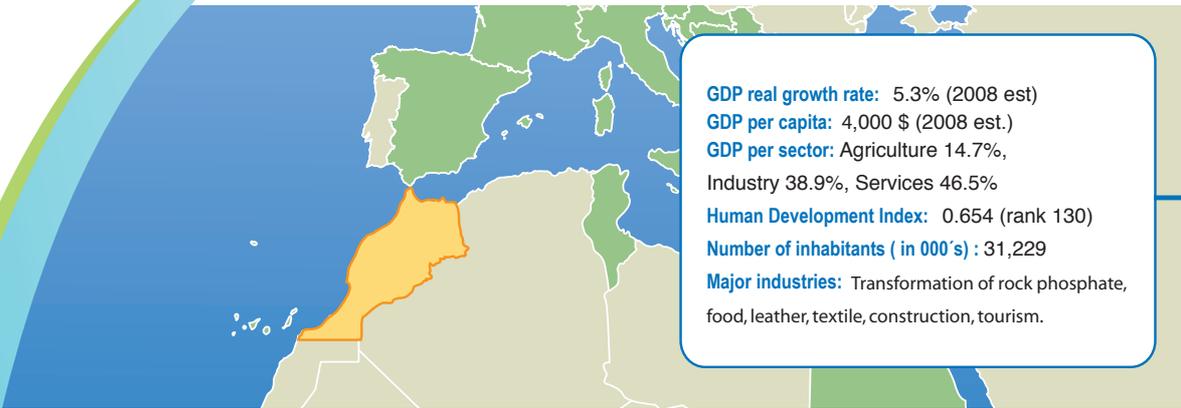


# Morocco



**GDP real growth rate:** 5.3% (2008 est)  
**GDP per capita:** 4,000 \$ (2008 est.)  
**GDP per sector:** Agriculture 14.7%,  
Industry 38.9%, Services 46.5%  
**Human Development Index:** 0.654 (rank 130)  
**Number of inhabitants ( in 000's ) :** 31,229  
**Major industries:** Transformation of rock phosphate,  
food, leather, textile, construction, tourism.

## Main Issues related to SCP

The rapid industrialization and urbanization experienced by Morocco and the importance of agriculture in the economy are putting increased pressure on the eco-system. Main challenges today include water stress and environmental pollution.

### Waste & Waste Water:

It is estimated that 92% of the country is threatened by desertification. In 2005 more than 70% of total technically usable renewable water resources were consumed, of which 90% were used for irrigation. Industry takes 81% of its water consumption from the sea.

### Waste:

Waste management is one of the major problems. Illegal dumping of industrial, urban or hospital waste is still frequent and the recycling rate is low. However 23% of total industrial waste is reused or is assigned to be reused in the manufacturing process. Almost all cities have a public sanitation network (91% connection to the sewerage system in 2005). Initiatives from the public sector (ONEP – National Office for Drinking Water) or private sector (Amendis) have been recently developed to improve water and sanitation services.

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions:

GHG Emissions are increasing at a rate that exceeds the population growth: 2.7% against population growth of 1.4%. The energy production sector is responsible for 56% of total net emissions.



## Policies and Strategic Framework

The main strategic frameworks for Sustainable Development in Morocco are: the National Strategy for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development, adopted in 1995, and the National Action Plan for the Environment, adopted in 2002.

Some of the main programmes dealing with SCP issues are:

- The National Initiative for Human Development (INDH), launched by King Mohammed VI in May 2005 aims to alleviate poverty, reduce social exclusion and improve living conditions in the poorest urban areas.
- The National Program for Household Waste focuses on improving waste management to achieve a collection index above 90% and create landfill sites.
- The Drinking Water for Rural Population Program (PAGER) was launched to improve access to supplies of rural drinking water whilst promoting sustainable waste management and the practice of cleanliness.

## Legal and Regulatory Framework

A series of laws have been adopted to promote SCP in the last few years, mostly focused on waste management. The Law 28-00 establishes the foundations for a policy of waste management that aims to modernize the management process and reduce negative impacts of waste on health and the environment. Several decrees have been adopted to enable waste classification, list hazardous waste and establish limits to industrial and household waste. Laws to promote and implement Environmental Impact Studies (EIE) have been adopted and the number of EIEs has increased drastically.

One of the most important economic instruments used is the Industrial Pollution Control Fund (FODEP) that has been created to stimulate industry and craft businesses for pollution control investment, resource conservation and the introduction of environmental criteria in their activities. Subsidies are granted to cover a part of the cost (20% to 40%) of the investment required to implement the pollution control project. Likewise the National Fund for the Environment was created in 2007 primarily to finance exemplary projects through public and private sector funds and environmental penalties.

## Greening Industry and Society

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a new concept in Morocco. However, the International Conference on Socially Responsible Investment held in 2005 and chaired by King Mohammed VI has triggered an increasing interest in CSR. In 2006 the General Confederation of Moroccan Companies (CGEM) established the criteria for awarding the CGEM CSR Label. Several national institutions, such as the Social Security National Fund, the Directorate General of Taxation and Customs have adhered to the CGEM and offer a series of benefits to certified companies for label promotion. No major initiatives for other voluntary instruments such as eco labelling have been reported.

Increasing importance has been given to environmental education during the past decade. The Eko-Skola scheme involving 76 schools with a total of 30,000 students is currently under development. The University of Malta offers several courses, as well as a Diploma and a Master degree related to the environment and sustainability.

## Main Actors and Projects

Key players in promoting SCPs are: the **Department of the Environment within the Ministry of Land, Water and the Environment**, specialized organisms such as the **National Environment Council**, the **High Council for Water and Climate** affiliated to the Ministries, and the **Moroccan Cleaner Production Centre**. Other relevant entities are the **CGEM**, the **Moroccan Centre for the Development of Renewable Energies (CDER)**, the **Renewable Energies and Environment Information Centre (CIEDE)** and the **National Observatory for the Environment**.

The following projects are worthy of mention:

- The Environmental Management and Protection Programme in cooperation with the German Technical Cooperation in Morocco "GTZ PGPE" designed to support environmental policy in Morocco.
- The Technical Assistance Programme in the Mediterranean (MTAP / METAP) focused on increasing institutional and technical capacity and the integrated management of pollution.

