Annual Report 2020



مؤسسة محمد السادس لحماية البيئة FONDATION MOHAMMED VI POUR LA PROTECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT www.fm6e.org

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In regard to the immense challenge of protecting the environment, a task which involves all citizens, education should come before all other means and considerations.

"

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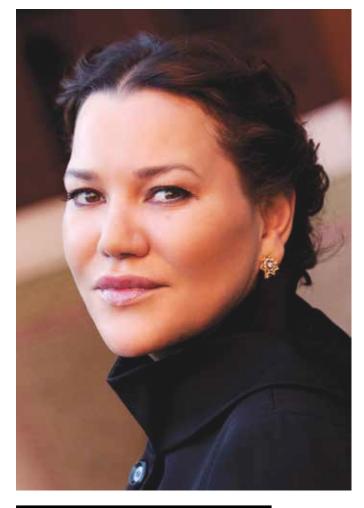
What is essential, however, is to contribute to the emergence of a different world – a world based on cooperation, in which the responsibility for environmental protection, is shared by all, requiring equal effort from all of us.

"

Extract from Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa's speech.

Tokyo, November 23, 2018

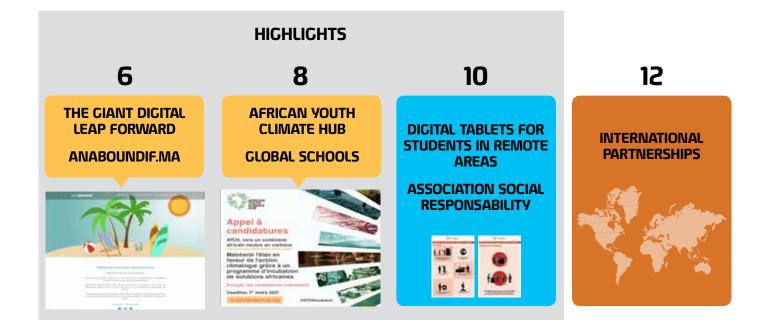


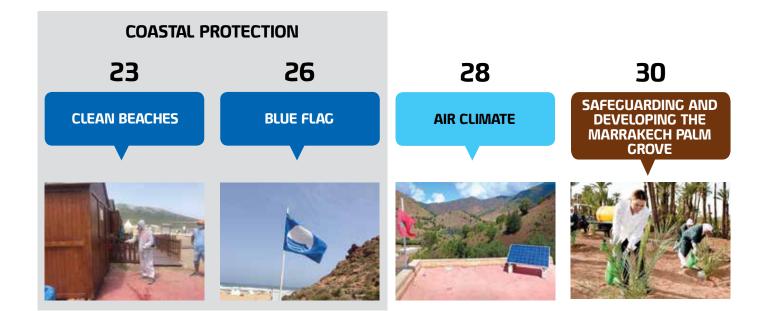




PRESIDENT OF THE MOHAMMED VI FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

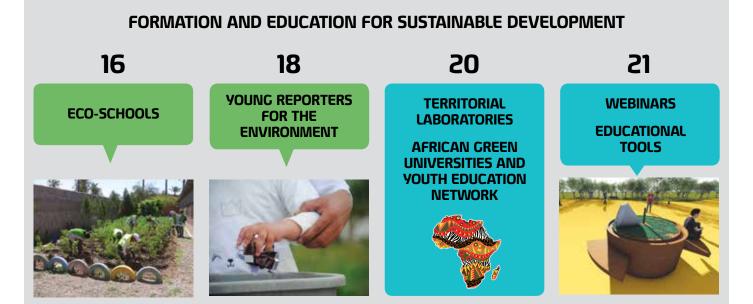
SUMMARY

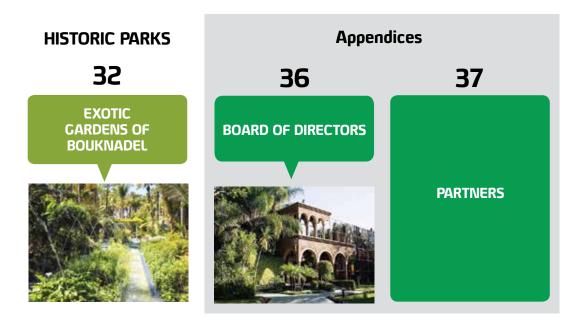






THE HASSAN II INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING





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6 HIGHLIGHTS

THE GIANT DIGITAL LEAP FORWARD

In a year where Covid-19 dictated all kinds of restrictions, the Foundation capitalized on the relevance of earlier orientations: Connectivity, Remote Work and Education and Investment in Digitization.



his year was that of Covid-19 ubiquity. Starting with lockdown in mid-March 2020, to restrictions still in effect by December, public health measures to combat the pandemic did not let up. The Foundation was impacted, same as any other organization; yet, it quickly got back on track past the first few weeks.

CONNECTED CULTURE

Two factors played a decisive role: the Foundation's culture and its infrastructure. Culture first, as the Foundation took a resolute digital turn a few years ago. This gave way to the gradual online publication of Foundation websites. Going from one institutional site, to one for each of the Foundation's programs. This went on through online learning, with an educational gaming platform for children and teenagers to disseminate environmental literacy. The Foundation, which incidentally renounced paper printouts (with only a few exceptions), has become accustomed to communicating via digital channels. In fact, it is through these channels that it targets its principal audience young people.

THE HASSAN II CENTER, A DIGITAL FLAGSHIP

This distinctive feature drove the Foundation to a radical definition of its infrastructure, when designing what was to become the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training. Remote communication technologies were not merely emphasized, but placed at the core. The Centre is an exceptionally well-equipped digital flagship: all facilities enjoy ultra-high speed internet access. This second advantage enabled us to weather the pandemic. When the Foundation found itself constrained to remote communication during lockdown, the Center

stepped up to the plate, vindicating the vision behind its creation. Hosting webinars has never been easier: it all came to life at the click of a switch.

NEW CULTURE

Not just infrastructure, but a new philosophy that gained in momentum amidst the public health crisis. More than ever, it drives Foundation teams, who symbolically relocated to the Center while renovations were underway at headquarters late this year. The Centre will reopen to not only a new skin, but also a new nervous system, connected to the world of tomorrow.

PLATFORMS FOR THE FUTURE

The world of tomorrow is a virtual meeting place, a great global village made possible by technology.

This provides an entirely new meaning to the Foundation, whose scope of action has shifted from country to continent, from Morocco to Africa. The African Youth Climate Hub epitomizes this novel approach. It simultaneously engages the entire continent and comes to life through support from the Center and its partners. Anaboundif.ma is another example, born during the pandemic, to raise awareness for sustainable development even when not on the ground.



ANABOUNDIF.MA

The Foundation launched a digital platform during the pandemic to continue its awareness-raising mission.





The name chosen, "Ana Boundif" for "I am Boundif" in English, draws on the Foundation's mascot, which first appeared in the early 2000s. Boundif characters are known to both young and old.

The Ana Boundif digital platform began operations in the summer of 2020, thanks to the support of volunteers and partners.

An educational media library featuring some forty videos and fifty photographs by Young Reporters for the Environment, Eco-Schoolers, Laureates of the Lalla Hasnaa

Sustainable Coastline Trophy, Ambassadors of the African Youth Climate Hub, and partners of the Clean Beaches program, was compiled to start with.

