UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF HIS MAJESTY KING MOHAMMED VI
MAY GOD ASSIST HIM

WEFE NEXUS FORUM
TANGIER 2025

The Council of the
Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima Region

ORGANIZES

2ND EDITION OF THE WEFE NEXUS FORUM

CONCEPT NOTE

UNDER THE THEME

MULTI-LEVEL COOPERATION FOR RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTING THE NEXUS

WATER | ENERGY | FOOD SECURITY | ECOSYSTEMS

05 & 06
FEBRUARY
2025

TANGIER
HILTON
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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

SUPPORTED BY

Junta de Andalucía

Multi-Level Cooperation for Resilient Development: Implementing the Water-Energy-Food Security-Ecosystems Nexus

Tangier, February 5th-6th 2025

1. Context and Rationale

In a world increasingly confronted with complex environmental, economic, and social challenges, territories play a central role as catalysts for sustainable development. Although rich in natural resources, they remain particularly vulnerable to growing pressures such as water scarcity, climate change, and rapid population growth.

With the global population projected to exceed 9 billion by 2050, it is crucial to reshape the relationship between territories and nature and to promote innovative and cross-cutting approaches to ensure the resilience of ecosystems and communities.

Applicable across various scales, from local to global, the Nexus WEFE approach offers a transformative framework to address these issues while preserving ecosystems, enabling the optimization of synergies and the design of tailored strategic and scalable solutions, applicable across local, regional, and global levels.

The new edition of the Nexus Forum 2025 aligns with the global momentum to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa's Agenda 2063, where municipalities, cities, and regions play a central role in addressing interdependent crises related to health, climate, biodiversity, and social inequalities.

This vision is supported by international initiatives such as Race to Resilience, Race to Zero, and the Coalition for Ambitious Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP), launched during COP28, along with the Baku Climate Unity Pact adopted at COP29.

As the climate crisis intensifies and challenges grow increasingly interconnected, multilevel cooperation has become imperative to minimize losses and damages, ensure the resilience of territories and accelerate the implementation of global commitments.

Strategic Challenges and Opportunities for Morocco

- **Increasing Water Stress:** Overexploitation and inefficient resource management
- **Food and Energy Security:** Pressures from geopolitical crises and market volatility
- **Urbanization and Drought:** Rapid urban growth increasing pressure on water resources
- **Dependence on Imports:** Heavy reliance on global markets exposing the country to economic risks

Morocco addresses these challenges through the **New Development Model (NMD)**, which serves as a guiding framework for the country's structural transformation by steering public policies towards inclusive, sustainable, and resilient growth. Reflecting this commitment, the **National Low-Carbon Strategy 2050** and the **Generation Green 2020-2030** strategy provide concrete responses to the pressing issues of climate, water, energy, and food security.

2. Strategic Objectives

Strengthening

the capacities of local stakeholders in integrated resource management and the implementation of innovative solutions

Analyzing

The interactions among the components of the WEFE Nexus in the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima region, framed within a national and international perspective

Creating

A conducive environment to innovation by stimulating financing and collaboration around tailored projects that address the region's specific challenges

Promoting

multilevel cooperation between local, national, and international stakeholders to achieve resilient development

Highlighting

Concrete projects illustrating the feasibility and impact of Nexus solutions in the fields of sustainable infrastructure, agroecology, renewable energy, and resource management

3. Key Themes

Integrated Water Management

Adapting irrigation systems, protecting groundwater resources, and efficiently managing water supplies

Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security

Optimizing Water and Energy Use in Agriculture by Integrating Agroecological Practices.

Innovative Financing

Identify and Facilitate Access to Innovative Financial Mechanisms, such as climate funds, green bonds, credit lines, and public-private partnerships, to support structural projects.

Renewable Energy and Energy Security

Reducing Dependence on Fossil Fuels through Renewable Energy Production and the Promotion of Innovative and Scalable Solutions.

Climate Resilience

Enhancing the region's adaptive capacity to climate impacts through nature-based solutions and integrated projects.

4. A Platform for Innovation and Action

The WEFE Nexus Forum 2025 will serve as a unique platform to mobilize international, national, and local stakeholders, with the goal of accelerating the implementation of concrete, integrated projects in the Tangier-Tétouan-Al Hoceïma region. Acting as a catalyst for immediate climate action, the forum will provide a **collaborative space** dedicated to **innovation**, showcasing **technologies** and **solutions** tailored to the region's specific challenges.

