**Programme Actors**

- Local elected representatives and technicians.
- Representatives of decentralized State services.
- Local associations.
- Populations, in particular women and youth living in disadvantaged areas.
- Representatives of the private sector.
- Universities.
- Local media.

**Programme Activities**

- Development of city diagnosis – Agadir, Marrakech, Meknès.
- City consultation workshops on the three programme sites.
- Information and sensitization of local actors to the Local Agenda 21 approach and to the role of partnership.
- Training sessions for local associations.
- Training modules for local elected representatives and technicians.
- Establishment of working groups and local steering committees.

**Local Agenda 21 Approach**

The Local Agenda 21 approach is an emanation of the "Agenda 21" document, an action plan adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio Earth Summit, 1992). The approach stipulates that there can be no viable urban development policy without environmental protection. Indeed, the principles of sustainable development, as defined by the Rio Conference, recognize that many dysfunctions linked to human settlements have their root causes as well as their solutions at the local level. The idea is to adopt a new local development approach, centered on municipalities as key actors of local management. This approach promotes collective initiatives at the city level, with the purpose of developing local capacities in rational planning and management, likely to improve the environment and the inhabitants’ living conditions.

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**Morocco Clean Cities**

**Local Agendas 21 for the Promotion of Environment and Sustainable Development in Urban Areas**

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**UN-HABITAT**

Ministry of Regional Planning, Water and Environment

UNDP

United Nations Development Programme

UN-HABITAT

United Nations Programme for Human Settlements
Morocco Clean Cities – Local Agendas 21 Programme for the Promotion of Environment and Sustainable Development in Urban Areas (2001-2005) aims at strengthening the capacities of municipalities in integrated sustainable development and environmental management. This objective is to be achieved through the enhancement of diagnosis and participatory planning capacities of local development actors – municipalities, decentralized State services, civil society, private sector – and the implementation of concrete actions geared towards the improvement of environmental and socio-economic conditions, focused on the poorest strata of the population. The Programme design is based on a concerted and participatory approach to local development in the cities of Agadir, Marrakech and Meknès. It is co-financed by the Ministry of Regional Planning, Water and Environment and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

A local Agenda 21 is a programme of action that defines the objectives and means of implementation of sustainable development. It is designed in such a way as to ensure the coherence of the community's objectives, in coordination with all socio-economic actors. It is a diagnosis-based process that will lead to the development of a programme, to be evaluated periodically and readjusted to respond to the evolution of the local context.

What is a Local Agenda 21?

Sustainable Development

This process is expected to produce tools designed to facilitate decision making, as well as information and training tools, with a view to its replication in other cities. These steps go along the whole process at local level, in particular the formulation, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of actions to be put in place by different actors. The partners, who benefit from the technical support of the United Nations Programme for Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT), are already involved in the extension of this approach to the Region of Marrakech-Tensift El Haouz in order to integrate the dynamics and linkages that exist between the city of Marrakech and its region, and develop actions for both urban and rural areas. This new component is in line with the current policy orientations aimed at reinforcing the role of the Region and the decentralized State services.

Objectives

The main objective of Local Agenda 21 is to improve the living conditions of populations while ensuring better management and conservation of the environment. It aims at:

- promoting the implementation of integrated action plans for environmental management and sustainable development at the local level;
- improving the capacities of local and national actors to promote and manage sustainable development;
- developing integrated pilot actions in support of disadvantaged populations and environmental management, on the basis of partnerships with local actors.

Areas of Intervention

Development of decision making and integrated planning tools for municipal authorities.
- Provision of technical support to municipalities for the development of integrated development action plans.
- Implementation of a series of actions of information, training and sensitization to strengthen the capacities of local actors.
- Provision of financial support for the implementation of priority pilot projects that may be replicated.

It is the implementation of a development process that addresses environment, economic and social concerns. It is defined as « a development that responds to the needs of the present without compromising the capacity of future generations to satisfy theirs », within a political context marked by the disparities between rich and poor countries – but also between the rich and the poor within each country. Its principles are as follows:

- Solidarity with future generations and with all the populations of the planet;
- Caution, that favours a preventive rather than a palliative approach;
- Involvement of all actors of civil society in the decision making process.

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Promotion of Environment and Sustainable Development in Urban Areas (2001-2005) aims at...