GENERAL INFORMATION

Surface
710,850 sq Km

Population (2020)
36.45 million
(63% urban and 37% rural)

Main cities
Casablanca, Rabat (Capital city), Marrakech, Fes, Oujda, Agadir, Tangier, Lâayoune, Meknes, El-Jadida, Safi.

Languages
Official: Arabic, Amazigh, French (business), Spanish, English

Weight & Measure units
Metric system

Time
GMT +1

Climate
Continental – Mediterranean

Tourism
2.8 million visitors in 2020
(vs 13 million in 2019)

CURRENCY

Moroccan Dirham (MAD)
1 USD = 8.90 MAD
1 Euro = 10.93 MAD
(Average rate for 2020)

INFRASTRUCTURE OF MOROCCO

Traffic 2020

Rail
Passengers: 21.1 million
Freight: 24.1 million tons

Air
Passengers: 7.15 million
(-71.5%)
Freight: 6.209 tons

Sea
Passengers: 1 million
(-80.4%)
Freight: 172.1 million tons
**KEY MINING INDICATORS (2020)**

**Production**

- **Mining products**: 39.50 million tons
- **Phosphates**: 37.44 million tons
- **Processed products**
  - Phosphate derivatives
    - $P_2O_5$: 7.10 million tons
  - Fertilizers
    - 11.20 million tons
  - Other processed products
    - 15,057.96 tons
- **Exports**: 55.40 billion DH
- **Turnover**: 66.5 billion DH
- **Investment**: 11.90 billion DH
- **Jobs**: 40,000
The Kingdom of Morocco is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy. The King is the head of the State. The Chief of government is appointed by the King. Legislative power is vested in a bicameral system with two chambers: The Assembly of Representatives elected for a 5 year term, and the Assembly of Councillors serving a 9 year term with one-third of its seats up for election every 3 years.

**POLITICAL REGIME**

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**GDP DISTRIBUTION**

- Primary Sector (Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing): 11.68%
- Secondary Sector (Manufacturing, Mining, Building, Public Works): 26.13%
- Tertiary Sector (Trade, Transport, Telecommunications, Other services): 40.48%
- Public Administration: 10.34%
- Taxes on net products subsidies: 11.36%

**GDP-2020**

1.0895 Trillion DH

-6.3% / 2019

Source: High Commission for planning - HCP

**FOREIGN TRADE 2020**

- Imports CIF: 422 Billion DH
- Exports FOB: 260 Billion DH

(Source: Office of Changes)
Morocco offers several interesting types of prospects:

Precious Metals
Polymetallic, including base metals
Iron
Uranium
Rare Earth Elements
A new mining law was adopted by the Parliament and published in the Official Bulletin N° 6384 on August 6, 2015. This law n° 33-13 repeals the Mining Regulations dated April 16, 1951. Its 122 articles come to give new impetus to the Moroccan mining industry.

The new provisions of the law are as follows:

- Extension of the scope to all mineral substances for industrial use, excluding construction and civil engineering materials;
- Introduction of the exploration authorization to operate in large areas (100 to 600 km²) granted for a period of two years, renewable only once for a period of one year, with the right to obtain priority research permit within the scope of the authorization;
- Research permit applies to a square perimeter 4 X 4 km (16 km²), granted for a period of 3 years, renewable only once for a period of 4 year;
- Mining license covering an area that cannot exceed the surface area of the research permit from which it derives, and cannot be less than 1 km².

Granted for a period of ten years, renewable for successive ten-year periods until reserves are depleted.

- Introduction of new measures for environmental management;
- Geothermal deposits are considered mines;
- Establishment of the operating license of dumps and tailings, planned for the enrichment and/or recovery of waste and residues of mines products;
- Extended coverage by the mining legislation to offshore areas. The activities related to extraction, collection and marketing of mineral and fossil specimens and meteorites are subject to the mining law;
- Introduction of provisions relating to natural or artificial cavities for underground storage of natural gas, liquid hydrocarbons, liquefied or gaseous, or chemicals for industrial use.

The Law was implemented on 23 May 2016 after the publication of the implementation decree.

**INCENTIVES**

- Exemption from import duty and the value added tax applicable for imported equipment for investment equal or greater than 200 million MAD.
- Reduced tax rate of 17.5% for:
  - Exporting mining companies;
  - Mining companies which sell their products to companies which export them after valorization.
- A State contribution to infrastructure requirements (including roads, water supply and electricity) within the limit of 5% of the value of the investment (for projects whose investment exceeds 200 million MAD).

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINING PERMITS BY OPERATOR 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATOR</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PERMITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ONHYM</td>
<td>978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mining companies</td>
<td>3,672</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,650</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ONHYM** 21%

**Mining Companies** 79%