Dear Grant Seeker,

Thank you for your interest in pursuing an international project. We wish you success! Please read these directions carefully and complete the attached application form in its entirety.

**We offer technical assistance for grant seekers**. If you would like us to review your proposal before final submission and give feedback, please follow instructions below.

Finally, check our weekly club bulletin for important International Service Committee news.

**Are you eligible to apply for a grant?**

* Applicants must have contributed to the UDRC Service Fund and The Rotary Foundation in the fiscal year (July 1-June 30) before they receive their funds. (For example, an applicant must have contributed in FY 2022-2023 for a project in FY 2023-2024.)
* Also, a Club member’s current project/s must meet reporting requirements before new project applications by the club member will be considered. (see below for reporting requirements)

**Submitting your application:**

* **For 2023-2024 year applications,** submit your completed, typed application electronicallyto the ISC Chairon or before **May 1, 2023.**
* If you would like technical assistance, please submit your application **by April 15, 2023.**
* Preliminary decisions on awards will be made in June 2023 and final decisions when the budget is announced after June 30, 2023.
* Incomplete or late submissions will be considered only if funds are available after applications that met the requirements have been considered. Incomplete applications must be completed

**Required financial information:**

* The ISC Itemized Budget Form – This lists the items and/or services that will be funded by the project. Be sure to include $50 for International Wire Transfer. Include as appendices **pro forma invoices** and/or price quotes from vendors, or estimates from service providers, if possible.
* The ISC Project Funding Form – This provides the confirmed and projected sources of funding and the amount each one will provide.
* These forms must be included within the application, not submitted as separate attachments.

**Optional additions:**

* Extended project description (up to 1 page)
* Additional information on the need/problem
* Background information on trusted partner(s) involved in project: experience, references, etc.
* All additions must be added as appendices on the application, not as separate attachments.

**Proposal evaluation criteria**

* Projects must involve a credible partner Rotary club from the project country, except in countries where Rotary does not exist; in the latter case the international partner may be an NGO/non-profit organization with a reliable history.
* A financial commitment from the international Rotary partner should be included in the proposal. The ISC is aware that Rotary clubs around the world have varying levels of financial strength and these contributions may be small. Still, a financial commitment from the partner club is critical.
* Priority will be given to **sustainable** projects that **benefit large groups** and have a high potential for **local empowerment, capacity**-**building, and community impact,** without displacing local capacity. Ideally, projects will be proposed by non-U.S. clubs to meet local needs and adopted by us, rather than our club members identifying projects and then searching for a foreign Rotary club to take part. Definition of sustainability from Rotary International: “sustainability means providing long-term solutions to community problems that community members themselves can support after the grant funding ends.”
* Projects should attempt to **leverage club funds,** when possible, by involving other collaborators and funding sources.
* Projects should provide opportunities for **participation of Club** **members** (e.g., sponsoring, traveling, donating or taking items or funding for a project, or helping with a presentation).
* **Priority will be given** to projects presented by University Rotary Club members over projects presented by other clubs.

**Project completion and reporting requirements:**

* **Projects are expected to be completed within one year after funds are received**, except for Global Grant projects or exceptions discussed with the ISC when applying**.** If delays or special circumstances occur the applicant must inform the ISC.
* A final report to the ISC chair(s) and the Service Fund Board is required after the project is completed. The report must include:
  + An accounting of grant funds spent, and
  + Photos documenting project achievements.
* Project sponsors may also be asked to make a short presentation to the club and/or write a newsletter article on the outcomes of their project.

**Club approval and disbursement of funds**

* Grants will only be made upon approvals by: (1) ISC Committee, (2) Club President, and (3) the UDRC Service Fund. No grant funds are to be spent or committed before these approvals.
* After being approved by the ISC, project sponsors must submit a Request for Funds (RFF) form to the UDRC treasurer along with the approved project proposal before funds are dispersed.