The first issue addressed was that of plastic waste at sea. Other environmental issues are to follow. These are addressed via participant contributions (photographs, videos, initiatives, etc.), including economic partners, associations, as well as Young Environmental Reporters and Eco-Schools communities.

The platform is open and citizen-driven. It seeks to raise awareness and educate, foster commitment and establish permanent ties to all communities. The digital platform also aims to broaden the Foundation's audience and thereby consolidate its outreach.



THE FOUNDATION

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY WITH THE REST OF THE PLANET ON JUNE 5TH OF EACH YEAR. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRIVE ITS MESSAGE OF AWARENESS.

AFRICAN YOUTH CLIMATE HUB

This flagship project gradually takes shape. The incubator, another big part is launched.

is Majesty King Mohammed VI sent a message to the Climate Summit in New York in September 2019, which was read by Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa. The African Youth Climate Hub initiative was officially launched at this summit.

Hosted at the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, the African Youth Climate Hub is a partnership between the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection, YOUNGO (Children and Youth Constituency to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), OCP Group and Mohammed VI Polytechnic University.

This hub's seeks is to mobilize young Africans for sustainable development by connecting them to the digital platform and supporting their initiatives.

It connects participants via a digital platform and supports their initiatives.

AYCH brings together a network of ambassadors made up of young Africans, worldwide, to represent the initiative across a range of climate action activities and promote sustainable development.

AYCH CONSISTS OF SIX COMPONENTS:

- A network to foster African youth leadership around climate issues;
- An incubator to support youth climate change initiatives and identify resources;
- A training center designed, built and developed by young people, both empowering and upgrading their skills. This component provides online capacity-building training modules for young people on Climate-related topics with a focus on climate education, water management and energy efficiency;
- A forum to facilitate dialogue among and with young people;
- An observatory to better understand youth expectations in the fight against climate change; and
- A dashboard to monitor projects and youth engagement.



LAUNCH OF THE INCUBATOR

AYCH's flagship 2020 initiative undeniably was the launch of the incubator. The program seeks to foster green businesses development, providing innovative solutions to fight climate change and promote sustainable development in Africa. Young entrepreneurs in the incubator place social and environmental concerns on a par with economic ones.

A call for candidates was issued in December 2020 during a webinar attended by Mr. Nigel Topping (COP 26 High Level Champion) and Ms. Fleur Newman (UNFCCC). The incubator provides green start-ups with a tailored six-month program in which they receive practical support, workshops to equip them with the tools to implement their projects and help them translate ideas into actionable technology.

A training curriculum provides young entrepreneurs with the legal, strategic, marketing and communication, psychological, technological and climate knowledge required for success. AYCH is preparing the incubation of 10 projects in its first edition in 2020.



GLOBAL SCHOOLS

The Foundation manages Global Schools, a worldwide UNESCO project. Morocco is one of only three Global Schools trial countries.



e Foundation runs the pilot phase of the Global Schools Program, a UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) initiative. This initiative aims to effectively incorporate UNESCO's three global concepts (ESD, 21st Century Skills, and Global Citizenship) into all school curricula.

This ambitious undertaking supported by the UN draws on the idea that education of future generations is crucial in the fight against global warming. It aims, among other things, to ensure a clear understanding of Sustainable Development Goals and to incorporate these at all levels of schooling and education.

Morocco is among three trial countries selected by the program. The eleven-month experimentation phase is broken down into eight phases. Five phases were completed by the end of 2020, under the supervision of a national committee chaired by the Foundation.

Specifically, they mapped the entire Moroccan school curriculum and identified the degree of implementation of Education 2030 three flagship concepts:

21st Century Skills, Sustainable Development Goals, and Global Citizenship. The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training held three crucial workshops, the first national workshop on February 20, followed by two

GLOBAL SCHOOLS AIM TO IMPLEMENT 17 UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN SCHOOLS CURRICULA WORLDWIDE. MOROCCO BEGAN DRAFTING AND TESTING A FIRST SET OF CURRICULA. intensive three-day workshops, at the end of February, to dissect primary and secondary school curricula of two pilot regions, Rabat-Salé-Kénitra and Fes-Meknès.

Following this mapping, the next phases are to elaborate course material that meets Global Schools' standards. A total 12 course syllabi were, to fit national circumstances, including language. These are to be tested in pilot classes in upcoming phases in 2021.

The Foundation is raising awareness for Global Schools, to be deployed in all twelve of the country's school districts. The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training hosted webinars and a presentation tool is under development.



DIGITAL TABLETS FOR STUDENTS RURAL SCHOOLS

These tools allow the continuity of learning for students through distance education.





Digital tablets distributed to school children in Figuig, Chefchaouen, Taroudant and Midelt. he Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection and the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research gave out 1,000 tablets to students rural schools of four Provincial Directorates: Figuig, Chefchaouen, Taroudant and Midelt.

This initiative was part of the Air Climate voluntary carbon offset program.

The tablets allowed pupils of the 5th and 6th grades of primary and the 1st year of middle school to keep attending classes remotely during Covid-19 health restrictions. Fitted with Ministry of Education curricula and sustainable development education content developed by the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, the tablets also come with solar charging kits, a 4G SIM card for connectivity, and a 64 GB SD memory card. They are to support schoolchildren throughout their education and allow them to access a world of knowledge, culture and ecology.

The digital tablets are charged using the mini solar charging kits, or on photovoltaic kits installed at schools attended by the pupils, as part of the Foundation's Air Climate voluntary carbon offset mechanism. Foundation partners routinely install photovoltaic kits in a number of rural schools. Solar installations provide schools with lighting to finish classes during winter nights, supply electricity to teachers' homes, and other common and essential services.

Over 1,000 schools received solar power kits since the Voluntary Carbon Offset program began in 2009, improving learning and living conditions of over 100,000 students. The same Voluntary Carbon Offset program enabled planting over 20,000 new palm trees in Marrakech. Partners financing these installations offset a portion of CO2 emissions generated by employee business travel.



ASSOCIATION SOCIAL RESPONSABILITY

The Foundation, having renewed its Association Social Responsibility (ASR) certification in 2016, now endeavors to broaden this commitment. It took a number of specific social responsibility actions in 2020.



PAPERLESS PROCESSING

All documents (mail, contracts, reports, etc.) are now digitized and access to paperless operations facilitated.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The Foundation upgraded human resources management, its principal asset, introducing new processes to its annual performance assessment systems. This yearly exercise improves employee communication and brings increased focus on performance.

The Foundation began refurbishing headquarters in November 2020 to enhance work conditions with revamped workspaces and upgraded connectivity.

COVID-19 HEALTH MEASURES

From the onset of Covid-19, the Foundation made employee health and safety a priority. Sanitary measures, information, training, posters at Foundation and Center premises, disinfection of all areas, especially hand contact surfaces, equipment and vehicles cleaning, provision of hydro-alcoholic solutions and PCR tests to all staff; the Foundation implemented all means possible. Above all, it set-up remote work. Employees received all necessary resources to work from home during lockdown.



INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS



The Foundation has a partnership agreement with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (2016-2021). Joint programs include:

- The 2nd United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2015-2024).
- The global 2020-2030 "Education for Sustainable Development: Towards Sustainable Development Goals" program.

