

## Community News

### **OCP Group celebrates International Women's Day by setting up a committed and solidarity based operation, called "Ghaya wa Inaya" (Care & Share).**

The symbolic gift offered to OCP women on this occasion, is hand made by women in artisanal cooperatives.

Gifts made by talented women for exceptional women, that is the concept of this citizen initiative: offering a solidarity gift that OCP female staff really likes, while allowing craftswomen to improve their lives.

The initiative "Ghaya wa Inaya" also reflects OCP Group's commitment to a sustainable and shared development in the communities and regions where its industrial sites are located.

So after Youssoufia in 2014, and Safi in 2015, it is the Khouribga region which is in the spotlight this year.

For this 3rd edition, OCP has approached the Khouribga region-based Flora Cooperative, whose sole activity was harvesting prickly pear fruit, to embark on a new journey. A journey that would lead them, along with 280 women from Bejaad and the neighboring douars (villages) to breathe new life into an ancestral Moroccan know-how : the art of weaving.

Moreover, Ghaya wa Inaya's greatest achievement is to have allowed the women of this region to expand and diversify their source of income, from the once seasonal agricultural activity to now include a year-round source of income through carpet weaving.

Through this initiative, OCP Group aims to promote the work of these women, accompany them in attaining financial self-sufficiency, and support them in developing their activities by introducing them to new economic opportunities.

### **OCP Group recognized under the "Clean Beaches 2016" program**

The Lalla Hasnaa Sustainable Coastline Awards Ceremony, 2016 edition, organized by the Mohammed VI Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, took place on Monday, March 6th, at the Mohammed VI International Conference Center in Skhirat. On this occasion, Her Royal Highness Princess Lalla Hasnaa presented the Lalla Hasnaa Sustainable Coastline Trophies to the winners of this 2nd edition.

Mr. Mostafa Terrab, Chairman and CEO of OCP Group, received the Lalla Hasnaa Sustainable Coastline Trophy, in the category of "Education and Youth", which commended the actions carried out by the Group on the beach of Souiria L'kdima, as part of the 2016 Clean Beaches program. OCP, in partnership with the Life and Earth Sciences Teachers Association of Safi, have worked to raise awareness on climate change, promote education on the sustainable development of the coast and diffuse responsible behaviors for its preservation and protection.

### **The Phosboucraa Agricultural Caravan travels the regions of southern**

After the success of the first edition launched in 2015, the Phosboucraa Agricultural Caravan, with a camel theme, traveled this time to Es Semara on March 27th and Birgandouz on April 1st with the

aim of being closer to farmers and ranchers in our Southern Regions. Thus, more than 700 small farmers and camel breeders from the Dakhla and Aousserd regions benefited from the expertise of a panel of agricultural and veterinary experts. Organized in plenary sessions, this second edition of the Phosboucraa Agricultural Caravan focused on the dissemination of good practices of camel farming, highlighting of the role of food and overall animal health, as well as the good management reflexes of production ranging from the gestation phase to the birth of the calves.

The success of this edition was also based on the support of institutional partners such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries, wilayas (governors), and members of agriculture and professional organizations of the three southern regions.

### **OCP Group launches the Togo Caravan**

In 2016, OCP Group signed an agreement with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Hydraulics of Togo, for the agricultural development of the Country. This project is based on three interdependent axes: the capacity building of Togolese executives, the organization of an agricultural caravan and the development of a soil fertility map of the Country.

Inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Togo, Komi Sélom Klassou, as well as the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Hydraulics of Togo, Ouro-Koura Agadazi, on April 22nd on the sidelines of the 9th edition of the annual Farmer's Forum which took place in Kara from April 20th - 22nd. The Agricultural Caravan started towards Dapaong, in the north of Togo, composed of a mobile soil analysis laboratory unit and soil sampling equipment, the caravan will crisscross Togo from north to south, by next July, and will analyze 100,000 hectares of agricultural land. It will cover the five regions of the country - Kara, Savanes, Central, Plateaux, Maritime - and will treat about fourteen crops. Togolese agronomists, trained as part of the capacity building program by the OCP teams, will ensure the smooth running of the caravan. In addition to collecting soil samples, the agricultural caravan aims to meet nearly 150 producers in each stage to raise awareness and spread good sustainable agricultural practices, focusing on reasoned fertilization.

