

# EBRD - Enhancing the financial stability of the water sector

Cairo Water Week  
19th October



**European Bank**  
for Reconstruction and Development

# Saiss Water Conservation Project

*Helping farmers in the Saiss Plain adapt to water scarcity brought about by climate change.*



*Saiss plain : one of Morocco's most productive agricultural centers*

# Garet Water Conservation Project

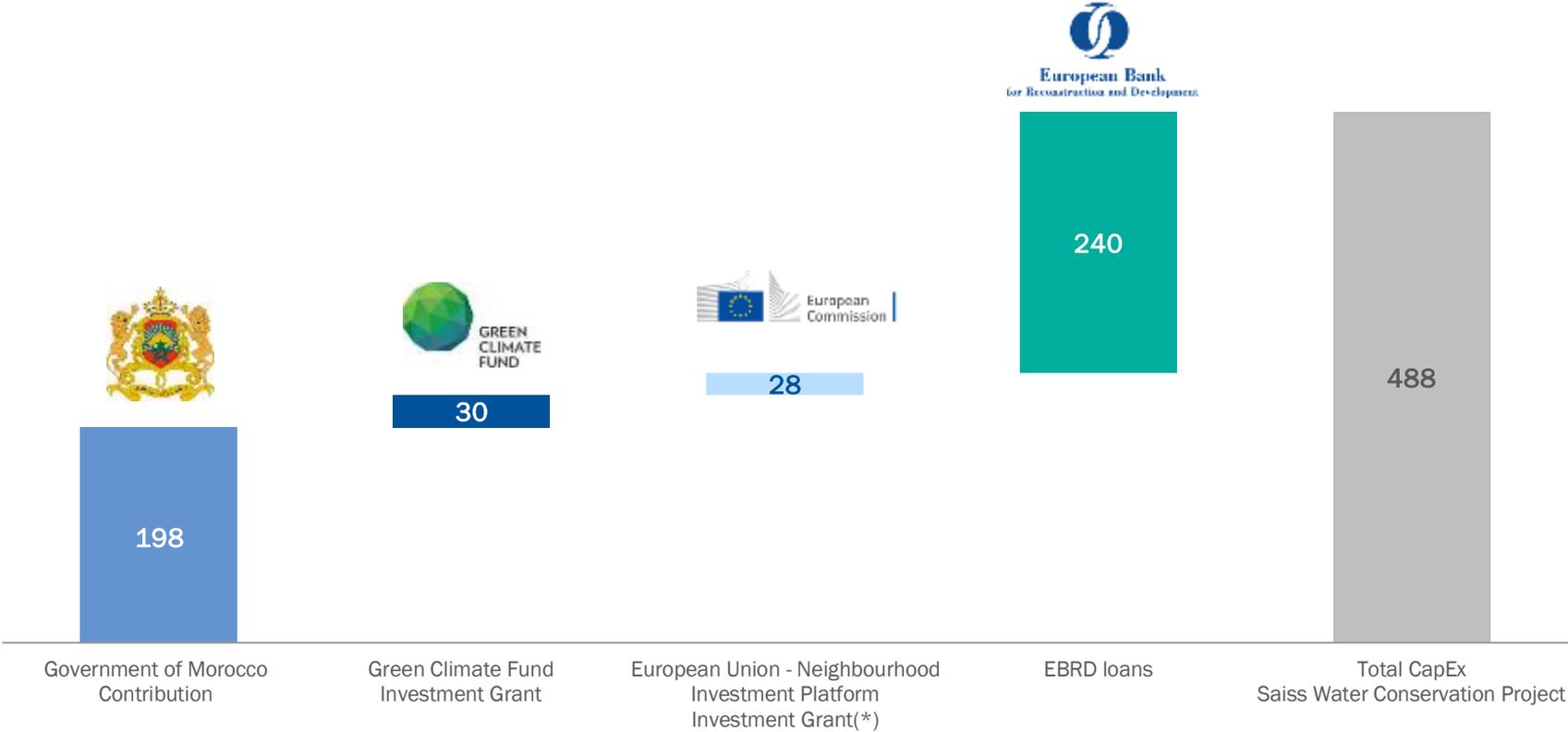


*Cultivated lands in Garet perimeter*

# Saiss project: financing structure

Joint financing by the Moroccan Government, European Union and other donors and the EBRD in light of **affordability constraints** and **the urgency of the situation**

