

Single Support Framework

Morocco 2014-2017

SUMMARY

Morocco and the European Union have established a strong and dynamic partnership which has been steadily deepening since the year 2000 when the EU/Morocco Association Agreement entered into force. In 2008, the special nature of the EU/Morocco relationship was recognised when the latter was granted an “Advanced Status”. In December 2013, the Action Plan for the implementation of the Advanced Status 2013-2017 was signed and provides concrete orientations to the EU/Morocco cooperation. Negotiations on a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) started in 2013 are currently ongoing and a political declaration on a Mobility Partnership was signed in June 2013.

Morocco is one of our main political, economic and security partner in the southern Mediterranean. Morocco also holds a central role in regional cooperation in the Maghreb. Morocco remains one of the largest recipients of EU assistance of the Neighbourhood.

Following comprehensive consultations with the Government, civil society and other donors, and taking into account the government's reform priorities and aid effectiveness principles, a consensus was reached regarding three priority sectors of intervention to be financed through the bilateral envelope 2014-2017:

- **Equitable access to basic social services**

While over the past decade a number of social and human development indicators have improved, the country's socio-economic fabric remains characterised by significant social and territorial inequalities and an unequal access to basic social services such as health, education or water and sanitation. The EU will support the Government's efforts to overcome these disparities and ensure universal access to these services.

- **Support to democratic governance, the rule of law and mobility**

The adoption – in 2011 – of a Constitutional reform which enshrines a number of fundamental rights and freedoms represented a major headway in Morocco's democratisation process. While some progress has been achieved in implementing these principles, a significant number of them remain to be translated into ordinary laws, institutions and daily practice. The EU aims to support these reforms and institutions. The EU will also support the successful implementation of the EU-Morocco Mobility Partnership.

- **Jobs, sustainable and inclusive growth**

While Morocco has enjoyed a decade of sustained economic growth, growth rates proved insufficient to significantly reduce unemployment and poverty levels. Morocco suffers from an economic fabric of Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) which need to be more competitive in order to boost exports and create jobs and a population inadequately trained to

respond to the needs of the private sector. The EU intervention will assist Morocco's efforts in boosting the competitiveness of SMEs, while at the same time support the reform of the vocational training system and employment policies. It will also support efforts to mainstream environment and climate considerations in business operations.

Besides priority sectors a capacity development envelope and a civil society envelope are foreseen.

<i>Indicative allocation for the whole period (2014-2020)</i>	<i>€1,323,000,000 – €1,617,000,000</i>
<i>Indicative allocation for the 1st period (2014-2017)</i>	<i>€728,000,000 – €890,000,000</i>
<i>Breakdown for the 1st period</i>	
<i>Equitable Access to Basic Social Services</i>	<i>30 %</i>
<i>Support to Democratic Governance, the Rule of Law and Mobility</i>	<i>25 %</i>
<i>Jobs, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth</i>	<i>25 %</i>
<i>Complementary Support for Capacity Development and Civil Society</i>	<i>20 %</i>