

Expected Long-Term Outcome (Impact):

Inclusion of the Akdal System and Transhumance on the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage, representing Morocco and Africa, by 2028

The Tifsat Atlas Association for Sustainable Development is submitting this study to request funding for the National Program to Document Transhumance and the Akdal System in Morocco, which will be launched at the First National Conference on Transhumance—scheduled for October 15 and 16, 2026, in the commune of Am Rabii (Khenifra Province)—as a foundational scientific milestone and a springboard toward a broader, more far-reaching goal.

This program addresses a national strategic issue: 15,000 to 20,000 pastoralist families in the Middle Atlas alone practice transhumance over distances ranging from 150 to 350 kilometers, managing the ancient Akdal system of pasture governance, which encompasses more than 50 Akdal systems in Morocco—yet this living human heritage remains entirely unrecognized internationally, while European pastoral transhumance has been inscribed on the UNESCO list since 2019 through a joint European nomination.

Dirhams distributed among multiple partners. The conference is a means, not an end: its scientific and documentary outputs will constitute 550,000 of the total budget:

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