



World Bank Activities in Morocco

Country Assistance Strategy

The World Bank's Country Assistance Strategy for 2006 to 2009 plans to contribute to the broad goals of accelerating sustainable employment-generating growth and reducing poverty and marginalization. It will focus upon four objectives: (1) improve competitiveness and the investment climate; (2) increase access to basic services by poor and marginalized groups; (3) improve the efficiency of the education system; and (4) improve water management and access to water services and sanitation. The resources implemented by the World Bank Group to support the Moroccan Government's efforts are mainly: investment and development policy loans, analytical work, loans and technical assistance of the International Finance Corporation to private enterprises.

Recent and Ongoing Analytical Work

Through in-depth analytical work, the World Bank helps support policy choices and reforms. Recent analytical work includes: an in-depth poverty report which provides the Government with cutting-edge tools to analyze poverty trends and geographic distribution; a report on the reform of public administration; studies on tertiary education and pension reform; a report on trade and transport logistics; and a report on investment climate assessment; policy notes on the water sector and irrigation; and a thorough analysis of reform options for the cereal sector. Several of these reports are accessible to the public through the World Bank website and at the Public Information Centers in Morocco.

The World Bank is currently preparing a country economic memorandum, and additional work on agriculture reform. Through multi-year programmatic support, the Bank continues its work on poverty, higher education, public administration reform and water.

Portfolio At-A-Glance as of August 15, 2005

	Approval Date	Net Commitment	Amount Disbursed	Closing Date
		(US\$ million)		
Fes-Medina Rehabilitation	10/29/1998	9.6	7.0	11/30/2005
Health Management	12/17/1998	45.7	18.2	12/31/2006
Protected Areas Management - GEF	1/27/2000	10.5	3.4	6/30/2006
Irrigation-Based Community Development	5/31/2001	32.6	5.7	6/30/2006
Social Development Agency	6/4/2002	5.0	1.8	6/30/2008
Adult Literacy (Alpha Maroc)	9/18/2002	4.1	0.6	6/30/2006
Asset Management Reform Sector Adjustment	6/5/2003	45.0	21.3	12/31/2005
Rainfed Agriculture Development	6/10/2003	26.8	1.8	12/31/2009
Housing Sector DPL	06/30/2005	150.0	0.0	12/31/2007
Rural Roads	6/29/2004	36.9	0.2	6/30/2010
Basic Education Reform Support Program	02/08/2005	80.0	14.1	06/30/2008

Projects Under Implementation

SOCIAL SECTORS

Adult Literacy (Alpha Maroc) Loan 46790

Original Loan amount: US\$4.1 million

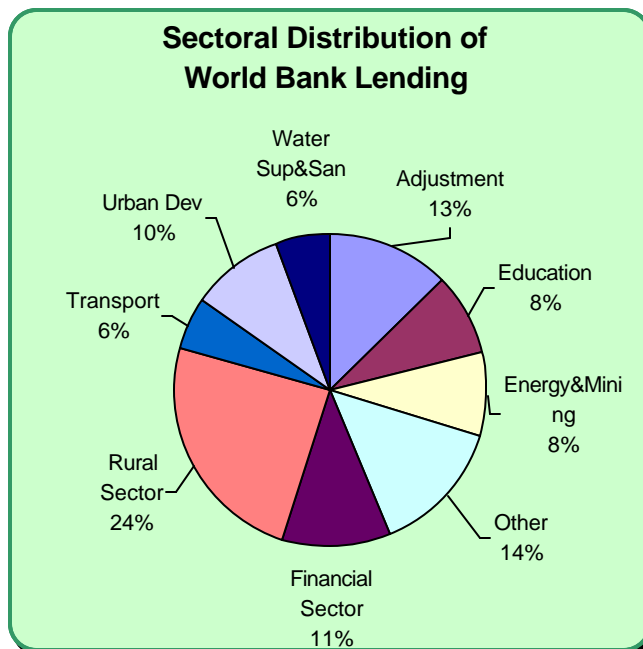
Approval date: 9/18/2002

Effectiveness date: 5/5/2003

Closing date: 6/30/2006

Implementing agency: Ministry of National education and Youth

The project aims to testing new approaches to quality teaching and adult literacy program management. If proven effective, the project will enable the Government of Morocco to implement nation-wide programs that result in lasting literacy outcomes. The project will: (a) improve program quality, by enhancing learner participation and performance through a review and modernization of curriculum content and teaching methods; and (b) strengthen management of the educational system, by developing a partnership between the government and service contractors.