The Foundation conducts an annual training program as part of this program, in collaboration with the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research to strengthen educator capacities, relaying its action at local level, notably for Eco-Schools and Young Reporters for the Environment (target 4.7 of MDG 4).

The Foundation is currently gearing up to attend the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development scheduled for May 2021 in Berlin. It intends to present its capacity-building program for trainers as well as its digital teaching tools.



UNESCO INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION

The Foundation is formalizing a partnership with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) for the UN Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development, for 2021-2023. This partnership enables the joint organization of events and support for local initiatives, specifically in the area of oceanography.

The Foundation and the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission have had informal, close ties starting in November 2019. The Foundation, as a result, took part in a number of COP 25 side events. These include the Africa-Western Indian Ocean Regional Planning Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya (January 27-29, 2020); a brainstorming event on the Decade held in New York, in February 3, 2020; the Foundations' Dialogue on the Decade in Copenhagen, Denmark, in February 2020 and the Virtual Summit on Ocean Literacy (June 8, 2020).

The African Youth Climate Hub (AYCH) joined the Ad-hoc steering committee of YoU-CAN (Youth UNESCO Climate Action Network).



UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC)

The Foundation is implementing UNFCCC's Climate Empowerment Action (CEA). It took part in a webinar on October 1 and another regional one focused on Africa and the Middle East on October 28, 2020, where it presented its capacity-building activities on climate change under the Air Climate program.

The Foundation joined the Paris Committee Network on Capacity Building (PCCB), giving it access to all data on ongoing climate activities worldwide, as well as resources deployed by other members, free of charge (expertise, content, action plan).

The Foundation co-hosted the "Knowledge to Action" virtual capacity building day for Africa with UNFCCC on September 24, 2020.



UNEP (UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM)

The Foundation, as a Mediterranean Action Plan member since 2017, strives to promote regional capacity building and exchange good practices and successful initiatives.

A draft memorandum of understanding with UNEP was drawn up in 2020 to support projects including

AGUYEN (African Green University and Youth Education Network) and development of Foundation territorial laboratories, two projects carried out in collaboration with the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training and Scientific Research.



The Foundation has also applied to join the Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development (MCSD) in 2021.

A Foundation executive was elected Regional Facilitator for Africa group NGOs at UNEP.



UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP)

The Foundation signed a draft memorandum of understanding for the development of environmental education with UNDP in October 2020. It covers Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the 2020-2023 period and seeks to provide sustainable development training to all audiences via e-learning tools and workshops. It is to be deployed with the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training, as part of the South-South cooperation program implemented by the Foundation.



FAO (UN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION)

A draft memorandum of understanding for 2021-2023 is being finalized. It covers nutrition, marine and terrestrial biodiversity.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTION NETWORK (SDSN)

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in April 2020 with the Sustainable Development Solution Network to launch the pilot phase of the Global Schools project in Morocco, along with Turkey and Ghana. The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training heads the project, by chairing a working group consisting of the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, and Higher Education and Scientific Research (Directorate of School Life and Curricula), Al Akhawayn University, and the École Nationale Supérieure des Mines of Rabat.

JAPANESE GOI PEACE FOUNDATION

The Foundation renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with the Japanese Goi Peace Foundation in 2020 for four years (2021-2023). The MoU targets education for sustainable development projects, including the twinning of Moroccan and Japanese schools, and awarding prizes relating to the Environment.



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

ECOSOC renewed the Foundation's consultative status upon review of its quadrennial report for the 2015-2018 period by the NGO Committee.

The Head of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development at the Department of Economic and Social Affairs emphasized, in the February 2020 NGO Committee's report, that NGOs such as the Foundation contribute substantially to UN efforts, notably through outreach, expertise, local insight, and grass-roots convening power. She highlighted the fact that NGO partnerships with the UN are critical to implementing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. Accordingly, consultative status applications reached a record high of 860 in 2020, up from 204 in 2010.



HASSAN II INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING

2020, FIRST FULL YEAR

The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training completed its first full year of operation in 2020. In spite of Covid-19-induced restrictions, the Center remained largely on-track in terms of growth and development. That is because it was designed to be deployed remotely across both Morocco and Africa, to scale up education and awareness-raising endeavors. Its digital communication capabilities, digital prowess and connected workspaces make it a digital hub. It is therefore the backbone of recent initiatives such as the African Youth Climate Hub. The Foundation's Sustainable Development Education programs were taken-up by the Center, breathing new digital life into them, and better aligning them with the times as most young people connect to the Internet on their phones.

While the planet had to learn to work remotely, the Center was in its preferred environment. This first year of full operation was an opportunity for the Center to prove its relevance and the soundness of the technical choices underlying its design.



ECO-SCHOOLS

The program was able to pursue and attain its objectives despite Covid-19. Participation is still on the rise.

Capacity Building

As it does every year, Eco-Schools hosted regional sustainable development awareness and training workshops for teachers, coordinators and schoolchildren. 391 teachers and 230 elementary school pupils took part in these training sessions, held in the kingdom's twelve regional education districts. Regional Green Flag ceremonies also took place across the 12 regions of the country.

Eco-Schools Manual

An Eco-Schools pedagogical manual was produced for program teachers and coordinators. It introduces



concepts and in-school implementation methods, and provides scientific and pedagogical references on topics covered (energy, water, waste, biodiversity, food, solidarity and climate change). It also emphasizes program ties to sustainable development objectives.

Impact study launch

The Foundation deemed it appropriate to assess program impact, 15 years into Eco-Schools implementation. It initiated an impact study in 2020. The study is to assess student and coordinator environmental awareness levels, as well as school community engagement: parents, authorities and local officials. It also aims to ensure sustainable development objectives are understood and incorporated into school curricula.

Redesign of the Eco-Schools Portal



The **www.ecoecoles.ma** portal was redesigned in 2020 to streamline content as well as facilitate and highlight best practices.

Database update

The Eco-School database, listing and monitoring all member schools was redesigned. The redesign enables intuitive and flexible management, archived data analysis, program indicator production and data sharing between the Foundation and regional and provincial coordinators.

Program video update

The video outlining the program's seven steps and seven themes was updated. It now includes preschool content and links between the curriculum, Eco-Schools and UN Sustainable Development Goals.



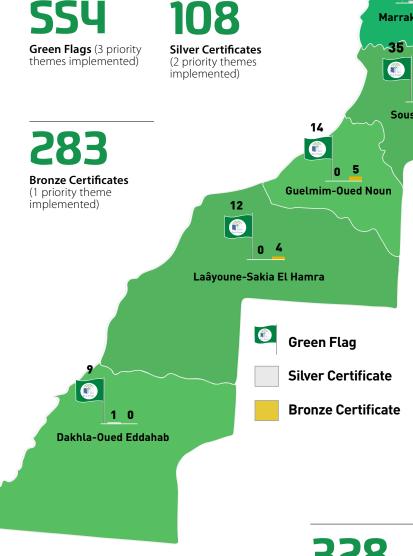
Teachers trained

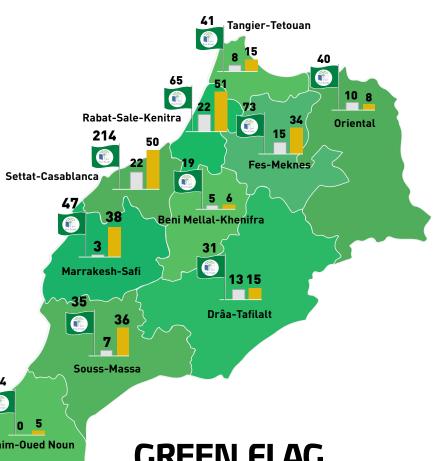
in the Eco-Schools

program.



