



الجامعة الأورومتوسطية بفاس  
EUROMED UNIVERSITY OF FES  
UNIVERSITÉ EUROMED DE FÈS

# SDG2 Report

## “Zero” hunger

2024



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## SDG2 report : “Zero” hunger

### Food aid

The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly disrupted the food system and increased the need for food assistance. During the Covid-19 epidemic in Morocco, restrictions impacted both food suppliers as well as family meals, diet and food safety. Surveys have shown that many people and particularly young people have adopted unhealthy eating habits, with the stress of lockdown affecting their diet and health.

Several solidarity and concrete actions have been successfully carried out at the UEMF to fight against hunger at the national and local level:

- In mid-March and as soon as the fund dedicated to the management and fight against Covid-19 was announced, UEMF staff members (presidential team, deans, directors, professors and administrative and support staff) participated with all or part of their monthly salary. The amount paid to this fund exceeds one million dirham.
- The UEMF is a citizen University which has mutual aid, solidarity and assistance in its DNA. The UEMF quickly came to the aid of people in need during the health crisis, particularly during the holy fasting month of Ramadan. 1000 complete baskets containing several foodstuffs and supplies were offered to the needy in the Fez region with the help of local authorities.
- The UEMF provided multiple assistance to foreign students stranded in its university residences. In addition to multiple disinfections of residences, foreign students received help and kindness from the University: packed lunches, food, hydro-alcoholic gel, psychological support and various other types of assistance.
- University scholarship holders benefit from a top-up of their UEMF cards at the start of each month to guarantee them permanent access to the university restaurant and the UEMF shop.

### Training and learning

UEMF through its Biomedical and Biotechnology Engineering School BiomedTech <https://www.ueuromed.org/etablissement/ecole-euromed-dingenieurs-biomedtech/filieres> organizes initial and continuing training modules on access to knowledge on food safety. These modules allow the acquisition of knowledge and skills in this area and access to technology in food safety.

At the R&D level, a large regional innovation center called Agritech <https://www.ueuromed.org/structure-innovation/agritech>, is under development and will aim to contribute to the emergence of the insufficiently exploited potential of the Fès-Meknes region in its traditional activities (notably the agri-food industry) and the development of territorial growth relays that create wealth and jobs, in particular through the intersection of research, innovation and entrepreneurial development in the aforementioned sectors, taken individually or in synergy.

### Fight against waste

The UEMF encourages subcontractors to control the quality of food and avoid any waste. The energy exploitation of organic waste for the production of bioenergy (biogas, liquid bio-carbons) and compost is currently being tested in student projects.

- Choice of food suppliers
- Protection and conservation of food products in compliance with the national standards of the National Food Safety Office (ONSSA) <http://www.onssa.gov.ma/>
- Delivery of food products in the best conditions
- Anticipating public needs by analyzing responses to questionnaires
- Menus composed with a dietician in response to individual needs: light menu, full menu
- Structure of meals and consideration of customers' specific needs (quantities/portions served)

- Training of restaurant staff in waste sorting
- Daily donation of leftover food to charities
- Composting of peelings

### **Support for women's cooperatives**

Students often organize forums and fairs for women members of cooperatives to exhibit local agri-food products. The UEMF thus encourages organic production and promotes fair trade. The UEMF thus gives priority to the purchase of products from local and sustainable sources. Eating organic has become a key trend in society, to the point of wanting to convert several agricultural areas to organic farming. An ambition on which the Moroccan government's Green Plan is based. Thousands of jobs could be created by 2030.

### **Project research and incubation**

#### **FSF**

The Fez Smart Factory Ecosystem is launching its first competition for the admission of the first project leaders into its industry 4.0-oriented incubator. This competition is aimed at any natural person, individual or team, carrying out a project for the development of an industrial unit for innovative product(s) with high added value, and competitive, optimizing its performance thanks to the implementation of Industry 4.0 concepts and technologies. The project must fall within one of the following sectors: agri-food industries, etc. <https://fsfindustry.com/concours/>

#### **Hackathon "Euromed Sustainable Impact Challenge"**

Green Wings is a mobile application created by a group of 8 students in Business, Artificial Intelligence and Design at UEMF. This application aims to promote RAM's CSR actions and instill them in the habits of employees through three main aspects: carpooling, catering, as well as eco-scoring and eco-ranking.

