

PARTNER IDENTIFICATION FORM

A. PARTNER ORGANISATION	
PIC Number	873478017
OID Number	E10381207
Registration number	3494512-5
VAT Number	FI34945125
Full legal name	Morocco's Friends Finland ry
Acronym	MFF Finland
Legal address	Markkulantie 24 N 59
Postal code	
City	Vantaa
Country	Finland
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Email	mffsuomi@gmail.com
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B. PROFILE	
Type of organization	NGO
Is the partner organization a public body?	NO
Is the partner organization a nonprofit?	YES

C. BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Description of the organization:

Morocco's Friends Finland ry is a dynamic new branch of the Morocco's Friends Foundation (MFF), an organization with a proven track record in international cooperation since 2015. Our primary focus is to build bridges between Finland and the world, promoting cultural diversity and the shared values of peace and mutual understanding.

At the heart of our work is the commitment to empowering local communities. We specialize in providing specialized training, support, and organizing impactful activities and programs tailored for youth, children, and women in various fields.

We leverage the extensive experience of our parent organization, which has a deep understanding of key European initiatives. Our expertise in managing projects under ESC (European Solidarity Corps) and Erasmus+ (KA1, KA2) allows us to offer high-quality opportunities that connect participants with global networks and opportunities for personal and professional growth.

Through our dedicated efforts in Finland, we aim to be a key partner in building a vibrant network of young leaders and active citizens who can drive positive change within their communities.

Objectives:

Our work is centered on empowering individuals and building cohesive communities in Finland. We aim to:

- Foster Personal Development and Participation: Promote personal growth, democratic citizenship, and youth mobility to help young people become active participants in Finnish society.
- Provide Education and Training: Offer educational and professional development opportunities, focusing on skills essential for a successful career and social integration in Finland.
- Advocate for Rights and Equality: Defend the social, economic, and cultural rights of all social groups, including immigrant and diaspora communities. We advocate for public policies that ensure equal opportunities for everyone.
- Empower Women: Support women by providing communication, leadership, and professional skills training. We aim to empower them to add value to their communities and actively participate in social, political, and economic life. We are committed to questioning and working to address the gender gap in society.

Activities:

To achieve our goals, we engage in a range of activities designed to build bridges and strengthen our communities:

- Training and Workshops: We organize training sessions and workshops in various fields essential for youth and women, including professional skills, language development, and entrepreneurship.
- Community Events: We host intellectual and cultural events, including camps, seminars, conferences, and festivals that celebrate diversity and foster cross-cultural understanding.
- Media and Research: We publish and edit media and research materials on topics of interest to immigrant communities and wider Finnish society.
- Partnerships and Projects: We collaborate with local and national institutions to develop projects that address community needs and support social cohesion.
- Female Entrepreneurship: We organize events and workshops to promote female entrepreneurship, particularly for women who face barriers to entering the workforce.
- Integration and Migration Support: We offer guidance and support to newly arrived immigrants, helping them navigate the integration process. We organize discussions and roundtables to stimulate intercultural learning and mutual understanding between different communities.

The Role of Youth & Our Focus on Migration

At Morocco's Friends Finland ry, we place great emphasis on the role of young people as key agents of change. They are not only beneficiaries of our projects but also active participants in their implementation. We believe their insights are crucial, which is why we listen to their suggestions, analyze their needs, and design activities and projects that truly resonating with them.

We also believe in the power of volunteering as an essential mechanism for promoting the values we stand for. Young people's dedication to volunteering drives change and strengthens community bonds.

A core part of our mission is dedicated to addressing the challenges and opportunities related to migration. Our work with immigrants and diaspora communities in Finland aims to facilitate a smooth integration process, protect their rights, and ensure their voices are heard. We are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where everyone can thrive.