### **The Phosboucraa Foundation launches an analysis laboratory in Foum El Oued**

The Phosboucraa Foundation and the National Institute for Agronomic Research (INRA) have joined forces to enable farmers to cope with the natural and technical constraints that affect the productivity of agricultural crops in the region. Intended to serve the three southern regions (Guelmim - Oued Noun, Laayoune - Sakia El Hamra and Dakhla - Oued Eddahab), a new analytical laboratory was inaugurated by an official delegation chaired by Mr. Yahdih Bouchab, Wali (Governor) of the region of Laayoune - Sakia El Hamra. During this inauguration day, a report of the Foum El Oued pilot project was drawn up by Mr. Dahan Soubai, President of the Halib Sakia El Hamra Cooperative. For its part, the Regional Director of INRA focused on the agricultural achievements of the project, registered in partnership with the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA). A water and soil analysis demonstration was also carried out by the INRA-ICBA team followed by a field visit to the introduction tests of new salinity-tolerant crops. This laboratory in Foum El Oued is part of a larger pilot project focusing its efforts on integrated agricultural development.

This is a thoughtful initiative, launched in 2015 by the Phosboucraa Foundation, in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Halib Sakia El Hamra Cooperative, with the technical support of INRA, ICBA and the International Youth Foundation. Thanks to this pilot project, 52 farmers from the commune of Foum El Oued, all members of the Halib Sakia El Hamra cooperative, benefit from local support, both technically and socially, in order to improve their lives and those of their families.

### **OCP Group celebrates Farid Belkahia's The Tree in the Work of Fire**

At the occasion of International Museum Day, celebrated May 18th, the Farid Belkahia Foundation inaugurated, on Saturday, May 13, the exhibition entitled "The Interworld or the Symbolism of the Tree of Farid Belkahia", at the Mathaf Farid Belkahia Museum in Marrakech. OCP Group, official partner of the Farid Belkahia Foundation, supporter of the arts, holds one of the most important collections of the late Farid Belkahia.

For this opening day of the exhibition, a round table was organized around the theme of "symbolism of the tree in the works of the artist". Farid Belkahia is considered one of the pioneers in contemporary art in Morocco. After his death at the age of 80, on September 25, 2014, he left behind a legacy of considerable works true to his desire to be the living memory telling "the path of the Moroccan man through tradition".

An ecologist before his time, the sculptor/painter was known for using natural pigments and minerals in full connection with nature since the 1970s. This sensitivity in Farid Belkahia is represented in most of his works and are now exhibited in several museums and foundations around the world.

"Entre-monde" (loosely translated to Interworld) is the second exhibition organized by the Farid Belkahia Foundation, which had already hosted "The Palaver Tree" in November 2016, on the sidelines of COP22. During which time, the organizers were keen to highlight the proximity of the artist to the natural environment in which he drew his inspiration.

### **Launch of three field schools in Guinea with the OCP Foundation**

On June 12th, 13th and 14th, three field schools were launched in Guinea in the form of practical training sessions for small Guinean farmers. Led by the entities and bodies of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Guinea, with the support of the OCP Foundation, these platforms will cover the strategic and promising sectors for Guinean agriculture. The objectives are to disseminate good agricultural practices and optimize the various technical processes adopted to improve crop yields, mainly that of reasoned fertilization. It is in the region of Faranah, in Dabola, Upper Guinea, that the first field school took up residence. Dedicated to peanuts, it has had the participation of 300 farmers. The second school was held in Middle Guinea, in the Mamou region, where 400 farmers benefited from a training course on maize kernels. Finally, in the region of Kindia, in Maritime Guinea, the third field school was launched. The last one dedicated to the mango tree, with the participation of 300 farmers.

