



مؤسسة محمد السادس لحماية البيئة  
FONDATION MOHAMMED VI  
POUR LA PROTECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
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# CLEAN BEACHES 2020 REPORT

All for the environment

# Summary

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## PART ONE

# THE CONTEXT OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CLEAN BEACHES CAMPAIGN

## A. INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

At its 72<sup>nd</sup> Session in 2017, the United Nations General Assembly announced the launching in January 2021 of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). This launching was the outcome of efforts made by the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) to foster international cooperation in the field of ocean sciences. This cooperation will enable the coordination of research programs, observation systems, capacity development and the planning of maritime space and marine risk reduction programs for a better management of ocean and coastal resources.

Indeed, the Foundation is logically committed with UNESCO-IOC in this United Nations Decade of Ocean

Sciences for sustainable development. This commitment will make it possible to accelerate the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 for the conservation and sustainable use of the ocean, seas and marine resources.

### • An international activism for the protection of seas and oceans

The Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa, has been running field innovative and operational programs since 1999 (Clean Beaches, Blue Flag, Humid Zones, Lalla Hasnaa Sustainable Coast Awards) as well as education and awareness raising actions (Eco-

Figure n°1

#### The Foundation's commitment to protecting the seas and oceans



Figure n°2

#### The international ocean and coastal conservation movement





Figure n°3

# OCEANS AND SEAS STRATEGY

## Three strategic axes

### AXE 1

Understanding the impact of climate change and human activities on marine and coastal environments (biodiversity)

### AXE 2

Reducing pollution (waste, emissions) through responsible behavior

### AXE 3

Development of responsible recreational services

## Two programs

### CLEAN BEACHES

- Bleu Flag
- B7arblaplastic campaign
- Lalla Hasnaa Trophy

### WETLANDS

- Lagoons, bays, reserves...

Schools, Young Reporters for the Environment). All of these programs contribute to the protection of seas and oceans.

#### • The Foundation's commitment to the protection of seas and oceans

Over the past two years, the Foundation has actively reinforced its involvement in the huge international movement for the preservation of oceans and coasts. Its teams are more and more engaged in international meetings to keep up with this trend:

- Participation in the Climate Action Summit organized by the Secretary General of the United Nations in 2019, an opportunity to promote the actions of the Foundation in the field of environmental education and awareness raising;
- Participation in the Dialogue of Foundations for the Decade of Oceans in Copenhagen, February 2020, to promote capacity building and innovative sciences.

The Foundation's involvement in this international activism has led to an evolution of its Sea and Oceans strategy, already initiated in 2019, particularly with the "B7arblaplastic" (A sea with no plastic) campaign organized as part of the Coastal Protection Program.

The Foundation's Sea and Ocean Strategy is utterly in line with the various international orientations. Indeed, this strategy meets both the expectations of the United Nations Oceans 2020 conference and some of the objectives of the Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development 2021-2030, three of which are considered as priorities by the Foundation.

In this respect, the Foundation endeavors to work on three main themes that contribute to the implementation of SDG14:

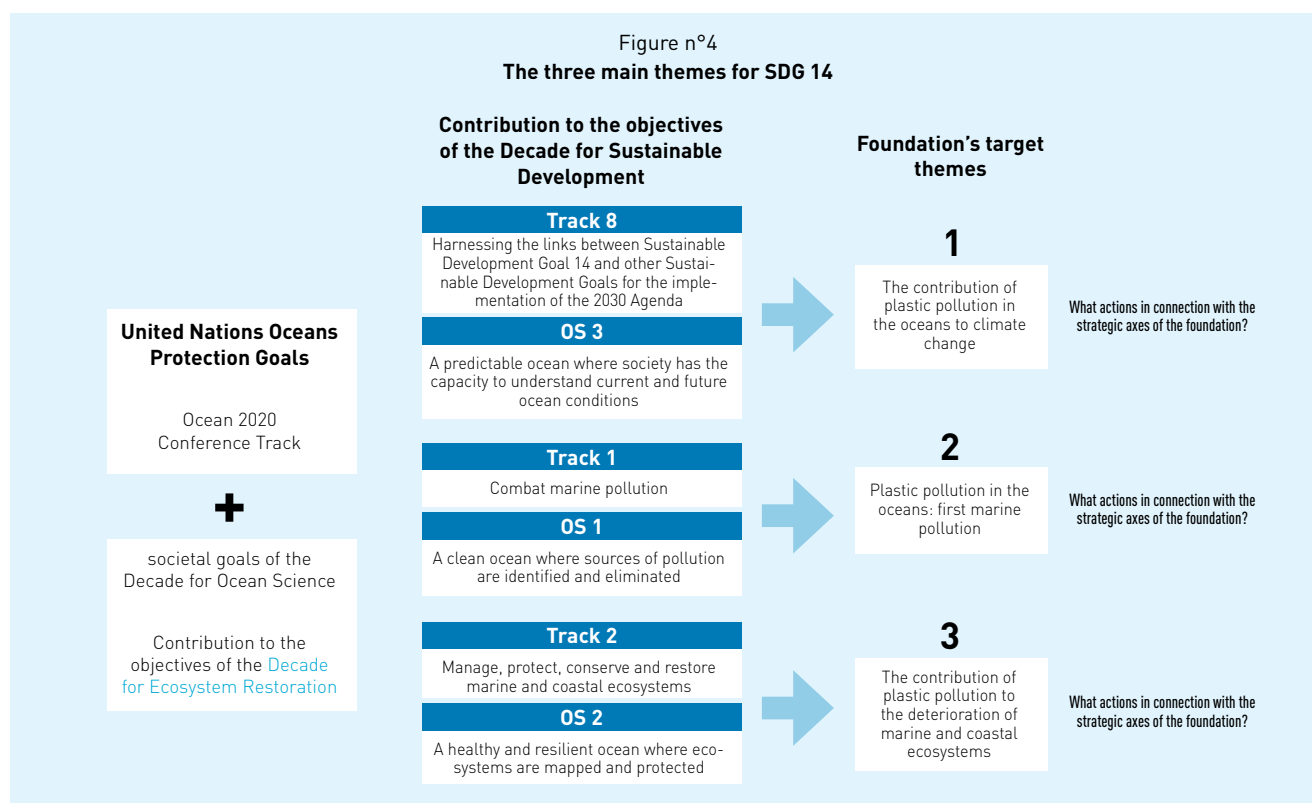
- Understanding the links between climate change and the oceans;
- Fighting marine pollution;
- Protecting marine and coastal ecosystems (marine biodiversity).

For so doing, the Foundation will mobilize its network of partners in the Coastal Protection Program, namely local authorities, economic partners, institutions and organizations as well as local NGOs concerned with coastal management.

It will continue with them the work already initiated with B7arblaplastic 2019 operation, and will open up to actions to protect marine biodiversity and to understand the links between climate change and the oceans:

- Identifying the ways to discharge plastics in the seas and oceans;
- Cleaning beaches, seas and marina basins (campaigns throughout the year with more intensification during summer time) with emphasis on what will become of the collected waste;
- Environmental awareness and education on beaches and in Eco-Schools;
- Restoration of marine and coastal ecosystems (erosion control, protection of endangered species, etc.);
- Development of information and awareness raising aids and materials;

Figure n°4  
The three main themes for SDG 14



- Promotion of sustainable management of ports;
- Improvement of stakeholders' knowledge.

## B. THE NATIONAL CONTEXT :

The year 2020 is obviously a special year with the rise of the Covid-19 pandemic. The whole planet is facing an unprecedented health crisis with exceptional measures. This situation has urged the Foundation to reconsider the implementation of its coastal protection action plan and to adapt the system of its Clean Beaches program to health requirements.

### • CLEAN BEACHES, 21 YEARS OF EVOLUTION

The Clean Beaches program is implemented thanks to the mobilization of more than 200 partners (economic operators, NGOs, local authorities, citizens, etc.). Their joined efforts under the Foundation's coordination have yielded remarkable progress, which is now consolidated on more than 100 beaches on the coast of Morocco.

