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QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT



DAKIRA PROGRAM

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High Atlas Foundation (HAF)

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Pictured above: One of the walls surrounding the Jewish cemetery in Marrakech collapsed in the powerful earthquake that struck the area on September 8th, 2023. Photo: HAF. September 22, 2023.

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ACRONYMS

AJM	Association des Amis du Judaïsme Marocain
AMELP	Activity, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan
ASOR	American Society for Overseas Research
BMP	Branding and Marking Plan
CLA	Collaboration, Learning, and Adaptation
CoP	Chief of Party
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DCoP	Deputy Chief of Party
EMA	Essaouira-Mogador Association
FMA	Memories for the Future Association
HAF	High Atlas Foundation
HLGC	Hamilton Lugar Global Consultants
ISITT	Institut supérieur international de tourisme de Tanger
LOE	Level of Effort
MoC	Ministry of Culture
MoT	Ministry of Tourism
Non-REM	Persons who do not belong to religious or ethnic minority groups
REM	Persons who belong to religious and/or ethnic minority groups
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government

1. ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

1.1 ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Despite the Kingdom of Morocco's rich history of pluralism and diversity, like all countries, it has also faced challenges. Globalization has resulted in increased migration and the influence of intolerant narratives on communities that previously enjoyed amicable and collaborative relationships among religious and ethnic groups.

The USAID Dakira Program, implemented by the High Atlas Foundation and its partners, Fondation mémoires pour l'avenir (FMA), Mimouna Association, Essaouira Mogador Association, Sefrou Association for Multidisciplinary Arts (SAMA), Fondation Miftah Essaad, and the Catholic Diocese of Morocco, aims to collaboratively develop and pioneer a unique participatory approach to the educational preservation of Morocco's multicultural history. The program encourages local communities to capture, preserve, and transmit their collective memories so that they are better equipped to take ownership of the revitalization of their own histories. This introspective, experience-sharing approach among local participants maximizes relationship building, leading to collective actions that improve livelihoods and a deepened discovery of Morocco's multicultural identity.

The goal of the USAID Dakira Program is to explore and strengthen interreligious and inter-ethnic solidarity through community efforts that preserve cultural heritage in Morocco through two overarching objectives:

1. Enhance Religious and Cultural Preservation, Learning, and Social Cohesion
2. Support Initiatives that Promote Tolerance, Interfaith Dialogue, and Multiculturalism

The opportunity to rebuild the narrative of Morocco's multifaceted heritage is quickly passing for those who gathered and preserved the stories. To preserve Morocco's cultural heritage, Dakira engages a robust network of diverse local civil society organizations (CSOs) to support program implementation. Through these partnerships, Dakira catalyzes the diversified and coordinated engagement of civil society actors, community leaders, and local stakeholders to discuss, reflect, and learn about Morocco's religious and ethnic heritage. These partnerships enable the documentation and dissemination of practices, lived experiences, and testimonies shared by stakeholders, along with the restoration of tangible heritage.

The program develops an integrated and participatory approach focused on empowering communities through capacity building and experiential learning to promote multiculturalism, social cohesion, and diversity. This participatory approach is also the basis for creating shared plans of action for improving future livelihood opportunities within the targeted communities.

Program Theory of Change

If the memory of Muslims, Jews, and Christians living together is preserved, and if Dakira is able to bring people toward greater cultural understanding, then strengthened solidarity will emerge that will improve livelihoods and serve as a model for interfaith dialogue in Morocco and the region.

2. Context Update

During the third month of the reporting period, Morocco witnessed a tragic event - the most powerful earthquake in more than a century and its deadliest since 1960. Nearly 3,000 people lost their lives and many more injured after a 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck the center of the country on Friday, September 8, 2023. Tafeghaghte, a village at about 55 km from Marrakech, was leveled and lost two thirds of its population. Similar scenes were seen across all hard-hit provinces. Houses collapsed, families were torn apart, livelihoods were lost, and entire villages were wiped out in the blink of an eye.

Yet, amidst the devastating situation, an immense outpouring of national and international solidarity spread across all hard-hit areas. From providing basic needs to deploying search-and-rescue experts, Moroccans and the international community have mobilized en masse to help affected communities. Acts of solidarity transcended religious differences as members of various faiths took part in relief efforts, reiterating the strong sense of unity and togetherness that is deeply rooted in Moroccan shared values and principles.

The kingdom also suffered a different kind of loss with the destruction of some of its historic heritage sites. Several landmarks in Al-Haouz, Ouarzazate and Taroudant provinces suffered varying degrees of damage based on a post-earthquake heritage assessment conducted by the HAF-Dakira team. These include centuries-old REM sites which have been severely impacted by the tremor, such as the Mellah of Marrakech. Several of these sites are not only an integral part of Morocco's shared heritage, but they are also crucial to sustaining the livelihoods of communities who mainly depend upon the tourism industry. While addressing humanitarian needs remains a priority, the restoration and protection of cultural and heritage assets is of equal importance. The USAID-funded Dakira program remains steadfast in its commitment to tangible and intangible heritage rebuilding, hence preserving memory and restoring livelihoods.

2. PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION

2.1 IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Purpose 1: Enhance Religious and Cultural Preservation, Learning, and Social Cohesion

Sub-purpose 1.1 : REM Heritage Preservation Facilitation Capacity Development

Activity 1.1.1 Workshop series Training of Trainers for DAKIRA Subrecipients and NGOs Partners

During the quarter, the team continued to convene monthly coordination meetings with sub-grantees to ensure financial compliance. In the upcoming quarter, the HAF-Dakira team will conduct a programmatic, financial, and branding and marketing capacity building for each of the sub-recipients. Additionally, follow-ups have been conducted by the COP and an in-depth three-day in-person training is planned for next quarter with Essaouira Mogador (EMA).

1.1.2 Intergenerational Community Heritage Dialogues and Interviews: Mapping and Interviews

Collecting and Sharing a Living Memory: As part of the "Collecting and sharing a Living Memory" activity, the filmed interviews conducted by FMA were a crucial stage in the qualitative approach. This phase, which lasted seven months, from February to August 2023, was carefully planned and executed to ensure an exhaustive collection of the memory of Toumliline Benedictine Monastery. Semi-structured, open response interviews captured the different experiences and points of view of the interviewees. Interviews were conducted in a variety of locations, from the Toumliline Monastery to other sites such as Goulmima, Rabat, and even abroad via videoconferencing. This approach made it possible to gather a diverse range of testimonies, enriching the overall representation of the Monastery's history.

The analysis of the 16 interviews focused on the first contact with the monastery, access to the different parts of the site, first impressions of the monks, relations between residents and visitors with the monks, the socio-cultural services offered, international meetings, personalities who visited the monastery, proselytism, the closure of the monastery, and its reconversion into a cultural space. Translation of the book "Toumliline, A Moroccan Memory".

Translation of the Book "Toumliline, A Moroccan Memory": As part of the "Collecting and Sharing Living Memory" activity, FMA has launched the translation of the book "Toumliline, Une Mémoire Marocaine". The book, based on in-depth analysis of the interviews conducted, aims to encapsulate the essence of the history of the Toumliline Benedictine Monastery through the diverse testimonies of Azrou's inhabitants and participants in international gatherings.

A call for proposals for consultancy was launched on September 15, 2023 for the translation of the book from French into Arabic and English. One proposal was selected for the Arabic translation and the work is scheduled to take place during the months of October and November 2023. This time frame will ensure the quality and accuracy of the translation, while meeting the deadlines set out in the overall activity plan.

As for the English translation of the book, five translators were consulted, however, no bids were received for this initial consultation given the unavailability of the translators. A second call will be launched in October 2023.

Sub-purpose 1.2: Historical Heritage is Preserved and Restored

1.2.1 Preservation and digital archiving of REM Moroccan heritage.

Digital Archives & Repository: The HAF-Dakira team is supporting the preservation of the archives of the Diocese of Rabat through their digitization and making them available for public access. As of the reporting period, The number of digitized archives includes:

- 95,380 pages (sheets)
- 75,822 pages (records)
- 76,118 pages (Magazines) of which 49,408 pages were repatriated.

The diocese is in the process of including a tab in its website -<https://dioceserabat.org/fr/>- to make the archives accessible to the general public. The HAF-Dakira team will meet in October 2023 with

the Diocese to finalize the branding and marking of the web page to submit to USAID for approval, and explore future collaborations with the Diocese during the program's closing year.

Restoration and Digitization of Sacred Jewish Texts: During the quarter, several coordination meetings were held with the Jewish community of Marrakech so as to launch the restoration and digitization process of the Jewish archives of Marrakech.

The digitization was delayed due to the earthquake as the team was scheduled to operate in September. The genizah in the cemetery was organized with shelves, proper AC and humidity as well as a computer and scanner. The rooms were also secured as in the aftermath of the earthquake one of the surrounding walls collapsed.

The Mellah's Cloud: Digitalization of the Jewish Moroccan Documents: As part of the Dakira program, Mimouna Association is launching a digitization project that aims to preserve and make accessible the invaluable documents of the Jewish Moroccan communities in Fez and Kenitra, as well as the Museum of Jewish Heritage in Casablanca. This project represents a significant step towards safeguarding cultural heritage, ensuring that these communities' historical narratives are accessible to and valued for future generations.

To ensure the highest standards of digitization and preservation, the Mimouna-Dakira team underwent a comprehensive training at the National Library of Israel. The training encompassed various aspects of digitization, including Preservation and Conservation, Equipment and Technology, Metadata Management, and Copyright Regulations.

Finalization of the Digitization of the Moroccan Archives of Film Director Izza Génini: As part of the "Toumliline, A spiritual Convergence" activity, FMA has begun the digitization process of the Moroccan archives of film director Izza Génini. This initiative is part of the program's ongoing efforts to preserve and share Morocco's rich cultural and cinematographic heritage.

From 1986 onwards, Izza Génini devoted herself to making documentary films which explore the music, intangible culture and socio-cultural dimensions of Morocco, a personal and family approach that gave rise to the "Morocco Body and Soul" series. The first films in this series were captured on 16mm film, with sound recorded on magnetic tape, before their transfer to video format in 1994. Such cinematographic treasures, which attest to Morocco's multicultural and blended past, will be digitized as part of the Dakira program. This initiative saw the collaboration of renowned laboratories such as "Éclair Classics" and "Imagine Ritrovata" in Paris for image digitization, and "RENOV-VIDÉO" for sound digitization.

Additionally, FMA plans to create a specific fund at the Archives du Maroc, dedicated to the archives of Film Director Izza Génini to ensure their future availability to researchers, filmmakers and the general public. A ceremony to hand over the archives is planned for November 2023.

