

## MOROCCO EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE: YOUR LIFE-SAVING IMPACT

On September 8, 2023, a 6.8 magnitude earthquake hit Morocco, killing nearly 3,000 people and displacing an estimated 500,000 more. The location of the epicenter, near the High Atlas Mountains, meant that remote rural communities made up the majority of those affected. Aid workers struggled for days to reach some areas, and knowledge of local terrain, languages, and cultures became even more critical.

With your support, the **Fund for Global Human Rights** responded. Hours after the earthquake, Fund staff were in contact with grantees in Morocco coordinating life-saving aid and relief.

The Fund has supported grassroots organizations in Morocco for nearly 20 years, building a robust network of groups. Their close relationships with local communities meant they understood the inequalities likely to be exacerbated by such a disaster.

While Fund staff and grantees mobilized, our supporter community responded with extraordinary generosity, allowing groups to respond to urgent and long-term needs.

## YOU MADE THIS RAPID RESPONSE POSSIBLE AND HELPED:



The work didn't end with emergency relief. Your support helped the groups reassess and advocate for the ongoing needs of vulnerable populations, including girls and young women, migrants, and people living in poverty before the earthquake.

## **ACTIVIST ACTIVITIES**

A month after providing emergency supplies, El Amane, a women's rights organization, began an education campaign around underage marriage. Research, including a 2023 study in International Social Work, has found girls under 18 are more likely to get married after disasters in response to economic instability. The Fund's support allowed activists to develop messaging and interventions aimed at keeping girls in school, including covering accommodation for three girls whose families were unable to continue paying the fees.

For five months, **ALECMA**—a Marrakechbased, migrant-led group—supplied food, hygiene supplies, and blankets to survivors. They also brought together community leaders and organizations to assess how the earthquake had created new barriers to basic social services, and began developing long-term solutions so people could access health care, receive education, and register new births. With many donors reluctant to support <u>migrants' rights work</u> in Morocco, our funding has been particularly vital.

FUND E GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS

After providing tents, food, and other aid across Elhouz and Tinghir provinces, the **Association for the Promotion of Mediation** in Morocco identified a need for more sustainable approaches to disaster relief that uphold people's fundamental rights. They formed a project team focused on recognizing the needs of marginalized people and strengthening civil society's role in emergency responses. Recently, the group submitted its recommendations to Morocco's national aid agency.



## CHOOSE LOVE

The Fund is thankful for the dedication of our community and for every gift made to our emergency campaign, including support from Choose Love.

None of this would be possible without you. Your commitment has helped thousands of people rebuild and push for equality. Stay connected with how we're making a difference together.



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