An ecological awareness has emerged in administrations, local communities, partners, civil society and summer visitors. The latter are more and more numerous. Each year, during the three months of the summer season, they make more than 100 million visits to the beaches of the Kingdom. The pressure on ecosystems is considerable. It is therefore essential to develop responsible behavior in order to keep these common spaces clean and avoid their degradation.

The Foundation has been adamantly committed since

2019 through its Coastal Conservation program to mitigate the impact of marine pollution, especially plastic. Its overall intervention method in this respect focuses on:

- Strengthening its partnership strategy;
- Setting up an information watch system;
- Strengthening the visibility of the Foundation concerning Oceans (Initiation of pilot actions);
- International leadership on the same issue.

The Foundation has maintained the approach initiated in 2019 based on disruption and innovation, in terms of organization and management, as well as communication. However, the Foundation has adapted its modus operandi to the context created by the pandemic. It has initiated operational actions relating to:

- The development of information tools and aids to support partners on the ground;
- The digitization of environmental awareness and education actions;
- The improvement of stakeholders' knowledge.

## KEY FIGURES OF PROGRAM CLEAN BEACHES AND BLUE FLAG 2020



### CLEAN BEACHES PROGRAM

**104**

BEACHES



**44**

IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN

**37**

IN THE  
CENTRAL  
ATLANTIC

**27**

SOUTH  
ATLANTIC

**61**

MUNICIPALITIES

**33**

BEACHES  
SINCE 2010

### SECURITY

**3315**

SEASONAL  
LIFEGUARDS



POLLUTION

**104**

PROFILES

**96**

MARKED  
BEACHES

### BLUE FLAG

**26**

BLUE FLAG  
LABELED  
BEACHES

**40**

CANDIDATES  
BEACHES





## PART TWO

# ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED IN A SPECIAL CONTEXT



For its 21st season, the Clean Beaches program has adapted to the context of the health crisis due to the pandemic and continued its fight against plastic pollution through digital tools.

## A. GUIDE TO BEACH MANAGEMENT

At the beginning of summer 2020, there was heavy pressure on the municipalities. Beach users were waiting for the reopening of beaches which had been closed in early summer for confinement measures.

The exceptional health context caused by the Covid-19 pandemic called for the highest level of caution. The Foundation had made specific recommendations for local authorities and partners for the management of the Kingdom's beaches during this special period.

First, the Foundation brought together the National Clean Beaches Committee to present the recommendations validated by the competent authorities (Ministry of the Interior and Ministry of Health).

They focused on the safety and hygiene conditions to meet the prevention norms issued by the health authorities on the following four sets of criteria:

- The quality of bathing water;
- Planning and management;
- Health security and coverage;
- Environmental awareness and education activities;

To implement these recommendations, the Foundation relied on the governance plan put in place for beach management, prepared by the national Clean Beaches Committee which is chaired by the Foundation, and the local committees chaired by the Walis and Governors.

For the 2020 summer campaign, these recommendations aimed to:

- Ensure that attending the beaches was not a source of corona virus spreading among the Moroccan population;
- Take advantage of the beaches to support awareness-raising efforts and the expected behavior change.
- Meet the expectations, in the best sanitary conditions, of all the public concerned by the beaches;
- Allow an optimal return to normal life;
- Limit the negative socio-economic impacts of the actual situation;
- Limit negative environmental impacts;

The reflection also focused on the upcoming 2021 campaign, to draw the appropriate lessons from the 2020 one, remain flexible and capitalize on the achievements of this exceptional summer.

## B. DIGITIZATION OF ACTIONS: WEBINARS

The Hassan II International Environmental Training Center, affiliated to the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, organized two webinars to support the partners of the Clean Beaches Program in preparation for the 2020 summer season.

### 1- A webinar on waste management



This webinar, held on Monday April 13, 2020, dealt with waste as part of B7arblaplastic Operation. This online training led by Mustapha Brakez, expert in urban waste management, was attended by 55 participants from coastal municipalities and economic partners.

The management of medical waste such as masks and gloves was discussed. Source sorting and waste recovery have been strongly recommended.

### 2- A webinar to launch Clean Beaches 2020 Operation:



The purpose of the second webinar was to launch the Clean Beaches 2020 operation. It took place on Thursday, April 23, 2020, with 86 participants, economic partners, local communities, NGOs, the Clean Beaches National Committee and hotels active in the #. B7arBlaplastic 2019 campaign.

This webinar revolved around the following topics:

- Sharing the vision of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 and presenting the Foun-

dation's Seas and Oceans strategy related to it.

- Presenting the B7arblaplastic 2020 operation.

Like the # B7arblaplastic 2019 campaign, the 2020 one was conceived to be well equipped, organized and better coordinated.

In addition to fighting plastic waste, the Foundation has included this year other awareness raising issues such as the contribution of oceans plastic pollution to climate change and to the deterioration of marine and coastal ecosystems. These new orientations capitalized on the 2020 United Nations Oceans Conference and the Goals of the Decade for Ocean Science.

The webinar highlighted the need to organize environmental education activities in accordance with the decisions of health authorities, namely respect for social distancing and barrier gestures. Online environmental education activities and webinars were highly encouraged.

### 3- Virtual meeting of partners: «Beaches facing new challenges: what solutions? »



The virtual meeting of partners entitled «Beaches facing new challenges: what solutions ? » Took place on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 with 65 participants. The young volunteers who took part in the launching of the Ana Boundif platform joined the participants.

This meeting provided an overview of the recommended measures for beach management during a pandemic. The speakers, based on their recent experience of summer 2020, debated the health constraints of Clean Beaches Operation and made recommendations (see opposite) to be implemented for the next summer.

## C. SYNERGY WITH PARTNERS

To better coordinate the Clean Beaches Operation with its partners, the Foundation has organized five meetings to share experiences, inform and motivate.

1

### RENDEZ-VOUS DE L'OcéAN

MARCH

Rendez-Vous de l'Océan : Conference, with plenary sessions relating to the international agenda, interventions by major witnesses and key experts, then Working Groups with partners, to collect their expectations and recommendations and prepare the campaign for the current year.

2

### BRIEFING PARTNER WORKSHOP

APRIL

BRIEFING partner workshop : A workshop to collect the expectations and recommendations of the partners (economic partners, local authorities, civil society agents, etc.) during the Ocean Meetings, to actively prepare the Clean Beaches campaign for the current year.

3

### OCEAN DAYS

JUNE

Ocean Days : Conference, meeting of a wider audience, namely the CSR departments of big companies (including companies that are not partners of Clean Beaches Program), to encourage collective action, forge advocacy for the Environment, and promote all the activities carried out by the Foundation in its endeavor to raise awareness and enhance environmental education.

4

### PARTNERS' MEETING

OCTOBER

Partners' meeting : Workshop to evaluate the previous Clean Beaches campaign, and share feedback and best practices for the upcoming campaign so as to anticipate future adjustments.

5

### LALLA HASNAA SUSTAINABLE COAST AWARDS

MAY-SEPTEMBER

Lalla Hasnaa Sustainable Coast Awards : Once every two years, this major event is part and parcel of the annual action plan of the «Seas and Oceans» department.

## D. DIGITAL PLATFORM “ANABOUNDIF.MA”



In fact, the health situation made it impossible to hold environmental education activities on the ground, as gatherings were prohibited. The Foundation invited the partners to dematerialize all ESD activities. Interactive remote training was provided during the summer, and participatory platforms were put online.

Indeed, the Foundation has set an example. Its academic pillar, the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, has launched, thanks to the support of volunteers and partners, the Ana Boundif digital platform. Its objectives are to raise awareness and educate, to enhance commitment and establish an ongoing connection with all visiting communities. Finally, the purpose of this digital platform is to expand the Foundation's audience and thereby increase its awareness-raising work.

Ana Boundif aims at contributing to the environment from an institutional standpoint, that is civil society and companies: videos, images, thus serving the UN Sustainable Development Goals 13 (Climate action) and 14 (Aquatic life).

The name chosen, Ana Boundif, I am Boundif, capitalizes on the Foundation's mascot, which appeared in the early 2000s. The characters of the Boundif are known to the young generation as well as to adults.