**Other funding for a project**

* Projects approved for funding by the ISC may accept additional donations from Rotarians or other individuals or organizations that wish to support the project. The ISC Chair will announce projects accepting donations at Rotary meetings.
* Projects that propose to pass additional donations through the UDRC Service Fund (from other Rotary Clubs, non-profits, individuals, etc.), will be considered, as long as they meet all the criteria specified above and there is some UDRC participation in the project (for example, a co-sponsor). A UDRC Rotarian must also be responsible for meeting the reporting requirements.

**For questions or assistance with District or Global Grants,** please see guidance at [www.5030grants.com](http://www.5030grants.com/). Contacts:District Grants**-**Larry Logue, ltilarry@gmail.comHYPERLINK "mailto:ltilarry@gmail.com%20/%20cell", 206-726-9813 or Global Grants-Kathleen Davis, daviskathleenk@gmail.com, 206-850-4725.

**All sections 1 through 12 must be filled out.**

1. **PROJECT NAME & COUNTRY**: **Ouezzane “Fig & Carob” Rehabilitation, Morocco**
2. **NEED/PROBLEM**: *What community* ***need or problem*** *will be addressed through this project? (Provide a* ***brief description*** *here and attach up to 1 page of additional information if necessary.)*

**Land degradation is a problem around the globe. In the Rif mountains of Morocco, a 2022 peer-reviewed study observed that lands in this region are first cultivated for farm crops and then 2/3rds of the lands are abandoned. The soil is stripped of nutrients.[[1]](#footnote-1) The site that is the focus of this project has been deserted since 1980! The forces of climate change also degrade the land. Forest fires have turned the land fallow, polluted ecosystems, and left the land in a state of nutrient deficiency. Land is one problem, poverty is another.**

**Smallholder farmers in rural, mountainous regions are among the most impoverished people on the planet. The women in these regions of Morocco have an illiteracy rate upwards of 80% and a majority are subsistence farmers. According to the World Bank, overall poverty is decreasing in Morocco but improvement is mainly in the urban areas.[[2]](#footnote-2) The villagers need an infusion of education and coordination to take them to the next level where crops are pooled among farming co-ops, taken to market, profits are distributed and re-invested. The High Atlas Foundation provides precisely such an infusion.**

**The High Atlas Foundation (HAF), partnering with local associations, cooperatives, and the Department of Water and Forests (DREF), seeks to create a sustainable nursery of native fig and carob trees in the Zefroune municipality of the Ouezzane province, whose biodiversity is threatened by deforestation and land degradation. The beneficiaries of this project will receive saplings that eventually will provide enough for the farmers to go beyond subsistence yields and be able to make profits that start the process of emerging out of poverty. HAF targets women who have proven to be able to learn organic, sustainable methods whether they are literate or not.**

**This Rotary proposal seeks funding for 1/5th of the overall project. However, costs for the well, water system, and green houses are provided in the case the club would like to expand support for the project.**

1. **Project Information:**
2. *What is the* ***purpose*** *of this project?*

**The High Atlas Foundation is developing a four-hectare nursery that will produce 200,000 trees annually and will impact 1,500 new farming families and their cooperatives each year in Northern Morocco. Approximately 120,000 of the trees will be planted on 600 hectares of public domain land as part of a project to reforest and rehabilitate the wetland ecosystem of Oued Loukkos River with DREF. There is also a plan to establish an arboretum with DREF; this includes planting 10 native varieties of fig trees for research, education, and leisure. This proposal, the “Fig and Carob” proposal provides more development at this location.**

1. ***How*** *will it meet the needs of the community?*

**The most recent data available from the World Bank specifically indicates that the GINI Index has specifically increased in the Rabat-Sale-Kenitra region of Morocco, an area covered by this project,** **jumping an incredible 39.9 to 44.2 between 2001 and 2014.[[3]](#footnote-3) The GINI Index is an index of Inequality, ranging from 0 to 1.00. A 0 would be a theoretical ‘if every person owned an equal amount of resources. A 1.00 would be ‘as if one person owned everything.’ For some examples, Slovakia is the lowest at .25. The Netherlands is .295.[[4]](#footnote-4) A score between .3 and .4 is deemed “adequate.” Scores over .4 represent high inequality.**