Support for the Social Development Agency (loan 46610)

Original Loan amount: US\$5 million

Approval date: 6/4/2002

Effectiveness date: 5/22/2003

Closing date: 6/30/2008

Implementing agency: ADS (Social Development Agency)

The overall goal of the project is to introduce new approaches and mechanisms for reaching poor communities and vulnerable groups. The project specific objectives are to: (a) test new approaches for delivering social services in a more relevant and cost effective manner by supporting the establishment of a participative demand-driven mechanism that will reach out to poor communities; (b) better organize local communities to take charge of setting development priorities and implementing development activities by strengthening the capacity of local NGOs; (c) develop and strengthen participative and decentralized programs to reduce poverty and fight exclusion and to reduce vulnerability of the poor especially in rural areas.

Health Financing and Management (loan 44240)

Original Loan amount: US\$66.0 million

Cancelled Amount: US\$20.3 million

Approval date: 12/17/1998

Effectiveness date: 11/29/1999

Closing date: 12/31/2006

Implementing agency: Ministry of Health (MOH)

The project objectives are: (a) improve the efficiency and the quality of care in 14 public hospitals by strengthening strategic planning capacity and introducing organizational and management tools and quality control mechanisms; b) mobilize additional resources, while preserving equity, by assisting the Government in introducing new financing mechanisms; c) strengthen MOH's policy formulation and sector management capacity by assisting MOH in adjusting and performing its mandate in the context of the Regionalization Law and provide MOH administrative staff with the management tools required.

Basic Education Reform Support (loan 72730)

Original Loan amount: US\$80.0 million

Approval date: 2/8/2005

Effectiveness date: 4/19/2005
Closing date: 6/30/2008
Implementing agency: Ministry of Education

The principal objective of PARSEM is to support Government efforts to provide a primary and lower-secondary education of improving quality to all children ages 6-15 in a financially sustainable manner. To meet this objective, PARSEM supports the institutionalization of practices, mechanisms, and approaches that will improve the capacity of the education system on an ongoing basis.

PUBLIC SECTOR

Asset Management Reform Sector Adjustment (loan 47000)

Original Loan amount: US\$45 million
Approval date: 6/5/2003
Effectiveness date: 8/22/2003
Closing date: 12/31/2005
Implementing agencies: Directorate of Asset Management (Ministry of Finance and Privatization) and Equipment (Ministry of Publics Equipments)

The objectives of the project are expenditure rationalization and efficiency in the social sectors, (public education and health), through improved asset rationalization and management.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Rural Roads (loan 47470)

Original Loan amount: US\$36.9 million
Approval date: 6/29/2004
Effectiveness date: 6/21/2005
Closing date: 6/30/2010
Implementing agency: Ministry of Public Works and Transport

The project's objective is to increase the level of road access by the rural population, especially in the more disadvantaged provinces, by supporting a national program of road improvements and through strengthening institutional capacity. The key components of this project are rehabilitation and/or upgrading of about 625 km of rural roads and institutional development.

Fes-Medina Rehabilitation (loan 44020)

Original Loan amount: US\$14.0 million
Cancellation amount: US\$4.4 million
Approval date: 10/29/1998
Effectiveness date: 9/1/1999
Closing date: 11/30/2005
Implementing agency: ADER-FES

This project seeks to: (a) assist in the conservation and rehabilitation of Fes-Medina, especially the historic housing stock and urban environment, coupled with the conservation or rehabilitation of historic buildings; and (b) use the process of rehabilitation to alleviate poverty.

