

GROW STRONG! Vol2 – Expanding development and empowerment
in rural Morocco

Committee for the Schooling of Rural Girls (CSSF) is a Moroccan non-profit organization founded in 1998, which has had the status of an organization of public interest since 2007. The organization's mission is focused on promoting equal opportunities and the right to education for girls from rural areas, with a special emphasis on preventing early school leaving and improving the quality and accessibility of education in rural communities.

Since 2000, the CSSF has been implementing its flagship program, “Scholarships for Success,” which supports girls from rural areas’ access to lower secondary education. The program is based on the establishment of small residential communities near public secondary schools, in collaboration with local partner organizations. These residential units provide safe housing, pedagogical supervision, and learning support, and are financed through monthly stipends. The implementation model emphasizes high quality care, a limited number of beneficiaries per household, and strong involvement of the local community in the management of the program.

Since the launch of the program, CSSF has supported more than 4,000 girls, established 48 housing communities in 44 rural municipalities, and developed collaborations with 31 local partner organizations across Morocco. In addition to direct support to beneficiaries, the organization carries out capacity-building, advocacy, communication, and fundraising activities, as well as a range of extracurricular activities for beneficiaries, including camps, educational trips, debates, and other forms of support for personal and social development.

The role and contribution of the CSSF in the implementation of the project they are based on his many years of field experience, a developed network of local partner organizations and strong capacities for working with users in rural areas. Within the framework of the project, CSSF will contribute to the identification and inclusion of target groups, the coordination of the implementation of activities with local partners, the organization of educational and accompanying activities, and the transfer of operational and pedagogical knowledge. His experience in the design and implementation of community-based interventions represents a key added value for the successful implementation of project activities aimed at the education and empowerment of rural girls.

The cooperation between the organizations was established during the applicant's stay and implementation of project activities in Morocco, when an initial working meeting was held with the partner organization. During this meeting, the work and priorities of both organizations to date were presented, recognizing a strong overlap in values, goals and thematic areas of activity, especially in the areas of education, women and youth empowerment, and work with vulnerable groups.

Through further discussions and exchange of experiences, common interests, complementary professional knowledge and potential for the development of cooperation in the area of capacity building of local organizations and the implementation of sustainable educational programs were identified. Special emphasis is placed on the possibility of transferring knowledge, methodologies and good practices, while respecting the local context and experience of the partner organization in field work.

The partnership was further developed through continuous communication and joint consideration of the project objectives, planned activities and operational roles. For the purpose of preparing this project proposal, the organizations exchanged relevant institutional information, agreed on planned contributions and responsibilities, and coordinated the preparation of the application documentation. In this way, the partnership was formalized based on a common understanding of the project objectives and a clearly defined division of roles, ensuring high-quality and efficient cooperation during the project implementation.