Through the call to Action (Ana Boundif ou nta— I am Boundif, and you?) and key hashtags, the platform transmits the principles of eco-citizenship: fight against plastic waste, sorting at the source, responsible consumption, etc.

An educational media library was thus consolidated to start. Forty videos and fifty photos were produced by the

Young Reporters for the Environment, the Eco Ecoliers (Eco School children), the winners of the Lalla Hasnaa Sustainable Coast Awards, the ambassadors of the African Youth Climate Hub, and the partners of the Clean Beaches Program.



## E. DIGITAL VOLUNTEERING

The Ana Boundif platform is a showcase to present the actions of young volunteers, mainly the Young Reporters for the Environment and the ambassadors of the African Youth Climate Hub.

A call for applications has been launched among these two communities to mobilize the young volunteers from a distance to support the launching of this platform and to provide it with content.

In this respect, the young volunteers were supervised to help them transmit the messages of the platform on their social networks.



## F. THE BLUE FLAG LABEL



In these times of mobilization against the Covid-19, the measures usually taken by the beaches labeled Blue Flag are in line with part of the measures conceived by the authorities against the pandemic. They have been supplemented to fully comply with all the measures.

The 26 labeled beaches and the marina have therefore offered the necessary security summer visitors need to relax after a tough confinement.

The international Blue Flag label has been awarded to Morocco since 2002 by the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment and the International Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) which created it. It is hoisted on 4,425 beaches and marinas in 46 countries from Europe, Africa, America, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Each year, after a long preparation and evaluation by the program, the label is attributed to the coastal municipalities in charge of beach management.

Coastal municipalities are supported from the very beginning of the year by the Foundation and its partners to prepare their application. In 2020, 39 beaches applied. 26 of them have met the required criteria of this label.

The labeled municipalities take charge of the complete management of the beaches in their territories: maintenance, cleanliness, equipment, safety, training, awareness and accessibility. In the same vein, more considerable effort is made this year to prevent a return of Covid-19. The municipalities are supported by the Clean

Beaches program of the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, supported by the General Directorate of Local Authorities, the relevant ministerial departments and economic partners who provide them with managerial skills and financial support.

The territorial managers of the municipalities, as well as the administrations, have been trained in beach management. Management and environmental awareness tools have been made available to allow them to welcome summer visitors in the best conditions.

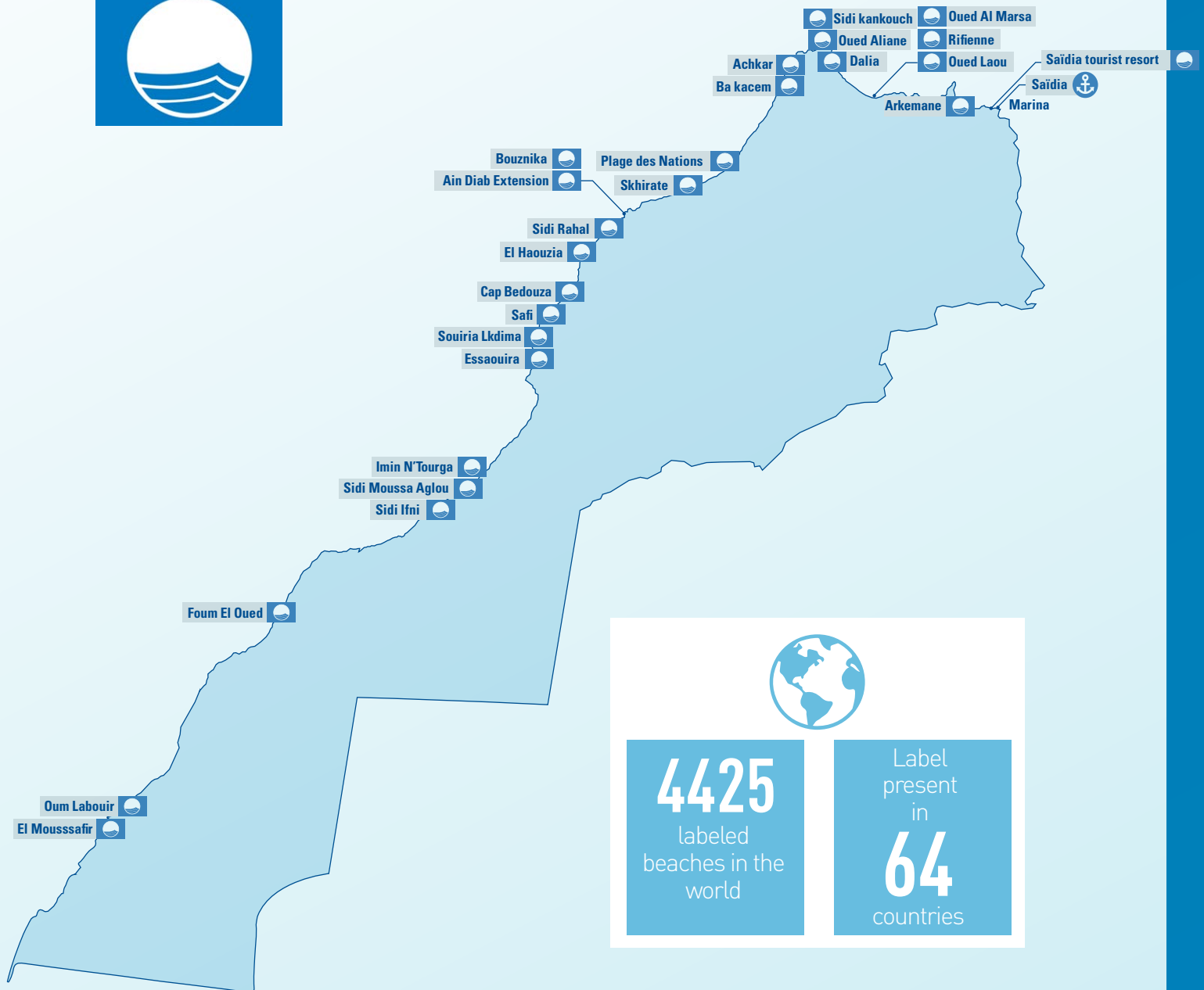
During the summer season, the Foundation organized unannounced checks on respect of the label's criteria, and the authorities, too, ensured compliance with health measures.

It is within the framework of the latter that the Clean Beaches program canceled the environmental education and awareness actions traditionally carried out on the beaches with its partners, to avoid groupings and contact.

The Foundation and its partners have used the Ana Boundif digital platform to raise awareness concerning the issue of ocean plastic pollution.

More than a hundred beaches are registered in the Clean Beaches program for 2020. The beaches having obtained the Blue Flag Label for 2020 are as follows:

# BLUE FLAG 2020



**4425**  
labeled  
beaches in the  
world

Label  
present  
in  
**64**  
countries

AT  
MOROCCO  
FROM  
**2002**

**26**  
LABELED  
BEACHES IN  
2020

**+1**  
ONE  
MARINA

**40**  
CANDIDATES  
BEACHES





## PART THREE

# ENGAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS IN THE CLEAN BEACHES 2020 PROGRAM



Thanks to the support of ministerial departments which is more and more strengthened and institutionalized every year, the Foundation and its partners were able to initiate actions in 2019 in terms of monitoring the Quality of Bathing Water, Safety, Health coverage, Development and Management as well as awareness and environmental education.

## A. THE QUALITY OF BATHING WATER

### BATHING WATER QUALITY MONITORING (QEB)



**175**  
TESTED BEACHES  
**+5**  
IN 2020

**87,68%**  
COMPLY WITH  
**410**  
STATIONS

**NM.03.7200**  
**NM.03.7199**  
TWO HIGHLY  
DEMANDING  
MOROCCAN  
STANDARDS

The monitoring of the quality of the bathing water covered 175 beaches according to the Moroccan standard NM 037200 and 03 7199, i.e. five more beaches compared to 2019. In 2020, 410 stations (87.68%) were declared to have a microbiological quality compliant with swimming according to the requirements of the aforementioned standard: NM.03.7200; The bathing waters of twelve stations do not comply with bathing, ie 2.84% of the stations monitored.

