

# Morocco

## Conclusion

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## Conclusion

Chart 38: Recommendations

# Recommendations:

- Reduce child and maternal mortality, expand healthcare and contraception and address chronic diseases.
- Invest in better management, advanced seeds and expanded irrigation to boost yields and enhance food security.
- Increase educational attainment, gender parity and vocational training to enhance education quality and workforce productivity.
- Boost investments in manufacturing and R&D, improve regulations and address inequality through welfare transfers.
- Fully implement AfCFTA to increase exports, productivity and trade integration within Africa.
- Prioritise investments in roads, renewable energy and broadband to improve socio-economic benefits and energy security.
- Attract foreign aid and FDI and reduce illicit outflows to enhance revenues and economic growth.
- Improve government capacity, regulatory quality and anti-corruption efforts to foster stability.
- Reorganise the water sector, implement cost-based pricing and establish a Water Management Agency.
- Develop progressive migration policies and support urbanisation, ensuring infrastructure and services keep pace with growth.

Morocco stands at a significant crossroads, poised for substantial growth and development by 2043. With a unique geographic position, bordering both the Atlantic and Mediterranean and the EU via Spanish enclaves, Morocco has considerable geopolitical and economic leverage. Its population will increase to 43.9 million by 2043, accompanied by ageing, a declining fertility rate and increasing life expectancy. Urbanisation will rise to 72.6% by 2043, reflecting the country's progressive migration and urban development policies.

Significant investments in education, health and ICT have enabled a transition from low-cost manufacturing to higher-value sectors such as pharmaceuticals, aerospace and automotive. The GDP is projected to reach US\$253.4 billion by 2043, with GDP per capita increasing to US\$10 718 in 2043.

The sectoral scenarios forecast varied impacts on Morocco. Improving health outcomes and reducing mortality rates will yield a modest GDP per capita gain, though the country faces an epidemiological shift towards chronic diseases. Enhancing agricultural productivity through better management, technology, and irrigation will significantly improve food security, making Morocco a net exporter of agricultural products by 2043. Ambitious improvements in education quality, access and gender parity will boost GDP per capita by US\$225 above the Current Path forecast.

Increased investment in manufacturing, R&D and better regulations will grow Morocco's economy by 6.8% by 2043 and reduce inequality through increased welfare transfers. Full implementation of the AfCFTA will increase exports by 70%

above the Current Path forecast, enhancing trade openness and African integration. Investments in infrastructure, renewable energy and broadband will yield socio-economic benefits, including poverty reduction and improved health outcomes.

Increased inward financial flows from remittances, foreign aid, and FDI will boost government revenues and economic growth. Enhancements in security, capacity and inclusion will improve governance, making the country more stable and reducing corruption by 2043.

In the Combined scenario, which integrates all sectoral interventions, Morocco's GDP per capita will reach US\$13 996 in 2043, a 33% increase above the Current Path forecast. The economy will grow to US\$384 billion, making it Africa's sixth-largest economy.

Despite challenges like water scarcity, energy dependence and regional disputes, Morocco's strategic investments in infrastructure, education and governance reforms present substantial opportunities for sustainable growth and development, positioning it for long-term stability and success by 2043.

Key recommendations for policymakers in Morocco are:

- Focus on reducing child and maternal mortality rates, increasing access to healthcare and modern contraception and addressing the growing burden of chronic diseases to improve overall health outcomes and advance the demographic dividend.
- Invest in better management practices, advanced seed and fertiliser technologies and expanded irrigation to improve agricultural yields. These investments will enhance food security and make Morocco a net exporter of agricultural products by 2043.
- Implement policies to increase educational attainment, gender parity and vocational training. Enhancing education quality from primary to tertiary levels will significantly contribute to economic growth and workforce productivity.
- Increase investments in manufacturing and research and development (R&D). Improve government regulations to stimulate economic growth and address inequality through welfare transfers, thus enhancing economic inclusivity.
- Fully implement the agreement on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to boost exports, improve multifactor productivity and enhance trade openness and integration within Africa.
- Prioritise investments in road infrastructure, renewable energy technologies and broadband access to reduce poverty, improve health outcomes and provide energy security.
- Attract more inward financial flows, such as foreign aid and foreign direct investment (FDI). Additionally, reduce illicit financial outflows to enhance government revenues and stimulate economic growth.
- Enhance government capacity, regulatory quality and efforts to reduce corruption to foster a stable political environment.
- Reorganise the water sector, introduce cost-based water pricing, and establish a National Water Management Agency. Promote water conservation and reuse to mitigate the economic and social impacts of water stress.
- Continue to develop progressive migration policies and support urbanisation efforts. Ensure that infrastructure and

services in urban areas keep pace with population growth to maintain quality of life and economic opportunities.

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## About the authors

Dr Jakkie Cilliers is the ISS's founder and former executive director. He currently serves as chair of the ISS Board of Trustees and head of the African Futures and Innovation (AFI) programme at the Pretoria office of the Institute. His 2017 best-seller *Fate of the Nation* addresses South Africa's futures from political, economic and social perspectives. His three most recent books, *Africa First! Igniting a Growth Revolution* (March 2020), *The Future of Africa: Challenges and Opportunities* (April 2021), and *Africa Tomorrow: Pathways to Prosperity* (June 2022) take a rigorous look at the continent as a whole.

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