The cooperation between OCP and the Guinean Ministry of Agriculture is not in its infancy. On March 3, 2014, the OCP Group and the Ministry of Agriculture and Maritime Fisheries of the Kingdom of Morocco already signed the Memorandum of Understanding linking them to the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Guinea. A protocol that focuses on three areas of collaboration: the development and implementation of the soil fertility map for a pilot area of 100,000 ha, the establishment of the agricultural caravan, and capacity building of managers and workers in the agricultural sector. On March 23rd, the OCP Foundation signed two agreements with the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Guinea on five areas of collaboration: design and support for the implementation of integrated agricultural development projects for smallholder farmers, the design and development of a soil fertility map, the organization of Guinean Agricultural Caravans, the capacity building of agricultural managers and workers through training cycles, and finally academic projects and scientific exchanges.

### **The OCP Foundation pays tribute to Rwanda on the sidelines of the Khouribga African Film Festival**

On the occasion of the 20th edition of the Khouribga African Film Festival, and in line with the national African strategy, the OCP Foundation organized several activities in the Mediatech Library of

Khouribga, including two major events that took place on Sunday the 10th and Friday the 15th of September 2017. On the one hand, the opening of an exhibition of contemporary art that brought together nearly 50 works created by thirty artists. On the other, a tribute to the African country honored this year, Rwanda, with a literary encounter of the highest order with the novelist Scholastique Mukasonga. Two key events that illustrate the OCP Foundation's desire to promote African culture in all its forms.

### **OCP Group launches the Madagascar Caravan**

After Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Togo, the OCP Foundation participated in the launch of Madagascar's agricultural caravan on Thursday, September 14th, on the sidelines of the International Agricultural Fair in Antananarivo and in the presence of the Malagasy President, the Prime Minister, the President of the Senate, the Minister to the Presidency in charge of Agriculture and Livestock of Madagascar, the Ambassador of His Majesty King Mohammed VI to Madagascar and the delegation of the OCP Group.

In Madagascar, the caravan plans to initially cover a pilot area of 100,000 hectares, across nine districts in the agricultural regions of Vakinankaratra and Alaotra Mangoro. In addition, more than 1,800 small farmers (200 per stage) will benefit from awareness workshops on soil and crop treatment best practices. The fruit of a partnership, initiated in 2016, between the Malagasy Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MPAE) and the OCP Foundation, this agricultural caravan is an illustration of the OCP Group's vision. The very one that places innovation and R & D as vectors of competitiveness for efficient agriculture and sources of new agricultural wealth for Africa, in general, and Madagascar, in particular, where more than two-thirds of households live off the agricultural sector.

Since its launch in Morocco in 2012, the Agricultural Caravan has since become a real tool for agricultural development. In Madagascar, as elsewhere, it will enable all stakeholders, through the production of a soil fertility map, to have a decision support tool to build a proactive and ambitious agricultural development strategy for the Country.

### **The OCP Group participates in the Kingdom's annual Horse Show**

More than 100 exhibitors and 250,000 visitors gathered at the El Jadida Exhibition Center for 9th edition of the El Jadida Horse Show, held October 10th - 16th. OCP Group once again participated in this year's edition, showcasing "Traditional Equestrian Arts", reminding us of its commitment to the agricultural sector and the preservation of natural and cultural heritage of the region, including the preservation of horses, and to support the equestrian art of "Tbourida" (meaning gunpowder in local dialect, a spectacle consisting of two sides of riders in traditional garb, charging in, coming to a sudden halt and synchronized firing of their gunpowder muskets).

At the El Jadida Institute for Socio-Educational Promotion (IPSE) stand, visitors greatly appreciated ecological workshops which were led by pupils of the schools themselves. Holders of the international eco-school label, the schoolchildren presented models made in the context of ecological workshops on different topics such as recycling.

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