



Medical assistance granted by MS2 in partnership with IOM Morocco © IOM Morocco, 2020

SITUATION OVERVIEW

In March 2nd 2020, the first case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) has been registered in Morocco. Since then, the country has recorded 123,653 confirmed cases including 102,715 recoveries and 2194 deaths according to the bulletin of results of the epidemiological surveillance of COVID-19 published on the website www.covidmaroc.ma on September 30, 2020. The state of health emergency has been declared by the authorities on March 20, 2020, in order to facilitate the management of the pandemic at the national level, and has been extended several times. A series of preventive guidelines (the respect of preventive measures, the mandatory mask wearing, limiting travel to the strict necessary) remain effective to ensure the application of the state of emergency and limit the spread of the virus despite the easing of the measures to promote the economic recovery (including the reopening of shops, cafes, restaurants, schools and special flights etc.).

The pandemic management has also evolved towards a pronounced decentralization approach with decisions taken at the local level according to the epidemiological situation of each locality. Despite these easing measures and the gradual resumption of economic activity, many vulnerable populations in Morocco, including migrants, continue to face medical-psycho-socio-economic challenges affecting their well-being and the access to protective services.

As part of the United Nations system's effort to support the Government of Morocco and the commitment of civil society actors to address the health, social and economic consequences of the pandemic, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is contributing to the national response in line with the [global strategic preparedness and response plan to combat COVID-19](#).

IOM MOROCCO RESPONSE TO COVID-19

IOM supports the efforts of the Government of Morocco in providing a rapid and inclusive response to vulnerable populations. IOM Morocco concentrates its interventions around the following pillars: Coordination and partnerships; Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCCE); Surveillance; Case management and continuity of essential services; Infection prevention and control and Protection.

The protection pillar is key in the fight against COVID-19 in Morocco. Therefore, IOM Morocco is focusing its efforts on social determinants of health, namely, emergency shelter, food, distribution of hygiene kits including masks, psychosocial support and awareness raising. To reach its objectives, IOM Morocco coordinates its actions with national and local authorities and collaborates with civil society partners in order to ensure efficient direct assistance in the main regions receiving migrants, privileging an inclusive approach that also meets the expectations of Moroccans in need. In addition, IOM Morocco develops and disseminates essential tools for information sharing and awareness raising on COVID-19.

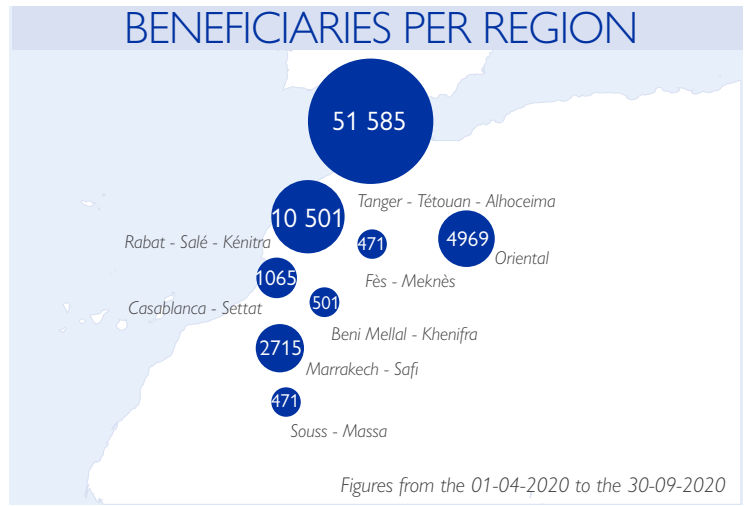
The IOM Morocco COVID-19 response is financially supported by:



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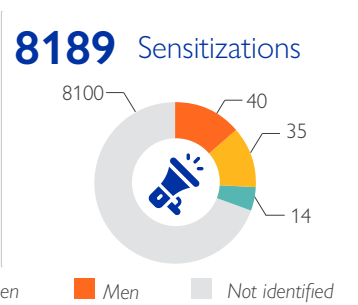
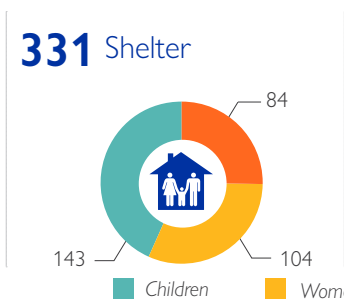
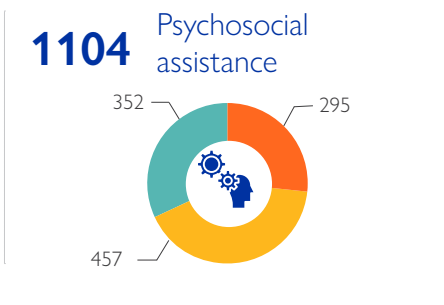
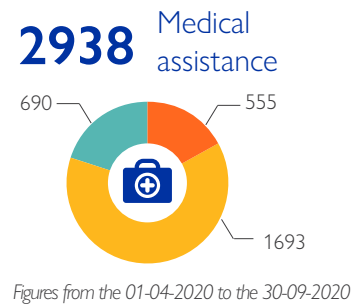
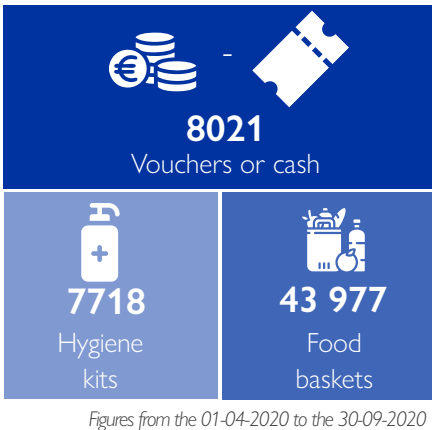
ASSISTED INDIVIDUALS

from 01 April to 30 September 2020



59 716 Basic direct assistance

IOM Morocco coordinates its actions with national and local authorities and relies on its teams on the ground and civil society partners to ensure direct and effective assistance in the regions hosting migrants while prioritizing an inclusive approach that also meets the expectations of Moroccans in need (70% of beneficiaries being nationals). IOM distributes food baskets, hygiene kits, vouchers, blankets, clothing, prepaid telephone cards and cash. Hygiene kits include, among other items, soap as well as hydro-alcoholic gels and masks. These distributions are made in compliance with protective measures by civil society partners, IOM staff and beneficiaries.



IOM continues to offer medical assistance to the most vulnerable, 2938 individuals were assisted through support for medical consultations and examinations, the purchase of essential medicines for pathologies other than COVID-19 and the facilitation of referrals to public health structures.

Psychosocial support is provided to the most vulnerable to relieve the stress caused by confinement, uncertainty and social distancing. Social workers and psychologists from IOM Morocco's partner associations maintain regular contact with the beneficiaries, giving them advice on stress management and procedures in obtaining social and medical assistance, if needed. Communication tools are also shared with beneficiaries to guide and advise them.

Some beneficiaries have benefited from either emergency housing or assistance to pay the rent, to prevent them from losing their homes. IOM also supported 20 "Entraide Nationale" centers by supplying mattresses, blankets and pillows, in order to increase their reception capacity for populations in need.

Beneficiaries were sensitized on COVID-19 prevention measures in compliance with confinement and other measures put in place by national authorities. Health awareness sessions are done through the telephone, instant messaging applications and the distribution of flyers and leaflets.

* These figures are preliminary estimates and may be subjected to changes

The COVID-19 response led by IOM Morocco is implemented in partnership with:

