

# WHV – Volunteers for Rabat, the city of light, the cultural capital of Morocco

## Rabat, Modern Capital and Historic City: a Shared Heritage, Morocco

### PROJECT DATES

01 August - 11 August 2023

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (2012)

**THE SITE** - Located on the Atlantic coast in the north-west of Morocco, the site is the product of a fertile exchange between the Arabo-Muslim past and Western modernism. The inscribed city encompasses the new town conceived and built under the French Protectorate from 1912 to the 1930s, including royal and administrative areas, residential and commercial developments and the *Jardins d'Essais* botanical and pleasure gardens. It also encompasses older parts of the city dating back to the 12th century. The new town is one of the largest and most ambitious modern urban projects built in Africa in the 20th century and probably the most complete. The older parts include Hassan Mosque (begun in 1184) and the Almohad ramparts and gates, the only surviving parts of the project for a great capital city of the Almohad caliphate as well as remains from the Moorish, or Andalusian, principality of the 17th century.

**OBJECTIVES** - The project aims to raise awareness of the importance of World Heritage among residents and visitors to the historic city, and to build the capacity of young people in terms of communication for cultural heritage.

**ACTIVITIES** - Volunteers will participate in the distribution of questionnaires, and take part in information sessions and round tables on World Heritage. The knowledge gained will be applied to write an analysis and observation report on specific monuments in the city, develop and participate in a treasure hunt activity on the site, and identify new needs and possibilities for future activities.

**PARTNERS** - Ministère de la Culture, Jeunesse et Communication. Commun urbain

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