**According to the Brookings Institution, 43% of the population in rural areas of Morocco are farmers.[[5]](#footnote-5) Remembering that 1 hectare = 2.47 acres, a breakdown of farm sizes in Morocco is shown below:**

**\*Large-scale farmers (own over 50 hectare): Less than 5%, 1/3rd of agricultural lands**

**\*Small farmers (own 5-50 hectare): 56.7%**

**\*Micro farmers (own less than 3 hectare in rain-fed, non-irrigated areas): 41% [[6]](#footnote-6)**

**The Kingdom of Morocco has sponsored many development programs, but funds have mainly gone to large-scale farmers.[[7]](#footnote-7) The “Fig and Carob” project meets the needs of the community by specifically targeting Micro farmers, as do 90% of HAF project. This project also includes a well and irrigation system.**

**Another need of the community is knowledge – both agricultural and marketing. In the seed-to-sale agriculture value chain, an important link is “Consultation” or the equivalent of the Extension services in the United States. Africa lacks the technology and technique as marked by the continent’s agricultural productivity being the least-productive in the world.[[8]](#footnote-8) HAF provides the educational training in every project, always with a participative method to choose the project and always with the organic methods that are the hallmarks of sustainable farming.**

**Figs and Carob are particularly good marketing choices because they can be sold on their own, but both are important ingredients in other recipes that could be combined for greater profit. As an example, fig honey was the winning product at the UW Foster School of Business’s Sustainability Case competition that focused on what could be produced in Morocco.**

**The latest statistic I have seen for the rural areas of Morocco puts the farmer’s annual income at $268 on average. It is clear that just one good crop could more than double it. And then imagine if the farmers took another piece of advice from case competition solutions: Create organic products that are then marketed it to Moroccan hotels who cater to rich tourists.**

**Beyond meeting the needs of the community, there are three more benefits of this project: Collaborations, Cap and Trade Opportunities on a Global scale, and Promotion of Organic Farming.**

**HAF projects always foster collaboration. In this case, collaboration is fostered among community members and also through partnerships with the USAID Farmer-to-Farmer program and “Imagine” women’s empowerment workshops.**

**Cap and Trade opportunities are enabled by the monitoring system used at the nursery. All saplings are monitored so carbon credits can be quantified. Making carbon credits available encourages the funding of more ecological projects because polluters (e.g., industrial) can sponsor credits that offset at least some of the damage they do to the environment.**

**Organic farming is promoted by the HAF at every turn. Of particular interest is their intercropping technique to combat pests. The nursery also includes peach, pear, plum, and olive trees. Intercropping is just one of the organic techniques HAF uses for pest management; more information on pest management methods for this project is available upon request.**

1. ***Who*** *are the* ***primary beneficiaries*** *of this project?* 1,500 farming families in the Ouezzane Province of Morocco. A particular emphasis will be made to empower women.
2. ***How many*** *individuals (approx.) will benefit?*  Est. \_\_\_\_\_**9,000**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Persons.
3. ***Brief project description****, including anticipated project outcomes and specific elements. An extended description may be included as an appendix at the end of the application.*

**The HAF’s agroforestry projects are managed by the local communities who plant, irrigate, maintain, harvest, and gain income from them. The sale of the saplings will be at a subsidized price (€0.18 per tree) and generate €50,000 a year starting in 2025 to enable reseeding and the financial stability of the tree nursery. The budget attached to this document has translated costs from Euros to USD.**

**The HAF’s main concern is the accurate monitoring and tracking of the nursery’s saplings and planting sites. Their partnered farmers and caretakers monitor the growth and health of the trees for fives years after planting and receive agricultural training from the HAF. They specifically integrate women in nursery management.**

**A timeline is on the following page.**

**Timeline:**

**Already started: Through collaboration with the Department of Water and Forests (DREF), a nursery has already been started in the location. Further development with the “Fig and Carob” project can begin at any time.**