Launch of the Design and Development of the "Digital Guide" Mobile Application: In order to better promote the rich religious and historical heritage of the Fès Meknès region, FMA is launching a consultation for the design, development of the "Digital Guide" mobile application. This strategic initiative is part of the "Restoring the Memory of a Regional Spiritual Ecosystem" activity. In this context, FMA drafted a detailed terms of reference following an in-depth diagnosis of functional and operational requirements. The consultation was sent to 11 service providers. Following receipt of the bids, a technical and financial evaluation was carried out, resulting in the selection of LIFEMOZ as the chosen service provider. An initial requirements scoping meeting was held after the contract was signed, during which project expectations and specifications were defined in greater detail.

1.2.2 Creation of Educational Outreach Tools

Educational videos as a tool for the promotion of the Moroccan Jewish Culture:

Mimouna Association is creating 30 mins videos that simply and clearly illustrate the history of Jews in Morocco. The short-animated educational videos, which explore the many facets of Morocco's rich cultural heritage, serve as powerful educational tools that promote a deeper understanding of Morocco's pluralistic heritage. By presenting complex ideas in an accessible and engaging format, the videos have the potential to make important cultural knowledge accessible to a broader audience, thus nurturing a sense of appreciation and respect for the rich tapestry of Moroccan society.

Mimouna Association has released videos, covering a diverse range of topics, including Kosher Food Regulations, the history of Jewish Moroccan music and the symbolism of the Hilloula. These videos were created using insightful animated segments inspired from interviews with prominent Jewish Moroccans.

Additionally, a new series of videos will be launched to celebrate the cultural heritage of some Moroccan cities by addressing themes of diversity and coexistence.

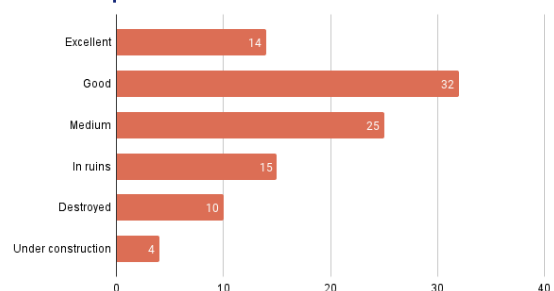
1.2.3 Preservation of REM Physical Heritage

Restoring the Synagogue of Gourrama: In partnership with the Association of Friends of Moroccan Judaism (AJM) and with the support of the Council of Jewish Communities of Morocco, the HAF-Dakira team is working on the restoration of the synagogue of Gourrama. This project includes the restoration of the historical building, the establishment of a small museum space retracing the history of the synagogue as well as that of the Jewish community of Gourrama through bequests from Jewish families currently living abroad, including testimonies, ancient objects, photographs and various documents. Additionally, a documentary project tracing the restoration process and the history of the Jewish community in Gourrama is also planned in collaboration with Sami Shalom Chétrit, filmmaker and native of Gourrama. During the reporting period, the construction plan was submitted for approval.

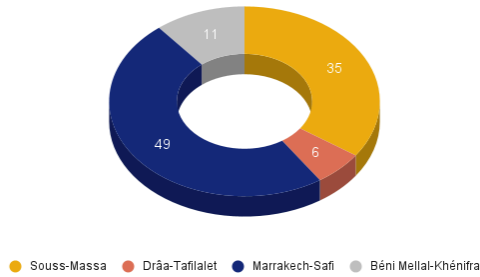
Mapping of REM Sites and Data Collection

The earthquake that struck five provinces in Morocco (al-Haouz, Ouarzazate, Azilal, Chichaoua and Taroudant) on September 8, 2023 caused major devastation to local cultural heritage sites, as many historical monuments either suffered cracks or were severely destroyed. The damage sustained by historic heritage sites is not only affecting the city's local memory, but it is also affecting the livelihood of the population who relies on Tourism.

Post-earthquake REM Sites Condition Assessment



Classification of Assessed REM Heritage Sites per Region



Following the earthquake, the HAF-Dakira team conducted an assessment of 101 REM heritage sites in four regions affected by the quake. Of the 101 assessed sites, 10 of them were found to be destroyed, while 15 were in ruins as shown in the graphs.

Among the affected sites is the Mellah of Marrakech, a UNESCO World Heritage site and an integral part of the Jewish Moroccan identity and heritage. Several buildings collapsed entirely, while other buildings and alleys were cordoned off due to the risk of collapse. On the

western part of the Jewish cemetery, a wall completely collapsed and some of the graves as well as the Genizah suffered some damages. The nearby Slat al-Azama Synagogue also suffered structural damage in the quake, with cracks on walls and ceilings. The other synagogues severely affected by the earthquake are the Slat Al Fassiyine and Slat Joseph Biton, which are both currently closed.



The destroyed wall of the Jewish Cemetery in Marrakech, which collapsed on several tombs. September 2023. Photo: HAF



View of damage in the historic Mellah of Marrakech, following a powerful earthquake in Morocco. September 2023. Photo: HAF

Dakira Collectors:

Mimouna's Dakira Collectors program is a large-scale initiative that intends to compile a collection of testimonies, record historical locations, and painstakingly map the Jewish neighborhoods across numerous Moroccan cities. Collection work in Tangier, Rabat, Salé, Marrakech, and Fez is reaching its final stages, marking a significant progress in the program's efforts to preserve and promote Moroccan Jewish heritage. Additionally, the team is currently actively gathering valuable data about Sefrou, with the aim of expanding the program's reach and fostering a deeper understanding of Morocco's diverse cultural heritage.