- Carpooling will help minimize the carbon footprint.
- The catering component will allow employees to confirm or not their presence at the company restaurant the next day, as well as to choose the foods that would make up their menu in order to avoid food waste.
- Eco-scoring is a score calculated on the basis of 3 factors: consumption of water and electricity internally and externally among RAM's various employees, the rate of involvement in carpooling and eco-friendly activities. -responsible for RAM, and finally volunteering. This score will result in an eco-ranking which will elect the best eco-friendly, which will create an atmosphere of competition and play and will allow business to be combined with pleasure.

<https://ueuromed.org/en/news/workshops/hackaton-le-projet-greenwings-fait-lunanimate-aupres-du-jury-et-rommage-la-premiere>

## Publications

P-90) Antimicrobial effect of chitosan films on food spoilage bacteria N. Wronotska,\* N. Katir, K. MiLowska, N. Hammi, M. Nowak, M. Kedzierska, A. Anouar, K. Zawadzka, M. Bryszewska, A. El Kadib, K. Lisowska.\* Int. J. Mol. Sci., 22 (2021) 5839. IF = 5.92

[ABDELKRIM EL KADIB | UEMF \(ueuromed.org\)](#)

Synthesis and characterization of new organophilic clay. Preparation of polystyrene/clay nanocomposite, Ben-Yahia, A.; El Kazzouli, S.; Essassi, EM; Bousmina, MM Scientific Study and Research: Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Biotechnology, Food Industry, 2018, 19, 193. (IF = 0.23)

[EL KAZZOULI Said | UEMF \(ueuromed.org\)](#)

Anissi J, El Hassouni M, Ouardaoui A, Sendide K. (2014), A comparative study of the antioxidant scavenging activity of green tea, black tea and coffee extracts: A kinetic approach. Food Chemistry. (1),150:438-47. IF = 4.946.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2013.11.009>

Jaouad Anissi, Khalid Sendide, Ouardaoui Abdelkrim, El Mohammed, Hassouni (2019), Methyl caffeate as the major antioxidant compound from Inula viscosa Ait. (L). Food Chemistry. IF = 4.946

<https://ueuromed.org/en/ecole-euromed-dingenieurs-biomedtech/research-teaching-staff/jaouad-anissi>

## International cooperation

### Pr. Hafsa El Bekri participates in the “Model World Trade Organization” in St. Gall and Geneva

Professor at the Euromed Business School of the UEMF, Pr. Hafsa El Bekri is participating in the “Model World Trade Organization” work in Saint Gall and Geneva from April 6 to 13.

The work took place at the Kantonsrsaal, at the World Trade Organization in Geneva. During his participation, Pr. Hafsa El Bekri had a double mission:

Observation and assistance to 72 representatives of the best universities worldwide during negotiations.

Take part in the Canadian delegation to lead the negotiations of the “Committee of Environmental Footprint of Traded Food”.



<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/pr-hafsa-el-bekri-participe-au-model-world-trade-organization-saint>

## Pr. Hafsa El Bekri moderated a workshop at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Public Forum



As part of the public forum of the World Trade Organization (WTO) which was held from September 27 to 30 in Geneva, Pr. Hafsa El Bekri was invited to moderate a workshop on "How trade can drive inclusive and sustainable food systems in Africa."

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/pr-hafsa-el-bekri-modere-un-workshop-au-forum-public-de-lorganisation>

## Actions to combat famine between 2022 and 2023

### Solidarity action: Hot meals December 7, 2022



The Hands club prepared a variety of hot meals which were distributed for the benefit of 50 homeless people.



### Solidarity action: distribution of food baskets April 7, 2023



As part of its solidarity actions, the Rortact club organized on April 7 an action to distribute Ramadan baskets for the benefit of poor families in the Bab Ftouh district and to residents of the Ahly center in the city of Fes.

### Hands club solidarity action April 12, 2023



The Hand club organized a social action on April 12 for the benefit of residents of the Garwawa orphanage. The day was marked not only by the programming of a set of activities and a collective trip but also by the distribution of bags of clothing.

### Collective iftar center Bendriss



On the occasion of the month of Ramadan, the Rotaract club offered a collective trip on April 11 for the benefit of the residents of the Abdelaziz Ben Driss Child Protection Center. The day was also marked by the organization of several sporting and artistic activities for the benefit of young residents.

### Other activities

### Workshop on AI applied to agriculture and food security May 15, 2023



The Euromed University of Fez, in collaboration with its partner Shenkar College of Engineering and Design, is organizing two workshops on May 15 and 16, 2023, one on AI applied to agriculture and food security and the other covering intelligent transport (ITS), mobility and urban planning.

