Site Visit of GEF-World Bank Project **Project: Integrating Climate Change into the Implementation of the Plan Maroc Vert** November 13, 2016 (7:30-16:00)

About the Project

Integrating Climate Change into the Implementation of the Plan Maroc Vert, PICCPMV, funded by the Special Climate Change Fund – SCCF (GEF grant: \$4.3 M) and implemented by the World Bank. PICCPMV was designed to identify ways to mainstream adaptation to climate change into Morocco'sagriculture sector strategy, by supporting tangible adaptation interventions (goods, civil works, and services) aimed at benefitting small farmers in five target regions, and developing capacities of public and private institutions to integrate climate change adaptation efforts in such projects.

Project Site – Settat

Cereal production in rainfed condition varies greatly in function of the rainfall pattern. In 2015-16, there was a delay in beginning in rainfall which resulted for Morocco in <u>a reduction by</u> <u>70%</u> of the cereal production nationwide compared to the previous year, with a need to import 4 million ton of grains for food security, with fiscal implications. At the same time, irrigating cereals is not an option, due to scarce water resources. The challenge is to use rain better to increase and stabilize cereal production.

At Settat, the GEF grant financed purchase of direct seeding machines so that small farmers could seed without laboring the soil. This allows improving soil structure thus retaining better rainfall in the root zone. As a result of this intervention, small farmers saw yield raise by 50% in wet years and by 100% in dry years compared to traditional seeding. Based on these results, the government designed a subsidy nationwide that reduces the cost of the direct seeding machine to that of traditional seeding machines so to allow small farmers to access the technology.

For further information about the project, please see:

<u>http://www.projects.worldbank.org/P117081/integrating-climate-change-implementation-plan-</u> <u>maroc-vert?lang=en&tab=overview</u>

Date: November 13, 2016 (7:30-16:00)

Destination: Settat (2.5 hr NE of Marrakech), roundtrip transportation provided

To RSVP/for further information: christian Hofer, chofer@thegef.org

Please RSVPs ASAP