



PRESENTATION

2019

# "Payment for Ecosystem Services ensuring sustainable conservation financing: the case of the Sebou Water Fund"



**SEBOU WATER FUND**  
INVEST IN NATURE

# International Partners



Donor



# National Partners



المملكة المغربية  
ROYAUME DU MAROC



وزارة الفلاحة والصيد البحري والتنمية القروية والمياه والغابات  
Ministère de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche Maritime, du Développement Rural et des Eau et Forêts

المملكة المغربية



وزارة الفلاحة والصيد البحري والتنمية القروية والمياه والغابات  
قضاء المياه والغابات

المملكة المغربية  
Royaume du Maroc



Ministère de l'intérieur



# Sebou Water Fund Mission

The **Sebou Water Fund** is a sustainable financing mechanism, based on payment for Ecosystem Services, which allows the conservation of water resources, the restoration of biodiversity and the preservation of the socio-economic and cultural activities that depend on it.

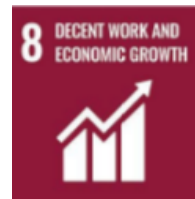
Depending on the interest of the donors, funds will be allocated to either :

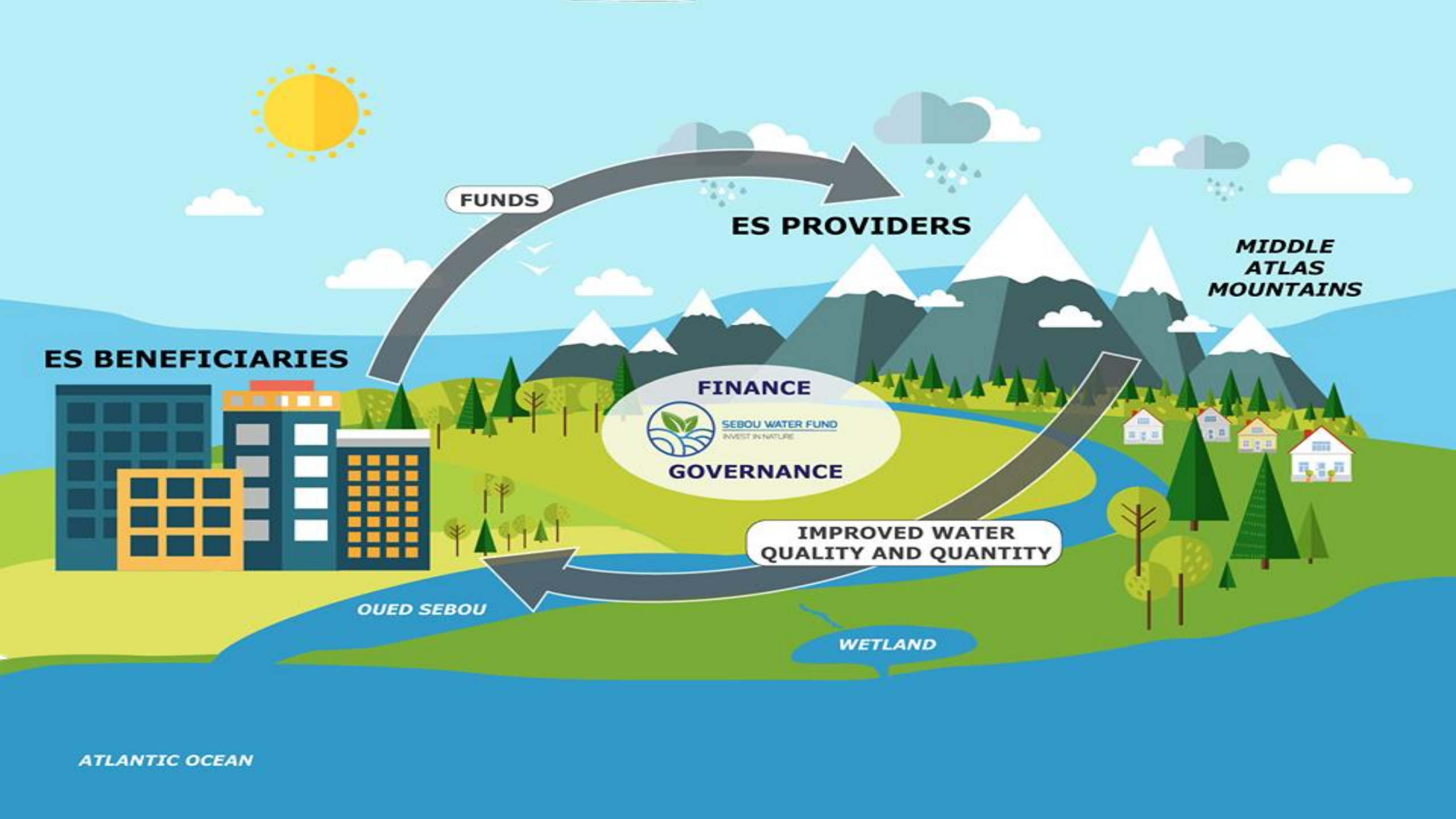
Water &  
Wetlands

Agriculture and  
Socio-economic  
development

Biodiversity

Education and  
cultural  
heritage





**ES BENEFICIARIES**



**FUNDS**

**ES PROVIDERS**

**MIDDLE ATLAS MOUNTAINS**

**FINANCE**  
**GOVERNANCE**

**SEBOU WATER FUND**  
INVEST IN NATURE