Restoring the Memory of a Regional Spiritual Ecosystem:

- ★ As part of the "Restoring the Memory of a Regional Spiritual Ecosystem" activity, FMA's consultant carried out various mediation missions during the quarter, in accordance with the action plan and communication strategy previously drawn up for the activity. The consultant established a fruitful collaboration with the provincial tourism delegate in Ifrane. This collaboration led to the integration of the Monastery into the local tourist circuit, as part of a project to promote mountain tourism. To this end, mediation initiatives have been deployed, including the provision of historical documents to enhance guided tours. This initiative aims to raise tourists' awareness of the monastery's history, adding a cultural dimension to their experience.

Several working sessions were also held between the FMA President, Ms Radi Lamia, the Dakira Project Manager, Mr Elallami Reda, and the Consultant, Mr Serghini Ahmed, to plan and coordinate future actions under Activity 4. The main objective was to accurately determine the specific rehabilitation needs for each historical site identified, as well as the optimal locations for installing explanatory totems in front of the historical and religious sites identified, and obtaining the necessary authorizations for their installation from the local authorities in the region.

- ★ Finalization and Submission of the Documentary Script: *Mekbouline, the Guests of Toumliline*: As part of the "Toumliline, A Spiritual Convergence" activity, FMA has officially submitted the script for the documentary "Mekbouline, les hôtes de Toumliline" (English: *Mekbouline, the Guests of Toumliline*) to HAF for approval. Directed by Izza Genini through her production company Ohra Production, the script reflects the profound essence of the Toumliline Monastery. The documentary's title, "Mekbouline, les hôtes de Toumliline", was specifically chosen to reflect the unique experience rooted in this special place. Beyond the narrative aspect, the documentary aspires to explore the unique spiritual convergence that developed between the Benedictine monks and the Moroccan community in Toumliline. During the period between the French Protectorate and Moroccan Independence, the Toumliline Monastery emerged as a place of inter-religious coexistence, an experience fully integrated into Moroccan daily life.
- ★ Draft Fact Sheets on historical and religious sites identified, as well as religious personalities: As part of the "Restoring the Memory of a Regional Spiritual Ecosystem" activity, FMA has completed the drafting of fact sheets on historical and religious sites, as well as bibliographic sheets on religious figures in the Fez/Meknes region.

A meticulous process was put in place, combining in-depth research to produce accurate content in line with the project's standards. These sheets will be integrated into the "Digital

Guide" application once approved, and as the application's development stages progress, offering users an educational and immersive experience.

Roof structure assessment and replacement of the Chapel's tiles at the Toumliline Benedictine Monastery: An inspection mission was carried out to rehabilitate the roof of the chapel at the Toumliline Benedictine Monastery. The mission also included the replacement of degraded tiles by a local craftsman, carefully selected for his skill and experience in roofing work specific to the Ifrane and Azrou region. A thorough assessment of the roof's condition was carried out, identifying areas where the tiles were damaged and required immediate replacement. In addition, the timber frame was carefully examined to ensure its structural soundness and ability to support the new roof. This operation was carried out as part of the rehabilitation of spiritual and religious sites integrated into the hiking trail planned by the FMA as part of the Dakira program.

Purpose 2: Support Initiatives that Promote Tolerance, Interfaith Dialogue, and Multiculturalism

Sub-purpose 2.1: Community development planning actions are inclusive of REM.

2.1.1 Capacity Building Workshop Trainings for CSOs, Tourism, ISITT Students, Tour Guides

Hebrew Classes for Tour Guides, Hotel Staff, and Students: Building upon the successful implementation of Hebrew classes as part of the USAID-funded Dakira program, Mimouna is extending its educational reach to a broader audience by establishing the Ulpan. This initiative offers accessible and structured Hebrew language courses, creating an inclusive environment for individuals eager to learn.

Mimouna Association's Hebrew Ulpan is designed to be an immersive and interactive learning experience. It not only imparts language skills but also fosters a deeper understanding of the Jewish culture, history, and heritage. Through this program, participants will have the opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue, connect with Hebrew-speaking communities, and build bridges of understanding.

Master's Degree in Jewish Moroccan Tourism: Mimouna Association and the Higher International Institute of Tourism of Tangier launched their master's program in October 2021. The first cohort of this program has made significant strides in their academic journey. One of the standout achievements of this inaugural cohort is the recommendation of several students to accompany Israeli, American, and Canadian groups as part of their cultural and heritage tours in Morocco. These recommendations have been made based on the students' exceptional academic performance, deep knowledge of Moroccan Jewish heritage, and ability to effectively communicate this rich history to diverse audiences. The students have dedicated extensive time and effort to conducting meticulous research, gathering valuable information about Moroccan Jewish communities, and crafting innovative itineraries that celebrate the rich cultural heritage of these communities. Students of the second cohort will resume their studies in October. This marks the next phase of their educational journey, where they will engage in advanced courses that deepen their expertise and further align them with the program's objectives.