5. Target Participants

Local governments and authorities

Local Stakeholders from Morocco and the World

Institutions

Ministries, National Institutions, and International Organizations

Private Sector

Companies and Start-ups operating in Water, Energy, and Agriculture

Academic experts

Universities, Research Centers, and Observatories

Civil Society

NGOs and Associations

6. Perspectives and Scope

Dedicated to advancing concrete action by developing innovative solutions, enhancing policy coherence, and adapting global best practices to local and regional contexts, the forum promotes active collaboration among governments, organisations, private sector, academic institutions, and civil society to effectively address interconnected challenges and drive meaningful change through :

A | **Development of Strategic Partnerships for Sustainable and Integrated Resource Management**

B | **Identification and Launch of Concrete Projects with Firm Commitments**

C | **Mobilization of National and International Financing to Support Local Initiatives**

D | **Development of Recommendations and Sharing of Best Practices Inspired by Successful Projects**

E | **Adoption of Innovative Technological Solutions to Address Common Challenges**

F | **Integration of the WEFE Nexus Approach into Strategic Frameworks**

G | **Establishment of a Multilevel Dialogue Among Stakeholders for Integrated Governance**

Day 1: Strategic Vision and Multilevel Governance

Time	Session	Content
08h30 - 09h00	**Registration and Welcome Reception**	
09h30 – 09h40	▪ **Opening Ceremony**	Welcome Remarks by the President of the Regional Council of Tangier- Tetouan Alhoceima
09h40– 10h10	▪ **Session 1: Keynote Speeches by High-Level National Representatives**	Keynote speeches by distinguished Ministers of Morocco.
10h10 – 10h45	▪ **Session 2: Keynote Speeches by High-Level International Representatives**	Keynote speeches by leaders and high-level representatives from prominent global Institutions and organizations.
10h45 – 11h00	▪ **Hackathon Prize Distribution Ceremony**	Award Ceremony for the winners of the WEFE Nexus Hackathon, recognizing innovative projects in the field.
11h00 – 11h15	**Coffee Break**	
11h15 - 12h00	▪ **Plenary 1** – Presentation of the **Economic, Social and Environmental Council**	Presentation of the new WEFE NEXUS report
12h00 – 12h45	▪ **Plenary 2** - Multilevel Governance and Stakeholder Coordination	Identification and review of territorial coordination mechanisms and best practices in multilevel cooperation across sectors.
12h45 - 13h30	▪ **Plenary 3** - From Vision to Action: Integrated Solutions for Regional Resilience	In-depth discussions on addressing water, energy, and food security challenges and key infrastructure projects for the Tanger-Tétouan-Al Hoceima Region.
13h30 - 14h30	**Networking Lunch**	
14h30 - 15h30	▪ **Session**: Climate Resilience and Resource Management	Presentation of integrated projects and examples of Nexus co-benefits, focusing on nature-based solutions, smart water management, digital solutions for irrigation and regional climate adaptation strategies.
15h30 - 16h30	▪ **Session**: Desalination and Innovative Water Solutions	Discussion of sustainable desalination technologies, integration of renewable energy, and case studies from desalination plants in Morocco.
16h30 - 17h30	▪ **Session**: Agrivoltaic Innovation	Focusing on emerging technologies in agrivoltaic systems, key insights, and best practices in agriculture-energy synergies.
17h30 - 18h00	**Summary of the Day's Highlights**	
18h00 - 19h00	**Networking Reception**	

Day 2: Implementation and Future Perspectives

Time	Session	Content
09h00 - 10h30	▪ **Session**: Key Infrastructure Projects	Presentation of flagship projects from Regions, cities and territories
10h30 - 12h00	▪ **Session**: Financing and Partnerships	Review of specific financial mechanisms (Climate Funds, public-private partnerships), success stories of financed Nexus projects, and opportunities for innovative financing.
12h00 - 13h00	▪ **Session**: Solutions and Innovation	Innovation Space featuring digital technologies, demonstrations of innovative solutions, and collaborative platforms for driving regional resilience.
13h00 - 14h00	**Networking Lunch**	
14h00 - 15h00	▪ **Session**: Green Hydrogen: Catalyst for Regional Energy Transition	Exploration of Nexus synergies, integration with seawater desalination, and the development of a regional hydrogen ecosystem.
15h00 - 16h30	▪ **Think Tank Panel** : Strategic Perspectives for the WEFE Nexus	Analysis of trends, emerging innovations, and recommendations for accelerating Nexus projects at the regional and international levels.
16h30 - 18h00	**Closing Ceremony**	**Call to Action and commitments from participants, with the signing of the Multilevel Convention Framework to formalize partnerships and collaborative efforts.** **Final signing of the Declaration of Territories, reinforcing the collective commitment of participating regions to advance the WEFE Nexus agenda.**

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REGION TANGER-TÉTOUAN-HOCEIMA

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