**May-July 2023 : Seasonal workers prepare the site, land is cultivated, Greenhouse is erected.**

**May 2023 : Seeds are purchased and stored.**

**May-August 2023 : The well is drilled, the solar irrigation pump is purchased, the drip irrigation lines are set.**

1. **TIMING**: *What are the anticipated* ***start and end dates*** *for this project?*

*Start Date: ASAP End Date: Ongoing*

*(Other than Global Grants, the ISC assumes projects will be completed within one fiscal year [July 1-June 30] after the funds are transferred.)*

1. **TOTAL PROJECT COST**: $ **54,843.65**

**FUNDS REQUESTED from** **UNIVERSITY ROTARY**: **$ 6,600.00**

1. **CONTINUATION**:  *Is this project the* ***continuation of a prior project carried out with the leadership or participation of the University District Rotary Club****?* If so, please describe: No. UDRC has worked with the High Atlas Foundation in previous projects, but not this one.
2. **SUSTAINABILITY**: *How will you ensure the* ***ongoing sustainability/support for the project****, once completed at the international site?*

**The goal of the project is to integrate communities in land rehabilitation, promote native species and sustainable livelihoods, and systematically monitor the trees in the nursery and fields in a way that provides continuous economic, environmental, and social benefits long after HAF’s initial investment.**

**Communities have control over the projects from the start. In this case, seeds are captured and used to grow future seed saplings. As well, the community is taught principles of organic (sustainable) farming and this project specifically includes implementation of a solar-powered well and irrigation system where the community will maintain it in the future.**

**During the pandemic, UDRC funded 1/3rd of a project in the Azzaden valley of the High Atlas Mountains (South of Marrakesh) where 40,000 tree saplings that were distributed among 400 women of the Takherkhourt Women’s Commune. High Atlas later sent a detailed article documenting the project’s success. The key was having the commune facility. In this “Fig and Carob” project, a key is having the nursery location already secured.**

1. **PARTNERS**: *Name the* ***University Rotary Club*** *member/s working on the proposed project and the role/s they are playing:*

*If applicable, list* ***other Rotary Club/s or other organizations*** *that will participate in the project. Details on the funding and/or other support they will provide will be provided on the ISC Project Funding Form.*

***International Host Rotary Club partner and the name of the Host Rotary Club member who will oversee the project.***

*ROTARY CLUB:* **Casablana El Fida**

*Name* **Anas Benmamoun** *Email:* [anas@benmamoun.com](mailto:anas@benmamoun.com)

*Do you have experience working with this club?* **Yes**

*List their qualifications for carrying out this project (attach further background information if necessary):* **This Casablanca club has sponsored three previous projects (Almonds, Saffron, 1/3rd of 40,000 trees) with UDRC and has developed a direct relationship with the High Atlas Foundation. An email pledging their support is available upon request.**

1. **LEVERAGING CLUB MONIES**:

*Will* ***District Matching Grant Funds*** *be requested? If so, what amount?*

No **x** Yes \_\_\_ Amount $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*District Matching Grant Funds will be sought:*

*For District grant only\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*As part of a Rotary Foundation Global Grant\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Will* ***Matching Grant Funds*** *from* ***The Rotary Foundation*** *be sought? If yes, what amount?*

No **x** Yes\_\_\_\_ Amount $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. **CLUB PARTICIPATION**: *Is it possible for a Rotary* ***delegation*** *to visit the International Service project? If so, please describe potential dates and activities:*

*What other opportunities exist for* ***involvement*** *of U District and other Rotary members (e.g., contributions in funds or in kind, project set up, performance attendance, hosting, etc.)?*

**Lead U District Rotarian Second UD Rotary co-sponsor**

Name: **Ruth Huwe Marilee Fuller**

Phone: **206-819-6065 (206) 459-6093**

E-mail: [**ruthhuwe@gmail.com**](mailto:ruthhuwe@gmail.com) **marileefuller@yahoo.com**