**IMPROVED WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY**

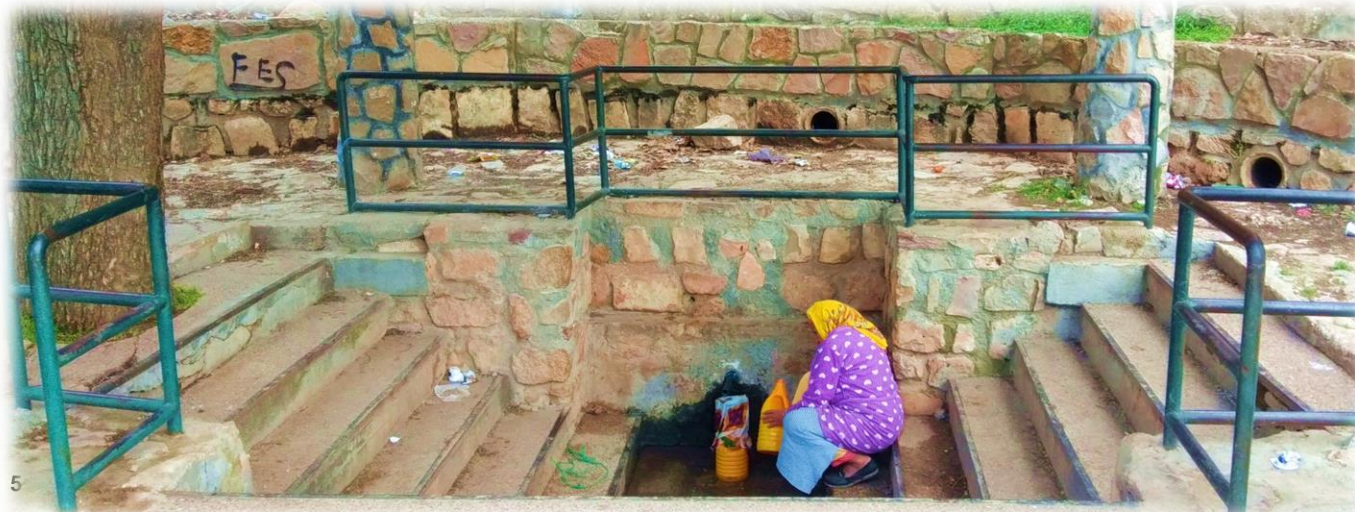
**OUED SEBOU**

**WETLAND**

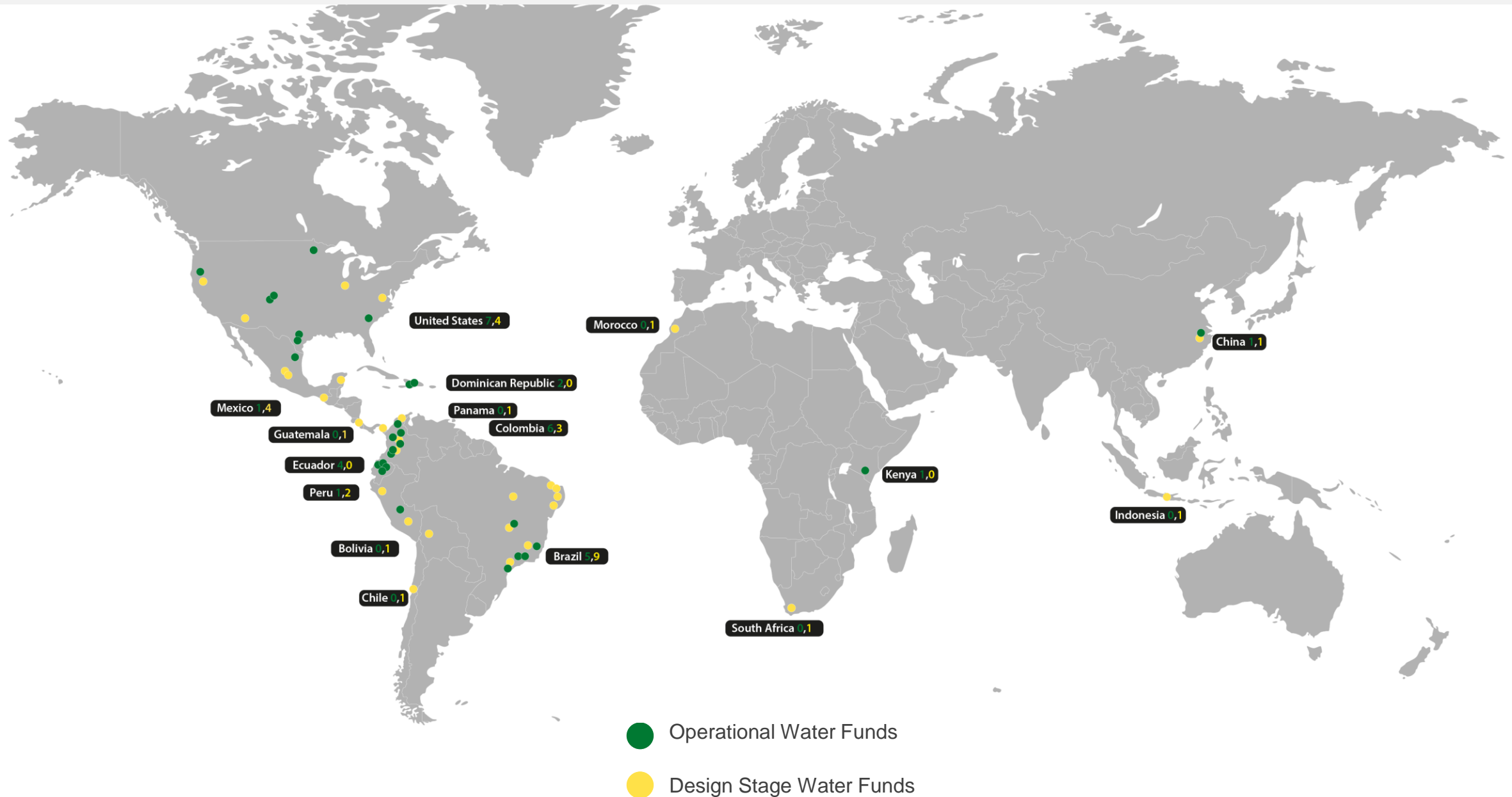
**ATLANTIC OCEAN**

# SWF contributes to our conservation goals by

- Developing a shared and feasible vision of **Water Security**;
- Providing scientific evidence to improve knowledge around **water security**;
- Convening regional and national stakeholders to generate **political will** and enable meaningful and positive impact on scale through **collective action**;
- Positively influencing **water-related governance** and **decision making**;
- Encouraging and driving implementation of **natural infrastructure** and other innovative projects at the basin level.



