



## Education

September 2005



USAID/Morocco

### Morocco

Education Budget (FY 02-06)

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
2002	1.4
2003	1.5
2004	2.0
2005	14.6
2006	12.4
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>\$31.9 million</u>

### EDUCATION SNAPSHOT

- Scholarships provided to 182 rural girls to attend middle school in larger towns
- 4,000 women trained in literacy and health
- 700 students attending Cisco Certificate training and job-preparedness programs

### OVERVIEW

USAID's objective is to improve training opportunities for Moroccan youth and to improve the quality and relevance of basic education (grades 1 to 9). There are two components to achieve this objective: first, the "school-to-work" component, which aims at creating close connections between training and employment at various post-middle school levels; and second, the basic education component, which aims at improving retention rates and equipping ninth graders with portable and adaptable skills upon middle school graduation.

USAID focuses on materials development and teacher training, and building job connections to prepare youth for the workforce. This focus includes training in agriculture and tourism for students in technical institutes. Information technology is a cross cutting element throughout USAID's approach. USAID also works with schools local communities and businesses to improve the quality and content of basic education, strengthen school administration, and keep girls in school. The program also uses Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) funds for the development of learner-friendly literacy materials based on the new Family Code. A grant mechanism for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) has been put in place for their participation in training teachers in the use of the materials and the delivery of literacy training to rural women in local communities.

### PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- USAID launched the Advancing Learning and Employability for a Better Future project in 2005 to assist the Government of Morocco to improve the quality relevance of basic education and to improve entry-level workers' skills to meet the growing and changing demands of business and industry.
- USAID has a public-private partnership with Cisco Systems to provide job readiness training (with a focus on women) to 12 Moroccan institutions. Seven hundred Moroccan students, more than 50 percent of whom are women, are attending Cisco Certificate programs combined with job-preparedness training.
- In partnership with MEPI, USAID provides literacy training in one of the poorest areas of Morocco, El Haouz (Marrakech), where nine out of ten rural women are illiterate. To date, literacy and numeracy classes have been given to some 4,000 women, transmitting hygiene, nutrition and child care messages. The women also learn a skill and some have the opportunity to start an income-generation program using their newly acquired skills.
- In another partnership with MEPI, USAID provides scholarships to rural girls, so they can attend middle school in larger towns, while living in supervised boarding facilities. The facilities, accommodating some 20 girls each, are run by a network of local NGOs. There are nine so far, for a total of 182 girls.
- USAID also supports the development of National Education Accounts as a transparent and user-friendly tool for collecting and analyzing data on actual allocations and expenditures of resources (public, private, and donors) and linking those expenditures and allocations to system reforms.

U.S. Agency for International Development--Morocco  
[www.usaid.gov/ma](http://www.usaid.gov/ma)