Representing on average 6.4 percent of Morocco’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the education sector is an essential lever to build the country’s human capital. While rapid progress over the past two decades has led to universal access to primary education for girls and boys, challenges remain to ensure that this translates into better learning outcomes for all. Improving the quality and effectiveness of education service delivery requires a substantial shift in the way the system operates, putting the learning process at the core of the functioning of the sector. To address these challenges, Morocco’s Ministry of education has launched an ambitious reform program to improve the sector’s overall performance, in line with the 2015–2030 Education Sector Vision which lays the ground for a “new Moroccan school”.

To support the country’s objective to boost education outcomes for all, a new World Bank supported program titled Morocco Education Support Program, will act on key levers to support the sector’s transformation. The Program is supported by a Program for Results (PforR) operation of US$ 500 million whereby disbursement is conditioned by the attainment of key results.

The Program supports a portion of the government strategy, with the ambition to promote a shift away from resource-driven to results-driven governance principles, to promotes learning in the classroom. This shift implies changes on three dimensions: capability, learning and behavior. This means enabling agents with strong implementing capacity and providing an efficient framework for accountability. It also means having a system with an intrinsic ability to learn and adjust so that it can continuously improve and course-correct.

**Program objectives:**

The current program relies on three components to tackle the sector’s main challenges going forward and is based on the government’s strategic vision:
COMPONENT 1: Creating an enabling environment for quality preprimary education: The Program will support the government’s ambition to universalize education for children aged 4 and 5 by 2027, by supporting the implementation of a framework to promote quality in the provision of preprimary education in Morocco. It will help equip early childhood educators with the necessary pedagogical training, set up standards and guidelines conducive to stronger early childhood outcomes and incentivize investments related to preprimary education at a regional and provincial level.

COMPONENT 2: Enhancing teachers’ training – In line with the government’s 2015-2030 Vision aiming to upgrade teachers’ pedagogical and teaching practices, the Program will support the implementation of the new pre-service training and induction model and the development of a solid, attractive and coherent professional teacher career. It will contribute to increasing the supply of qualified new teachers by strengthening institutional capacity, including at the AREF level, and boosting inservice support for active teachers. Overtime, the Program ambitions to improve teaching practices and ensure teachers’ pedagogical techniques and behaviors in the classroom are positively geared towards enhancing children’s learning outcomes.

COMPONENT 3: Strengthening sector’s management capabilities and accountability: The Program will support greater capabilities at the regional, provincial and school-level to manage both operational and educational issues. To that end, the Program intends to support the Ministry in the roll out of performance contracts which will help regional and provincial entities set performance targets and improve service delivery. The program will also help strengthen sector professionals’ capabilities in financial and human resources management as well as school leadership.

Program implementation:

The Program will be implemented over a 5-year period with adjusted and scaled up objectives year on year to eventually lead to a transformational governance of the sector. A robust monitoring and evaluation component will be embedded across the operation’s three components to capture progress, impact and results.

The Program will be implemented by the Ministry of education, its regional academies (AREFs), the provincial directorates and schools. By the end of the Program, the institutional coordination linking the various administrative levels of service delivery will be geared towards greater performance and accountability, and leadership and management capabilities will have been strengthened at the school level.

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