

PROJECT N°A-002 : APPLE FARMING PROJECT

SECTOR : AGRICULTURE SUB-SECTOR : TREE PRODUCTION

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Establishment of a modern apple farm using advanced techniques to ensure high yields and quality, targeting both the local market and export opportunities.

KEY INDICATORS & HIGHLIGHTS

National : Morocco is the 2nd largest apple producer in North Africa; 15% growth in cultivated area over 5 years. International : Global apple demand reached 83.1 million tons in 2022, growing at 3% annually.

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PROJECT PREREQUISITES

- Infrastructure : Land equipped with modern irrigation systems, packing units, and cold storage.
- **Technology :** Hybrid varieties, modern pruning techniques, mechanized agricultural operations.
- **Compliance :** Adherence to international phytosanitary standards for export.

MARKET GROWTH & SIZE

National : Increasing demand due to improved dietary habits, with a 7.2% annual consumption growth.

International : Expanded opportunities in Europe and Africa through standardized production and strong trade partnerships.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

Climate-suitable varieties; Strategic location.

Opportunities :

Export potential; Processed product diversification. Climate dependence; High initial equipment

costs.

Threats :

International competition; Price volatility.

MAIN INPUTS

Raw materials : Hybrid apple varieties, suitable fertilizers, efficient irrigation systems.Equipment : Seeding, harvesting, and fruit

packaging machines.

Workforce : Skilled farmers and technicians.



MARKET POTENTIAL

National : Increased local demand for quality apples, with a preference for local products.
International: Strong demand in European, African, and Middle Eastern markets, particularly for varieties suited to long-term storage and transport.

Estimated investment (excluding land) : 4.2 MAD million

Potential revenue : 2.7 MAD million

EBIT: 1 MAD million

ROI: 8-10 years

Desired land area: 21 ha

PESTEL ANALYSIS

Economic

The Green Morocco Plan and the Generation Green Strategy 2020-2030 support agriculture with subsidies and tax incentives.

Technological

Development of new disease-resistant apple varieties Advances in drip irrigation Digitization of agriculture with the use of sensors

Sociocultural

Apple consumption is increasing, particularly due to a growing awareness of the fruit's nutritional benefits.

Environmental

Opportunity to adopt organic and sustainable agricultural practices, attractive to export markets

Morocco : Apples - Production, area



THE REGION'S OFFER

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GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION & CONNECTIVITY

HUMAN CAPITAL & INCENTIVES

Proximity to Europe, **starting with a 1-hour flight** from Fez, thanks to the Fez-Saïs International Airport **(currently being expanded to accommodate 5 million** passengers per year).

Road and highway network : +20% of the national network (linked to the main ports (including Nador West Med : 2.5 hours and Kenitra : 2 hours). Rail network : +200 km connecting the region's four train stations to the Kingdom's major cities.



Morocco's leading university : 6 universities with over 230,000 students trained per year

266 vocational training establishments : Annual capacity of 75,000 places / 236 specialties and professions + **Specialized engineering schools :** 10,700 engineers in training

INCENTIVE DEVICES

National Investment Charter :

- Main device : For projects worth at least MAD 50 million and creating 50 jobs (min) or 150 jobs. Common, territorial, and sectoral bonuses can be combined up to 30%.
- Specific support program dedicated to very small, small, and medium-sized enterprises (coming soon)
- Agricultural Development Fund

Regional Incentives :

- Regional Investment Land Subsidy Fund (coming soon second quarter of 2025).
- Regional Fund to Support Investment Projects and Promote Employment (coming soon).
- Competitive land prices available for rental or sale