

 Early Warning System

WB-P511426

Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage (PHS) Project



Quick Facts

Countries	Morocco
Specific Location	Chefchaouen (northern Morocco)
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2026-07-01
Borrower	Office National de l'Electricite et de l'Eau potable (ONEE)
Sectors	Energy, Hydropower
Investment Type(s)	Grant, Loan
Loan Amount (USD)	\$ 220.00 million
Grant Amount (USD)	\$ 280.00 million
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 550.00 million



Project Description

According to the Bank's website, the Project Development Objective is to enhance resilience of the Moroccan power system and enable increased integration of renewable energy generation.

The proposed Project will provide ancillary services to enhance the transmission system flexibility and enable higher integration of new wind and solar generation and will therefore enhance Morocco's energy security through more reliance on domestic energy resources. The proposed Project will finance the preparation, construction, and commissioning of the Ifahsa PHS plant with an expected capacity of 300 MW. The project is located 14 km from Chefchaouen in northern Morocco, near the Laou valley and south of Tetouan, the Ifahsa PHS plant will feature two reversible pump-turbine units of 150 MW each, operating with a maximum flow of 44 m³/s in turbine mode and 37 m³/s in pumping mode. During off-peak hours, the plant will use dispatched renewable electricity from the grid to pump water from the lower to the upper reservoir. During peak hours, it will generate electricity to meet the peak demand in the Morocco's grid system, by conveying the stored water from the upper to the lower reservoir through hydraulic turbines. the PHS plant will be connected by 400 kV transmission to the national grid.



Early Warning System Project Analysis

The environmental risk rating is considered **high** due to the proposed Project's location within the buffer zone of Talassemtane National Park (legally protected area), the construction of two storage infrastructures of around 800,000 m³ each, with facings reaching a height of 20 meters, which can be classified as "large dams." The construction also includes a 65 km power transmission line, part of which will cross the national park. The proposed Project involves generating and handling significant volumes of excavated material during the construction phase, using explosives for clearing work, and encountering two water sources along the pipeline route that connects the two basins. Additionally, the project's potential to disrupt local ecosystems and the need for appropriate mitigation measures and stringent environmental management practices further contribute to its high-risk rating. Social Safeguards (**Substantial**). The potential social risks include potential land acquisition, livelihood disruptions, and labor-related issues. Preliminary E&S assessment also indicates that the site involves collective, private, and state owned lands essential for local grazing.



Investment Description

- World Bank (WB)

Total Project Cost: US\$ 500.00 million

IBRD Commitment: US\$ 220.00 million

Grant Amount: US\$ 280.00 million



Contact Information

World Bank

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

Office National de l'Électricité et de l'Eau potable (ONEE)

Implementing Agencies

Office National de l'Électricité et de l'Eau potable (ONEE)

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-to-information/request-submission>

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org. Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: <https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint>



Bank Documents

- [Appraisal Project Information Document \(PID\)](#)
- [Concept Project Information Document \(PID\)](#)
- [Morocco - Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage Project](#)
- [Official Documents- Disbursement and Financial Information Letter for GFPP Grant TF0C8876.pdf](#)
- [Official Documents- Letter Agreement for GFPP Grant TF0C8876.pdf](#)
- [Record of Approval on an Absence of Objection Basis on July 1, 2026](#)
- [Revised Biodiversity Management Plan \(BMP\) Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Environmental and Social Management Plan \(ESMP\) Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Hazardous/non-Hazardous Waste Management Plan Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Labor Management Procedures Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Resettlement Framework Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Road Safety Management Plan Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)
- [Revised Stakeholder Engagement Plan \(SEP\) Morocco Ifahsa Pumped Hydropower Storage \(PHS\) Project \(P511426\)](#)

Media

- [World Bank Group and Morocco Partner to Unlock the Power of Next-Generation Hydropower](#)