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GREEN FLAG

The Green Flag's progressive approach (and its rigorous standards), allowed for a significant increase in Eco-Schools participation. Schools first obtain a bronze certificate, then a silver certificate, before obtaining the ecolabel, by progressively addressing all program priority areas. The bronze certificate is available after successful completion of one priority theme, the silver certificate after completion of two, and Green Flag designation after completion of three. Eco-Schools that have not obtained any of the certificates are nevertheless commended for commitment to the program.

328 elementary schools from all 12 regional education and training districts applied, up 51 schools from 277 in the previous year.

Covid-19 pandemic-related health measures barely dented the enthusiasm, and the process advanced remotely as early as March (onset of lockdown). Deliberations for bronze and silver certificates took place remotely by national jury on June 23 and 24, 2020. Overall evaluation of Green Flag candidate schools' environmental achievements and projects took place on December 23, 2020.



YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

YREs focused on plastic waste in 2020. A new video category was introduced.







YRE PORTAL

THE ARABIC VERSION OF THE YOUNG RE-PORTERS PORTAL WAS LAUNCHED IN 2020

2019-2020 EDITION

The Foundation successfully held the 18th annual Young Reporters for the Environment competition. The national jury reviewed a total 111 written reports, 107 photographic reports, and 81 video reports. High school and middle school students focused, this year, on ecoactions towards a plastic waste-free environment. This year's edition featured a video category.

The health crisis disrupted competition programming. The jury only met once on July 8, 2020 at Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training headquarters. Reports were submitted electronically because of social distancing constraints. Each school district only submitted six reports, thereby conducting preliminary pre-selections in light of work conditions.

The jury finally rewarded six written reports, six photographic reports, and seven video reports. Smallscale regional ceremonies took place to handed-out awards and certificates.

The 19th Edition of the Contest began at the start of the 2020 school year. The Environmental Education Foundation (EEF), which coordinates the contest worldwide, emphasized three priority themes, namely climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution. The Foundation opted for biodiversity in response to the Covid-19 health situation and in strong connection with Sustainable Development Goals 12, 14 and 15. YREs took part in national and international webinars throughout the year.

YRE TUTORIALS

The Center created a set of educational clips to support Young Reporters for the Environment efforts. Three video segments were produced, detailing the Rabat-Salé-Kénitra region project categories. YREs from the Rabat-Salé-Kénitra region presented the films.

YRE DATABASE UPDATE

The database was updated to include all contest categories and winner lists.

A new video contest category was created.



NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RESULTS



Award for Valorization

Lycée Oulad Hriz Berrechid, Casablanca Settat Plastic strips that endanger the environment, transformed into artistic masterpieces and traditional artifacts at Had Soualem Age group 15-18



Proximity Award Lycée Ibn Khaldoun

Ben-Msik, Casablanca Settat - In a plastic bottle we planted a flower, and in a plastic bottle we watered it Age group 11-14







Awareness Award Lycée Hafid Ibrahim Kénitra, Rabat Salé Kénitra Our behavior Age group 15-18



WRITTEN REPORT AWARDS

Theme of the Year Award

Lycée Imam Chatbi Nouaceur, Casablanca Settat Reducing livestock deaths from household plastic waste Age group 11-14

Proximity Award

Lycée Jaâfar Fassi Fihri

Moulay Rachid, Casablanca Settat Bouara, Mikhala and Habasha, genuine eco-soldiers Age group 15-18

Vigilance Award

Lycée Abdelkrim Khattabi Nador, Oriental Moroccans and Plastic... Forbidden Love Age group 15-18

Awareness Award

Groupe les Crêtes Al Fida Mers Sultan, Casablanca I use more plastic when I travel Age group 15-18

Award for Initiative

Lycée 30 juin Sidi Ifni, Guelmim Oued Noun Plastic waste is an eco-friendly source of artwork Age group 11-14

National Jury Award

Lycée 11 janvier Sidi Bennour, Casablanca Settat Plastic bottles in the homes of Sidi Bennour women. Age group 15-18

VIDEO REPORT AWARDS

Theme of the Year Award

Collège El Idriss Premier Ouarzazate, Drâa Tafilalet Hand in hand to save our environment from plastic waste Age group 15-18

Proximity Award

Lycée Al Malqi Rabat, Rabat Salé Kénitra Turning causes of death into avenues of life Age group 19-21

Artistic Creativity Award

Lycée Al Qods

Tantan, Guelmim Oued Noun Destiny of a lifetime... Destiny of a human being... Destiny of a bottle Age group 15-18

Award for Valorization

Collège Imam Malek

Tiznit, Souss Massa How can we get rid of plastic waste? Age group 19-21

Award for Initiative

Collège Ahmed Chawqi Agadir Idaoutanane, Souss Massa Plastic Handcuffs Age group 11-14

National Jury Award

Lycée Ajdir

Agadir Idaoutanane, Souss Massa Dead rubber tires come back to life **Age group 11-14**

Innovation Award

Groupe Scolaire Al Manbat Berrechid, Casablanca Settat Our lives are in danger Age group 15-18

Award for Initiative

Age group 11-14

Creativity Award

Rabat, Rabat Salé Kénitra

Don't throw it away, turn it into

Award for Originality

Agadir Idaoutanane, Souss Massa

Lycée Al Malgi

something beautiful

Age group 15-18

Lycée Al Inbiat

Waste collector

Age group 15-18

earth

Groupe scolaire Al Sahel Berrechid,

Casablanca Settat Angels of the

TERRITORIAL LABORATORIES

he Foundation strives to deploy territorial environmental training laboratories in the twelve regions of Morocco.

It is supported in this project by the General Directorate of Local Authorities, with which it signed an agreement for the 2019-2023 period.

These territorial environmental training laboratories are designed in partnership with the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research.

They provide a relay for the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training in the regions and enable environmental training for administrations, businesses, civil society, universities and schools. They are particularly useful to the Foundation in achieving objectives set as part of various commitments and partnerships, including UNESCO Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2015-2024) and more recently UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission Decade of Ocean Sciences. The Decade of ESD, which addresses Goal 4 of UN Agenda 2030 aims to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all". The Foundation focused particularly on strengthening trainer competencies to scale up awareness and education efforts.

Territorial laboratories' pilot implementation covered the regions of Rabat-Salé-Kénitra and Marrakech-Safi.

AFRICAN GREEN UNIVERSITIES AND YOUTH EDUCATION NETWORK

he Green University and Youth Education Network in Africa is conducted in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It seeks to promote

environmental integration in teaching, research, community engagement and university administration, including university facilities. The network strives to engage students in sustainable development. The Youth Education Alliance (YEA) provides new impetus to the network. It serves as a hub of knowledge, innovation and good environmental practices exchange.

