

Green Bond Criteria: Adaptation

Purpose: To expand agriculture through the adoption of irrigation techniques that make more efficient use of water resources, while building better ties between farmers and markets.

Expected Results (include):

- 9,274 farmers benefit.
- 100% of area with access to water on demand in peak period.
- 20,700 hectares with improved irrigation technologies.

IBRD Financing: \$150 million



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For more information:

<http://www.worldbank.org/projects/P150930/?lang=en&tab=overview>

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2015/07/08/improved-irrigation-services-for-farmers-in-morocco>

Country Challenge

In many agricultural regions of Morocco irrigation is crucial as it contributes to increasing agricultural productivity and securing greater income for farmers. However, water scarcity, accentuated by climate change, represents a growing challenge for farmers in the region. They have to manage water collectively, with a lack of clarity as to how much individual farmers have used, and how much each should pay, which often leads to disputes. As a consequence, farmers – especially smaller ones – tend to make low-risk choices, producing crops that are less sensitive to water stress, but that also provide lower returns.

Project Goals

To promote a more sustainable irrigation model, the government of Morocco has developed a national plan to help optimize water use and increase productivity in irrigated agriculture. In large scale irrigated areas, managed by the regional agricultural development offices, the plan supports the modernization of the irrigation network to provide a better water service to farmers. This is welcomed by farmers, who have a keen interest in more reliable access to water, which is key for achieving greater productivity and crop, and thus increased income.