

CLOSURE OF THE TWO PHASES OF THE EMERGENCY PROJECT FOLLOWING THE AL HAOUZ EARTHQUAKE

A Restitution Full of Hope and Solidarity

Marrakech, June 26, 2025 – At the premises of the Ennakhil Association, **Caritas Maroc** and the **Soleterre Foundation** organized a closing event to mark the end of the two phases of emergency humanitarian response deployed after the devastating Al Haouz earthquake. Entitled **“Restitution of the Results of the Emergency Appeal Projects,”** the event provided an opportunity to review the actions undertaken, assess their impact, and share tangible outcomes with key stakeholders active on the ground.

The main objective of this event was to present the results of the two phases of the emergency appeal to partners, local associations, and beneficiary cooperatives in a spirit of transparency, recognition, and collaboration.



The event brought together a wide range of participants: international NGOs, technical partners, representatives of the Office for the Development of Cooperation (ODCO), local associations, and especially women's cooperatives that benefited from training and support as part of the program.

In his speech, the **ODCO** representative emphasized the strategic importance of training for the development of cooperatives, highlighting that the year 2025 has been declared the **"Year of Cooperatives"** in Morocco—an initiative aimed at further encouraging their structuring, autonomy, and economic anchoring in their territories.





Discussions highlighted concrete progress within a sustainable development approach, particularly the strengthening of the economic and social capacities of local communities. Moving testimonies emphasized the tangible impact of the interventions on the daily lives of women organized in cooperatives —now more autonomous, visible, and active in the local socio-economic fabric.



The event also paid tribute to the essential role of local associations that support women's cooperatives in their villages. For example, the **Tizi N'Oucheg Association**, committed for several years to developing sustainable projects, shared its successful experience. Their approach inspired other associations to strengthen the engagement of rural women by supporting them in becoming agents of change and leaders in their social and economic environments.



In this dynamic, the Soleterre Foundation has been a key partner, particularly in the creation and restoration of **Income-Generating Activities (IGAs)** in affected areas, directly contributing to the economic resilience of impacted communities.

To conclude the day, a **solidarity market** was held on-site, offering cooperatives a space to exhibit and sell their artisanal, agri-food, and cosmetic products. This convivial moment allowed guests to discover firsthand the fruits of the women's labor while promoting local and solidarity-based consumption. The market not only showcased the cooperatives' know-how, but also **created direct bridges between producers and partners, paving the way for new synergies.**



This closing event not only took stock of the emergency project achievements, but also rekindled a shared commitment to go further. The engagement of women's cooperatives, the support of local associations, and the involvement of institutional and technical partners have demonstrated that a **collective, united, and sustainable response is possible when facing the challenges posed by crises.**

This event marks the end of one chapter, but above all, **the beginning of a new phase of collaboration, co-construction, and social innovation in service of the most vulnerable populations.**

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