Has the organization participated in a European Union granted project in recent years

EU Program	Year	Project Identification or Contract Number	Applicant/Beneficiary Name
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - CB	2021	KA02 -101051779 – YDCA ERASMUS-YOUTH- 2021-CB	MIne Vaganti NGO
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2022	2022-1-BE05-KA151-YOU-000068224	Mu-zee-um vzw
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2022	2022-1-PL01-KA152-YOU-000070654	Fundacja FECTII
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2022	2022-1-FR02-KA151-YOU-000068349	Association Ballade
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2022	2022-3-ES02-KA153-YOU-000100376	Asociación Eo,Eo
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2023	2023-3-CY02-KA152-YOU-000173228	AGRONAFTES
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2023	2023-1-FR02-KA152-YOU-000132309	D'Ecouves Verte
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2023	2023-1-FR02-KA152-YOU-000147681	MJC de le Région d'Elbeuf
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2023	2022-3-TR01-KA153-YOU-000103444	DEFNE GENÇLİK GRUBU
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2023	2023-1-DE04-KA152-YOU-000143909	Femination e.V.
ERASMUS+YOUTH - CB	2023	KA02 - 101131446 – AGROECO ERASMUS-YOUTH- 2023-CB	PUNTLAND COMMUNITY RY
ERASMUS+ YOUTH -CB	2023	KA02 - 101131392 – EURHOPE ERASMUS-YOUTH- 2023-CB	ASSOCIACIO PER A LA CREACIO I ESTUDIS DE PROJECTES SOCIALS C.E.P.S. - ASOCIACION
ERASMUS+ YOUTH -CB	2023	KA02 - 101131629– CUBE ERASMUS-YOUTH- 2023-CB	EVROPAIKO KENTRO KOINONIKON EPISTIMON POLITISMOU KAI ATHLITISMOU
ERASMUS+ YOUTH - YE	2024	2024-1-ES02-KA154-YOU-000225380	ASOCIACION AMIGOS DE MARRUECOS
ERASMUS+ YOUTH -CB	2024	KA02 -101185799 – DCA ERASMUS-YOUTH- 2024-CB	TEATRO METAPHORA - ASSOCIACAO DE AMIGOS DAS ARTES
ESC-SOLID-2024-VTHPA	2024	101179717-You FuTuRe ESC-SOLID-2024-VTHPA	SORGUN GENCLIK DERNEGI - SORGUN GENÇLİK DERNEĞİ

What are the skills and expertise of key staff/persons involved in this application?



President - Satu Karoliina RIIKONEN

Satu, a distinguished professional from Helsinki, Finland, serves as the president of Morocco's Friends Finland ry. Her leadership is rooted in a unique blend of creative and social expertise, as she is also an accomplished interior architect, designer, and visual artist. This creative background informs her approach to community-building, allowing her to envision and design programs that are both innovative and deeply impactful.

Satu's commitment to social development extends beyond her artistic pursuits. With extensive experience gained from the parent organization, Morocco's Friends Foundation, she brings a profound understanding of youth, children, and women's affairs. Her work is guided by the belief that empowerment comes from providing targeted support, and she has dedicated her efforts to creating opportunities for personal growth and active citizenship within these key demographics.

A core focus of her work lies in the critical area of migration and immigrant integration. Satu understands the challenges and opportunities that arise from a multicultural society, and she has a proven track record of developing programs that facilitate the successful integration of immigrants into their new communities. Her vision is to build bridges between cultures, ensuring that newcomers feel a sense of belonging and can contribute their unique skills and perspectives.

Furthermore, Satu is a highly skilled project manager with a wealth of experience in international cooperation and partnership creation. She has successfully managed and implemented numerous projects with parent organization, including those under the prestigious Erasmus+ programs (KA1 and KA2). Her ability to secure and run these complex international projects is instrumental to the association's success, enabling it to offer valuable exchange opportunities and educational programs that connect communities across borders.



European Coordinator / Project Manager – Lahcen BENBRAIM

Mr. Lahcen BENBRAIM, has graduated with a master's degree of Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching. He gained skills over eight years of experience in project management in Morocco and abroad. Lahcen managed to successfully run several projects of ours, and He was also our ambassador and speaker in several international conferences and programs.

Lahcen has great experience in team building, facilitation and coordinating and he is currently acting as the operational director of an accelerator program that aims to accelerate actions within Morocco Merit councils; organizations that are youth-led and directed.

Lahcen strongly believes in the importance of creating platforms for young people to develop their competencies, connect each other, and collaboratively work towards creating a better world for upcoming generations. Taking part in national and international youth events that focus on bridging the gap between cultures, has enabled him to become a better communicator, critical thinker, and tolerant of others differences, and enjoys helping the community and youth to develop their learning skills and gives them hope to dream bigger and then pushes them towards achieving their dreams.

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