnostic Center of Tuberculosis and Diseases	NSHCE	National Survey on Household Consumption and Expenditure
DCTR	Diagnostic Centers for Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases	NSHSL	National Survey on Household Standard of Living
DH	Dirham	NSPFH	National Survey on Population and Family Health
DRSC	Demographic and Research Studies Center	NSPH	National Survey on Population and Health
ECOWA	Economic Community of West African States	NTBCP	National Tuberculosis Control Plan
EPSF	Survey on Population and Family Health	ODA	Official Development Assistance
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	ONEE	National Office of Electricity and Drinking Water
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	OPHI	Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative
GFCF	Gross Fixed Capital Formation	PLWHA	People Living With HIV/AIDS
GMP	Green Morocco Plan	PMTCT	Prevention and Transmission of HIV from Mother to Child
HCB	Health Care Base facilities	PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
HCP	High Commission for Planning	RAMED	Medical Assistance schema for the economically disadvantaged
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency virus infection/ acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
ICRAM	Concerted Initiative for the Strengthening of the Achievements of Moroccan Women	SESI	Social Economy and Solidarity Initiatives
IDU	Injecting Drug Users	UN	United Nations
LB	Living Birth	UN Women	United Nations Fund for Women
LDC	Least Developed Countries	UN-AIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
MAIC	Moroccan Agency for International Cooperation	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
MDG	Millennium Development Goals	UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission of Africa
MFPMA	Ministry of Public Service and Modernization of the Administration	UNESCO	United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization
MSWFSD	Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development	UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
MW	Megawatts	UNFPA	United Nations Fund for Population Activities
NAMAs	Mitigation Measures Appropriate at the National level	UNICEF	United Nations of International Children's Emergency Fund
NCESD	National Charter for the Environment and Sustainable Development	VAT	Value Added Tax
NDS	National Demographic Survey	WHO	World Health Organization
NES	National Environmental Strategy		
NGO	Non Governmental Organizations		