



Intercontinental network for the promotion of the social and solidarity economy
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In solidarity with the Moroccan people

Barcelona, 12.09.23

An earthquake measuring 6.8 on the Richter scale struck Morocco shortly before midnight on Friday 8 September, mainly affecting the High Atlas region near Mount Toubkal and Marrakesh. Today, 12 September, the death toll has risen to almost 3,000 with over 2,400 people injured. At this time of shock, mourning and grief for the Moroccan people and for all the victims, RIPESS, the intercontinental network of the Social and Solidarity Economy, wishes to express its sincere condolences, solidarity and support.

The earthquake hit particularly hard in rural areas, where infrastructure is poor and most of the population are peasants with few resources. Many places, including Haouz, Tarudant, Chichaua and Ouarzazate, were destroyed by the impact of the earthquake and countless houses and workplaces with tools and means of production needed for the survival of their populations were affected. Cities such as Marrakech, Agadir and Casablanca were also severely affected.

At a meeting organised by the African SSE Network (RAËSS) in Marrakech in April 2014, attended by members of the RIPESS Board of Directors, our Moroccan hosts organised a visit to several villages and social and solidarity economy initiatives in this High Atlas region, where women work, among other things, producing argan oil. RIPESS is conscious of the terrible human and material impact of this situation, and we express our solidarity with all the Moroccan people and in particular with the people living in the region.

The Réseau Africain de l'Économie Sociale et Solidaire (RAESS)/RIPESS Afrique prays for the eternal rest of the victims and offers its deep condolences and solidarity to the bereaved families, the afflicted Moroccan people and the Kingdom of Morocco.

SOLIDARITY has been a universal value since the dawn of humanity, and it is even more essential for every human being in disastrous circumstances such as those experienced by the Moroccan people and all the citizens of our African continent in all its plurality.

RAESS humbly requests the solidarity and compassion of African and international solidarity organisations towards the Moroccan people in the context of this humanitarian tragedy.

We all stand in fraternal solidarity with the people of Morocco.