2.1.2 Creation and enhancement activities dedicated to youth on multiculturalism, interfaith harmony, and overall social cohesion

Lions of the Mellah: In partnership with Kulna association, the DAKIRA program is supporting the implementation of a cultural program that will engage youth from the Mellah to share Morocco's multicultural and interreligious history. Games, trainings and competitions will be organized for the neighborhood. Volunteers in charge of facilitating the activity arrived in Morocco just a few days before the earthquake that shook Morocco. The Mellah of Marrakech, where the activities were planned, was heavily impacted by the quake and due to safety conditions the program's implementation will be postponed.

Sub-purpose. 2.2: Community awareness about REM is increased

2.2.1 Multilingual multimedia and outreach campaigns to promote shared Moroccan, Jewish, Christian, and intercultural stories of Morocco

The HAF-Dakira team is developing a strategic communications plan which will help further promote the project's goals and objectives as various planned initiatives are implemented, including several communication activities, engagement tools, and strategic content to help communicate results achieved.

Communications Strategy for the "Toumliline, A Spiritual Convergence" Activity: As part of the "Toumliline, A Spiritual Convergence" activity, FMA has proceeded with the implementation of the communications strategy developed during the previous quarter. This is reflected in the detailed social media content plan, mainly on Facebook and Instagram, for the period from October 2023 to June 2024.

The creation of a dedicated page on Instagram is an essential component of this strategy, capitalizing on the visual reach of this platform. FMA plans to diversify the content shared to amplify the influence of the program's online presence.

2.2.2 Outreach & Awareness Events

During the reporting period, the implementing team supported and carried out several activities and events to increase the program's visibility.

Les Journées Mondiales de la Jeunesse (JMJ): In celebration of the International Youth Week, and in partnership with the Diocese of Tangier, the DAKIRA program supported the organization of a 6-day event (1-6 August 2023) during which 94 Christian youth, aged 18-30, from across Morocco gathered to celebrate unity and interfaith .

The International Youth Week is an event that was celebrated for the first time by Pope Jean-Paul II in 1987, and ever since, it has become a yearly experience that takes place in different countries. This year, Portugal was chosen as the host country, however considering that many Christian Catholic youth in Morocco were not able to travel, the Diocese of Tangier decided to hold a celebration of the event in Tangier. Supporting the organization of this event embodies the values of solidarity and living together, especially that such an occasion



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reflects the diversified religious structures in Morocco and the interfaith harmony that characterizes the country.

“Celebrating the JMJ in Morocco is a great joy for us, because we've realized that we can practice our Christian faith in Morocco (a Muslim country) without any concerns. We have felt supported by many Moroccans in terms of financial, logistical, material and technical assistance. May God bless you always. Organizing the JMJ in Tangier has also enabled young people [Christians] to appreciate Morocco even more. In fact, they want us to organize the next edition here in Morocco, God willing. They were positively marked by the different types of assistance we've received from Moroccans: logistical, financial and administrative,” said François, one of the organizers.

The activities varied from lectures, experience-sharing sessions, roundtable discussions to sports, theater, poetry and many more. With the participation of over 26 nationalities, mostly from sub-Saharan Africa residing in Morocco, the activities reflected different methods of promoting and reviving personal and social values such as: tolerance, togetherness and interreligious coexistence.

Spiritual Tangier Exhibition: The "Spiritual Tangier" exhibition, launched by Mimouna Association in partnership with la Fondation Mémoires pour l'Avenir, as part of the DAKIRA program, stands as a vibrant testament to the rich tapestry of this cosmopolitan city. This captivating showcase illuminates the diverse and multifaceted population of Tangier, revealing the profound interplay of cultures and faiths that have shaped its identity throughout history. The exhibition offers viewers a captivating glimpse into the sacred spaces that embody the spiritual essence of Tangier.

Synagogues and churches, each with their unique architectural and artistic motifs, were captured and reflected the harmonious coexistence and shared spiritual journeys of diverse communities that call Tangier home. The exhibition weaves together these visual narratives, inviting visitors to appreciate not only the city's physical beauty but also the spiritual harmony that thrives within its boundaries. Muslim sites will soon join the exhibition, adding depth and diversity to the narrative. This extension not only underscores Tangier's multicultural character but also reinforces the message of coexistence and mutual respect among various faiths that have thrived within its boundaries. "Spiritual Tangier" is not just an exhibition; it is a living testament to the shared spiritual connections that transcend religious lines.

Community meeting at the Mellah of Rabat: Mimouna Association recently organized a remarkable and enriching activity that brought together the youth of the Mellah of Rabat and a group of Jewish Moroccan students from Canada. This unique gathering was a day filled with insightful discussions and cultural exchanges that transcended borders and generations. The participants delved into the profound symbolism of the Mellah, exploring its historical and cultural significance as a shared space where diverse communities have coexisted for centuries. This discussion not only deepened their understanding of the Mellah but also fostered a sense of unity and appreciation for their shared heritage.

One of the central themes of the day revolved around Jewish-Muslim dialogue, a subject of paramount importance in today's global context. The youth engaged in open and constructive conversations, sharing their perspectives, experiences, and aspirations. These dialogues served as a testament to the power of intercultural understanding and the potential for building bridges of tolerance and respect. In addition to these meaningful discussions, the participants brainstormed innovative ways to create exchanges between Moroccan Muslims in Morocco and Moroccan Jews in Canada. They recognized the importance of maintaining strong connections between the diaspora

and their ancestral homeland. The exchange ideas ranged from cultural exchange programs and educational initiatives to collaborative projects that celebrate their shared heritage.