A select committee of the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training tracks AGUYEN deployment. A kick-off meeting held online on November 19, 2020 brought together 18 universities from six African countries (Morocco, Tunisia, Mauritania, Ivory Coast, Senegal and Comoros). It introduced the network, its objectives and pedagogical tools (Little Book of Green Nudges, Normative Framework for Sustainable Universities, digital network platform). The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training translated the Little Book of Green Nudges, developed by UNEP, from English for wider dissemination, in collaboration with Ibn Tofaïl University. It presents forty good practices, encouraging students and university staff to freely modify behaviors and reduce environmental impact.





WEBINARS

The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training hosted a set of webinars.

The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training is in charge of producing educational content, training, and organizing events for Foundation programs. The unique circumstances of 2020 gave the Center the opportunity to showcase its technology and remote communication capabilities. It naturally stepped to the plate, hosting both webinars and programs to continue deploying its actions.

| Date | Торіс | Participants | |
|------------------|---|--|--|
| 13 april 2020 | Beach waste management | Mustapha Brakez – Consultant | |
| 23 april 2020 | Launch of the B7arbla- plastic 2020 operation | Coastal Protection Program Team | |
| 11 may 2020 | Covid-19: climate and en- vironmental impacts | Abdellah Mokssit (GIEC) | |
| 18 may 2020 | Recovery through Green Economy | Saïd Mouline (AMEE) | |
| 2 june 2020 | Consuming and producing sustainably to rebuild the Green Future we want for Africa | Badr Ikken (CGEM) Patrick Mwesigye (UN Environnement), Amal Be- nais- sa (Bank of Africa – BMCE Group), Oladosu Adenike (Aych), Tshe- po Ma- zibuko (K1 Recycling) – Rick Bonnier (Bonnier Group) | |
| 9 june 2020 | Covid-19, the voice of Young Reporters for the Environment | Abdessamad Motei, (ISIC) | |
| 10 november 2020 | Beaches facing new challen- ges: What solutions? | Mathilde Houdart (LYDEC), Fadoua Aboutahir (TMSA), Mohamed Berkouk (ONDA), Malik Gharbi (REDAL), Sanaa DAOUANI (BCP), Mohamed El Mahmoudi (SDS), Ali El Asri (Oued Laou Municipality), Mimoun Bahkan (Arkeman Municipality) Abdeljalil Skaiiti (Al Marjane Associa- tion), Miss Meriem Hdia, AYCH Ambassador, Mr. Khalid Ilzeen, (YRE), Nabil Saouaf (Moroccan Plastics Federation), Zoubir Idrissi Moulay El Hassan (DGCT), Driss Nachit, (Fnideq Champion Scuba Diving Association), Mr. Mohamed Amine El Ainsi (ONEE-BE) and the Foundation team. | |
| 17 december 2020 | African Youth Climate Hub incubator launch African Youth Climate Hub incubator launch | Nigel Topping (COP 26 high level Champion), Fleur Newman (UNFCCC), Adel- hamid Bassi (UM6P), Olumide Idowu, Hatim El Othmani, Delphin Kaze - Jo- nita Babirye (Aych ambassadors) and the foundation team. | |



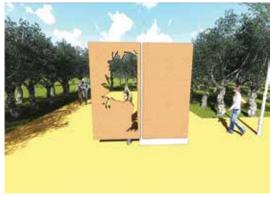
EDUCATIONAL TOOLS

The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training developed educational tools for Foundation programs.

GHABAT CHABAB PEDAGOGICAL STOPS



The Foundation installed the khettaras of Marrakesh trails and educational stops on the 400 hectares of Ghabat Chbab, where visitors learn of the park's history. A design contest was held among students of



the National School of Architecture of Rabat between February and April 2020, to produce these educational stops. Jury members selected ten modules for the six site halts. Installation is planned for 2021.

ECO-SCHOOL POSTERS FOR PRESCHOOLERS



A collection of posters illustrating seven Eco School program themes (Water, Energy, Waste Management, Healthy Eating, Biodiversity, Climate Change and Solidarity) was designed and published. The posters provide an opportunity for children aged 3 to 5 to learn eco-actions.

GHABAT CHABAB MOBILE APPLICATION



A mobile application supports Foundation action in rehabilitating Ghabat Chbab in Marrakech. Educational and fun, the app provides information to guide visitors and enrich learning of the site and ecology of the region. App conceptualization and development are finalized.





The Clean Beaches program had to cope with the exceptional Covid-19 circumstances. The program deployed resources to support beaches hosting vacationers.



A TWOFOLD CONTEXT

OCEANS, A GLOBAL CONCERN

Growing awareness of the vital importance of oceans in climate regulation and biodiversity has brought about a welcome and timely mobilization.

The UN Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development (2021-2030), of which the Foundation is a part, enables implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 for the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources.

STRATEGY, SEAS AND OCEANS

The Foundation is currently deploying its seas and oceans strategy and rallying its network of partners: local government, economic partners, institutions and organizations active in coastal management and local associations.

It thus continues what it started for the B7arblaplastic operation in 2019. It is now open to marine biodiversity protection actions, and to ties between oceans and climate change.

HEALTH CONTEXT

2020 was clearly an extraordinary year due to Covid-19. The situation compelled the Foundation to review its Coastal Protection Action Plan implementation and adapt its Clean Beaches program to meet health requirements.

CLEAN BEACHES, A COMMON PROGRAM

The Clean Beaches program is deployed with the support of over 200 partners (economic operators, associations, local authorities, citizens...) at over 100 beaches, accounting for over 100 million visits each summer, in recent years.

The program fostered ecological awareness in government agencies, local communities, partners, civil society and of course holidaymakers, whose pressure on ecosystems is considerable. It is therefore essential to develop responsible behaviors to keep shared spaces clean and avoid their degradation.

PLASTIC POLLUTION CONTROL

The Foundation is resolutely committed to fighting marine pollution, particularly plastic, since 2019. It has mobilized partners and collected and shared data. It is



BEACHES TOOK ALL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES RE-QUIRED BY HEALTH AUTHORITIES.

104

plages (44 en Mediterranean, 37 Central Atlantic and 23 Southern Atlantic) spread over 61 municipalities.

73

Annual Report 2020

Beaches sont soutenues supported by 27 public and private economic partners



164

Beaches monitored for bathing water quality. 97% in conformity (NM 03 7 200).

96 Buoyed beaches

70

Beach Use and Management Plans completed by year-end 2017

104

104 beach pollution NM 03-07-199 identification profiles completed by year-end 2017 now launching pilot actions to enhance presence and visibility and consolidate its leadership on this issue.

Taking up an approach initiated in 2019, the Foundation has nevertheless adjusted its modus operandi in 2020, given the pandemic. It undertook the following:

- Development of tools and communication materials to support partners on the ground;
- Digitization of environmental awareness and education activities;
- Upgrading partner knowledge through training.

ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED

BEACH USE AND MANAGEMENT GUIDES

In early summer 2020, beachgoers awaited the reopening of beaches that lockdown measures had closed earlier in the season. The Foundation provided local authorities and partners with specific recommendations for beach management during this unique period.

