

# CSR Risk Check



## MOROCCO

### 21 country risk(s) have been identified

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- HUMAN RIGHTS & ETHICS (6)
  - ENVIRONMENT (6)
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#### WATER USE & WATER AVAILABILITY (2 RISKS)

In this country, 50 to 55% of the population experiences severe freshwater scarcity all year round.

According to the World Resources Institute, Morocco suffers from a very high water stress, mainly in the regions Marrakech-Safi, Beni Mellal-Khenifra, Souss-Massa and Grand Casablanca-Settat. The water stress score is 3.9 on a scale of 0 (low risk) to 5 (extremely high risk). This means that more than 80% of the total renewable water supply is consumed. Both the agricultural (score 3.9) and the industrial (score 3.5) sector are major contributors in this matter.

**Sources:** [Science Advances, Four billion people facing severe water scarcity, 2016](#), [World Resources Institute, Aqueduct Country Rankings, 2019](#)

In Morocco, the loss of (ground) water is caused by wastage of fresh water resources and discharges of untreated wastewater. Public water supply and irrigation are ineffective. There is also a reduction in precipitation. This makes drought a problem.

**Sources:** [Convention on Biological Diversity, Main details - Morocco, 2017](#)

#### CLIMATE & ENERGY (1 RISK)

In Morocco, the demand for energy is met mostly by fossil fuels, all of which are imported. The growing demand in energy production from fossil fuels exerts a risk for the environment.

**Sources:** [International Energy Agency, Morocco, 2018](#)

#### BIODIVERSITY & DEFORESTATION (1 RISK)

The lack of integrated management on biodiversity conservation forms a risk for illegal forest exploitation and illegal hunting takes place. This has a negative effect on the biodiversity in Morocco.

**Sources:** [Convention on Biological Diversity, Main details - Morocco, 2017](#)

### **AIR POLLUTION (1 RISK)**

Emissions from vehicles and industries contribute substantially to the air pollution in Morocco. This has a negative impact on the public health and agriculture.

**Sources:** [Air Quality Index \(AQI\) Morocco, 2017](#)

### **ENVIRONMENT & WASTE (GENERAL) (1 RISK)**

Waste treatment in Morocco can be improved: the infrastructure around waste is minimal, treatment points are located only around the major cities and recycling is almost non-existent. More than 90% of the waste disappears into landfill.

**Sources:** [WWF, Stop the flood of plastic: a guide for policy-makers in Morocco, 2019](#)

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## **• LABOUR RIGHTS (5)**

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### **FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION (2 RISKS)**

Moroccan authorities restrict freedom of association. Read more about this in the reports of [Amnesty International](#) and [Human Rights Watch](#).

**Sources:** [Amnesty International, Report 2017/2018 - The state of the World's Human Rights, 2018](#), [Human Rights Watch, World Report 2020 - Events of 2019, 2020](#)

Morocco scores a 3 on the ITUC Global Rights Index (scale 1-5) for freedom of association and workers' rights, which stands for regular violations of rights. Governments and/or companies are regularly interfering in collective labour rights or are failing to fully guarantee important aspects of these rights. There are deficiencies in laws and/or certain practices which make frequent violations possible.

**Sources:** [ITUC-CSI, ITUC Global Rights Index, 2019](#)

### **FORCED LABOUR & HUMAN TRAFFICKING (2 RISKS)**

Some Moroccan girls from rural areas can be recruited to work as maids in cities and often experience conditions of forced labour, such as nonpayment of wages, threats, restrictions on movement, and physical, psychological, or sexual abuse. Some Moroccan boys experience forced labour as apprentices in the artisan and construction industries and in mechanic shops.

**Sources:** [US Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, 2019](#)

Foreign migrants, especially women and children, are highly vulnerable to forced labor and sex trafficking in Morocco and as they transit through Morocco to reach Europe.

**Sources:** [US Department of State, Trafficking in Persons Report, 2019](#)

## **DISCRIMINATION & GENDER (1 RISK)**

This country is one of the 15 lowest scoring countries (out of in total 153) in the field of economic participation and opportunity for women in the Global Gender Gap Index 2019. Apart from indicators in the field of economic participation and opportunity for women, the Global Gender Gap Index also includes indicators comparing women's health to men's health, access to education and political empowerment.

**Sources:** [World Economic Forum, Global Gender Gap Report, 2020](#)

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## **• FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES (4)**

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### **CORRUPTION (4 RISKS)**

The score awarded for transparency and accountability (including public management and civil service integrity, and access to information) in Morocco is 25 on a scale from 0 (very weak) to 100 (very strong). This is considered weak by [Global Integrity](#).

**Sources:** [Global Integrity, Africa Integrity Indicators, 2019](#)

Foreign as well as Moroccan entrepreneurs identify corruption as a large obstacle to investment in Morocco and remain sceptical with regard to the effectiveness of the government's efforts to fight corruption.

**Sources:** [Business Anti-Corruption Portal, 2019](#)

According to the Corruption Perceptions Index, the corruption score of Morocco is 41, on a scale of 0 (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). This means that the risk of corruption in Morocco is high.

**Sources:** [Transparency International, Corruption Perceptions Index 2019, 2020](#)

Corruption is a major obstacle for investments and economic development in Morocco. Giving tips in exchange for small services is common. However, be aware that the boundary between social codes of conduct/tradition and corruption/bribery may be vague.

**Sources:** [Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend NL \(RvO\), Factsheet MVO in Marokko, 2017](#)

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