

HELLO
FROM
SUNNY
MOROCCO



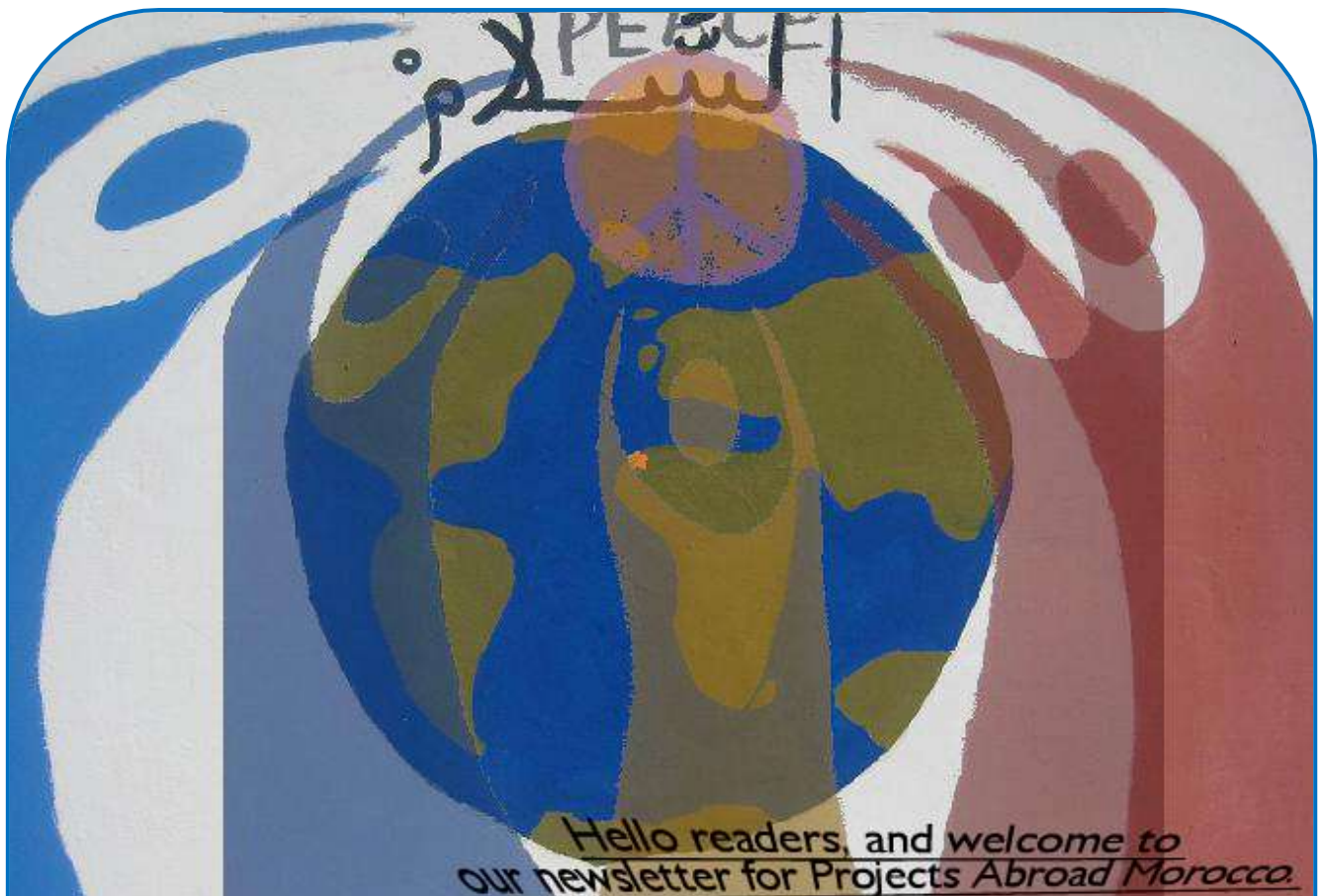
CONTENTS

WELCOME

Volunteers'
stories
Zoe – Human Rights

Overview of
Projects Abroad
Morocco

Volunteers'
update



Zoe – Human Rights

Morocco. From the disorientating business of its medinas to the majestic serenity of the Saharan dunes, this is a truly fascinating country. Based in the nation's capital, Rabat, I recently completed a seven week human rights internship through Projects Abroad. I was placed with a local organisation, *L'Espace Associatif*, which works in conjunction with other organisations to strengthen democracy in Morocco.



