

## UPGRADING THE ROAD NETWORK IN MOROCCO

Hicham N'HAMMOUCHA  
Direction des Routes, Maroc  
[nhammoucha@mtpnet.gov.ma](mailto:nhammoucha@mtpnet.gov.ma)

### RESUME

The Moroccan road network managed by the Roads Division has a total length of 57334 Km. This network is divided into three categories: 11399 km of national roads (of which 10185 km are covered) 10091 km of regional roads (of which 9388 km are surfaced) and 11399 km of provincial roads (of which 10185 km are surfaced).

This network is the subject of a comprehensive maintenance policy through private companies and routine maintenance by means of the road authority.

The paved network is also monitored based on high performance devices and visual survey every two years. These actions resulted in technical indicators on the state of the network and its evolution over time.

In 2009, the Roads Division has launched a study to modernize the road network to improve its management control of the various categories of roads and fine-tuning its response to increasing and diversified needs of users. This study aims to:

- Develop an optimal strategy to upgrade and modernize the classified road network, differentiated by type of subnet (subnet main roads to national, regional nature subnet, subnet a provincial and local) provide users with homogeneous routes, both points of view of their geometrical features, roads and signaling that their level of service.

- To develop, on the basis of the strategy, a multi-year program duration will depend on the capacity of the Directorate of Roads to mobilize financial resources, and performance will be measured by a limited number of indicators relevant and accessible both for users, policy makers and managers of classified road network.

- Identify and prepare related matters essential to the success of the program to upgrade and modernize the classified road network, and whose implementation will be concurrent.

The vision is to better anchor the maintenance of roads in Morocco the private or public investment. This:

- Reclassification of a road changing the network structure to the advantage of targeting local priorities road users, communities and others.

- Developing a "Plan Route" long and medium term national vision accompanying the major sectoral development plans of Morocco.

The ambition is to make the correlation of network modernization to economic growth on the one hand, and sustainable development on the other.

This article aims to share with conference participants the results of that study and its strategic and operational recommendations.