



Morocco: Employment through Green Jobs

New structures for the education and training of young people improve employability and income in rural areas.

Special Initiative MENA Region
Employment promotion



The challenge

In recent years, Morocco's economy has recorded constant, but moderate growth. This is helping to improve the living conditions of the Moroccan population.

However, there is still a huge rural-urban divide in Morocco. Up to now, it has predominantly been the more highly qualified people in urban areas who have benefited from this development. In contrast, people in rural areas continue to have very few career prospects. Those living here are faced with major social and financial problems.

According to official figures, the unemployment rate in the population as a whole is ten per cent. The problem is even more serious among young people, nearly a quarter of whom are not in any form of employment. In the countryside in particular, not enough jobs are being created to sufficiently integrate school leavers and university graduates into the world of work. At the same time, there is a lack of training placements. The country's social climate and continued positive development are at risk.

Although the available natural resources offer great market potential for green economic activities and careers in this sector, the country has up to now hardly tapped this potential.

Our approach

The project supports young people in rural areas who are unemployed or only in temporary employment and who have little if any training. It strives to achieve a fundamental improvement in their employment and income situation.

To this end, it is developing training courses for ecologically

sustainable careers, referred to as 'green jobs'. In addition to this, the project provides technical advisory services and funding. The offer is particularly aimed at micro and small enterprises and young entrepreneurs in areas related to the environment such as fishing or processing wood and natural products. This is giving rise to an increased number of qualified jobs for young people and women.

Project title	Promotion of Green Jobs for young people in rural areas
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), co-financed by the European Union (EU)
Implementing organisation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Project region	Rabat; pilot regions in Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima, Fez-Meknès and Beni Mellal-Khénifra, Rabat-Salé
Lead executing agency	Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Fisheries, Rural Development and Waters and Forests - Department of Waters and Forests
National partners	Mohammed V Foundation for Solidarity
Overall term	January 2018 to March 2022
Volume	EUR 5.5 million

The project also strives to create a decently organised advice and training network for green employment. This will allow people in rural areas and in mountainous regions to obtain professional advice on implementing their ideas even after the project has ended. This can facilitate long-term development in the region.



Photo on the left: Women of the women's cooperative Sanaad harvesting spices.

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Photo on the right: Floating cages for fish farming of Tilapia.

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The plan is for at least 2,000 young people between the ages of 16 and 35 to find new employment by the year 2022. At least a third of them are to be women. A further goal is to support at least 1,000 young people and ten company founders in increasing their incomes through their projects. The national education and training centre plays a particular role here. The plans, which have been drawn up with the Moroccan Department of Water and Forests and the 'Mohammed V Foundation for Solidarity', are specifically tailored to careers in rural areas. The centre is to continue helping young people improve their employment and income situation after the end of the project. By creating green jobs, it will simultaneously be protecting natural resources and nature reserves.

The project is part of a special initiative designed to stabilise and promote development in North Africa and the Middle East run by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Through the projects that make up this special initiative, BMZ is helping to open up economic and social prospects for people in the region. Within this context, more than 80 additional development cooperation projects are implemented in the period from 2014 to 2024. The thematic focus is on youth and employment promotion, economic stabilisation, democracy and stabilising neighbouring countries in crisis situations.

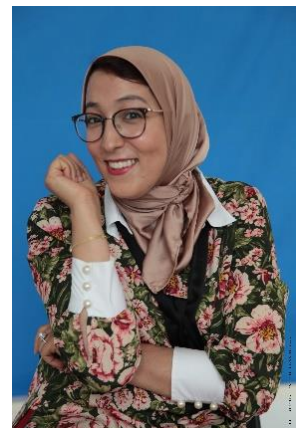
Results in figures...

By 2022, the project will create additional employment for at least 2,000 young people between the ages of 16 and 35, of whom at least one third will be women. Furthermore, at least 1,000 young people and 10 start-ups are supported in increasing their income through their projects. A special role is played

here by the national vocational and training centre designed jointly with the national partners - the Department of Waters and Forests of the Moroccan Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Fisheries, Rural Development and Waters and Forests and the Mohammed V Foundation for Solidarity - which focuses on occupations in rural areas. The centre aims to help young people beyond the end of the project to improve their professional and income situation. By creating green jobs, natural resources are valorised, and natural areas protected at the same time.

...and faces

Ghizlane Driouich is one of the first graduates of the training CEFE Vert, which is part of the project approach to create and support rural entrepreneurship in Morocco. The 35-year-old was prepared for work in the project regions, which are located in rural and mountain areas. "My role is to support and to accompany disadvantaged young people in remote (and rural) regions of Morocco and prepare them for the labour market", explains Ghizlane. "If they manage to successfully implement innovative green projects locally, we will have achieved our goal: young people increase their income without having to leave their areas of origin."



Ghizlane Driouich supports and accompanies young entrepreneurs in implementing green projects in their home towns.

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