While I was there I had the opportunity to work on a wide variety of projects, including work with the World Bank and the United Nations' Beyond 2015 Development Framework. I was also able to attend numerous press conferences and seminars concerning human rights and democracy in Morocco. It was both a rewarding and, at times, very challenging experience. At times it was difficult to comprehend a country and political system that was so different to the one in Australia. However, the staff at *L'Espace Associatif* was welcoming, kind and interesting people. There was always a lot of laughter at the delicious daily lunches and I learnt a lot simply from talking to them about Morocco and its human rights situation.



Volunteers' stories

Work was not the only place I was warmly welcomed. Staying with a host family in the Rabat medina was a fantastic experience. Living with a family gave me the opportunity to more deeply understand everyday life in Morocco and to become immersed in the culture. At the beginning of my seven weeks I was sure I would always be constantly lost in the winding alleyways and bustling souks of the medina. However, after a while I was able to navigate my way with ease and greeting certain shopkeepers and café owners became part of my daily routine. The weekly get-together with the other volunteers and the Projects Abroad staff was also a highlight. Whether we were being treated to delicious Moroccan delicacies by one of the host families or playing pool at the local billiards club, the get-togethers were always a lot of fun. The Projects Abroad staff was also very supportive and ensured that everyone was able to make the most out of their time in Morocco.

Exploring the incredibly varied and incredibly beautiful cities and sights of Morocco on the weekends with the other volunteers was a great experience. From the picturesque blue medina of Chefchaouen, the theatricality of Marrakesh and the awe-inspiring beauty of the Sahara desert, Morocco never failed to disappoint. My experience in Morocco was vivid and rich. It was challenging and forced me to learn a lot about both the country and myself. It is a fascinating country and one that I hope to return to someday. Inshallah.



Overview of Projects Abroad Morocco

Overview:

Indeed Projects Abroad is a leading volunteering organization worldwide that offers a range of different projects in different fields. Five years ago Projects Abroad launched its destination in Morocco and we, too, have got different projects in collaboration with civil society members, associations and institutions, and that includes; teaching, human rights, care, sports, medicine, learning languages and culture and community as well as group programmes. Our office is located at the capital city of Morocco, Rabat <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rabat>. Also, our host families are placed in the old part of the city, Medina, this way our volunteers get to experience the Moroccan culture first hand. Over the past years we received great people from different nationalities who volunteered with us, helped people locally, explored the country and learnt from the experience.



Partners:

Our partners include different civil society members such as: Hospitals, schools, orphanages and associations. Our cooperation is based and shaped so as to offer our volunteers safe and cosy working conditions. Our partners are located mainly in Rabat and Sale thus we can always have the possibility to check on our volunteers so as to render their work an enjoyable experience. Moreover, the work placements have their own supervisor and staff to whom our volunteers can report to in case of any work or host-family related issues.

Overview of Projects Abroad Morocco

Staff team:

Our Moroccan team is made of five Moroccan youth who are experienced enough to make you stay with us as smooth, fruitful and enjoyable as sunny day breeze. Lead by Mr. Saad Rabai, country director, the team works in a chain-like manner to give harmony that makes one do his work with love and light spirit.

Saadrabai: Country Director	
Asmaa Hairan: Volunteers Manager	Adil Abdouli: Programme Officer
Yousef El Miadi: Social Officer	Soufian Mbarki: Desk officer

Why Projects Abroad Morocco?

The reasons to choose Morocco are numerous but to be brief here are the five reasons to love Morocco:

1. Weather: In Morocco one can still enjoy sun's rays even in the middle of the rainy season!
2. Staff: The Moroccan team is very welcoming and happily will answer all your enquiries!
3. Service: Our assistance to our volunteers starts before the project and doesn't end with the project!
4. Host families: The hospitality of our host families, I have to admit, make our volunteers feel like home and don't want to leave!

Children at placements: The children at the placements are beyond being describable. They are simply amazing and my advice to you is start sports and come with enough energy because they play, play and play!