### SAND QUALITY MONITORING



**60**  
MONITORED  
BEACHES

**+7**  
2020/2019

Mycological sand analysis campaigns (marine waste, physic-chemical analyzes and dermatophytes) were carried out on 60 beaches, i.e. seven more beaches than in 2019.

The comparison between the two campaigns conducted respectively in 2019 and 2018, reveals a fluctuation in the number of waste collected in each range. Indeed, while this figure is stagnating for some beaches such as Ras El Ma and Haouzia, we notice a clear increase for others such as the Camping Mousafir, Sidi Bouzid, Cala Bonita or a decrease like in the case of Rabat and Sablette. This can be explained by the number of people attending the beaches, weather conditions, the existence or not of a river mouth, local commercial activities, etc.

### DEVELOPMENT OF SWIMMING WATER PROFILES



**+17**  
BEACHES  
IN 2020

9 TO BE UPDATED

- Cap Spartel,
- Ba Kacem,
- Achakar,
- My Bousseham,
- El Jadida,
- Sidi Bouzid,
- Safi,
- Essaouira,
- Trouk (PK25)

8 NEW

- Sabadilla,
- Jebha,
- Azla,
- Al Mina,
- Lalla Aicha,
- Bahria,
- Aourir Centre,
- Plage Blanche,
- Agti El Ghazi

**145**  
PROFILE AT  
THE END OF  
**2020**

### PUBLIC INFORMATION ON THE QUALITY OF BATHING WATER <https://labo.environnement.gov.ma/>



The State Secretariat for Sustainable Development launched in summer 2019, a Beaches mobile application to raise awareness among the general population. Available on Android and iOS, this application was created to communicate to the public some essential information on beaches, including the quality of bathing water.

To help the beaches meet the objective of displaying every fortnight the results of the quality of bathing water (QEB), the State Secretariat for Sustainable Development (SEDD) has dedicated a website to this end (<https://labo.environnement.gov.ma/>). Beach managers can download test results bulletins there.

In order to ensure information to the public on the quality of bathing water, the updating of the LNESP site was carried out every fortnight throughout the summer season, in order to allow municipalities and prefectures to download newsletters to display the QEB.

## B. SECURITY

### 1. BATHERS SAFETY

In 2020, the Foundation and its partners carried out numerous actions to strengthen the safety of swimmers and organize nautical activities on the beaches.

Significant human and material rescue resources were put in place by Civil Protection on the beaches in 2020.

Specific actions have been launched within the framework of health measures:

- Coronavirus screening operations carried out for the

sake of Seasonal Lifeguards and Professional Lifeguards;

- Distribution of personal protective masks;
- Distribution of hydroalcoholic disinfection gel;
- Cleaning and disinfection of emergency and rescue equipment;
- Carrying out awareness raising campaigns on how to face "Covid-19".

### RESCUE MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

458

ROUND  
LIFEBUOYS

692

LIFEBUOY  
TUBES

317

LIFE VEST



995

PAIRS OF  
FINS



132

BOARDS



15

MEGAPHONES



251

WATCHTOWERS



67

BINOCULARS



25

PARASOLS



46

JET-SKI



52

INFLATABLE  
BOATS  
(ZODIAC)

7

QUADS



15

AMBULANCES



### HUMAN RESOURCES

180

MASTER  
SWIMMERS

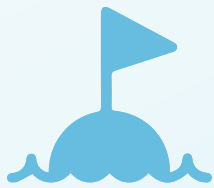
2447

SEASONAL  
LIFEGUARDS

## SECURITY

### 2. ENHANCING NAUTICAL SAFETY

Some 104 marked beaches, that is 6 fewer beaches compared to 2019 due to the closure of a number of beaches, have been marked. The Ports and Maritime Public Domain Directorate supported the marking system with awareness raising panels.





## C. HEALTH COVERAGE

Beach health coverage is carried out each year by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with local authorities, the BCHs and the Moroccan Red Crescent.

Due to the specific conditions related to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Delegations of the Ministry of Health placed their intervention under the supervision of the Walis and Governors.

When the local authority decided to open a beach, they were required to coordinate the following actions:

1. Interventions of institutions involved in beach health coverage (Ministry of Health, Civil Protection, Moroccan Red Crescent and BCH), within the framework of the Provincial Beach Commission.
2. Providing the needed resources and the necessary conditions for carrying out the interventions
3. Arranging the teams' workplaces (tents or construction).
4. Abiding by health rules for the protection and hygiene of teams (social distancing, barrier gestures, wearing masks, washing hands, etc.)
5. The intervention of the first aid medical team deployed at the beach consisted of a doctor or a nurse (public or private) and an ambulance driver
6. The management of transfers of urgent cases (Urgent Medical Assistance Services [SAMU] in the regions where it is operational).
7. Cleaning and disinfection of spaces and equipment, reception procedure in first aid units, by teams of hygienists from the Ministry of Health and municipal Hygiene Offices..

The temporary assessment of the means and resources used by the Ministry of Health and the achievements of the programmed activities are summarized in the following table:

### RESOURCES USED BY THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH

64

NUMBER OF  
FIRST AID  
CENTERS  
HEALTH

362

PERSONNEL  
PROVIDING BEACH  
HEALTH COVERAGE  
(DOCTORS, NURSES,  
TECHNICIANS, ETC.)

5312

NUMBER OF  
FIRST AID  
INTERVENTIONS

NB: 1 / the interventions of this year were influenced by :

- Limited staff mobilization due to the Covid 19 pandemic
- The non-opening of certain beaches.

2 / The results are temporary, 58% of the reports received.

### MONITORING

652

SAMPLES FOR  
DRINKING WATER  
ANALYZES

764

CONTROL  
OF SANITARY  
EQUIPMENT AND  
DISINFECTION OF  
SPACES

283

CONTROL FOOD  
ESTABLISHMENTS

### AWARENESS

4876

EDUCATION AND  
AWARENESS  
RAISING

25863

BENEFICIARIES

## D. DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

### STATUS OF THE MANAGEMENT OF BEACHES BY MUNICIPALITIES AS OF 8-6-2020



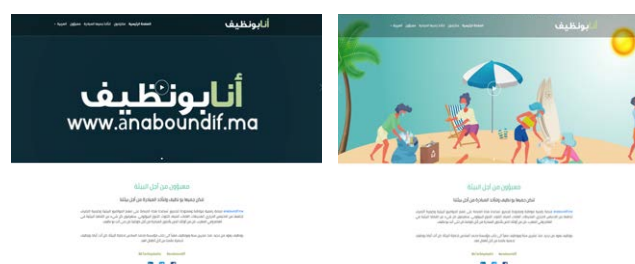
#### The management of beaches by the municipalities faced the following constraints:

- Financial and technical difficulties of the communes for the PUGP;
- Financial and technical difficulties concerning the preparation of topographical plans by the municipalities (location maps of the beaches, detailed plan identifying the area which will be taken into account for the calculation of the fee);
- Most municipalities consider that giving them uncrowded beaches is not financially beneficial and they are asking for exemption from AOTDPM fees;
- Some urban municipalities have not provided enough follow up of the signed agreements, even for very busy beaches in urban areas;
- Some municipalities are asking to enlarge the scope of the convention (parking, cornice, etc.)
- Members of the Clean Beaches and Blue Flag national committee paid unannounced visits to the beaches throughout August 2020.

## E. AWARENESS RAISING AND EDUCATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Due to restrictions caused by the health context, environmental education activities and awareness raising campaigns for the sake of summer visitors did not take place face-to-face, apart from the setting up of beach radios and posters.

In addition, all partners were invited to share their contributions on the Ana Boundif Platform, to compensate for the lack of face-to-face actions ([www.anaboundif.ma](http://www.anaboundif.ma)).



## F. BEACHES MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

The beach evaluation procedure is carried out on the basis of the four sets of qualification criteria for the Blue Flag label:

1. Quality of Bathing Waters;
2. Planning, Equipment and Management;
3. Health security and coverage;
4. Awareness Raising and Environmental Education.

