



Protecting and Empowering Child and Youth Refugees and Migrants in Morocco



UN implementing agencies:
RCO (lead), UNHCR, UNICEF, IOM
In partnership with:
Ministry of Migration Affairs (co-lead)
Ministry of Social Solidarity
Ministry of Education
Entraide Nationale
Various CSOs and NGOs

Duration
October 2018 -
October 2021

Total Budget
\$4,836,212

Beneficiaries
385,000

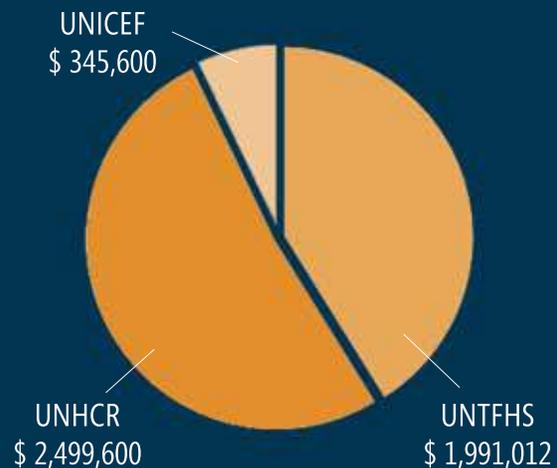
Background Information

Morocco is a country of origin, destination and transit for refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants. Unaccompanied children and youth comprise 10% of migrants and 40% of refugees making the perilous journey to Morocco and beyond. These young people are highly vulnerable and incur significant opportunity costs from missed education and absent community support. In response, the Government of Morocco has taken important steps to mitigate the insecurities faced by migrants, refugees and asylees through its National Immigration and Asylum Strategy, with special attention towards children and youth. These measures include a regularization campaign for social integration, a mechanism for the protection of children and youth, and a proactive policy of expanding essential services to migrants and refugees. To support the implementation of these initiatives, it is crucial to strengthen awareness among host, migrant and refugee communities, continue to support public institutions in service delivery, and to enhance the capacity of other key stakeholders.

Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the programme is to improve the protection of vulnerable refugee, migrant and asylee children and youth in Morocco by: (i) promoting social norms and acceptance of refugee and migrant children and youth among host communities thereby enhancing social cohesion; (ii) effectively identifying and assisting refugee and migrant children and youth to facilitate local integration and measures for child protection; and (iii) improving the capacities of government institutions and non-governmental organizations to enhance the well-being and future prospects of refugee and migrant children and youth.

Pooling of Resources Budget USD \$4,836,212



Beneficiaries

The programme will support more than 5,000 unaccompanied young people in a wide variety of cities and villages across the entire territory of Morocco. Host communities in the cities in Oujda, Tangier, Casablanca, and Rabat, with a combined population of 5.38 million people, will also benefit from the programme.

Applying the Human Security Approach

Through the application of human security, the programme pilots an innovative approach to improve social harmony, reduce vulnerability and build resilience of unaccompanied children and youth as well as host communities. Building upon and supporting the implementation of Morocco's National Immigration and Asylum Strategy, the programme enhances efforts to build capacity in migration management with special attention towards the protection and empowerment of this highly vulnerable group.

To address the multidimensional factors contributing to their vulnerability, the programme identifies and responds to the cross-section of challenges, including the need for safe housing, access to education and training, and community support. By enhancing the capacities of service providers to prioritize support based on the needs and vulnerabilities of children and youth, the programme builds a strong protective network and empowers young migrants and refugees to realize their potential as contributors to society and national development. Bringing together the UN system, multiple Moroccan ministries and civil society, the programme also aims to bolster existing efforts towards broader social integration and inclusivity.

The lessons and good practices from this programme will help inform the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, showcasing the value of the human security approach for reducing vulnerabilities and building resilience, particularly of those most in need of support, to realize the benefits of migration for all.

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