



Morocco's Experience in Food Risk Management: Sharing Expertise and Contributing to Capacity Building in Africa



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AFRAF Third meeting

المكتب الوطني للسلامة
الصحية للمنتجات الغذائية

ONSSA

مهامنا : السلامة الصحية للمنتجات الغذائية والحفاظ
على الصحة الحيوانية والنباتية
Our Missions : Food safety
and the preservation of animal and
plant health

Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter icons, onssamaroc, onssacom, WWW.ONSSA.GOV.MA, 080 100 36 37

The Creation of ONSSA — 2010

Toward an integrated food safety system in Morocco

Law No. 25-08 establishing ONSSA (Official Bulletin No. 5714, March 5, 2009) — a public institution with legal personality and financial autonomy.

● Before 2010

A fragmented system

Several separate entities were responsible for food control across the value chain.

● 2010



Institutional integration

ONSSA is created as the single authority for food safety, consolidating oversight into one body.

● 2020



“Green Generation” strategy

Morocco launches a new agricultural strategy, giving ONSSA an expanded role in its rollout.

About ONSSA

A public institution serving food safety

ONSSA (National Office for Food Safety) is a public institution established under Law No. 25-08, placed under the supervisory authority of the Ministry of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development, Water and Forests. It enjoys legal personality and financial autonomy.

On behalf of the Government, ONSSA exercises missions related to:

- Animal health and plant protection
- Food and feed control
- Homologation and inspection of agricultural inputs (seeds, phytopharmaceutical products, fertilizers) and licensing of veterinary drugs
- Implementation of laws and measures related to phytosanitary and veterinary police
- Risk assessment



A National Food Safety System in Continuous Improvement and modernization :

New organizational structure

A new organizational structure was introduced in **2026**.

Digitalization

Most ONSSA processes are now digitalized.

Electronic certification

Electronic certification is implemented with selected countries.

Public–private collaboration

Selected missions are delegated to the private sector.

Quality management

Quality management systems based on ISO 9001, ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO/IEC 17025.

Roadmap 2026–2030

A structured roadmap with rigorous monitoring and follow-up.

Organizational Structure

Central, regional and provincial structures

ONSSA is organized into central, regional and provincial structures, ensuring effective coverage and coordination of food safety, animal health and plant protection missions throughout the country.