By the end of the unannounced visits to the beaches registered in the "Clean Beaches" 2020 program and carried out by the National Committee, an evaluation

was conducted. It highlighted the progress made as well as the shortcomings to be accounted for.

The technical assessment sheets provide an inventory of the beaches which were open to the public and which were covered by the Clean Beaches program. They stress the undertaken endeavors, the shortcomings observed in terms of equipment, management, hygiene and security, as well as physical distancing and barrier gestures. they also include information on the back beach, rescue equipment and first aid.

## G. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The members of the Clean Beaches and Blue Flag national committee made unannounced visits to the beaches throughout August 2020.

The evaluation of this visit campaign served to come up with findings that were studied and discussed during the working sessions.

### Quality of Bathing Water (QEB)



Despite the procedure for the dissemination of results for the Quality of Bathing Waters, set up by the national Clean Beaches committee, the results have not yet been generalized to all beaches. They are displayed at all Blue Flag beaches. It is necessary to increase the awareness of managers of non-sponsored beaches.

Unfortunately, the Department of the Environment regrettably notices the lack of downloading of analysis bulletins by the representatives appointed to the wilayas and prefectures to ensure posting on site.

### Planning and Management

The national committee noted progress in the management and development of beaches, and in particular in response to the recommendations of the guide to beaches management which was conceived by the Foundation. However, despite the advances that have been noted in recent years in terms of development and management, some municipalities suffer from the lack of financial means to meet all the criteria for qualifying beaches. The committee recommends, in this regard, to hold a meeting with the DGCT to examine ways and means of providing more support to unsponsored beaches.

### Health security and coverage

- The marking of an increasing number of beaches;
- Given the health context, the contest for the recruitment of lifeguards could not be organized. Civil protection had recourse to those recruited in 2019. As a result, their workforce was below previous years.
- Some beaches lack access designed for rescue equipment and civil protection facilities.
- The intervention of the Ministry of Health within the framework of the «Clean Beaches» program is carried out within the limitations of these resources. Despite the sanitary context, a considerable effort was made on the beaches, which made it possible to carry out the tasks assigned to it.

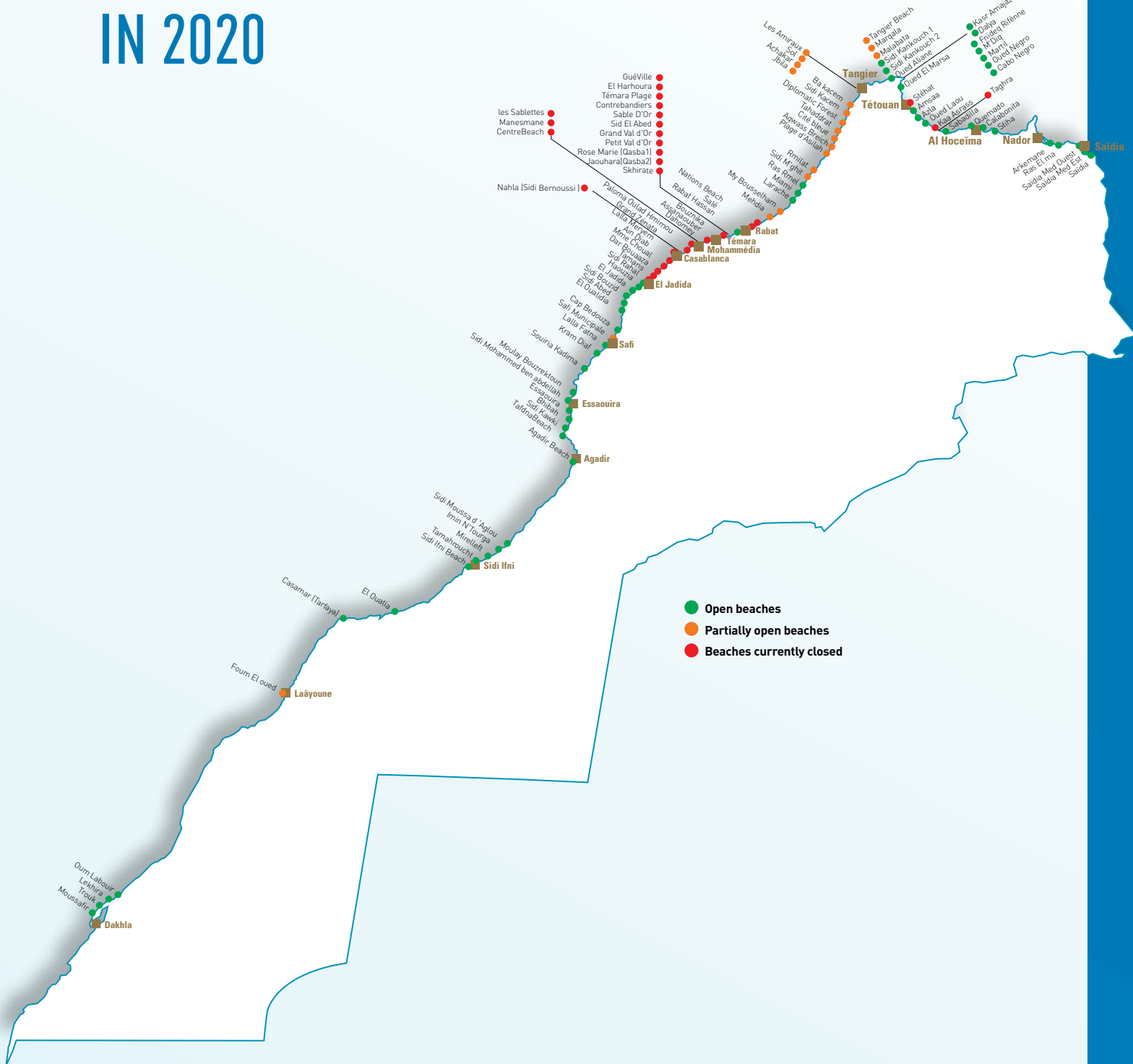
### • Environmental education

In view of the health situation, face-to-face environmental education activities on the ground, along with gatherings and contacts between participants, have been prohibited. So, passive environmental awareness raising and education activities were encouraged.

The National Clean Beaches committee praised the commitment of certain local associations in their action on the ground, in particular for raising awareness among summer visitors about barrier gestures.



# OPENING OF BEACHES IN 2020



104

BEACHES IN  
PROGRAM

22

CLOSED  
BEACHES

30

PARTIALLY  
OPENED  
BEACHES

52

OPENED  
BEACHES



# APPENDICE

Appendice 1 : Ana boundif platform technical outline

Appendice 2 : Guide to the use and management of the beach in the context of the covid 19 health crisis

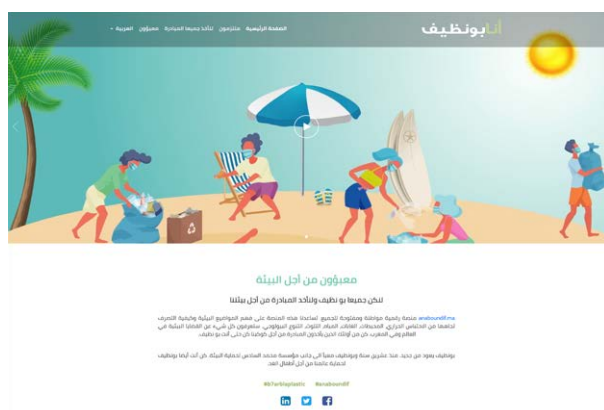
Appendice 3 : Recommendations of summer 2021