In €m

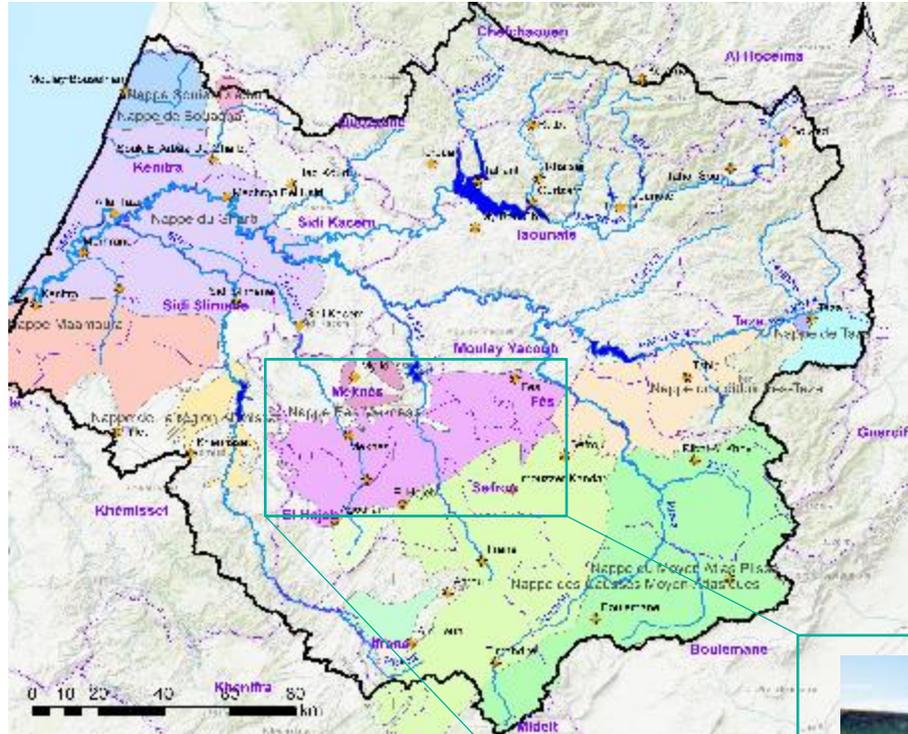


(\*) including EUR 0.5 million Capex for the Sebou Water Basin Agency

# Saiss Project Overview<sub>(1/2)</sub>



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- The **Saiss water conservation Project** is a staged programme to preserve the **Saiss aquifer** and promote sustainable water management within the Saiss plain, **located between Fez-Meknes region in Northern Morocco** to avoid the potential transformation of the **Saiss plain** into a high desert plateau.
- The **Saiss water conservation Project** aims to facilitate switch from unsustainable groundwater abstraction to the use of more resilient surface water resources contributing to the restoration of the **Saiss aquifer**.