The Foundation first met with the National Clean Beaches Committee to present these recommendations, endorsed by relevant authorities (Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Health).

They addressed safety and hygiene conditions to comply with the preventive rules issued by

health authorities based on four sets of criteria (bathing water quality, planning and management, safety and health coverage, environmental awareness and education activities).

To implement these recommendations, the Foundation relied on the governance scheme set up for beach management, structured between the national Clean Beaches Committee chaired by the Foundation and local committees chaired by Walis and Governors.

PARTNER SYNERGIES

In 2020, the Foundation initiated a new approach with its partners to better coordinate Clean Beaches operations. It now organizes four annual meetings with these partners.

- 1. Ocean Rendez-Vous (March): conference and working groups with partners, to prepare the annual campaign.
- 2. Partner Briefing Workshop (April): workshop to specifically develop ideas from the first meeting.
- **3. Ocean Days (June):** open conference to promote collective action and broaden mobilization.
- 4. Partner meeting (October): campaign review workshop.



HUMAN RESOURCES

| Designation | Number |
|--|--------|
| Professional Civil Protection Lifeguards deployed on beaches | 180 |
| Seasonal Lifeguards (SL) deployed on beaches | 2 4 47 |

RESCUE MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

| Designation | Nombre | |
|-----------------|--------|--|
| Round Lifebuoys | 458 | |
| Tube Lifebuoys | 692 | |
| Life jackets | 317 | |
| Pairs of fins | 995 | |
| Boards | 132 | |
| Megaphones | 15 | |
| Watchtowers | 251 | |
| Binoculars | 67 | |
| Umbrellas | 25 | |
| Jet-ski | 46 | |
| Zodiac | 52 | |
| Quads | 7 | |
| Ambulances | 15 | |
| Other means | | |

Stretchers for evacuation, Oxygen bags, Oxygen cylinders, Fire extinguishing means: fire extinguisher, Rescue rope, Communication equipment.

A Beaches mobile application is used to raise public awareness. SEDD publishes data for beach managers on a website (https://labo.environnement.gov.ma), from which it can be downloaded. Data is updated bi-weekly.

B. SECURITY

Civil Protection deployed significant human and material rescue resources on beaches in 2020.

Specific actions initiated as part of health measures:

- Covid-19 screening operations carried out for seasonal and professional lifeguards ;
- Protective masks distribution;
- Provision of hydro alcoholic disinfection gel;
- Cleaning and disinfection of rescue equipment;
- Covid-19 awareness campaigns.

104 beaches were buoyed for water safety, 6 beaches short of 2019 due to a number of beach closures.

The Directorate of Ports and Maritime Public Domain supported the buoying operation with educational signage.

C. HEALTH COVERAGE

Beach health services are provided annually by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with local authorities, Communal Hygiene Offices (BCH) and the Moroccan Red Crescent. Special Covid-19 circumstances led Ministry of Health Delegations to bring operations under the supervision of Walis and Governors.

When local authorities agreed to open a beach, Ministry of Health teams ensured health safety actions.

The health situation obviously affected health coverage consistency.

3315

Lifeguards (193 Professional and 3,258 seasonal received ANAPEC training)

2020 RESULTS

A. BATHING WATER AND SAND QUALITY

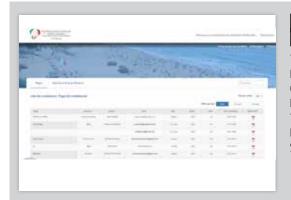
The National Laboratory for Pollution Research and Control of the Environment Department carried out ten surveys by the end of September. Total sample counts were kept up.

The waters of 175 beaches were analyzed, five more than 2019. In 2020, 410 stations (or 87.68%) were declared compliant for bathing and twelve stations non-compliant.

Mycological sand analysis surveys were conducted on 60 beaches, seven more than 2019. Findings indicated fluctuating levels of waste material across different beaches. Some saw an increase in this number, others a decrease.

These analyses enable the creation or update of bathing water profiles per beach. By the end of 2020, a total 145 bathing water profiles were completed.

Bathing water quality is reported by the Secretary of State for Sustainable Development (SEDD).



CLEAN BEACHES DATABASE

THE CLEAN BEACHES DATABASE AGGRE-GATING ALL PROGRAM DATA WAS UPDATED TO INCLUDE MOST RECENT DATA AND STATISTICS.

D. DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

176 beaches are subject to Public Maritime Domain Temporary Occupancy Authorizations. Half of them (90) still do not have one, and another 96 are currently in the approval process.

Municipalities in charge of beaches face financial and technical difficulty implementing Beach Use and Management Plans (PUGP); some consider attendance too low to justify such a plan, and others have not expressed interest.

E. AWARENESS AND EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Environmental education and awareness activities, except for beach radios and billboards, were not held face-to-face due to health restrictions. All partners =contributed to the Ana Boundif Platform (www.anaboundif.ma).

F. BEACH MONITORING AND TESTING SYSTEM

Beach assessments are based on Blue Flag label qualification criteria. Appraisals were drawn upon unannounced August 2020, surveys of beaches open to the public and covered by the Clean Beaches program. Appraisals outline efforts made and shortcomings noted in terms of equipment, management, hygiene and safety, as well as in terms of physical distancing and barrier measures. They include information on backshore, rescue equipment, first aid and health centers.

G. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

BATHING WATER QUALITY (BWQ)

Bathing water quality displays have yet to cover all beaches. All Blue Flag beaches are however covered.

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

The national committee noted progress in beach management and development, notably as result of beach use and management guide recommendations. Nevertheless, despite recent advances development and management, some municipalities lack the financial means to meet all beach qualification criteria. The committee therefore advises that ways and means of upgrading support to non-sponsored beaches be coordinated with DGCT (General Directorate of Local Authorities).

SECURITY AND HEALTH COVERAGE

The Lifeguard recruitment contest was not held because of the health situation. Civil Protection appealed to those recruited in 2019. Headcount was therefore below previous year levels. A number of beaches lacked suitable access for rescue equipment and civil protection facilities.

Ministry of Health personnel made substantial efforts, despite the health context, enabling completion of all assigned duties. Also, a growing number of beaches were buoyed.

BLUE FLAG:



n this period of mobilization against Covid-19, measures usually taken by Blue Flag beaches already adressed parts of the system devised by authorities against the

pandemic. Measures were supplemented to fully comply with the system.

26 Blue Flag beaches and one marina therefore provided safety levels needed by summer holidaymakers after a stressful lockdown period.

The Foundation and its partners supported coastal communities from the start of the year in preparing applications. 39 beaches applied in 2020, 26 of which met stringent label standards.

Labeled municipalities assume complete management of beaches under their jurisdiction, including maintenance, cleanliness, equipment, safety, training, awareness and accessibility. The Clean Beaches program and its partners support the municipalities in this considerable effort, which this year was compounded by efforts to contain the spread of Covid-19.