Appendice 4 : International benchmark

## APPENDICE I

## Ana Boundif Platform

<b>Presentation</b>	<p>Ana Boundif is a collaborative and citizen platform for awareness raising and education in sustainable development created at the initiative of the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment.</p> <p>It presents the contributions in favor of the environment of different stakeholders: institutional, civil society and businesses actors.</p> <p>The choice to call this platform Ana Boundif marks the desire to capitalize on a name closely related to the protection of our environment. Boundif is known to the younger generation as well as to adults.</p>
<b>General objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain constant communication with our audience</li> <li>• Raise awareness and educate continuously throughout the year</li> <li>• Through the transmission of useful information, we want to create links and bring together a community</li> </ul>
<b>Specific objectives</b>	<p>Through the call to Action (Ana Boundif Wanta) and key hashtags, the platform aims to instill the principles of eco-citizenship by engaging visitors to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adhere to the messages (Eg. Fight against single-use plastic waste, adopt sorting at source practices, consume in a responsible way, etc.)</li> <li>• Discuss the best practices adopted by everyone</li> <li>• Understand the problem and act in an eco responsible way</li> </ul>
<b>Target</b>	The Ana Boundif platform has multiple targets with a focus on youth.
<b>Global theme</b>	Sustainable development
<b>Current theme</b>	Plastic pollution in the oceans
<b>Architecture</b>	<p>The Architecture of the Ana Boundif platform is based on the principle of landing with sections expected to evolve over time and according to topics:</p> <p>Take action: this section presents educational and awareness raising videos. The awareness video makes it possible to emphasize, in a simplified manner, the importance of the topic being tackled. In motion design format, the videos could make our message popular and thus raise awareness of youth and the elderly</p> <p>They are mobilized: this section presents the contributions to sustainable development made by different actors: NGOs, schools, companies and institutions.</p> <p>The platform also presents the actions of young volunteers and launches a call to action to urge young people to participate and interact on the platform and through social networks</p>
<b>Languages</b>	Arabic and French
<b>Link</b>	<a href="https://anaboundif.ma/">https://anaboundif.ma/</a>







## APPENDICE 2

# GUIDE TO THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE BEACH IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID 19 HEALTH CRISIS



## APPENDICE II

### A. INTRODUCTION

The COVID19 crisis allows the world to know various business models. In these times of crisis, many governments gave up to the coronavirus and its unpredictable repercussions. Morocco is doing much better than some countries and is even becoming a role model.

Indeed, since the declaration of the first cases of COVID 19 last March, Morocco has deployed a gradual response strategy. This strategy is currently considered to be one of the most relevant and comprehensive for dealing with the global health crisis. Starting by closing the borders and the establishment of a Fund to fight the pandemic, to the massive production of masks and the objective of generalizing the tests, Morocco, following the High Guidance of **His Majesty the King**, faced the pandemic with a strategy up to the level of the unprecedented health challenges. This strategy is based on a number of actions, the most salient of which are:

- A rapid, balanced and High Level reaction as soon as the first cases appeared in Morocco;
- Social solidarity and the commitment of all the nation's forces, as demonstrated by the huge voluntary contributions to the special fund dedicated to the management of the coronavirus pandemic;
- The pertinent, exemplary and courteous mobilization and deployment of the nation's security forces, in particular the Ministry of the Interior and the Royal Armed Forces;
- Simple and clear information and media coverage. Morocco has made the choice of transparency based on scientific data to expose the situation as it is, by communicating in a massive way on the sanitary rules to be adopted;
- The **public-private partnership** as demonstrated by the production and distribution of masks which currently positions Morocco as second in the world after China, and which has enabled Morocco to be in a position to provide assistance to countries such as the United States and France;
- The wise analysis of foreign experiences;
- The acceleration of the modernization and digitization of Moroccan institutions.

The post-pandemic Morocco is prepared now and aware of the important shifts that have already taken place and that are likely to take place in the short, medium and long terms. Indeed, profound changes will affect

the ways of working and moving at all levels. **Collective intelligence** has a crucial role to play in shaping the post-pandemic world. At the same time, we should take into consideration the fact that, according to recent statements of the World Health Organization, "this virus could become endemic in our communities, it might never go away".

It is in this perspective of **collective intelligence** that the initiative of the **Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment**, chaired by **Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa**, is taken to add its value to what is being done by the Moroccan State, and to contribute to the development and implementation of national post-Covid19 strategies. The Foundation, through the present document, provides local authorities with a set of recommendations for the management of the beaches in the context of the COVID 19 health crisis. These recommendations are based on the Foundation's multilateral and multidimensional interventions in socio-economic vital territories, namely the beaches of the Kingdom, within the framework of its "coastal protection" program.

### B. THE FOUNDATION'S ANGLE OF INTERVENTION

The Foundation's intervention focus is based on two major points, which should be adapted to the current and future COVID19 situation:

- Firstly, **the focus is on the «actors»**, the purpose is to encourage all the people to adopt civic and eco-responsible behavior.
- Secondly, **the focus is on the «territories»**, the purpose is to act directly on ecosystems by protecting and preserving them.

The term territories mainly refer to the **Territorial Collectivities**, main actors of local democratic governance, which undoubtedly have an important role in the Foundation's action thanks to their know-how, but also thanks to their close relationship with all the stakeholders of the Foundation. The same applies to the transversal role of the **DGCL (General Directorate of Local Authorities)** of the **Ministry of the Interior**, which supports a large number of the Foundation's programs.

In the context of advanced regionalization, local communities must not only be aware of current issues but must also be well equipped. The Foundation plays a crucial role in this regard, and it is frequently referred to by communities looking for specific tools (sustainable management of beaches and coastlines for example, in view of the evolution of the Clean Beaches program towards sustainable coastal management).



The Foundation is involved in assisting local authorities to become aware of the importance of the services provided by ecosystems, and therefore of the importance of managing their natural heritage (forests, beaches, and more specifically gardens), economic (Tourism, commerce, seasonal activities, etc.) and social (namely youth and the most vulnerable populations).

Thus, the Foundation has decided, as an important and urgent issue in the exceptional period of COVID 19 pandemic, to be a proposal force at the service of local authorities to think of the measures to be taken in this particular context. **The Foundation will thus be able to rely on its governance plan for beach management, organized by the national «Clean Beaches» committee chaired by the Foundation, and the local «Clean Beaches» committees chaired by the Walis and Governors.**

This reflection, based on collective intelligence, aims to orient the intervention of local authorities as well as the actors involved in dealing with health risks on beaches in this special health context, while providing the best possible responses to the needs of summer visitors. This reflection aims to achieve the following goals:

#### In 2020:

- To ensure that attending the beaches does not contribute to the spreading of the coronavirus among the Moroccan population;
- Take advantage of the beaches to support awareness-raising efforts and the behavioral shift that must come out of these awareness-raising efforts;
- Meet the expectations, in the best sanitary conditions, of all the people concerned with the beaches;
- Allow an optimal return to "normal" life;
- Limit the negative social and economic impact of the current situation and its development in 2020;
- Limit the negative environmental impacts of the current situation and its evolution in 2020;

#### In 2021

- Draw the relevant teachings from the 2020 campaign;
- Remain flexible and adaptable to the changing context at the national and global levels;
- Insofar as certain social, economic and environmental achievements could have emerged from the campaign in 2020, ensure that the accomplishments are deeply rooted in practice and sustainable in order to set up the background of a «normal» situation;
- Allow Morocco to shine at the regional and international level on the basis of an experience in 2020 which, hopefully, will be as successful as possible.

## C. NATIONAL CONTEXT

Each summer, the kingdom's beaches welcome more than 100 million visits. They have become for Moroccans their privileged vacation destination. As a matter of fact, keeping this common space clean and healthy during the summer season has been the challenge for the «Clean Beaches» program of the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment for 21 years.

Over a hundred beaches, the most attended in the country, benefit from this operation, which is crucial for the cleanliness and protection of the coast. 63 local communities supported by their supervisory authority, the DGCL, 27 economic partners and more than a hundred local NGOs mobilized for nearly three months to raise awareness and educate summer visitors, to ensure the quality of bathing water and sand, equip beaches, ensure safety, and enforce order and regulations.

This year, beach managers are faced with special circumstances, and as such, we must adapt the rules of use and management of the beach in order to guarantee the safety of summer visitors and ensure the hygiene conditions that meet the rules in order to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

A few days before the lifting of the health emergency on June 10, beach users are expecting the reopening of the beaches. To this end, it is important to establish clear and effective guidelines for the use and management of the beach.

