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International Climate Initiative (ICI), German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) EU-UNDP Climate Change Capacity Building Programme

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Low Carbon Development Strategies (LCDS): Experiences from Morocco

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Moroccan commitment to sustainable development, economic growth and climate change

- Morocco adopted the Environment Charter to address environmental and development priorities in a more integrated manner
- A key premise is that mitigation actions to address GHG emissions can effectively contribute to the country's development goals
- A key objective of Morocco's climate change strategy is the identification and adoption of mitigation actions to reduce the increase of GHG emissions in the context of low carbon growth
- Crucial for Morocco as its GHG emissions in have been steadily increasing
 - 54.6 million ton-equivalent CO₂ in 1999
 - 63.4 million ton-equivalent CO₂ in 2000
 - 75 million ton-equivalent CO₂ in 2004

Mitigation initiatives in Morocco – an important basis for low carbon development

- **National Plan to address climate change.** Based on National Communications results. Key objectives include:
 - Set up an ongoing institutional and legal process for mitigation actions
 - Present a portfolio of adaptation and mitigation projects
 - Prepare a visibility and communication strategy on mitigation priorities
 - Intend to initiate and facilitate interdepartmental coordination
 - Identify opportunities to link mitigation actions and national development needs

Mitigation initiatives in Morocco

- Mitigation measures identified for Morocco are focused on the following sectors:
 - Energy (renewable energy and energy efficiency , hydro -wind and Solar Plan).
 - Transport (transport ion modes and management)
 - Industry (Energy efficiency initiatives and green technologies)
 - Waste (National waste management programme)
 - Agriculture (Moroccan Green Plan)
 - Forestry and land-use (Reforestation Plan)
 - Construction (energy efficiency and renewable energy in buildings).
- Global Target: 52.9 million ton-equivalent CO₂ per annum by year 2030

Main constraints and barriers in LCDS

Key constraints Morocco faces in implementing its mitigation measures to develop and implement LCDS include:

- Experiences in developing LCDS are very incipient (just at the beginning of the process)
- Complexity of the coordination between:
 - sectoral strategies to address climate change
 - A great number of stakeholders (central government, sectoral institutions, private sectors, municipalities, civil society, research, etc.)
- Lack of appropriate data management systems
- Insufficient financing and incentive mechanisms
- Need to adjust regulatory frameworks to support LCDS

Key Challenges for implementing LCDS

- Ensuring that LCDS are adopted by key stakeholders; insufficient ownership
- Conducting solid economic analysis of the benefits of LCDS through concrete initiatives
- Mainstreaming LCDS into the sectoral planning process and design of relevant policies
- Strengthening the required synergies and coordination among ministerial policies
- Conducting effective awareness raising and capacity building
- Developing the prioritisation criteria and identification of priorities for NAMAs

EU-UNDP Capacity Building Programme

A timely initiative to support Morocco in its effort to:

- Raise awareness and strengthen political commitments for LCDS
- Develop the capacities of key institutions and stakeholders
- Design and Develop a more integrated vision/strategy for LCDS:
 - Mainstreaming the low carbon strategy under the sectoral policies.
 - Reinforcing the synergy between ministerial policies.
 - Demonstrating the economic benefits of the low carbon strategies
- Focus on sectoral priorities to demonstrate the added value of NAMA and MRV
- Develop mobilisation funding strategies

EU-UNDP Programme support to Morocco's efforts for low carbon growth

- A key opportunity to:
 - Bring relevant stakeholders together to discuss the importance of LEDS, NAMAs, GHG inventories, management systems and MRV
 - Develop technical capacities on approaches and tools to address GHG emissions in the context of LCDS
 - Enhance opportunities for cooperation at different levels

Stakeholders Perspectives and Engagement

- First consultation in the context of the EU-UNDP Programme carried out in early May 2011
- More than 30 different institutions, including private sectors and NGOS, with participation of local level actors
- A wide range of interests, views and priorities on the direction that Morocco may take for LCDS
- But strong agreement on the need to develop LCDS as a priority to support sustainable development
- Stakeholders identified entry points to bring LCDS into their areas of work and responsibilities
- However, further consultations are needed to ensure that the EU-UNDP Programme is effectively used to bring the required institutional and capacity changes in the context of LCDS
- These consultations are planned in the inception phase of the programme, which has been recently initiated