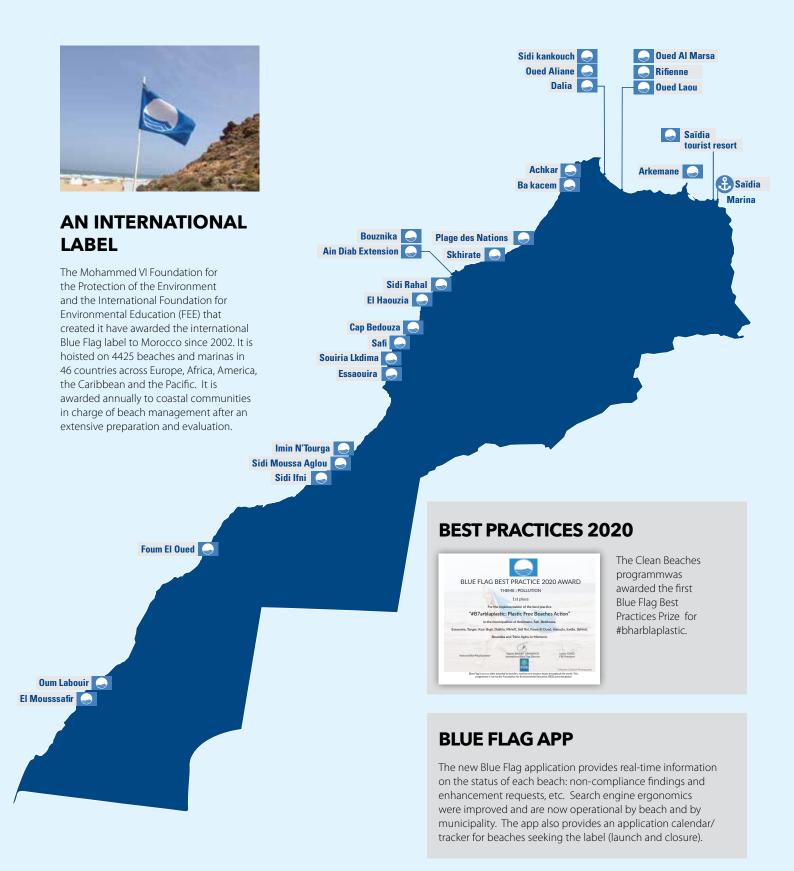
Municipal and administrative officials were trained in beach management. Management and environmental management and awareness tools were provided to enable the best possible conditions for holidaymakers.

The Foundation conducted random checks throughout the summer to ensure compliance with label criteria, and local authorities made sure sanitary measures were adhered to.

The Clean Beaches program cancelled environmental education and awareness-raising activities it traditionally carries out on the beaches with its partners, because of the groupings and contacts entailed. The Foundation and its partners used the Ana Baudouin digital platform to raise awareness around ocean plastic pollution.



26 BEACHES AND ONE MARINA AWARDED BLUE FLAG STATUS IN THE SUMMER OF 2020



27

AIR CLIMATE

The two main components of the Air Climate program, i.e. air quality and greenhouse gas emissions are underway.



B22 The National Air Quality Monitoring Network includes 32 stations in 15 cities.

AIR QUALITY NETWORK

A national governance structure to manage the National Air Quality Monitoring Network (RNSQA), now handled by the General Directorate of Meteorology (DGM), in coordination with the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Environment (MEME), came into effect. A Memorandum of Understanding for the 2020 action plan was signed in January, along with three other agreements between DGCT, DGM, and MEME.

The Foundation now focuses on its mission of environmental awareness and education. Air quality station maintenance and acquisition, initially under its purview in the 2016-2020 agreement, is now managed by the National Pollution Surveillance Network.

The Foundation however, completed maintenance and acquisitions initiated under the previous agreement. A detailed report on station conditions was provided to plan future operations. A three-way agreement between the Foundation, the DGCT and the General Directorate of Meteorology was finalized to effect the transfer of Qualit'air stations initially acquired by the Foundation.

Last, three measuring stations were refurbished and one donated to the École Nationale Supérieure des Mines de Rabat for research and development purposes.

ACQUISITION OF SEVEN NEW MEASURING STATIONS

Maintenance assessments performed brought up the need to change seven out-of-use stations in the cities of Safi, Casablanca, Mohammedia, Kenitra, Rabat. The Foundation launched a tender for the acquisition of these stations and arranged a training mission for five technicians at the ENVEA-Paris factory in March 2020.

Carbon Footprint Tool and Territorial Climate Plan

Deployment of the Territorial Climate Plan (TCP) in the pilot city of Marrakech on a trial basis supports the Ministry of Energy, Mines and the Environment's drive to replicate Territorial Climate Plans (TCP) in other regions of the Kingdom. The Foundation shall contribute via the Marrakech pilot experience, provide its Greenhouse Gas Assessment tool, and take part in the general reflection.

The Foundation supports Local Authorities in upgrading human capacities. Trainings sessions are to be held using the Territorial Laboratories to support Territorial Climate Plan deployment across the 12 regions of the country.

VOLUNTARY CARBON OFFSET

PALM TREE PLANTING



Local authorities (Wilaya) and the City Council of Marrakech identified a new plot of land for the planting of date palms, the Domaine Royal de Tamesna site in the Marrakech Palm Grove. De-stoning, cleaning and land preparation works started in late 2019 and ended in 2020. 7014 date palms were planted. These trees enable the capture of 8,400 tons of CO2 in their lifetime.

VISIT OF THE PLANTATION AREA IN THE PALM GROVE OF MARRAKECH

A field trip with partners took place in January 2020, to review date palm plantings effected under the Voluntary Carbon Offset.





PHOTOVOLTAIC KITS FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

The Foundation, using a database of non-electrified rural schools provided by the Ministry of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, identified 400 candidate schools for this program, based on remoteness, access difficulty to grid power and number of students enrolled.

Electrification of these 400 schools will deliver an installed capacity of 140 peak kilowatts. The project expects to avert the emission of 6,448 tons of CO2.

| | Province - Commune | School | Kits 250 Wc |
|----|------------------------|--------|----------------|
| 1 | Berkane Province | 29 | 43 |
| 2 | Taza Province | 50 | 74 |
| 3 | El Hoceima Province | 12 | 14 |
| 4 | Jérada Province | 37 | 55 |
| 5 | Figuig Province | 39 | 58 |
| 6 | Province de Midelt | 42 | 63 |
| 7 | El Hajeb Province | 43 | 64 |
| 8 | Kénitra Province | 50 | 74 |
| 9 | Mohammedia Province | 6 | 12 |
| 10 | Sidi Province | 25 | 37 |
| 11 | Haouz Province | 29 | 43 |
| 12 | Taroudant Province | 8 | 15 |
| 13 | Chichaoua Province | 21 | 32 |
| | Total | 400 | 600 |



SUMMARY TABLE OF RURAL SCHOOLS BY PROVINCE

LED FLASHLIGHTS



Pupils in rural schools of the provinces of Jérada, Figuig, Midelt and El Hajeb received 300 rechargeable LED flashlights, equipped with USB connection.

AWARENESS RAISING

The Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training held a workshop for middle and high school students on January 8. It focused on the global challenges of climate change and the role of youth in climate action.



SAFEGUARD AND DEVELOPMENT OF MARRAKECH'S PALM GROVE

Thirteen years after its launch, the program has transitioned from plantations to people. The inclusion of local populations has dominated activities in recent years.



9000

Irrigation using reprocessed waters from the Marrakech wastewater treatment plant will enable the irrigation of 9,000 young palm trees near the storage basin.