External Networking Opportunities and Events

- A meeting with Mr. Adam Nicholas Phillips: Mimouna Association had a meeting with Adam Nicholas Phillips, a distinguished leader in the fields of democracy, inclusion, and interfaith action. Mr. Phillips, formerly the executive director of The Local, Faith, and Transformative Partnerships Hub, played a significant role in strengthening USAID's efforts in these domains. The visit was an opportunity to showcase the initiatives which are currently being implemented in Tangier as part of the DAKIRA program. These include the mapping of the city's religious sites, the collection of memories from diverse ethnic and religious groups, and the establishment of a resilient interfaith bridge aimed at fostering unity and understanding among the various communities.

2.2 IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

The main challenges during the quarter were related to safety conditions as a result of the earthquake that struck central Morocco, specifically in Marrakech where several activities were planned. This situation led to postponement of certain activities and modification of implementation approaches. The HAF-DAKIRA team is coordinating with respective partners to mitigate the impact of the earthquake and ensure the smooth implementation of the activities.

2.3 AMELP UPDATES

Following the earthquake, an adjusted proposal was submitted to allocate some of the DAKIRA program funds to the post earthquake relief efforts in Morocco, which are being led by the Moroccan government. The proposal outlines the main needs and challenges faced by the affected population, the objectives and activities of the relief operation, the expected outcomes and impact, and the budget and timeline of the project.

The project aims to provide immediate and long-term assistance to the earthquake survivors, focusing on the following sectors: water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and terrasses as well as reconstruction of landmark areas in Mellah together with the Jewish Community of Marrakech.

The project will target the most vulnerable groups in the Atlas Mountains and the Mellah, such as women, children, elderly, disabled, and displaced people, and will adopt a participatory and inclusive approach that respects the dignity, rights, and culture of the beneficiaries.

Four main indicators will be added to the AMELP table to be able to properly assess the recovery efforts, including:

- Number of earthquake affected populations supported by USG funding
- Number of terrasses rebuilt
- Number of irrigation systems operationalized
- Number of tangible heritage sites rebuilding supported by USG funding

2.4 COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

During the reporting period, the team continued to strengthen existing collaborations and forge new partnerships, which include the following:

- Association du Judaïsme Marocain (AJM): HAF-Dakira will collaborate with AJM on the rehabilitation of the synagogue of Gourama in the Draa-Tafilalet region pending the approval of the construction plan by USAID. This synagogue is significant as it is still a very important pilgrimage location for the Jewish Moroccan diaspora.
- Council of the Jewish Communities in Morocco: The collaboration will focus on rehabilitating the synagogue in Gourama. Other areas of collaboration include the renovation of a Synagogue in El-Jadida.
- Jewish Community of Tangiers: HAF-Dakira will collaborate with the Jewish Community of Tangiers in identifying endangered sites as well as organizing a research center together with l'AJM.
- Kulna: HAF-Dakira will collaborate with Kulna, a Moroccan Israeli NGO that is based in Marrakech and dedicated to the safeguarding of Jewish Moroccan Heritage and the promotion of Moroccan Cultural identity, especially within the Jewish Moroccan Diaspora. HAF-Dakira will collaborate with them especially on the Museum space of Al Azama to gather artifacts from the Jewish Community of Marrakech that is now established in Israel.
- Ministry of Justice: HAF-Dakira is partnering with the Moroccan Ministry of Justice to digitize the archives of the Jewish Community of Marrakech.
- The Regional Council of Tourism of Marrakech and Tafilalet: HAF-Dakira is partnering with the local authorities of the Tafilalet region to support the socio-economic impact from the renovation of the Synagogue of Gourama. This partnership will ensure the sustainability of the renovation in terms of maintenance, but also employment and tourism.

3. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

3.1 KEY PERSONNEL CHANGES

No significant changes to report.

4. LESSONS LEARNED

The main lesson learned was surrounding the earthquake aftermath. The heritage sites are very fragile especially in the Marrakech region. We are still awaiting visibility from local authorities to go

ahead with support. We are working with our partners especially in the Jewish Community to ensure that there is a plan to renovate and finalized the assessment of the urgent sites.

5. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER

Reconnecting with the Jewish Moroccan Diaspora in South America

With the biggest numbers in Brazil, Argentina, and Venezuela, Moroccan Jews can be found in almost all of South America's countries, as well as in Panama and Cuba. The number of Moroccan Jews residing in South America is not officially recorded, but a representative of the Jewish Moroccan community of Mexico claimed that there were 15,000 in Mexico of them, over 10000 in Brazil, 6,000 in Venezuela, 1,500 in Argentina, 600 in Colombia, 400 in Panama, 300 in Peru, and 100 in Cuba.

The dispersed Jewish Moroccan communities of Latin America will come together at the Latin Moroccan Jewish Conference, which will be the first and biggest gathering of its kind in Morocco. The conference will present a possibility for the Jewish Moroccan community in central and South America to get together, discuss their cultural heritage and their significant efforts in combating Anti-Semitism, and nurture dialogue with Moroccans from other faiths.

