

JULY 2019

GET HEARD

BY Youth Empowerment
Society

*COMBATING SEXUAL VIOLENCE
AND ABUSE*

LOCATION

MOROCCO

TIMELINE

May 2017 Present

BENEFICIAIRES

Women victims of violence

TYPE OF ACTION

Advocacy, Awareness-raising

KEYWORDS

**Gender-based violence, Sexual
harassment, National and
international laws**



ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

Youth Empowerment Society (YES) is an independent non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Tiflet, Morocco. It seeks to develop a community of young people to spread the culture of dialogue, the principles of democracy and gender equality.

Youth Empowerment Society operates with five permanent members (volunteers), as well as other members and partners.

Main objectives:

- Spread the culture of dialogue to give youth an immune system **against alienation, intolerance and extremism**
- Contribute to consolidate the **principle of democracy**
- Encourage the **participation of young people in political life**
- **Strengthen women's capacity** in many areas (development, economy, politics, etc)
- Participate in international and national **exchange programs**

CASE DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND

Get Heard is a Moroccan initiative which spreads the knowledge of national and international laws protecting women. It also offers women victims of violence the relevant tools to share their stories.

implemented by Youth Empowerment Society (YES), the project is supported by the International Republican Institute (IRI) and The Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders (EMHRF), in partnership with Code For Africa, 4shabab and other educational institutions based in Morocco.

Get Heard introduces girls and women, from different Moroccan cities, to the national and international laws and regulations protecting them from sexual harassment, violence and exploitation. Moreover, through its platform, it teaches women basic techniques to produce their own podcasts and share their stories online.



DESCRIPTION OF THE GOOD PRACTICE



GET HEARD

Talking about sexual harassment is still a taboo in many parts of Morocco.

Often, victims who share their stories of violence and sexual assault face extreme rejection from their families or male relatives. UN Women statistics show that **6 in every 10 survivors of violence do not report it.**

The initiative wants to break this silence and strengthen the voice of Moroccan women online, through a series of trainings, workshops and debates.

How can women stand up against violence and harassment if they do not know their rights? Get Heard empowers Moroccan women through the understanding of their rights and gives them the necessary tools to speak up.



TYPE OF ACTION

The organization invites women and girls from different backgrounds to take part in a series of face-to-face trainings, organized as follows:

Day 1: Introduction to national and international laws that protect victims of exploitation and sexual harassment, focusing on the importance of reporting the aggression

Day 2: Introduction to the basics of advocacy using social media, and storytelling of sexual harassment or violence experiences using podcasts

At the end of the second day, participants **produce their very first podcast telling real harassment or even rape testimonies**

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

Get Heard was able to deliver personalised and intensive training courses in six Moroccan cities (Tiflet, Kenitra, Tanger , Rabat, Tetouane, and Khemisset). More than 120 young women between the age of 18 and 35 have benefited from that. Participants were able to learn about regulations and laws related to women's rights.

Participants produced their own podcasts. The organisers collected (with the consent of participants) and published the podcasts on the [website](#) and [Facebook page](#)

Youth Empowerment Society uses basic quantitative and qualitative indicators to assess the project.

In particular, questionnaires, surveys and presentations aim to verify the following:

- Do participants fully understand their rights according to Moroccan and international laws?
- Are participants able to advocate for women's rights after the course?
- Are the participants able to create and publish podcasts?
- How many participants would like to take part in other training courses?

STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS



- [International Republican Institute \(IRI\)](#)
- [The Euro-Mediterranean Foundation of Support to Human Rights Defenders \(EMHRF\)](#)
- Local partners: Code For Africa , 4shabab, Institut Supérieur de Management D'administration et Génie Informatique, and Association of Young Lawyers in Khemisse



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