

# MOROCCO

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

**Sectoral and OR+ Thematic Report**



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## Abbreviations and Acronyms

ECD	Early Childhood development
CRC	Child Rights Convention
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MOE	Ministry of Education
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OOSC	Out of School Children
TIMSS	Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WCA	West and Central Africa

## Executive Summary

This report covers UNICEF Morocco interventions related to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in 2018, as a continuity of the Country Programme 2017-2021 launched in 2017.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), is included within 2017-2021 Morocco Country Programme as a specific intervention in support to Morocco government through education sector in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Professional Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research (MoE).

The year 2018 WASH in Schools area of intervention has been strengthened through MCO education program in continuity of the previous programme cycle (2012-2017) and conducted under the Decentralisation component of the Social Inclusion Programme, in partnership with the General Direction of Local Communities of the Ministry of Interior (DGCL). Interventions aiming at improving the water and sanitation infrastructure in schools and the hygiene practices among students and their communities were imbedded in UNICEF and Ministry of Education 2018 action plan and mainstreamed through decentralised MoE Level.

UNICEF supported in 2018 a large analysis of wash infrastructures within one MoE decentralised level (region of Sous-Massa). The analysis provided insight on targeting of at “most in need” schools but also showed the important gap on Wash implementation as a MoE decentralised strategy as the number of schools lacking appropriate wash installations accounted for almost 12% of primary schools within the targeted region.

In 2018, the construction and renovation of latrines, lavabos were completed in 26 primary schools in 6 provinces in rural communities and suburban communities in Sous-Massa regions. Awareness and sensitisation hygiene campaigns within schools and targeting children and teachers began in November 2018 and are still running in a third of targeted schools in 2019.

UNICEF support to enhance WASH facilities and awareness has reached more than 11077 children at primary ages and succeeded in imbedding wash awareness campaign within MoE decentralised level resulting in programming wider scope of schools than specifically targeted by UNICEF support since December 2018.

The activities undertaken during 2017 have been implemented with the funds of Spain National Committee for UNICEF and with Regular Resources. The utilisation of the WASH thematic funds is planned for 2018, under the UNICEF Morocco’s education programme in partnership with the Regional Academic of Education and Training (AREF) of Sous-Massa.

Mainstreaming of this area showed constraints in terms of supply capacities within MoE decentralised levels causing delays in infrastructures building and renovation.

## Strategic context 2018

According to the 2014 Census data, only 73 per cent of Moroccan households dispose of a connection to running water in their dwelling. This represents a slight improvement compared with the share of 69 per cent found by the National Survey on Population and Family Health in 2011.

While in urban areas, 91 per cent of households are connected to the public water network, in rural areas only 38 per cent of households have access to the public water network.

The access to improved sanitation follows similar patterns, with a strong urban/rural divide, due the lack of basis infrastructure. Overall in 2014, 59 per cent of Moroccan households had sanitation facilities connected with the public sewage system, while 23 per cent were connected to a septic tank. In rural areas, only 83 per cent of households disposed of sanitation facilities, and slightly more than 50 per cent were connected either to the public sewage system (3 per cent) or to a septic tank (49 per cent).

A study on child multidimensional poverty in Morocco, using data from 2015, found that 24 per cent of children aged 0-4 have no access to an improved water source and 8.3 per cent do not have access to adequate sanitation facilities, with the deprivation rates growing, respectively, to 49.7 per cent and to 17.8 per cent in rural areas.

The geography of Morocco with dispersed communities in rural and remote areas, compounded by severe poverty which is concentrated in these areas, largely explain the lack of this basic infrastructure and lack of access to improved water and sanitation services.

Water and sanitation infrastructure is also largely inadequate in the public-school infrastructure. The data of the Ministry of Education show that 62.5 per cent of primary schools have a water connection, with a substantial improvement compared with 2007, where the school coverage at national level was 50.5 per cent. However, similarly to household connections, the national coverage data for primary schools hide marked inequality: in the regions of Tanger-Tetouan-Al Hoceima, Marrakesh-Safi, Draa-Tafilelt and Souss-Massa the water coverage rate reaches just 50 per cent. In the province of Zagora (in the Draa-Tafilelt region) only one school out of three has a connection to drinking water.

The availability of sanitation facilities in primary school in Morocco is even more problematic than the access to water. Overall, the data of the Ministry of Education show that in 2018 only 76 per cent of Moroccan public primary schools dispose of the basic sanitation infrastructure. In 2015, two thirds of the schools – around 5,000 schools in absolute numbers – do not dispose of toilets. And if the satellite schools are added, the overall picture of sanitation in school became even more drastic: most boys and girls attending public rural primary education do not have access to basic sanitation.

Beside the lack of basic infrastructure, especially in rural areas, the inadequacy of WASH in school in Morocco is manifested in the poor cleaning and maintenance, improper construction (non-compliance with building standards, often not having separated services for boys and girls, not assuring privacy, etc.), and non-availability of soap and cleaning products.

Even when WASH facilities are available in the school, their use is often poor. Widespread attitudes and behaviours, and the environment conditions are negatively affecting the utilization of the latrine. In the Southern regions of Morocco, the use of stones as cleaning means (when water and paper are not available, or in winter when water is cold) is associated with the

obstruction of the sewage system and the deterioration of the facilities. Open defecation is still common in many rural and remote areas, and negatively affects the use of the school sanitation facilities.