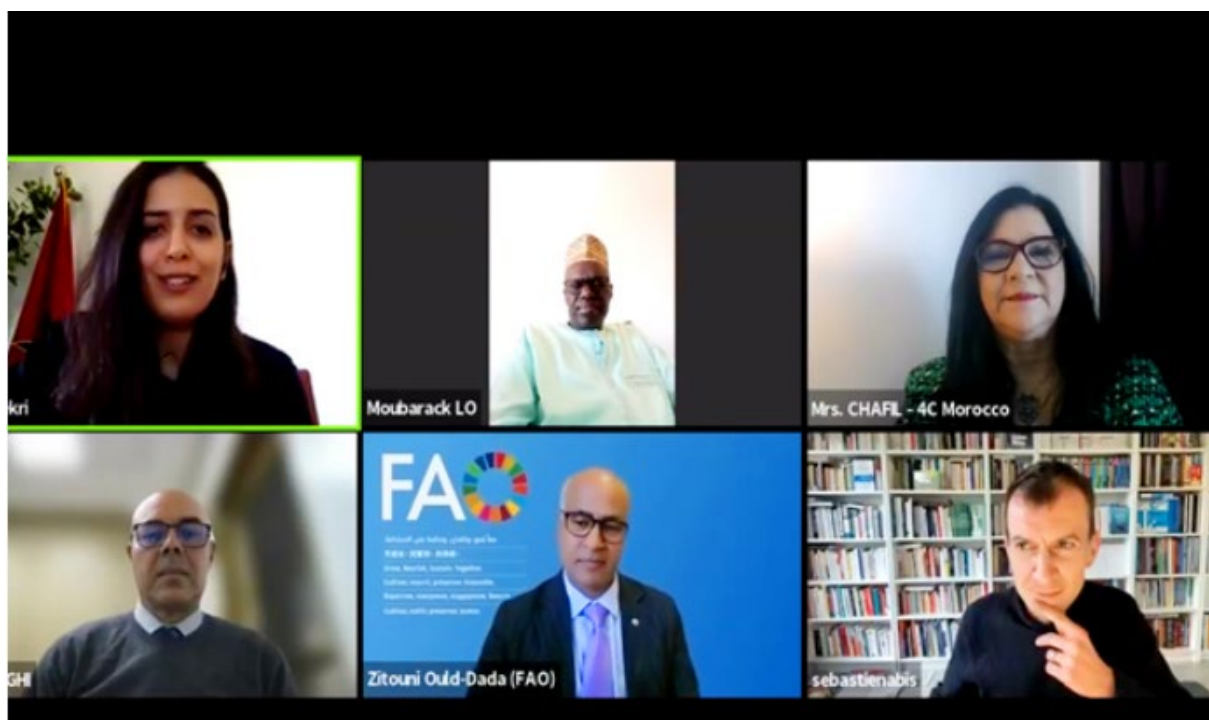


The conference, the work of which was launched by the respective Presidents of the two institutions, Pr. Mostapha BOUSMINA of Euromed University and Pr. Sheizaf RAFAELI of Shenkar College, was punctuated, on the first day, with multiple interventions by researchers and students from the 2 universities, moderated and led by Professors Salim BOUNOU (Euromed) and Yoram HALEVI (Shenkar).

The presentations highlighted the results of the work carried out by the different teams, in this case in advanced irrigation, optimal control, sensors for intelligent agriculture, bio-packaging using the properties of glycans, in addition innovative outputs in the fields of fertilizers, treatment and valorization of mining waste and wastewater.

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/ateliers-workshops/workshop-sur-lia-applie-lagriculture-et-la-securite-alimentaire>

### Round table: water, agriculture and food security, building a Nexus approach for the climate change narrative in Africa February 2, 2023



The Research Institute for European, Mediterranean, and African Studies (RIEMAS), Think-Tank of the Euromed University of Fez organized its first round table of the 1.5 Hours for Climate - Africa Moonshot Initiative, which focused on the theme "Water , Agriculture and Food Security: Building a Nexus Approach to the Climate Change Narrative in Africa".

1.5 hours for Climate - Africa Climate Moonshot Initiative, is a project supported by RIEMAS, 4C Morocco, Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association - EMEA, Mercure Cab Fatima B. NDOYE and Positive Agenda Advisory. These monthly thematic meetings aim to bring together high-level guests and regional experts around major issues related to climate action in order to contribute to the creation of a dynamic conducive to advocacy in favor of a climate agenda anchored in African realities ahead of COP28.