PROGRAM OPERATIONAL SEGMENT

This unique and fragile territory has seen significant progress since 2007 and the profound impetus of the Marrakech palm grove preservation and development program. The Oulja of the Palm grove is a site of biological and ecological interest. Palm grove populations are supported to become actors in the preservation of this ecosystem.

Preservation of completed plantings

Efforts are underway under a partnership agreement between the Foundation, the DGCT, the municipality of Marrakech, the Wilaya of Marrakech-Safi and the Observatoire de la Palmeraie (2019-2021) to preserve program-planting areas.

IRRIGATION OF YOUNG AND ADULT PALMS WITH PURIFIED WASTEWATER

The irrigation of palm trees with reprocessed waters from the Marrakech wastewater treatment plant is advancing in accordance with a partnership agreement signed in June 2015.

Irrigation of the area started in November 2020, upon completion of works in the North West Palm Grove, enabling the irrigation of 9,000 young palm trees near the storage basin, and adult palms along the treated water pipeline.

High flow rates noted in tests at the pipe outlet cause significant water wastage when filling the tanks. Studies are underway to remedy this problem.

The success of the North-Western section of the project, opens the possibility of using the basin located near the cavalry squad to irrigate palm trees of the Abiad sector.



AGROECOLOGY



LOCAL POPULATION AND ASSOCIATION NETWORK INCLUSION

RESULTS

- 49 families trained in agro ecological practices,
- 29 families now grouped in the "Guindo" cooperative for the production of quality vegetables, fruits and eggs.
- High adoption rate of agro ecological practices: 84 to 94% according to activity (vegetable gardening, arboriculture, animal husbandry)..
- Improved yields: 1,050 tons of fruits and vegetables annually (+30% from baseline).
- Crop diversification.
- Reduced pressure on the environment: 130 ha of land developed in agroecology.
- 49 beneficiary families trained
- Literacy, productive agricultural techniques respectful of natural resources
- Food security and sanitary quality of products.
- Socio-professional insertion: collaboration with local authorities and technical support services (Water and Forestry, Agricultural Services).
- Multi-stakeholder dynamic set in motion (23 structures involved in meetings, gatherings and key events around the preservation and the



- development of the Palm Grove)
- Control of production costs
- Increased revenue generation: +50% from baseline
- New distribution channels including hotels and retailers: 13 regular customers in season.

EXAMPLE VALUE

In 2020, the Hassan II International Center for Environmental Training examined ways to leverage program outcomes to replicate them elsewhere in Morocco and Africa. Youth education actions in agroecology, pedagogical tools, and training courses are particularly worth replicating.

This reflection was an opportunity to consider expanding the working relationship between the Marrakech Palm Grove Observatory and the Center.

HASSAN II ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WORKS

The Center took part in the works of the Hassan II Academy of Sciences and Techniques held on February 25-27, 2020, on "Natural Heritage and Sustainable Development". The Center presented its experience in the program of Safeguard and Development of the Marrakesh Palm grove and highlighted its inclusive approach.

Ч9

Families benefited from the pilot inclusion program in the Palm Grove of Marrakech, notably attending literacy courses

MARRAKESH GREENS CITIZENS

IN 2020, UNESCO LAUNCHED A COLLABORATIVE PLATFORM, UNESCO GREEN CITIZEN, SHOWCASING INITIATIVES CARRIED BY CITIZENS FOR SUSTAIN-ABLE DEVELOPMENT, WORLDWIDE.

THE FOOUNDATION'S MARRAKESH PALM GROVE SAFEGUARD AND DEVELOPMENT SOCIAL INCLU-SION PROGRAM FEATURES IN THE PLATFROM.



BOUKNADEL EXOTIC GARDENS

Activities at the exotic gardens of Bouknadel, a space that lives from public interaction, were understandbly impacted by the pandemic.





Gardens of Bouknadel including 3186 children.

he Foundation completed its fifteenth year of management of the exotic gardens of Bouknadel in 2020, following rehabilitation and reopening to the public in 2005. The General Directorate of Territorial Collectivities (DGCT), the Prefectural Council of Salé, the Prefecture of Salé and a civil society association support the Foundation in the preservation of this historical landmark. Three of these four partners are tied to the Foundation by a three-year

agreement for the management of the exotic gardens,

COVID-19

which is regularly renewed.

Attendance was down significantly in 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Exotic Gardens only had 31,035 visitors down from over 80,000 visitors in 2019. A total 3186 children hailing from 42 schools attended 65 guided tours prior to lockdown in March. The gardens did, however, remain open after lockdown and strict sanitary measures were implemented. First, all staff members were tested in July and November. Hydro-alcohol gel dispensers were installed throughout the gardens and the public, whose temperature was measured at the entrance and information recorded, was encouraged to observe proper barrier measures.

MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Existing infrastructure maintenance was carried-out in accordance with heritage garden conservation and development guidelines. Both pergolas in the Andalusian Garden were completely renovated, as were the two bridges in the Brazil Garden, whose pillars suffered from water damage. These were replaced with water-resistant wooden railway crossbeams offered by ONCF. Brazil Garden suspension bridges were reinforced with new cables. The well was cleaned and its pump repaired. The generator and electric boiler were repaired.

Video surveillance cameras, an entry register and illuminated signage were installed. A solar boiler was installed for employees, who also received new uniforms. Two mentally handicapped young trainees trained at the Almanar center in Rabat completed their third consecutive year of training at the gardens.

ECOLOGICAL SHOWCASE

Each year, the gardens expand on their role in environmental awareness and education. The tour itinerary was mapped-out in both directions. The five interactive terminals of the educational circuit were updated, and the equipment renovated. They introduce simple everyday eco-actions to limit one's ecological





footprint, targeting visiting school groups. The garden also features two additional walking tours, one long and one short.

The educational program provided to school groups and adults was renewed with the help of the Association of Friends of the Exotic Gardens of Bouknadel. A variety of activities is available to visitors. Voluntary carbon offset and the treasure hunt were the only activities held this year, before lockdown.

The organic vegetable garden created in 2015 enables educational activities, and vegetables produced are offered to staff and members of the Association of Friends of the Gardens. Eight beehives, four of which are glazed, were installed to show the organization and busy lifestyle of bees to young people.

The gardens implemented a waste sorting process and signed an agreement with a cooperative of collectors to recycle sorted waste (Plastic, Paper and Metal). Biodegradable waste goes into the production of compost for the gardening initiation course and gives the gardens self-sufficiency in terms of fertilization. Wastewater harvesting, drip irrigation and solar energy, all environmentally friendly techniques, are presented as action models implemented at the gardens.

FLORA AND FAUNA

The bird collection saw the customary annual births: mallards and mandarins, Brazilian teals, golden pheasants, waved and calopsitte parakeets and lovebirds, etc. Goldfish, koi and gambusia, a public favorite, multiplied as they do every year, providing biological pest control (mosquitoes). An aquarium with a dozen piranhas is another crowd attraction.

The abundant production of the exotic gardens' nurseries, in excess of maintenance needs, serves the green spaces of neighboring schools and municipalities. The gardens did however acquire 800 flowering plants.



The Foundation took

over management of the exotic gardens in 2005. This is its fifteenth year of involvement.



Appendices 2020

36 BOARD OF DIRECTORS PARTNERS

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