HAF's planned activities for next quarter are the following:

- Heritage Hunt: Developed by the HAF-Dakira team, the activity will take the participants on a journey into the city's pluralistic past, while providing insights into key attributes of some of the city's historic landmarks.
- Heritage and Creative Writing Workshop: Participants will get to explore historic sites in Marrakech in an engaging way through a heritage hunt activity prior to undergoing the creative writing training. Once familiarized with the sites, participants will engage in a collaborative discussion about creative writing techniques and their effects on readers. By the end of the workshop, they will draft and contribute original pieces of writing that reflect the city's long history of interfaith harmony through merging historical facts about selected heritage sites, oral testimonies and lived experiences.
- The volunteers program: Together with Kulna HAF will support a programme of 12 volunteers from Israel of Moroccan descent. These volunteers main missions will be the preservation and inscription of ancient tombstones in the old Jewish cemetery of Marrakesh, digitization project of ancient manuscripts in the community, preservation and upgrading of the Jewish museum in the community, leading Jewish cultural events and events for the existing Jewish community and interfaith events in the Jewish quarter with the local Muslim residents in collaboration with the ancient synagogue, learning Hebrew Judaism for young people in the community and responding to help in community emergencies.

Essaouira Mogador's planned activities for next quarter:

- "Tech for Tolerance:" It is essential to leverage technology for positive social change and to create a community, like the "Club of Tolerance," to support and amplify these efforts. The Tech for Tolerance project aims to provide access to information, breaking down barriers, and fostering dialogue. The project will encourage students to create digital content and

initiatives that promote tolerance, inclusivity, and respect. Additionally, Facilitate connections between tolerance clubs, promoting knowledge sharing and joint initiatives.

- Documentary about the Gnaoua Sabatien and the revival of the Jewish spirit with the only two women who have preserved this heritage. Documentaries can be a powerful medium to preserve and share cultural heritage. It's essential to conduct in-depth research, interviews, and gather visual materials to tell this story effectively.
- Empowering craftswomen and preserving traditional Jewish Moroccan crafts: A project that aims to teach women of the Mellah how to make Kesoua Lkbira "traditional Jewish Moroccan dress" to preserve cultural heritage and empower the women in the Jewish quarter. The project will include workshops and training sessions with experienced craftsmen/craftswomen who can pass down this traditional knowledge.

Media Campaigns: The HAF-Dakira team plans to solidify the program's communication strategy to increase its visibility, as the program moves into its third year. Media campaigns showcasing Morocco's interfaith and interethnic heritage will target both youth and general audiences through various media channels.

Outreach and Awareness Events: A variety of on and offline events will provide the opportunity to celebrate special milestones and honor local target communities, share the outcomes of the Dakira program, and create an environment for productive and reflective discourse that encourages increased understanding and cooperation.

6. OTHER SECTIONS

6.1 Humanitarian Emergency and Post-Disaster Recovery

HAF's Morocco Earthquake Emergency Response with the Jewish Community: Immediately following the earthquake, thousands of families were in dire need of food, water, and shelter. Within the first ten days, the High Atlas Foundation procured, transported, and distributed to 69 villages in 48 municipalities, directly supplying 3,872 families with 108 tons of urgently needed supplies. Members of the Moroccan Jewish community, with the support of the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), as well as the American Jewish Committee ("AJC") joined HAF's relief efforts to provide food and NFIs to the households in rural communities most affected by the earthquake.

Following the earthquake, an adjusted proposal was submitted to allocate some of the DAKIRA program funds to the post-earthquake relief efforts in Morocco. Short-term recovery projects include the provision of Water and sanitation facilities to affected population in the Mellah of Marrakech and High Atlas Mountains. Long-term rebuilding and recovery projects include rebuilding initiatives in the Mellah, with an estimated duration of 6-10 months as the program is in its closing year.

7. ANNEXES

- Annex 1: Performance Monitoring Progress (Below)
- Annex 2: Post-earthquake Heritage Assessment Photos (Attached)
- Annex 3: Financial Report (Attached)

Annex 1: Performance Monitoring Progress

Program Hypothesis						
If the memory of Muslims, Jews, and Christians living together is preserved, and if people are brought toward greater cultural understanding, then a strengthened solidarity will emerge that will improve social cohesion and serve as a model for interfaith and multicultural dialogue in Morocco and the region.						
<i>Overall Goal: To explore and strengthen inter-religious and inter-ethnic solidarity through community efforts that preserve cultural heritage in Morocco</i>						
<i>Purpose 1: Enhance Religious and Cultural Preservation, Learning, and Social Cohesion</i>						
Sub-purpose 1.1 : REM Heritage Preservation Facilitation Capacity Development						
Output	Activity	Outcomes	Indicator(s)	Evaluation Timing	FY23, Q4	Notes
1.1.1 Workshop series Training of Trainers for DAKIRA subrecipients and NGOS partners	- 10 trainings (programmatic and financial) are provided to subrecipient organizations and civil society organizations participating to DAKIRA	Organizations are better equipped to implement the program more sustainably.	1.1.1 # of trainings and capacity building activities conducted	Quarterly	-	-
1.1.2 Intergeneration	- 225 community ethnographic dialogue	Moroccan people, Moroccan	1.1.2 # testimonies collected	Quarterly	16	16 interviews