*Sebbou basin is one of the richest basins in groundwater in the country representing 20 per cent of Morocco's annual water endowment. Sebbou basin groundwater is stored in several aquifers, including Saiss aquifer which has been experiencing unsustainable levels of water exploitation with a net loss of 100 million m<sup>3</sup> per year*



*Saiss plain irrigated using groundwater from Saiss aquifer*

# Saiss Project Overview <sub>(2/2)</sub>

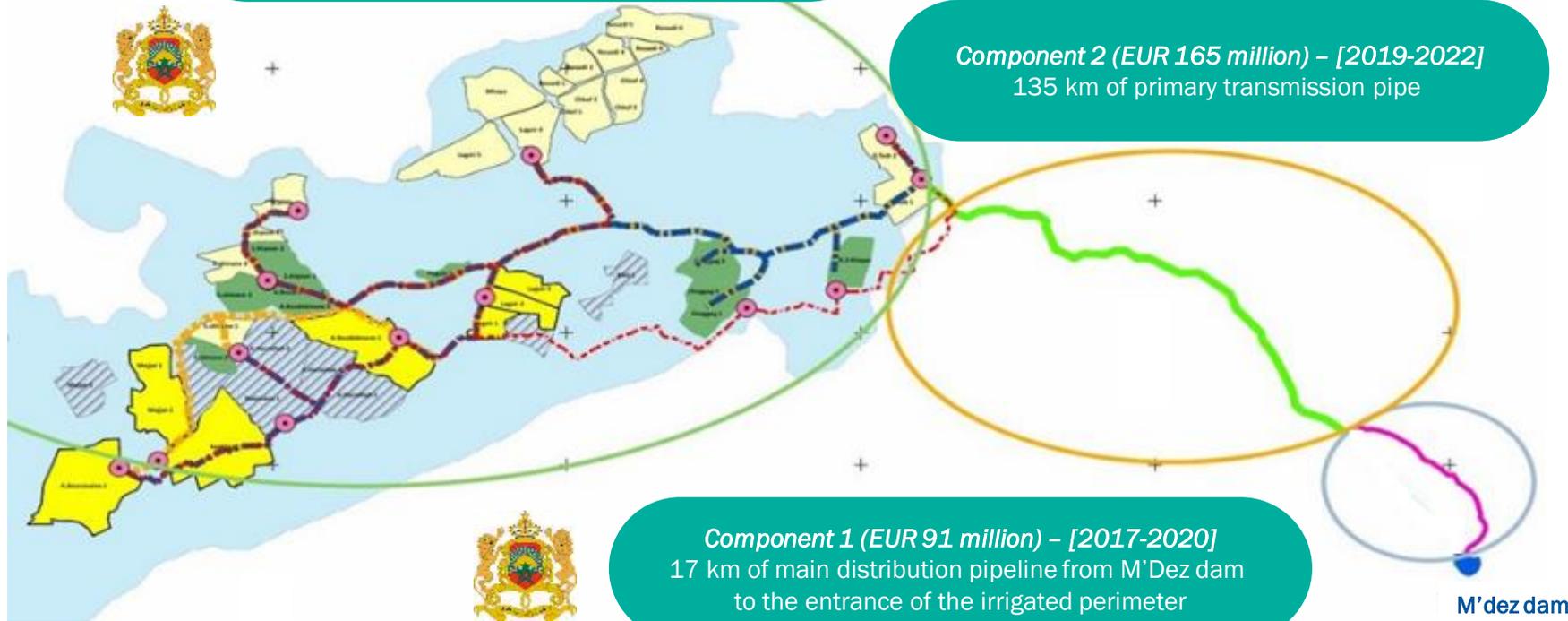
The Saiss staged program's cost stands at **c. EUR 488 million<sup>(\*)</sup>** ...



**Component 3 (EUR 232 million) – [2020-2022]**  
51 km of main pipeline of the distribution system as well as the primary and secondary distribution networks



