

Fez and its neighbours unite for a climate-ready region

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FEZ AND THE WIDER FEZ-MEKNES REGION ARE TURNING MOROCCO'S NATIONAL CLIMATE VISION INTO LOCAL ACTION AS THEY COLLABORATE ON PLANS FOR CLEANER AIR, COOLER STREETS, AND A CLIMATE-READY ECONOMY.



Fez-Meknes, Morocco



**Fez, Meknes wider region,
Morocco**



4.2 million across the region



Category of Climate Action:

- Climate action planning
- Emissions reduction
- Monitoring & evaluation
- Climate finance strategy

A climate action plan for the cultural heart of Morocco

In the valleys and plateaus that link Fez with Meknes, Morocco's cultural heart meets a region that is growing fast. The Fez-Meknes region, home to more than four million people, carries both the weight of heritage and the promise of transformation. Rising temperatures, shifting rainfall, and rapid urbanisation test how cities plan and grow.

Rather than view these pressures as setbacks, city and regional leaders saw an opening. With support from the City Climate Finance Gap Fund, Fez and its neighbouring municipalities began developing their first comprehensive Climate Action Plans – practical tools to localise Morocco's national climate strategy and lay the groundwork for resilient, low-carbon development.

Coordinating a national goal at the local level

Before this collaboration, Morocco's national climate goals were clear, but cities and regions often lacked the data, coordination, and financing strategies to act on them. In Fez-Meknes, planners wanted to bridge that gap: to measure emissions accurately, prioritise the most impactful actions, and align local policies with national ambitions.

The challenge was one of coordination as much as capacity. Multiple ministries, municipalities, and regional agencies each held pieces of the puzzle. What was missing was a shared roadmap that could guide investment decisions across energy, transport, waste, and land use – one plan for both the historic city of Fez and the wider region that depends on it.

A shared commitment

The WB-Gap Fund provided that foundation. Working with the municipal government of Fez, the regional council, and national ministries, the team prepared the first Climate Action Plans for both the city and the region of Fez-Meknes.

The process began with Morocco's most detailed regional greenhouse-gas inventory to date, identifying major emission sources and modelling future scenarios. Through a series of five workshops between 2022 and 2024, city officials, regional planners, academics, and private-sector representatives came together to assess priorities, test solutions, and agree on realistic timelines for delivery.

Each plan included clear action sheets with responsibilities, timeframes, and sub-activities, supported by a Climate Finance Roadmap that mapped funding opportunities from national programmes, international institutions, and private investment.

A comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework was also created to help regional and city teams track progress and adapt plans over time.

The participatory process strengthened local ownership, turning the Climate Action Plans into a shared commitment across institutions and communities.



A region moving as one

The result is more than two linked plans – it's a coordinated model for climate governance. The new Climate Action Plans are already woven into regional and municipal development strategies for environment, energy, transport, and waste. This integration means that future projects, from lighting upgrades to sustainable mobility corridors, can directly support the region's emission-reduction and resilience goals.



Institutional support has been strong.

Regional directorates across ministries – including energy, industry, transport, forestry, tourism, and civil protection – have endorsed the plans and committed to joint implementation.

More than twenty officials from Fez, Meknes, and surrounding municipalities have been trained through the process, building capacity in emissions analysis, action planning, and climate finance.

The collaboration has shifted how the region approaches planning. Fez, Meknes, and their neighbouring towns are now acting as one system – coordinating investments and policies so that each reinforces the other. Climate resilience is no longer a standalone agenda, but a shared framework for how the region grows.



City Climate
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Momentum is building for Morocco

In mid-2024, the Climate Action Plans were formally validated by a high-level steering committee chaired by the Wali of Fez-Meknes – a strong signal of political commitment to turn plans into projects. The next phase focuses on implementation and public engagement.

Regional authorities are preparing events to share results with citizens, civil-society groups, and the private sector, ensuring that climate action is understood and embraced locally.

At the same time, discussions are underway to connect the plans to financing through the World Bank's upcoming **Morocco Disaster and Climate Resilience Project**, which could fund key actions such as energy-efficient infrastructure, resilient transport, and improved water systems.

The groundwork is in place, and momentum is building. Fez-Meknes now stands as a model for how Moroccan cities and regions can work together – translating technical plans into tangible progress for people, the economy, and the environment.



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