This round table was moderated by Professor Hafsa El Bekri, teacher at Euromed Business School and Co-Director of RIEMAS.

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/ateliers-workshops/table-ronde-eau-agriculture-et-securite-alimentaire-construire-une>

The surge of solidarity is organized at the Euromed University of Fez following the earthquake which struck our Kingdom on 09/08/2023



Following the recent earthquake which struck the Al Haouz region, our University mobilized to participate in the surge of national solidarity by implementing three concrete actions:

- The institutional and financial participation of the UEMF in the Special Fund for Managing the Impact of the Earthquake in Morocco (a donation of 1.6 million Dirhams);
- The provision of aid for students and staff from disaster areas.
- The contribution of 400 thousand dirhams in the form of new supplies sent by truck to the disaster areas and including beds, blankets and kitchen supplies

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/un-don-de-16-million-de-dirhams-verse-par-luniversite-euromed-de-fes>

## 2024: Euromed University of Fez at the heart of action for the SDGs

### Launch of the first Bootcamp of the Tech4Farmers program at the Euromed University of Fez



Taking place over three days, from June 10 to 12, this event marks an important milestone for AgriTech innovators supported by the French Development Agency (AFD) as part of the “Tamkin LiTanmia” project, in collaboration with the Regional AgriTech Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hub.

Participants include a selection of promising companies representing the future of AgriTech, such as DeepLeaf, Jafife, ARWA Solutions, Yadag, Jodoor, Lombrisol, Agrinotech, Agri-bOT, MadjiX, and EJ Solutions. Other startups are expected, promising to make this bootcamp even richer in innovation and potential synergies. Each company brings its unique expertise and vision to transform the agricultural sector and contribute to a sustainable future for the Fez-Meknes region.

The opening day was dedicated to welcoming participants, presenting the program and partners, followed by an introduction to Design Thinking and problem framing. Participants had the opportunity to interact with experts, discover development opportunities for their technological solutions, visited the University's prototyping infrastructure and worked on the proto-personas of AgriTech in Morocco.

The second day focused on the development of the full-life cycle of projects, rapid prototyping, and role-plays to interview users. Participants also explored the funding, expertise and networking opportunities offered by the program.

The third and final day focused on corporate partnerships, with feedback from AgriTech companies, and working groups to identify potential partners and synergies between startups. The bootcamp concluded with individual coaching sessions.

This program represents a unique opportunity for start-uppers to revolutionize the agricultural sector through innovative solutions, while contributing to the sustainable development of the Fez-Meknes region.

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/lancement-du-premier-bootcamp-du-programme-tech4farmers-luniversite>



## Strengthening collaborations for sustainable agriculture



Euromed University of Fez hosted a U.S. delegation as part of the LeadAR program, a University of Arkansas project focused on training leaders in agriculture and sustainable economics. The visit, led by industry professionals and researchers, was welcomed by Prof. Salim Bounou, Vice President for Research and Partnerships, and provided an opportunity to explore synergies for sustainable agricultural development in Morocco.

Through this meeting, UEMF reaffirms its commitment to innovative solutions for a greener and more responsible future.

[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/universit-euro-m-diterran-enne-de-f-s\\_sustainability-uemf-myuemf-activity-7248975557097402368-r0lb?utm\\_source=share&utm\\_medium=member\\_desktop](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/universit-euro-m-diterran-enne-de-f-s_sustainability-uemf-myuemf-activity-7248975557097402368-r0lb?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop)



## UEMF and AFD launch the “Tech4Farmers” program



Launch of the Tech4Farmers call for applications, a support program specially designed for project leaders in the sector of innovative technologies in the field of agriculture (AgriTech).

During a launch conference that brought together key players in the agricultural sector of the Fez-Meknes region this Thursday, March 7, at the Euromed University of Fez (UEMF), the University and the French Development Agency (AFD) officially launched the Tech4Farmers program, the objective of which is to support the development and marketing of AgriTech solutions that meet the needs of national agriculture and that of the Fez-Meknes region, in particular.

The Tech4Farmers program is part of an ambitious project to build a Regional Hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in agriculture and agri-food in the Fez-Meknes region. This project is led by UEMF, AFD in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests, the Digital Hub of Agriculture and a consortium of partners including government agencies, sector federations, universities and research centers.