Date: **April 12, 2023 April 16, 2023**

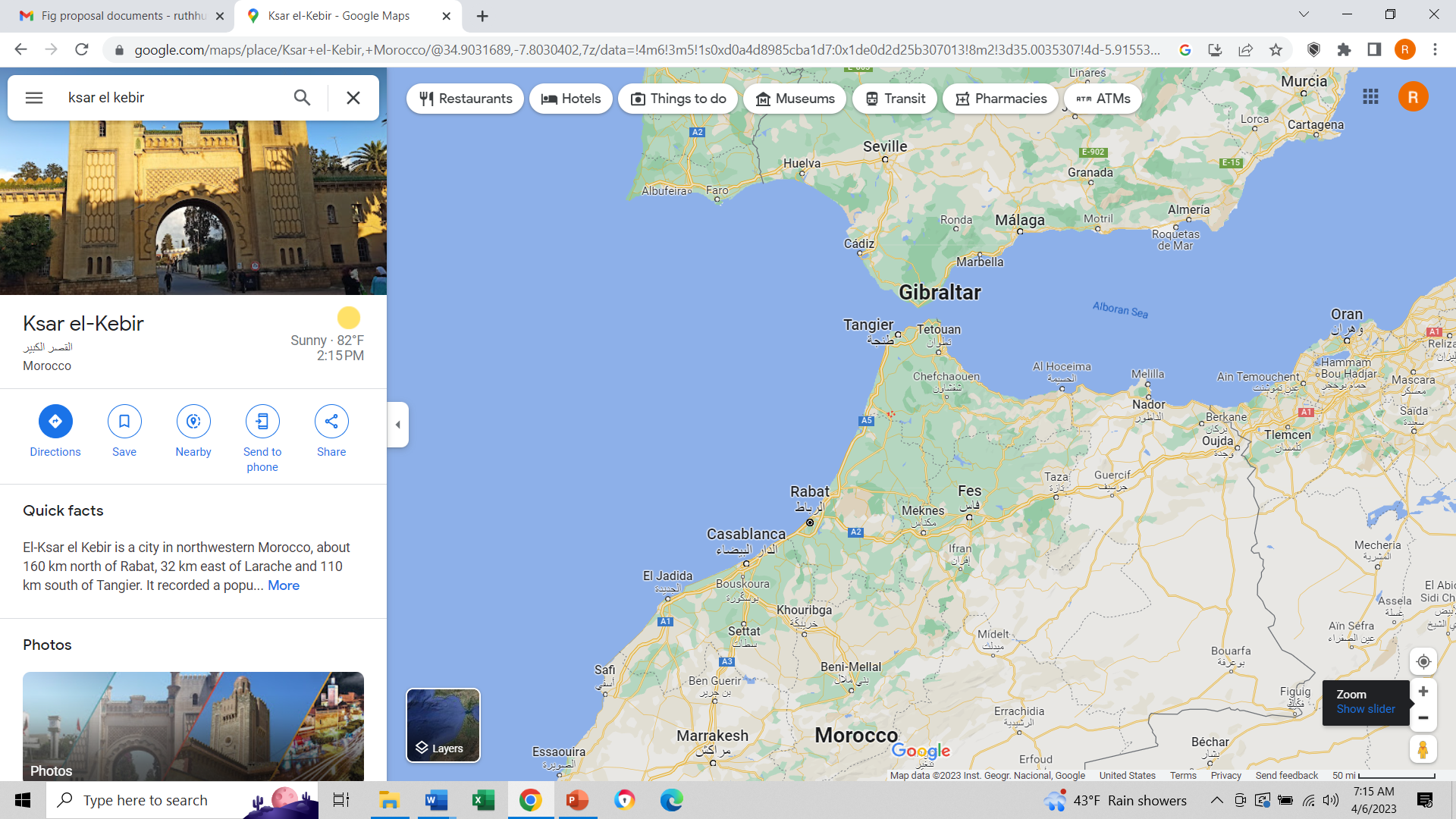
|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Country: | Name of Project: Ouezzane Carob & Fig Production, Morocco | Date: 4/5/2023 | Current Exchange Rate & Source of Rate:  10 dirham per dollar, Google |