<p>al Community Heritage Dialogues and Interviews: mapping, interview</p>	<p>workshops held over 3 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 500 individual follow up testimony - 2,250 participants of ethnographic dialogue 	<p>diaspora, and migrant communities are empowered and able to share individual and collective histories and visions</p>				
<p>Sub-purpose 1.2: Historical Heritage is Preserved and Restored</p>						
<p>1.2.1 Preservation and digital archiving of REM Moroccan heritage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 90 non-peer-reviewed articles produced, translated, and sent for publishing - 50 written pieces published on external website and accessible to the public - 6 peer-reviewed essays published - At least 2 REM community archives preserved - 1 online repository created 	<p>Research on REM historical heritage is supported and promoted to national and international audience</p>	<p>1.2.1.1 # types of documents preserved</p> <p>1.2.1.2 # number of archives digitized</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 2 REM groups have their archives digitized - 2 books translated 				2	<p>Christian Community (Diocese of Rabat)</p> <p>Jewish Community of Marrakech (Genizah)</p>
1.2.2 Creation of Educational Outreach Tools	<p>-180 CSO and staff-created capsules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2+ curricula incorporated adaptive and improved methods for community and youth programming, entailing: - 50 teachers/ educators trained 	<p>Educational tools and methods are available for trained educators to facilitate activities</p>	<p>1.2.2.1: Number of students and youth benefiting from the educational tools</p> <p>1.2.2.2 # Educational modules created</p>	Quarterly		
1.2.3 Preservation of REM physical heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 1 REM physical site preserved -At least 25 testimonies collected, filmed, and stored. - 1 community space created -1 Documentary on Toumliline produced: filming, editing, and production. 	<p>Interfaith tolerance through community dialogue is promoted</p> <p>Communities in the region benefit from the restoration</p> <p>Sites symbolic of REM and interfaith collaboration</p>	<p>1.2.3.1 # types of testimonies collected</p> <p>1.2.3.2 # REM tangible heritage sites preserved</p> <p>1.2.3.3 # heritage sites mapped</p>	Quarterly	<p>16 Testimonies</p> <p>1 Documentary Script</p> <p>101 Sites mapped</p>	<p>16 testimonies about Toumliline</p> <p>1 Documentary Script submitted: "Mekbouline, les hôtes de Toumliline"</p>

		are indicated for learning among younger community members as well as visitors and are incorporated into local programs and tours				
Purpose 2: Support Initiatives that Promote Tolerance, Interfaith Dialogue, and Multiculturalism						
Sub-purpose 2.1: Community development planning actions are inclusive of REM.						
Output	Activities	Outcomes	Indicators	Evaluation Timing	FY23, Q4	Notes

<p>2.1.1 Capacity Building Workshop Trainings for CSOs, tourism, ISITT students, tour guides</p>	<p>- 8 collaborative social entrepreneurship heritage projects developed - 120 masters students trained in minority faith heritage - 90 tour guides certified in minority faith heritage in 2 at least 2 different regions</p>	<p>2.1.1 CSOs are trained and able to operate projects on REM heritage 2.1.2 Tour guides CSO and student are more knowledgeable about minority faith heritage</p>	<p>2.1.1.1 # of students and CSOs that develop collective historical preservation project 2.1.1.2 # of REM certified tour guides and students that have an enhanced knowledge</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>
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<p>2.1.2 Creation and enhancement activities dedicated to youth on multiculturalism , interfaith harmony, and overall social cohesion.</p>	<p>5 youth club clubs created</p> <p>50 schoolteachers’ and administrators’ community activists capacity built in curricula and facilitation</p> <p>1000 students of all ages, gender and culture participate in clubs</p> <p>20 local field trips to REM cultural sites</p>	<p>School-aged youth are actively engaged in learning and understand the importance of the preservation of their local histories, particularly as it relates to REM, multiculturalism, and interfaith harmony.</p>	<p>2.1.2.1 # of initiatives that ensure that the voices of REM groups are represented in their communities</p>		<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>
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Sub-purpose. 2.2: Community awareness about REM is increased						
2.2.1 Multilingual multimedia and outreach campaigns to promote shared Moroccan, Jewish, Christian, and intercultural stories of Morocco	<p>10 videos capsules highlighting one specific REM representation in Morocco</p> <p>At least 5 social media campaigns that reach across platforms (i.e., Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn, and Twitter)</p> <p>At least 100 radio, TV, and newspaper appearances</p>	<p>At least 500,000 unique users access audiovisual educational programming that is made widely available and accessible for all people, including people living in remote and rural areas of Morocco, those who are unable to read or write, especially women</p>	2.2.1.1 # of online viewers of the multimedia campaign	Quarterly	-	-

2.2.2 Outreach & Awareness Events	<p>5 Community milestones events</p> <p>At least 3 artistic residencies where Moroccans of # REM create and explore identity and artistic expression</p> <p>3 annual conferences</p>	<p>2.3.1 At 3 regions REM heritage is celebrated</p> <p>2.3.2 Local communities are actively engaged in the learning and preservation of their local histories, particularly as it relates to REM, multiculturalism, and interfaith harmony.</p> <p>2.3.3 Members of different faith groups interact and collaborate over common interests</p>	2.2.2.1 # of initiatives that promote tolerance and dialogue between religious and ethnic groups	Quarterly	2	-International Youth Week (JMJ) - Community Meeting in the Mellah of Rabat
			2.2.2.2 # of initiatives that ensure that the voices of REM groups are represented in their communities		1	-Spiritual Tangier Exhibition
			2.2.2.3# of public, civil, and cooperative support and partnerships that help maintain sustainability		-	-