# Water Funds around the world







# PROJECT ZONE



# Situational Analysis

## Biodiversity

- 39 wetlands
- 6 Ramsar sites
- 2 national parks
- 17 Sites of Biological and Ecological Interest
- 1.200.000 ha of forest (oaks, cedars and matorrals)

## Population

- 6.2 million beneficiaries

## Surface

- 40,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- 6% of Moroccan Surface

## Water Infrastructure

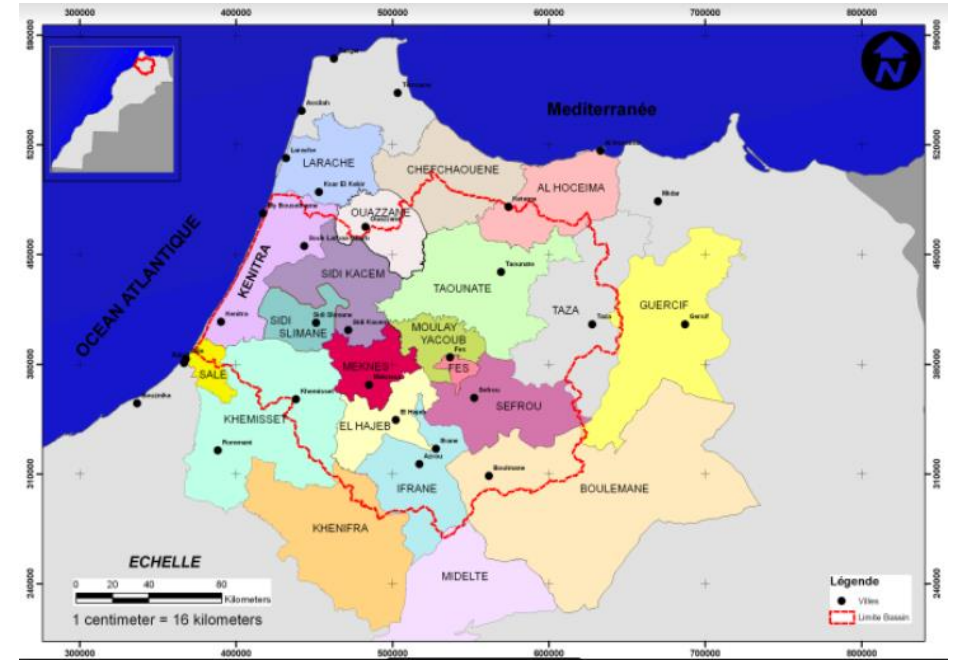
- 10 Dams built in the basin

## Water

- 30% Surface resources
- 20% ground resources of Morocco

## Primary Sectors of Activity

- **Industry:** Oil, sugar, cement, tanneries, textile, paper.
- **Agriculture:** 21,4% of the country's irrigated land potential. Cereal dominance, Fruit plants, legumes, Industrial crops, beet and sugar cane.





# Main Threats

**The Sebou River basin is confronted with a decline in water reserves and a high risk of pollution. The main threats identified are :**

- Overexploitation of groundwater resources for agricultural use
- Pollution of the water resources by solid waste and industrial activities.
- Excessive harvesting of resources, particularly with regard to hunting, poaching of birds and their eggs etc.
- Overexploitation of forests around lakes and overgrazing.