**Component 2 (EUR 165 million) – [2019-2022]**  
135 km of primary transmission pipe



<sup>(\*)</sup> excluding technical assistance

# Technical Assistance Package



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Technical Assistance	Budget	Donor	Assignment
Environmental Monitoring for the Saïss Aquifer	€ 0.7 m	EBRD SSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Assist Ministry of Agriculture and the ABH of Sebbou with the implementation of the new requirements included in Law 36-15 in particular the preparation process of the water table contract;</li> <li>▪ Identify gaps required to establish an efficient water management system in the Saïss plain and the missing infrastructure required to provide adequate information on the use of water in the Saïss plain;</li> <li>▪ Design a Geographical Information System to monitor the water abstraction in the Saïss aquifer and measure the impact of the Project in the aquifer.</li> </ul>
Governance Support for the ABH	€ 0.85 m	EU NIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Structure a monitoring program to analyse the impact of the actions under the Aquifer Contract in order to restore the balance of the Sebou basin water table;</li> <li>▪ Implement and manage the Geographical Information System in Fez/Meknes;</li> <li>▪ Promote re-use of wastewater for irrigation in the Fez/Meknes plain;</li> <li>▪ Organize capacity building events to promote stakeholder awareness of the water table contract.</li> </ul>

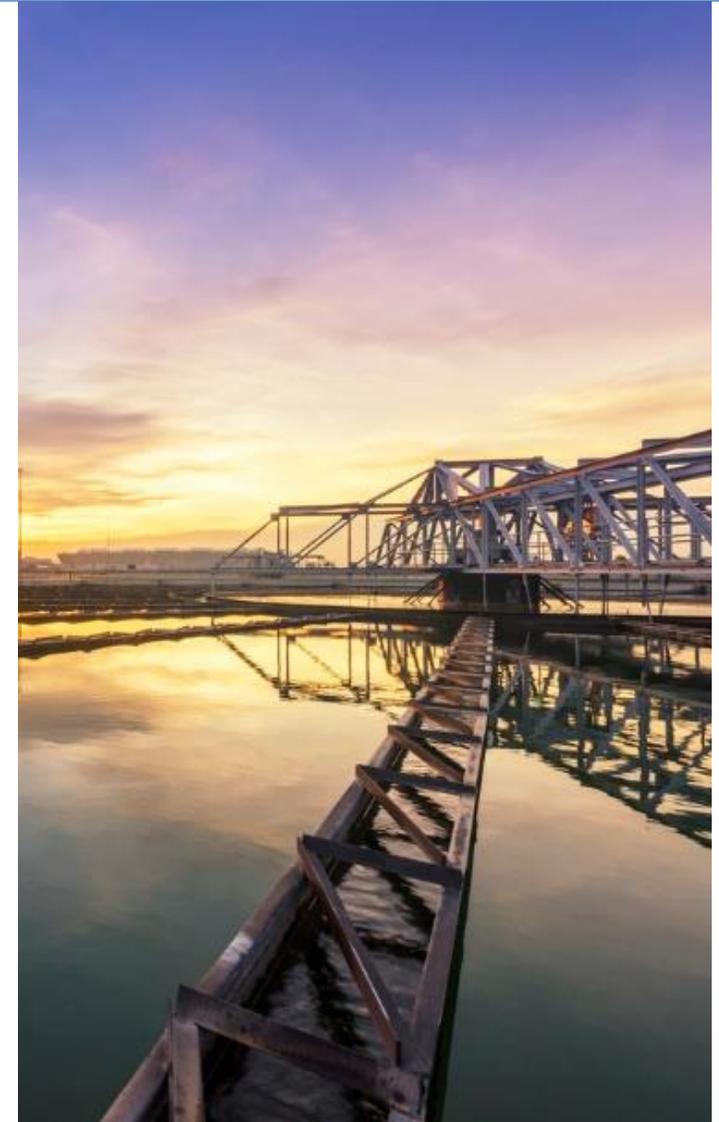
# EBRD COVID-19 Solidarity Package



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The EBRD has launched **COVID-19 Solidarity Package** with a comprehensive set of measures, including a Vital Infrastructure Support Programme (VISP), as a response to the unprecedented challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to the economies where the Bank invests.

**Vital Infrastructure Support Programme (VISP)** is emergency support targeting providers of essential infrastructure with the goal of ensuring uninterrupted provision of vital infrastructure services and preserving the progress of the EBRD's regions towards green and sustainable infrastructure.





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