

DURATION

2017 - 27/02/2022

EST. BUDGET

4,059,200 USD
(incl. in-kind contributions)

BENEFICIARY COUNTRY

Morocco, with outreach activities in Africa and the MENA region

PARTNERS

- Government of Morocco
- ONEE/IEA
- FESTO Didactic
- EON Reality
- USAID
- UNIDO

CONTACT

Stavros Papastavrou
s.papastavrou@unido.org

BACKGROUND

Morocco faces important challenges with regard to sustainable water management and sanitation. Climate change, water scarcity and inequalities in access to water resources, sustained demographic growth, rapid urban development and industrialization are among the phenomena which exert pressure on water resources and call for an optimization of their management.

The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco has launched the "New National Water Strategy 2010-2030" with a view to addressing the risks affecting access to the country's natural resources. Its goals include the introduction of sustainable water management practices, an increase in energy efficiency, the protection of the environment, the reinforcement of water-related capacities and skills, and the improvement of the institutional framework. Achieving these goals, and therefore reducing water scarcity in Morocco, will notably require the promotion of innovative practices, based on science, technology, and partnerships.

In order to face these new environmental challenges, companies will also have to encourage the use of new, sustainable management practices for their own activities, notably through the identification of qualified staff and adequate training. Currently, and despite efforts rolled out by the Moroccan educational system, a gap persists between labour supply and the actual needs of the job market : as a notable

consequence, half of the 15-29 years old are neither in school nor employed today. Such situation could be addressed with a better integration of the private sector's needs into technical and vocational training programs.

STRATEGY

In order to tackle the key challenge of unsustainable water management practices in Morocco, this pilot project will strive to address one of the root causes of the problem, namely the absence of specific training programs and the ensuing lack of industry professionals possessing the required set of technical skills in the water and sanitation sector.

This project aims at using and promoting innovative techniques, through the implementation of a new training program dedicated to water management and sanitation. Overall, the project will therefore aim at improving water management practices through the transfer of expertise and modern technologies to young women and men from Morocco, along with existing water professionals, in order to increase the employability of the former while improving the technical skills of the latter.

BENEFICIARIES

- Young **Moroccan women and men** provided with relevant water management and sanitation skills, reinforcing their employability. Professional water technicians will also be targeted;
- Water supply **companies and firms** operating in water-intensive industrial sectors, encouraged to recruit adequately trained technicians, or to train their own employees;
- An existing **vocational training centre (VTC)**, exposed to a model based upon the integration of sector needs and public and private stakeholders' contribution to training management;
- Identified VTC **trainers**, whose technical and pedagogical skills will be reinforced through specific trainings.