## D. INFORMATION WATCH ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT

In the context of the management of the current health crisis, the time factor is one of the keys to good management in Morocco as mentioned in the introduction of this document. The majority of countries struggling to manage COVID19 have not had, or taken, the time required for an effective preparation. In Morocco, the danger posed by the COVID19 pandemic was seen in particular by observing the spread of the virus at the international level, in particular in China and Italy. Thus, Morocco has taken a series of important and gradual measures, namely by controlling flights from the most affected countries, then by closing its borders and proclaiming health emergency.

This example illustrates the importance of information monitoring, making it possible to anticipate the various scenarios and react appropriately.

In this respect, the Foundation has activated this watch operation, to make a set of recommended measures and share them with its local partners. In this respect, a set of practices were identified through a large international **benchmark (Cf. ANNEX)**. Indeed, several countries study the conditions for lifting the state of health emergency, and the restrictions that will continue in order to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Should we consider social dis-

tancing measures and barrier gestures on the beaches this summer?

## E. OPERATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Within the framework of collective intelligence and collaborative partnership, the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment acts to respond to a large number of economic, social or ecological problems that we are facing today and which are inherently complex. Indeed, the Foundation, a precursor in the management of the beach, has set up, with its partners, a governance plan for the Clean Beaches program (organized by the national committee and the various local Clean Beaches committees), which includes the various ministerial departments concerned as well as economic partners and representatives of civil society.

Thus, after being inspired by various international initiatives, the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, first brought together the national "Clean Beaches" committee to make recommendations for the management of the beach in order to guide its partners in their actions on the ground. These recommendations are implemented **after consultation and coordination with the authorities concerned (Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Health) for the management of the beach, in accordance with health legislation.**

These recommendations revolve around the four sets of criteria used to evaluate a clean beach, namely:

- The quality of bathing water;
- Planning and management;
- Security and health coverage;
- Environmental awareness and education activities;

### 1) Monitoring the Quality of Bathing Water :

According to the European Commission «the risk caused by Covid-19 at recreational bathing sites is more linked to the lack of respect for social distancing and less to the presence of the virus in the water» (if the water is of excellent or good quality of course). In the European Commission's view, the implementation of the usual monitoring schedule could help effective management in all possible situations.

The European Environment Agency (EEA) is examining how this could affect the assessments for 2021 as well as the potential advantages they will give to countries for monitoring the quality of bathing water. The Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment follows very closely the activities of the international coordination «Blue Flag» of the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE), which will be based in particular on the decisions of the AEE to define the elements to apply to the Blue Flag label.

## 2) Management and Planning

In order to respect social distancing and limit contact between people, and in order to handle the influx of beach visitors, the national «Clean Beaches» committee recommends the following:

### • Parking

- If the beach is served by a car park, plan to park vehicles (car, bicycles, etc.) leaving a free space between parking lots.

### • Access

- Reduce access to the beach to a limited number of visitors so as to avoid saturation experienced by beaches in normal situations. It should be noted that the useful surface per person must not be less than 6 min 2 s / person;
- Establish a decongestion system: eg. prohibit access to urban beaches and prohibit beaches that are more than 50 km away from built agglomerations;
- Avoid the contact between summer visitors: Provide separate access to the beach;
- Ban mass gatherings. Local authorities should take the necessary measures to avoid overcrowding (no more than 3 people gathered except families).



Dalya Beach / Fahs Anjra

### • Space Management

- Set up a zoning for the distribution of parasols on the sand;
- Reduce the number of parasols by at least 50% (less crowding, parasols and deckchairs separated by 3 meters);
- Establish a usable plan (respect of the safety distance) and cleaning of the toilets periodically in addition to disinfecting after each use;
- Eliminate water fountains and showers;
- Provide toilets users with:

- Liquid soap, hand dryer or disposable towels,
- Hydroalcoholic gel;
- A mask distribution mechanism;

#### • Posters

- Posters must be provided at all levels (entrances, toilets, civil protection, etc.) reminding of the health safety rules including distancing measures, barrier gestures, compulsory wearing of the mask, waste management of masks, the toll-free number "Hello Yakada" ...
- If closing the toilets is required by the authorities, it should be communicated and explained on the information board «Due to the coronavirus and exceptional conditions, the bathrooms are closed».



Haouzia Beach / El jadida

#### • Beach cleaning

In order to prevent the spread of Covid-19 while ensuring the continuity of public service, a set of measures could be recommended concerning waste collection.

Thus, to welcome summer visitors, beach managers must establish a daily beach cleaning program, taking all precautions against Covid-19.

The agents responsible for waste management from collection to treatment continue to be fully mobilized to ensure public hygiene and sanitation.

To this end, and to avoid generating additional work for the cleaning company and to guarantee the health safety of its agents as well as that of summer visitors, everyone is required to show good citizenship by reducing the volume of the waste produced and by adopting the actions listed below:

- Organize the cleaning operations of the beach and its surroundings according to the territories: organization of tours, shifted postal services, vehicle allocation, use of common spaces... to avoid contamination or its spread;
- Raise users' awareness to waste management (closed bags, do not throw used masks or gloves or handkerchiefs in dustbins or on the floor, but in special bins, etc.);

- Provide the beach with special bins for masks and gloves and plan a strict sterilization schedule;
- Dispose of waste of personal protective equipment linked to the Covid-19 epidemic (masks, gloves, disposable tissues, disinfectant wipes, etc.) in a special resistant plastic bag with a functional closure system. This bag must be carefully closed before being placed in a garbage bag and then put in the garbage bin;
- Ensure that safety distances are respected both at social spaces and on board of vehicles, at the beach and around vehicles when handling containers;
- Provide workers with vehicles, changing rooms, etc. in addition to hydro-alcoholic gel, wipes, water cans, soap, paper towels, garbage bags, etc.;
- Provide, if possible, tools for personal work.



Green Brigade - Haouzia Beach

### 3) Security and Health Coverage

#### • Safety of bathers

The safety of bathers on the beaches is essentially based on the presence of a sufficient number of lifeguard swimmers, the existence of surveillance and rescue equipment adequately distributed and the development of the spaces devoted to each activity.





In these special circumstances, seasonal lifeguards and civil protection agents must carefully respect safety and hygiene rules and meet basic prevention rules to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

The main basic rules of prevention are:

- Social distancing;
- Barrier gestures,
- The «wash hands before and after using common equipment» poster
- A schedule for continuous cleaning and disinfection of spaces and rescue equipment (Jet-ski and ambulance, quad, etc.) established in coordination with the health and safety services as well as the beach manager,
- Prohibition of mass gatherings. Municipalities should take the necessary measures to avoid overcrowding (no more than 3 people gathered except families);
- The prohibition of collective nautical activities (jet-skiing, sailing, windsurfing... ..);

#### • Health coverage

An emergency medical team can be made up of:

- 1 doctor or 1 nurse;
- 1 ambulance driver;



First Aid Center / Ksar Al Majaz Beach / Fahs Anjra

This team must be provided with the equipment and conditions necessary to accomplish their work.

Workplaces: under tent or constructions

The medical team must respect health protection and hygiene rules, in particular:

- Social distancing ;
- Barrier gestures;

- Wearing of masks
- Hand washing...

A disinfectant cleaning schedule for common spaces and equipment, as well as a reception procedure must be put in place in coordination between the various stakeholders (Ministry of Health, Civil Protection and Moroccan Red Crescent).

#### 4) Environmental awareness raising and education activities

Visitors to the beach, and especially young people, must be well informed and warned against Covid 19, by first making them aware of the importance of social distancing and barrier gestures.

As usual, they will be required to attend a series of environmental awareness raising activities, which are sure to be adapted to the current situation.

An operational mentoring via a Webinar was carried out on April 23, 2020 by the Foundation with the partners of the "Clean Beaches" program, representatives of economic partners and municipalities and prefectures, concerning the coordination and necessary tools, putting thus at their disposal a set of thematic, technical and organizational aids.