Housing Sector DPL (loan 73140)

Original Loan amount: US\$150 million
Approval date: 6/30/2005
Effectiveness date: n.a.
Closing date: 12/31/2007
Implementing agency: Ministère des finances et de la privatisation ; Ministère délégué auprès du Premier Ministre chargé de l'Habitat et de l'Urbanisme

The development objectives of the Project are to: (i) strengthen the institutional, regulatory and fiscal environment for a well-functioning housing market and for the emergence of market-based solutions to the country's housing sector constraints and needs; and (ii) increase the access of low-income and severely disadvantaged households to more affordable and higher quality housing.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT / ENVIRONMENT

Irrigation-Based Community Development (loan 46070)

Original Loan amount: US\$32.5 million

Approval date: 5/31/2001

Effectiveness date: 7/24/2002

Closing date: 6/30/2006

Implementing agency: Ministry of Public Works, Rural Development, and Water and Forests

This project seeks to improve the incomes and quality of life of rural communities centered on small and medium irrigation (SMI) in 15 provinces over a 13-year period, primarily through demand-driven, coordinated investments in SMI rehabilitation and improvement and complementary community infrastructure, including rural roads, water supply, electrification, health, and educational facilities.

Rainfed Agriculture Development (loan 47010)

Original Loan amount: US\$26.8 million

Approval date: 6/10/2003

Effectiveness date: 7/27/2004

Closing date: 12/31/2009

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

The Project has the following objectives: (a) build institutional capacity for project identification and implementation in rainfed areas in partnership with local organizations; (b) improve the life conditions and the household incomes of local populations in three provinces (Azilal, Khenifra and Al Haouz); and (c) reduce the vulnerability of production systems to drought.

Protected Areas Management GEF (TF023494)

Original Loan amount: US\$10.5 million

Approval date: 1/27/2000

Effectiveness date: 11/14/2000

Closing date: 6/30/2006

Implementing agency: Ministry of Agriculture, Forest Administration

This project, supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) aims to: (a) improve conservation of globally significant ecosystems and species in Morocco; (b) contribute to the establishment of a system of protected areas; and (c) strengthen the institutional capacity for sustainable conservation management.

Projects Under Preparation

PUBLIC SECTOR

Financial Sector DPL

The project's objective is to strengthen the enabling environment for financial intermediation and risk management, and for increasing private sector role and participation in the provision of financial services. The project would assist in: (1) implementing an effective legal, regulatory and supervisory framework, in line with international standards, across the banking, insurance, and securities markets so as to improve financial intermediation and mobilization of savings; (2) restructuring the specialized public financial institutions in addressing the stock of non-performing assets, and streamlining their role and activities in the financial sector; and (3) developing the payment systems, improving the transparency and integrity of the financial sector in strengthening AML policies, and upgrading accounting and auditing standards.

Public Administration Reform Loan II

This is the second phase of the programmatic public administration reform development policy loan. Government will continue to implement its reforms of public expenditure management, civil service management, and administrative decentralization.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Rural Roads II

The proposed Project will complement the first Rural Roads Project by supporting the newly-established "Caisse de financement routier" financing mechanism to accelerate the implementation of national program of rural roads. It will improve rural access and strengthen the capacity of local government in planning and managing rural road networks.

Water Development Policy Loan

This development policy loan will support continuation of water sector reforms in areas of governance, regulation, and integrated water resource management.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT / ENVIRONMENT

Solar Based Thermal Plant – GEF

Implementing agency: ONE (National electricity utility)

This project supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), will: (a) increase the use of energy sources in Morocco; (b) allow Morocco to become a leader in the application of solar thermal technologies and; (c) enable Morocco to embark on a path of sustainable development.

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation

The project's development objective would be: (a) to support government programs to increase rural community access to potable water supply and safe sanitation, and improve hygiene practices; and (b) to ensure the long-term sustainability of the sector. The project would target provinces and rural populations who most lack access to safe drinking water (Rif, Pre-rif and Atlantic regions).



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Satellite PICs also exist in Rabat, Mohammedia, Fes, Ifrane and Marrakech
Contact information for these can be obtained from the PIC in Rabat.