



## IRES.Think tank

### **The Future of agriculture in Morocco in a context of structural water scarcity**

The Institut Royal des Etudes Stratégiques (IRES) has published a summary report of the proceedings of its day of prospective reflection on the future of agriculture in Morocco in a context marked by structural water scarcity. The report updates our knowledge of the agricultural sector and outlines the latest developments in the "Water-Agriculture" nexus. Strategic proposals were formulated to guarantee the sustainable development of Moroccan agriculture within a framework of food sovereignty and preservation of water capital.

### **What is Morocco's relationship with the enlarged BRICS group?**

The final report of this study on relations between Morocco and the enlarged BRICS Group highlighted the group's political, economic, social, and environmental prospects, as well as the impact it could have on the evolution of the world order. After analyzing relations between Morocco and the enlarged BRICS group, the report highlighted the possibilities that present themselves in terms of Morocco's modes of alliance with this grouping.

### **The Royal Atlantic Initiative**

IRES has just launched a study on the Royal Atlantic Initiative. The aim of the study is to understand the Initiative, its place in world geopolitics, its foundations, and its impact on the African states bordering the Atlantic and on the Sahel countries, to identify the challenges inherent in putting the Initiative into practice, and to make a number of proposals in terms of action levers for its proper implementation.

## IRES.Watch

### **Emerging concepts: Digital sovereignty**

Continuing its new series entitled "Emerging Concepts," on June 5, 2024, IRES published the emerging concept of digital sovereignty on its foresight intelligence platform - IIP.

## Annual Survey Paper 2024

IRES continued to process emerging trends, which will be the subject of the 2024 edition of its "Annual Survey Paper" series, scheduled for the end of September 2024.



### May and June 2024 webographic watch bulletins

The May and June 2024 issues of the "Bulletin de veille webographique," published online on the IRES website, present summaries of forward-looking reports on the following themes: governance, global and regional trends in armed conflict, the state of migration worldwide, the state of readiness for artificial intelligence in Morocco...

## Work Meeting



### Solidarity, identity, and language in Morocco

A seminar on "The feeling of security, the media, virtual space, and social cohesion," in the wake of the reflection carried out by IRES under its study program "The social bond in Morocco: what role for the State and all social players?", was held at the Institute's headquarters on May 2, 2024. This meeting was an opportunity to present the main results of the national survey on the social bond, carried out by IRES in 2023, in the above-mentioned areas.



### The Future of relations between Morocco and the Iberian countries

On May 9, 2024, the Institute organized a seminar to present the main conclusions of its study on the future of relations between Morocco and the Iberian countries, attended by the Spanish and Portuguese Ambassadors in Rabat, representatives of national institutions, diplomats, and academics. The meeting resulted in the emergence of innovative ideas capable of laying the foundations for a renewed strategic partnership - bilateral, tripartite, and global - between Morocco and Spain, on the one hand, and Portugal, on the other, based on trust, mutual respect, and a co-development rationale that takes into account the potential complementarities and synergies, but also the asymmetries in economic development between these three neighboring countries.



### GITEX-AFRICA Morocco 2024

On the occasion of the 2nd edition of the "GITEX AFRICA Morocco" Forum, held in Marrakech from May 29 to 31, 2024, meetings took place between the IRES delegation and various national and international players operating in the digital sector.



### **High-level Forum on artificial intelligence in Africa**

As a principal partner, the Institute took part in the first edition of the High-Level Forum on Artificial Intelligence in Africa, organized in Rabat from June 3 to 5, 2024, under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, by the "Ai Movement" Center, part of UM6P and UNESCO.

### **The 36<sup>th</sup> annual session of the Crans Montana Forum**

The Director General of IRES made a presentation at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Crans Montana Forum, held in Brussels from June 26 to 29, 2024, at the Forum's official opening session on the theme "Facing multiple crises." After recalling the major challenges facing the world, Mr. Mouline emphasized the need to completely rethink the international order and explore new fields of global governance, in particular those relating to the governance, respectively, of the planet, of information and the media, and of the virtual world.



With regard to Africa, he stressed the importance of making a success of economic, ecological, energy, and urban transitions, by pooling resources and means and laying the foundations of the blue economy through the implementation of the Atlantic African initiative launched by His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God assist him. The presentation concluded with an overview of the democratization contributions of Morocco's 2011 Constitution, the major reforms underway in the social sphere, and the main economic development projects.

### **Ethical digital transformation as a lever for change in the service of inclusive development**

On June 28, 2024, the Managing Director of IRES also spoke at the Crans Montana Forum, in a paper entitled "Ethical digital transformation as a lever for change in the service of inclusive development." After highlighting the political, security, economic, social, societal, and environmental opportunities and risks of digital transformation for Africa, Mr. Mouline reviewed Morocco's various achievements in this field, its international positioning, and the steps still to be taken to make the Kingdom a digital hub serving Africa.

## IRES. Cooperation



### Working visit to IRES by a Hungarian delegation

A Hungarian delegation from Budapest's Corvinus University paid a working visit to IRES on May 3, 2024. After a presentation of the vocation, missions, mode of operation, and activities of the IRES, discussions focused on Morocco's African policy and the Royal Atlantic Initiative.

### IRES takes part in the 29th edition of the international book and publishing fair

As in previous years, the Institute took an active part in the 29th edition of the International Book and Publishing Fair (SIEL), held in Rabat from May 9 to 19, 2024. The IRES stand stood out this year for its innovative, modern, and interactive design. The Institute made use of virtual reality (VR) technologies and set up a VR space within the stand, enabling visitors to discover, via a virtual immersive tour, the quintessence of its flagship publications, particularly the White Paper on the Moroccan Sahara and the strategic report on the future of the ocean. As part of SIEL's cultural program, in addition to the conference on "The evolution of the social bond in Morocco from 2011 to the present day," the Institute organized thematic roundtables led by its in-house and associate researchers, on the following themes:

- The White Paper on the Moroccan Sahara in Arabic and French.
- The Ocean as a global issue and planetary solution.
- Artificial intelligence and foresight.
- The Kingdom's international positioning.
- Industry of the future "X.O".
- Emerging trends and concepts.



### Courtesy visit to the IRES by Madame Quiterie PINCENT, Director of the French development agency in Morocco

On May 22, 2024, the Managing Director of the IRES received Madame Quiterie PINCENT, Director of the French Development Agency in Morocco, at the Institute's headquarters. Discussions focused on strategic development projects in Morocco and Africa.





### **Visit to IRES by a high-level delegation from the general staff of the Royal Armed Forces**

On June 27, 2024, this delegation paid a working visit to IRES to learn about the Institute's experience in the fields of foresight and international relations.

#### **Agenda**

For the month of July 2024, IRES.Forum activities will be distinguished by the organization of the Journée de réflexion prospective sur l'Initiative Royale pour l'Atlantique, the IRES-FMES strategic dialogue, and the seminar presenting the preliminary results of the study on Morocco's reputation in the world.