The various activities suggested will be presented through the Foundation's various areas of intervention, and in different formats, namely:

- **Through awareness raising and education** actions;
- **Through improved knowledge and training** (training workshops);
- **Via the networking of actors, and the strengthening of partnerships** (multi-partnership actions involving NGOs and civil society);



Bouznika Beach

In addition, the venue hosting all of these activities should take into account a set of precautions recommended below:

- Reduce the number of participants in Environmental Education activities (max 5 per group) to ensure a safe distance;
- Give priority to passive environmental education activities (eg beach radio) over active ones; by favoring interactive training (Media, videos) avoiding any contact with media equipment that will be passed from hand to hand;
- Establish a cleaning plan with follow-up by performing a disinfectant cleaning of spaces, work equipment, etc ;
- Set up an awareness poster on the beach to respect barrier gestures and social distancing;



# APPENDICE 4

## INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARK



## APPENDICE IV

## Comparison of the situation of beaches in various countries around the world

## Situation of the reviewed countries in June 2020

Countries	Beach closures	Reopening planned
Ireland	✗	✗
Wales	✓	✗
Turkey	✗	--
Spain	✗	--
Denmark	✓	✗
Montenegro	✗	✗
Sweden	✗	✗
England	✓	--
Puerto rico	✗	--
South Africa	✗	✗
Netherlands	✓	✗
Australia	✓	✗
United States	✓	✗
Italy	✗	✗
Belgium	✓	✗
France	✗	✓
Cyprus	✗	✗

## IRELAND

**Beaches currently closed :** In the Republic of Ireland, you cannot visit a beach if it is more than 2 km from your home. Some beach parking lots are closed, others are open, so the beaches are open to local inhabitants but closed to the rest. Marinas are currently closed here as only essential businesses are open to the public. The current restrictions have been in place since March 27<sup>th</sup>,

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** It is currently scheduled for preseason and season sampling to proceed as normal (season starts here on June 1<sup>st</sup>). There could be some relief from the restrictions on May 5<sup>th</sup>, although news indicates that people are starting to violate current restrictions make this unlikely.

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## WALES

**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches are open to the public if they are accessible on foot or by bicycle and if they are a short distance from the house. Beach parking lots have been closed to deter visitors from going there. The only reason you should be there if it's part of your once-a-day exercise. No swimming or water sports are allowed, there are currently no services or equipment available (toilets and lifeguards)

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## TURKEY

**Beaches currently closed :** All beaches are closed, even walking on or around the beach is prohibited in Turkey.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** A Plan from the Ministry of Tourism concerning the opening of the tourist season for the end of May (if all goes well) but with a new certification called Stay Safe. The Ministry has formed a committee bringing together other Ministries such as the Ministries of Health, Environment and Agriculture and others. All the criteria are not yet fully decided. But the government will only allow institutions with this certification to reopen.

**Reopening of beaches :** There doesn't appear to be any normalization like before the pandemic. But reopening seems possible under the conditions set out above.

**Comments :** No normal activities like before the pandemic. But reopening seems possible under the conditions set out above.

## SPAIN

**Beaches currently closed :** Spain Completely closed at this time, beaches and parks.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** The Minister of Tourism creates guides with experts (not only for beaches but also for museums, bars, national parks... all sectors) with procedures. Once the procedures are ready, they will be sent to the Minister of Health for approval. The Spanish government wants everyone to do the same, without starting to create different "COVID labels" in different regions, because health is not a competitive matter. The idea is that everyone will follow the same rules.

The city hall of Fuengirola in Spain, said it aims to use artificial intelligence (AI) to monitor the capacity of beaches and other public spaces. The Municipality of Costa del Sol has said it will use a computer program that allows real-time analysis of beach attendance information to avoid crowds and minimize the risk of possible COVID-19 infections



**Reopening of beaches :** If Spanish beaches will be open (it depends on how the "virus" spreads) there will be strict and serious restrictions and controls, especially to maintain social distancing. There are over 3000 beaches in Spain. But we suppose that this year, the Spanish people would prefer to go to the villages, so fewer people on the beaches (and probably no international tourists ...)

## DENMARK

**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches have not been closed and no particular restrictions have been put in place. There is a ban on gatherings of more than 10 people in public (until May 10<sup>th</sup>), and people are strongly encouraged to keep a safe distance from each other. Barrier and hygiene and social distancing measures are required on certain sites which have remained open to the public.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No

**Comments :** There is a ban on gatherings of more than 10 people (until May 10<sup>th</sup>), and people are strongly encouraged to keep a safe distance from each other outside.

## MONTENEGRO

**Beaches currently closed :** Beaches like other recreational and public spaces are closed.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** The government announced that the beaches will be reopened on May 18<sup>th</sup>

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## SWEDEN

**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches and parks are closed at this time.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No

**Comments :** Social distancing must be observed, events of 50 or more people are prohibited.

## ENGLAND

**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches are not closed. Parkings, cafes, toilets are closed.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** "Non-essential" travel / travel bans are in place now, and will likely remain in effect for some time.

**Reopening of beaches :** The beaches are not closed. But parking lots, public toilets, cafes, etc. are closed to discourage non-locals.

**Comments :** In England, citizens are allowed to drive for 10 minutes to a place where they can exercise.

## PUERTO RICO

**Beaches currently closed :** You can even be fined for being at the beach, even if it's part of your daily exercise routine. In addition, swimming or water sports are not allowed. No service available (toilets and lifeguards, etc.). There is currently no idea about lifting these restrictions.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## SOUTH AFRICA

**Beaches currently closed :** All beaches in South Africa are currently closed and the public is prohibited from visiting these sites.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** South Africa will reopen the beaches from May 1<sup>st</sup> in a step by step approach consisting of 5 stages. Each district will be treated according to new infections. They are currently in Stage 5 (nationally) and the beaches would only reopen in Stage 1. There likely won't be any beaches open for the next 2-3 months.

**Reopening of beaches :** The beaches have been closed since March 26<sup>th</sup>.

## NETHERLANDS

**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches are open. People can walk on the beach as long as they follow the rules: 1.5 meters away from each other; max 3 people in a group (except families). All hotels / restaurants / cafes are also closed; no terrace. Barrier and hygiene and social distancing measures are required on certain sites which have remained open to the public.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

## AUSTRALIA

**Beaches currently closed :** People are allowed to bathe, to surf, to walk in the water... but no other activity is tolerated (no sunbathing or building sandcastles...): We leave the place after having practiced physical activity (Dynamic range concept).

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## UNITED STATES (GEORGIA)

**Beaches currently closed :** Beaches in Georgia have been open since early April, with police vehicles on the beaches to remind people that it is essential to keep their safety distances and that laying on the sand is prohibited.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No



## ITALY

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**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches have been closed since March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** Since May 4<sup>th</sup>, beach attendants have been busy organizing the reception of tourists. The private beaches are therefore designed so that holiday-makers remain at a distance from each other: by installing cords, the managers of private beaches strive to leave 1.5 meters between each deckchair and aisles are delimited for moving around a deckchair by the sea.

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## BELGIUM

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**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** Among the tracks explored in Belgium: a Beach Pass is planned. The idea would be to divide the beaches into demarcated areas in order to regulate the influx of vacationers, who will have to reserve their place on the beach.

The city council of Ostende is announcing a reservation system this summer to access its busiest beaches.

**Reopening of beaches :** No

## FRANCE

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**Beaches currently closed :** From March 19<sup>th</sup>, the first beaches began to be closed to the public, a few days after the beginning of confinement, which was then not necessarily well respected in some parts of the coast.

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** The municipalities plead for dynamic beaches. This is the formula used in Australia where people are allowed to swim, surf, walk in water... but no other activity is tolerated (no sunbathing or building sandcastles....): you leave the place after having practiced your physical activity.

**Reopening of beaches :** Beaches authorized to reopen: Swimming and fishing allowed, any static presence sitting or laying down is prohibited as is the practice of picnicking.

## CYPRUS

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**Beaches currently closed :** The beaches are currently closed

**Debates for the reopening of beaches :** No

**Reopening of beaches :** No