**In the long term, this situation will lead to a decrease in water supplies of good quality and will have an irreversible effect on the environment and biodiversity.**





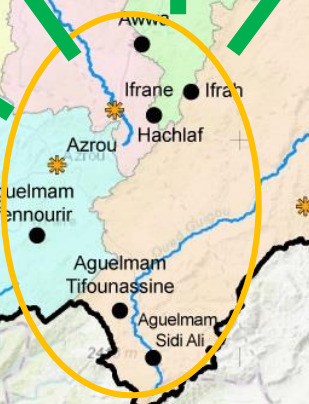
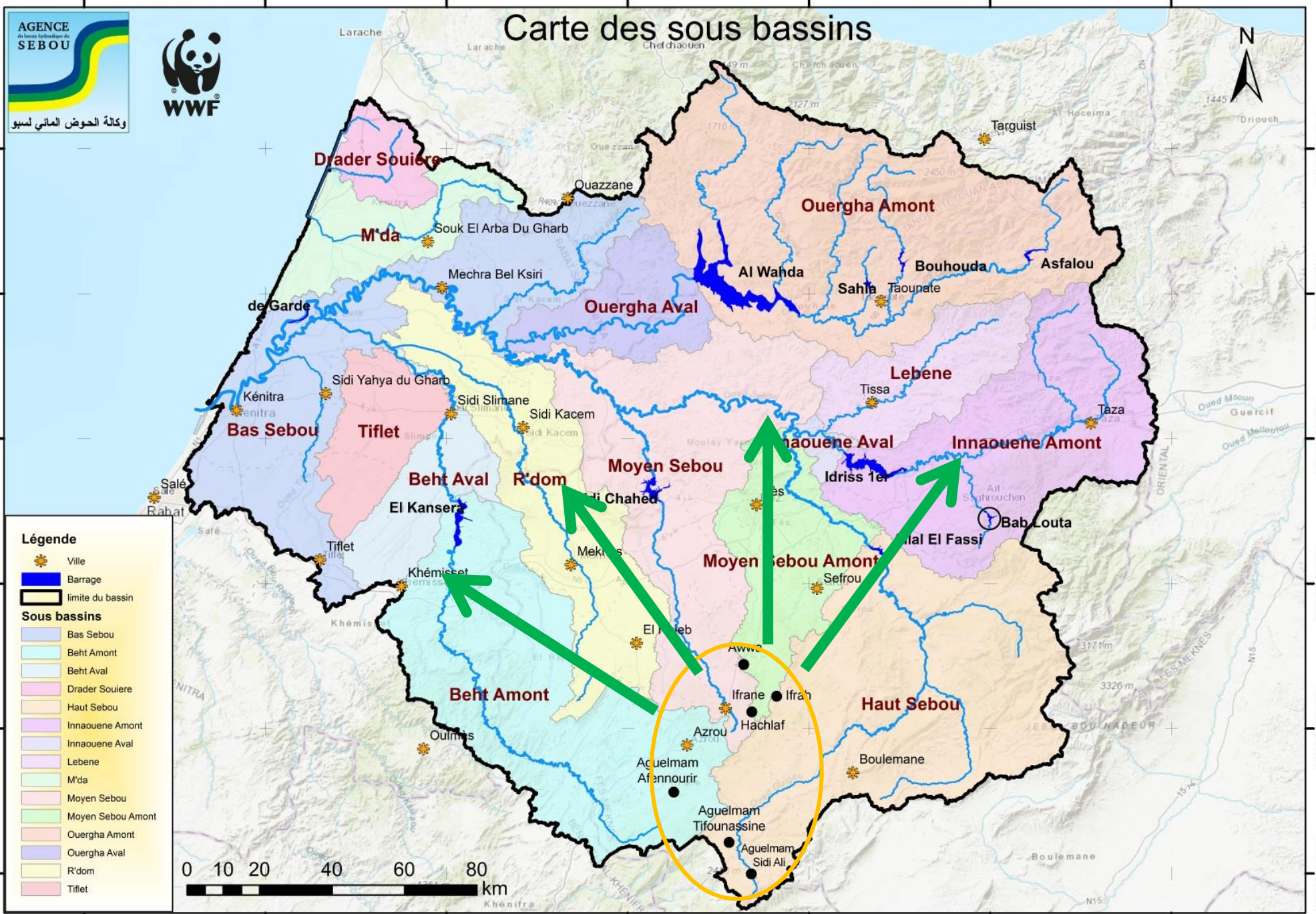
# Carte des sous bassins