In this context, UNICEF Intervention is aiming to develop a more holistic approach to WASH planning and maintenance within MoE decentralised level and supporting regular planning of WASH awareness and sensitisation campaigns among schools. This was targeted in 2018 through building capacities of MoE decentralised levels to plan and mainstream WASH plans and imbed WASH school-based programs within regular schools activities.

## Results in the Outcome Area

The 2017-2021 Country Programme did not include a specific result (outcome or output) related to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) but integrates the WASH interventions under the education programme, with the aim of supporting the Ministry of Education in the efforts of improving availability and access to water and sanitation in the public schools.

In continuity to the intervention started in the previous Programme cycle, in 2018 the WASH in schools' work has been implemented through the UNICEF's Education programme (and within the partnership with the Ministry of Education) and benefited of the funds of We Are Water Foundation. These funds were complemented by the Regular Resources available to the Country Office.

The project 'Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Moroccan primary school' aimed at improving WASH facilities and awareness through toilets and washrooms building and renovation as well as strengthening hygiene practices in 28 primary schools in most disadvantaged areas within Sous -Massa Region, mainly rural and suburban municipalities of six provinces.

As a result of the intervention, by the end of 2018, 11077 students (5316 girls and 5761 boys) and school's teachers had access of enhanced water and sanitation facilities in their schools and had their knowledge improved on hygiene practices, correct use of the toilettes, menstrual hygiene (for girls), and environment issues.

UNICEF supported focused on strengthening capacities to priorities area of wash regular analysis and action within decentralized MoE level. This has been supported through a large analysis of WASH situation within Sous-Massa region and raising awareness among MoE stakeholders on the necessity of including WASH as a regular area of Sector planning and action.

In 2018, Capacity building supported by UNICEF in this area resulted in developing tools to improve capacities of education decentralized stakeholders to plan, budget and mainstream WASH within education strategies. Furthermore, WASH planning process also included capacity building on norms and participatory approaches within schools to enhance WASH facilities and ensure awareness on regular maintenance.

The overall developed planning for WASH enhancement in 2018 within SOUS-Massa region included 128 primary schools among which 28 were of UNICEF direct support. Advocacy within regional stakeholders to raise funds among education budget and other sectors succeeded in covering 70% of the remaining analyzed schools in 2018.

In parallel to the finalization of the construction and renovation phase UNICEF supported mainstreaming of the hygiene awareness campaign within schools. The "Hygiene Awareness" package adapted by UNICEF from the Belgian Development Agency (BTC) has been mainstreamed within targeted project schools covering 19 Primary schools in 2018 and mainstreaming continued within other school in 2019.

The awareness training package consisted in 4 modules, namely: i – Waste management and environment protection; ii – Utilization of the WASH facilities; iii – Handwashing, iv- Menstrual hygiene (for girls). While the three modules were an adaptation of the awareness modules developed by the BTC, the module on menstrual hygiene was specifically developed for the training package.

The awareness package has been implemented through training teachers and head of schools and implementation of teachers and children WaSH activities covering hygiene practices, correct use of the toilettes, menstrual hygiene (for girls), and environment issues.

UNICEF engaged in parallel development of regular planning for maintenance of Wash facilities within schools involving province directorates and advocating for annual budgeting for both construction and renovation as well as maintenance to ensure schools benefiting from regular budgets for maintenance and to the sustainability of the hygiene practices.

## Financial Analysis

**Table 1: Planned budget for country programme 2018 (in US Dollar)**

Intermediate Results	Funding Type	Planned Budget
05-01 Education Access	RR	132,000
	ORR	372,000
05-02 Education quality	RR	55,000
	ORR	526,000
05-03 Education governance	RR	153,000
	ORR	404,000
Total Budget		1,735,000

During 2018, the WASH activities of UNICEF Morocco were funded with the funds of United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF and by Regular Resources. The full utilization of the WASH Thematic Funds is planned for 2019, for the new phase of WASH in Schools work, conducted by the education programme.

**Table 3: Expenditures by Key-Results Areas (in US Dollars)**

Organizational Targets	Expenditure Amout*			
	Other Resources - Emergency	Other Resources - Regular	Regular Resources	All Programme Accounts
22-01 Equitable access to quality education	-	33,544	28,278	61,822
Total	-	33,544	28,278	61,822

\* Expenditure figures provided do not include recovery cost, and are indicative figures obtained from UNICEF Performance Management System.



## Future Work Plan

UNICEF will continue its MoE support to systematise planning, provision and maintenance of Wash Facilities with a focus on most deprived primary schools. UNICEF will continue its advocacy to tackle Wash area of intervention through a wider policy including water and sanitation access for schools and strengthen awareness on hygiene with schools' activities in a regular basis.

## Expression of Thanks

UNICEF Morocco is extremely grateful to the thematic funds and more specifically to Starwood foundation and its flagship brand, Sheraton, for the support provided as well as UK UNICEF committee.

The availability of Wash funds, even of limited scale, enables exploration of new themes and support to areas considered important by partners, yet not adequately covered by international cooperation, which is particularly the case for the issue of WASH in Morocco, where levels of deprivation of access to water and sanitation are substantial.