# **ITEMIZED BUDGET** (add more line items if needed) Original budget from HAF was in Euros, conversion to Rotary format put it to the hundreds (e.g. .02 Euro = .022 Dollar)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Unit Cost | Unit Name/Description | # of Units | Local Currency | US Dollars |
| 1009.16 | Greenhouse | 4 |  | 4,036.64 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 4033.31 | Well | 1 |  | 4,033.31 |
| 7333.80 | Solar Energy Pump | 1 |  | 7,333.80 |
| 1009.16 | Irrigation Accessories | 1 |  | 1,009.16 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **“Fig and Carob” Planting Project** |  |  |  |
| 4,421.28 | Seasonal Workers | 1 |  | 4,421.28 |
| 1,657.98 | Bags | 1.46[sic] |  | 2,420.65 |
| .055 | Olive Cuttings | 20,000 |  | 1,100.00 |
| .022 | Carob Seeds | 80,000 |  | 1,760.00 |
| .011 | Almond Seeds | 10,000 |  | 110.00 |
| .022 | Pomegranate cuttings | 10,000 |  | 220.00 |
| .022 | Fig cuttings | 80,000 |  | 1,760.00 |
| 229.91 | Land cultivation | 1 |  | 229.91 |
| 2,210.64 | Storage | 1 |  | 2,210.64 |
| 5,526.60 | Transportation | 1 |  | 5,526.60 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| 464.23 | Nursery Caretaker | 12 |  | 5,570.76 |
| .011 | Soil/Sand | 400,000 |  | 4,400.00 |
| 302.86 | Plastic Cover | 4 |  | 1,211.44 |
| 353.70 | Shade net | 4 |  | 1,414.80 |
| 2240.48 | Water System | 1 |  | 2,240.48 |
| 1,513.18 | Fence | 1 |  | 1,513.18 |
| .066 | Grafting | 3,500 |  | 231.00 |
| .011 | Manure | 190,000 |  | 2,090.00 |
|  |  |  | UDRC Portion of Planting total: | 38,430.74 |
|  |  |  | $6,660 before wire transfer fee | 6, 525.00 |
| **Bank transfer fee** | |  | 7500 | 75.00 |
| **Casablanca Rotary Donation** | |  |  |  |
| **Total Amount Requested** | |  |  | **$6,600.00** |

1. **PROJECT FUNDING** (add more line items if needed)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Source of Funds  (Mark with X if confirmed for this Rotary Year) | X | Amount  (U.S. $) |
| UDRC |  | 7,561.15 |
| CASABLANCA ROTARY |  | 200.00 |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Total Funds Available** |  | 7761.15 |



1. Mohammed el Mazi et al. (2022). Deforestation effects on soil properties and erosion: A case study in the Central Rif, Morocco. Eurasian Journal of Soil Science, 11.4, 275-283. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The World Bank. (2018). Poverty in Morocco: Challenges and Opportunities. https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/morocco/publication/poverty-in-morocco-challenges-and-opportunities [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Ibid. The World Bank. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. World Bank. Qtd. In World Economics. (Date of Retrieval April 13,2023). https://www.worldeconomics.com/Inequality/Gini-Coefficient/Sweden.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Hafez Ghanem. (2015). Agriculture and Rural Development for Inclusive Growth and Food Security in Morocco. chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Agriculture\_WEB\_Revised.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Ibid ATTAC. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. ATTAC Maroc, Edited by Fayrouz Yousfi. (August 7, 2020). “The State-Led Decline of Subsistence Farming in Morocco.” https://waronwant.org/news-analysis/state-led-decline-subsistance-farming-morocco [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. AFR-IX Telecom. (November 15, 2022). Why is Africa Lagging Behind the World in Technology. https://afr-ix.com/why-is-africa-lagging-behind-the-world-in-technology/#:~:text=One%20of%20the%20biggest%20reasons,in%20terms%20of%20technological%20development. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)