480000  
440000  
400000  
360000  
320000  
280000

480000  
440000  
400000  
360000  
320000  
280000

- Légende**
- ☀ Ville
  - ▬ Barrage
  - ▭ limite du bassin
- Sous bassins**
- Bas Sebou
  - Beht Amont
  - Beht Aval
  - Drader Souiere
  - Haut Sebou
  - Innaouene Amont
  - Innaouene Aval
  - Lebene
  - M'da
  - Moyen Sebou
  - Moyen Sebou Amont
  - Ouergha Amont
  - Ouergha Aval
  - R'dom
  - Tiflet





**2015**

**2019**



**AWWA LAKE**

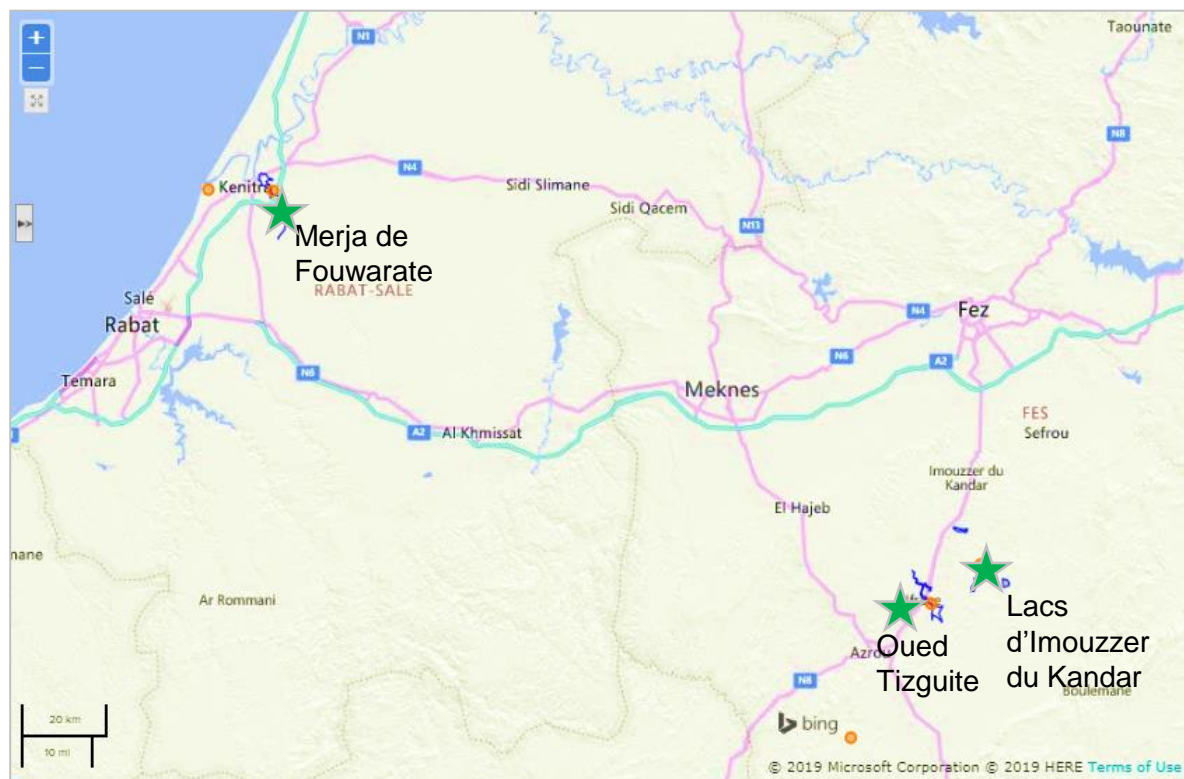




**WE WORK FOR  
CONSERVATION**



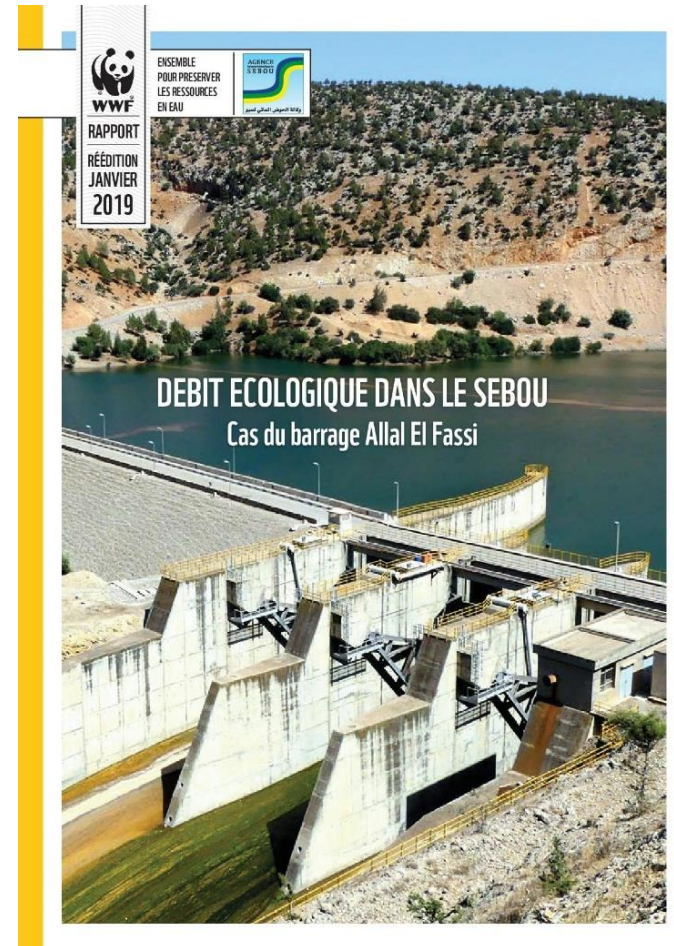
# Designation of 3 Ramsar sites in the Sebou Basin



# Science-based solutions

**For a better understanding of the context of the Sebou Basin, WWF carried out the following studies:**

- Climate Change
- Hydrological Analysis
- Biodiversity
- Sustainable practices of water and land use
- Agricultural situation
- Socio-economics and trends
- Environmental Flow feasibility





# Nature-based Solutions

- Water Conservation Practices: Rainwater harvesting/runoff, mobilization of conventional waters, Water storage...
- Soil Conservation Practices: Landscaping techniques, agricultural tillage, Soil fertility management...
- Sustainable farming methods and agricultural practices.
- Wetland and Watercourse protection and restoration.
- Sustainable management of natural resources: Reforestation, eliminate invasive plant species, maintain and rehabilitate riverbanks, promote rustic and endemic varieties...

**Climate Change Adaptation**



# WE FINANCE SUTAINABLE PROJECTS



# Official launch of the Sebou Water Fund



# 1st Phase of the small grants targeting local NGOs

The projects selected are intended to demonstrate how protection and restoration of natural ecosystems and resources help secure water supply and mitigate climate change effects.

## **4 pillars:**

- Water and Soil Conservation Practices.
- Sustainable agriculture.
- Wetlands Protection and restoration.
- Sustainable management of natural resources.





**WE PROMOTE INCLUSIVE  
GOVERNANCE**



# Sebou Water Fund Steering Committee





# Composition and mission of the Steering Committee

## Representatives of :

The Water Department, ABHS, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Water and Forest Department, the Ministry of Interior and WWF.