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/luemf-et-lafd-lancent-le-programme-tech4farmers>

### Third steering committee meeting of the Regional Agritech Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hub



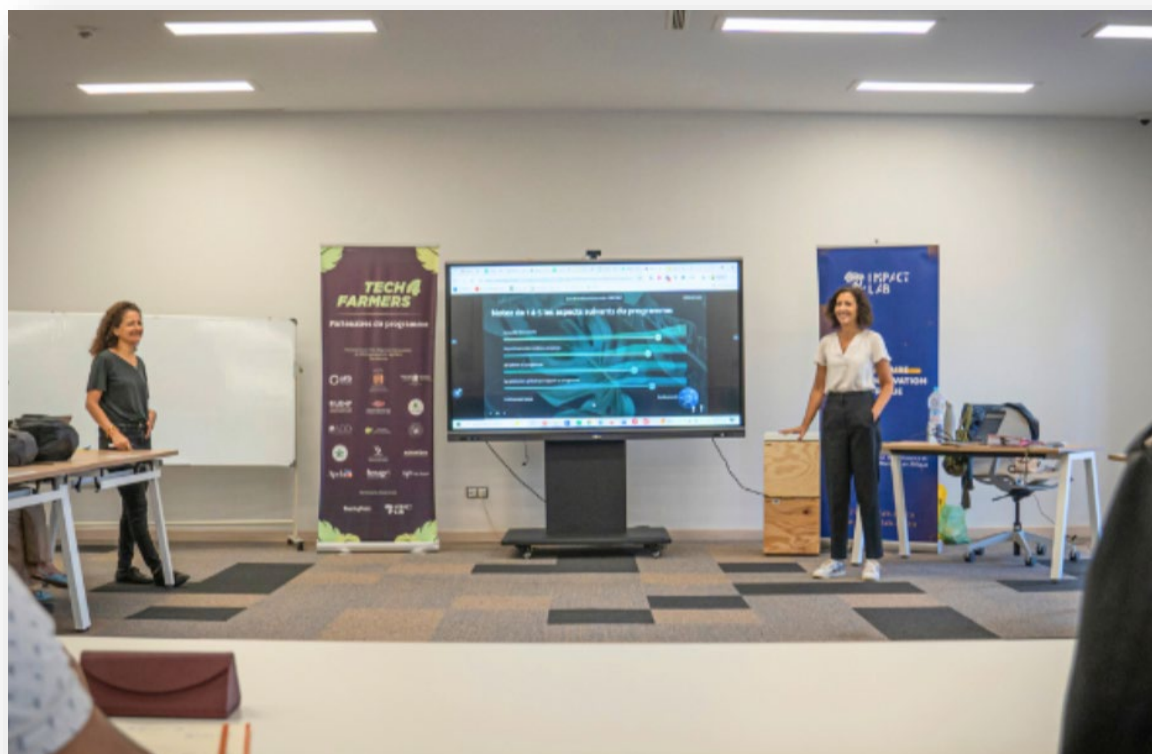
On February 21, 2024, the Euromed University of Fez hosted the third steering committee of the “Regional Hub for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Agritech” project, as part of the “Tamkin Li Tanmia” program, funded by the French Development Agency (AFD). This event brought together various partners, including the AFD, the Digital Hub for Agriculture, the IAV Institute and other regional stakeholders, to take stock of the progress of the Agritech project.

The meeting provided an opportunity to share perspectives on progress made and discuss next steps, followed by the signing of a partnership agreement. The support program for innovative projects was presented, and an inaugural conference of the call for projects is planned for March 7, 2024 at UEMF, focusing on agricultural issues in the Fez-Meknes region.

This event strengthened collaboration and innovation in the AgriTech sector, contributing to the creation of a strong ecosystem for agricultural entrepreneurship in Morocco.

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/tenue-du-troisieme-comite-de-pilotage-du-pole-regional-dinnovation-et>

## Resounding Success of the Second Tech4Farmers Bootcamp at UEMF



From September 24 to 26, the Euromed University of Fez hosted the second Bootcamp of the Tech4Farmers incubation program, aimed at Moroccan AgriTech start-ups. Organized in partnership with AFD and PRIIE, this event aimed to sustainably transform the agricultural sector through innovative solutions. For three days, entrepreneurs participated in feedback sessions, value creation workshops, masterclasses on social and environmental impact, and benefited from expertise to structure their business plans. This Bootcamp strengthened their role as actors in agricultural innovation and their commitment to an economic and sustainable future for Morocco.

<https://ueuromed.org/actualites/annonces-diverses/succes-retentissant-du-deuxieme-bootcamp-tech4farmers-luempf>