## The main missions of the Steering committee are to:

- Ensure SWF Governance
- Provide technical support when needed
- Select the projects that will be funded
- Facilitate authorizations and legal procedures



**WE BUILD CAPACITY**



# Exchange Visit to Upper-Tana Nairobi Water Fund





# Workshop in Tunisia on negotiations around Wetlands



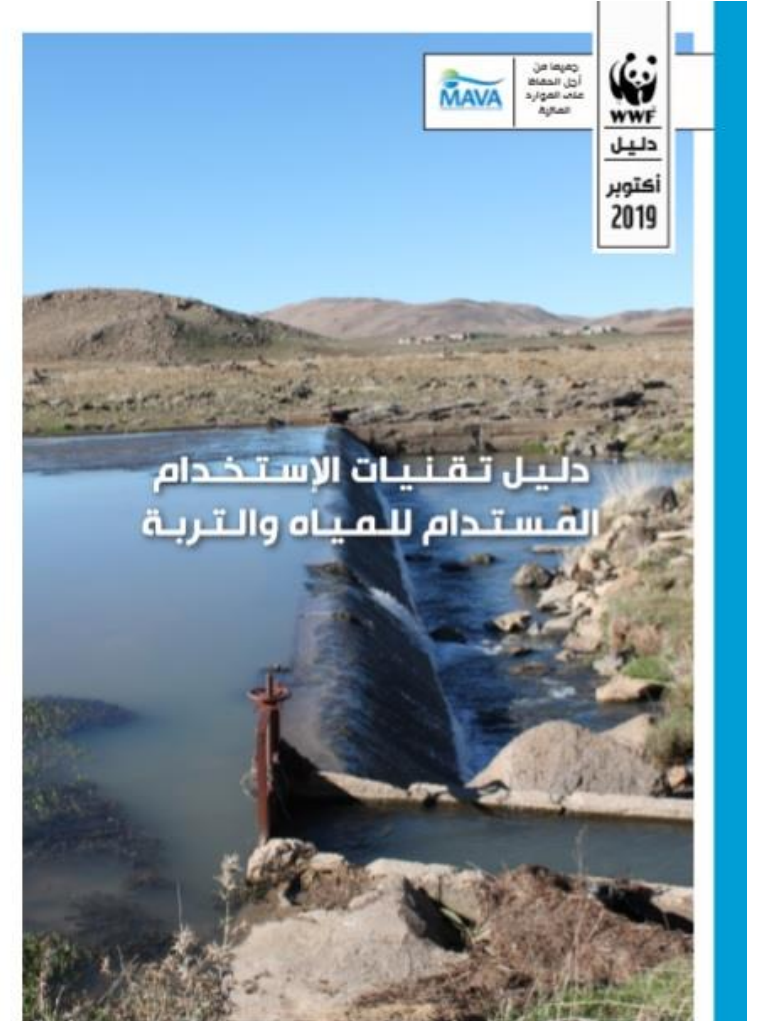


# Workshop in Fez on Climate Change Adaptation in the Sebou Basin





# Workshop in Azrou on sustainable practices of water and land use







**WE HAVE THE AMBITION TO  
REPLICATE THE SWF AT NATIONAL AND  
REGIONAL LEVEL**





# RECOMMENDATIONS



# Recommendations

- **Assess the Biodiversity degradation** by conducting a national diagnosis and launching a public call for contribution to compile all existent studies carried out by public institutions, scientists and universities.
- **Register biodiversity as a water user** and take into consideration its needs at the same level of those of agriculture, energy, industry and tourism.
- Protect and preserve the integrity of Moroccan rivers and their habitats by **embedding Environmental Flow in by-law** (Art 36-15).

# Recommendations

- Organize a **National concertation around water governance** bringing together water managers, water users, NGOs and scientists.
- Mandate one **independent public institution**, financially autonomous, that guaranties the interests of biodiversity, wetlands and Habitats and regulates the use of water among water users.





## **SEBOU WATER FUND**

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