1

Central Level

7 Central Directorates define national strategy and coordinate regional operations.

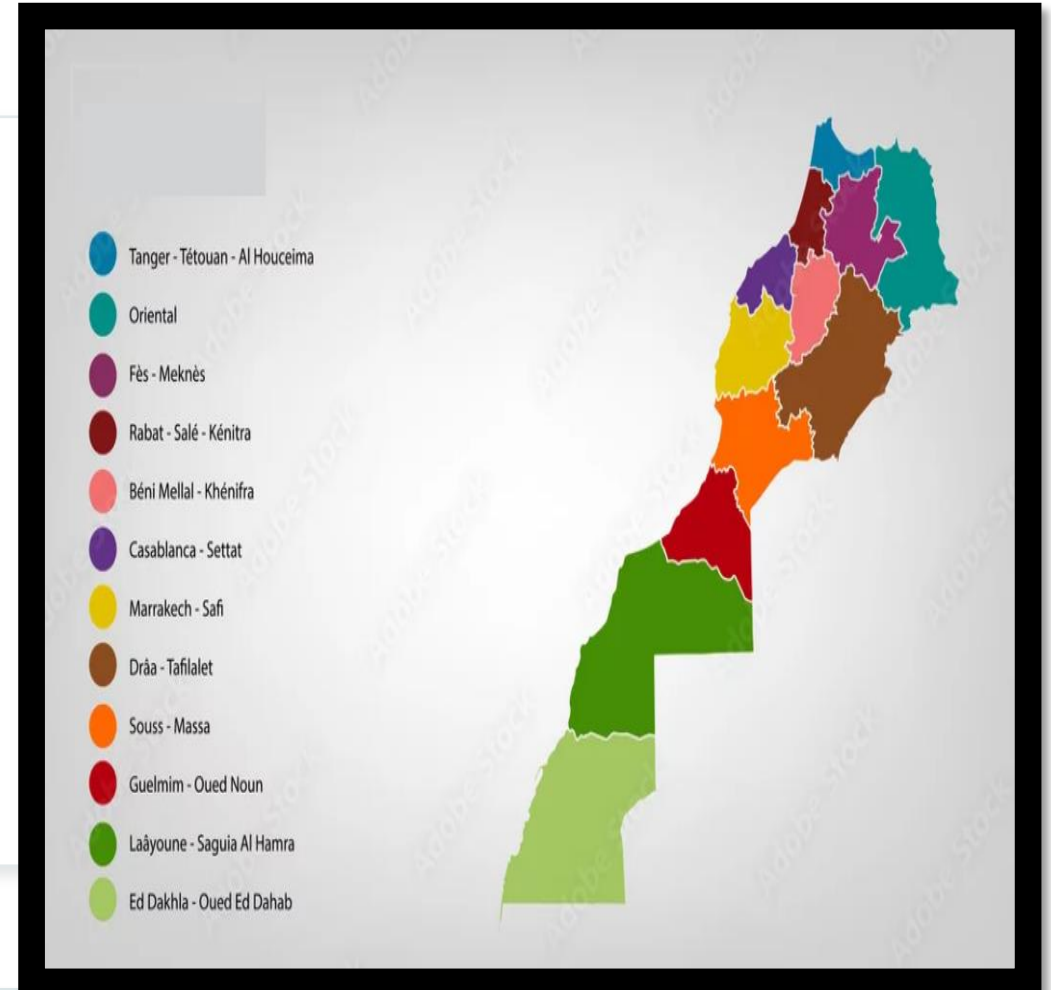
2

Regional Level

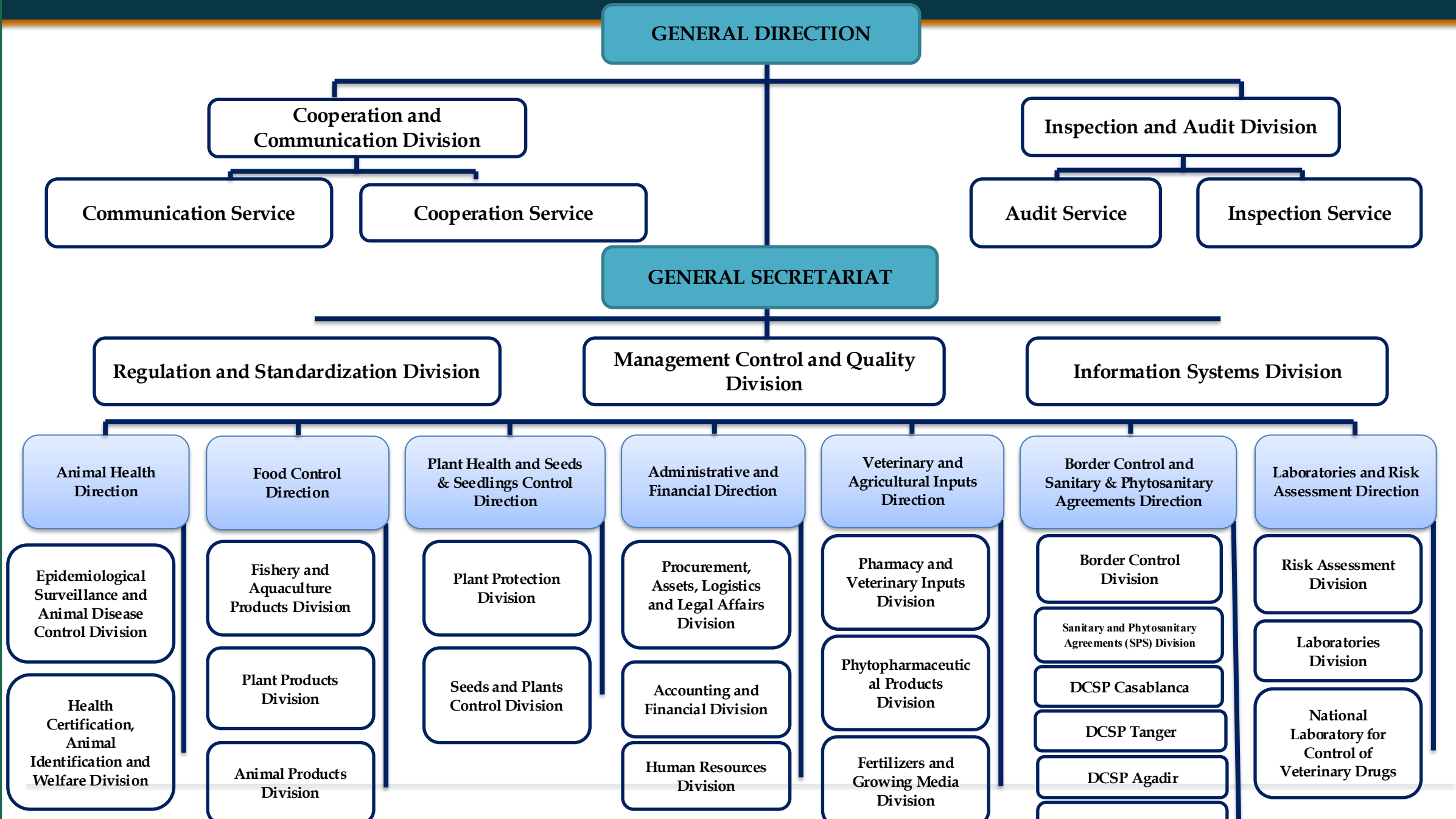
12 regional directions implement missions locally, backed by dedicated regional laboratories.

3

Provincial Level



Central Level



ONSSA Laboratory Network



ONSSA owns a network of modern and internationally recognized laboratories, equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and **accredited ISO 17025**.

9

Regional Laboratories of Analysis and Research

Tangier · Casablanca · Marrakech · Rabat · Agadir · Berkane · Laâyoune · Meknes · Beni Mellal

1

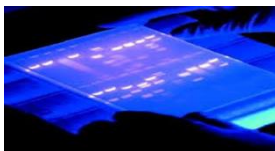
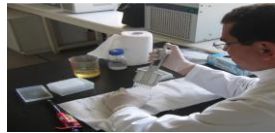
Plant Quarantine Laboratory

Bouznika

1

National Laboratory for Veterinary Medicine Control

Rabat



Diagnosis of animal and plant diseases

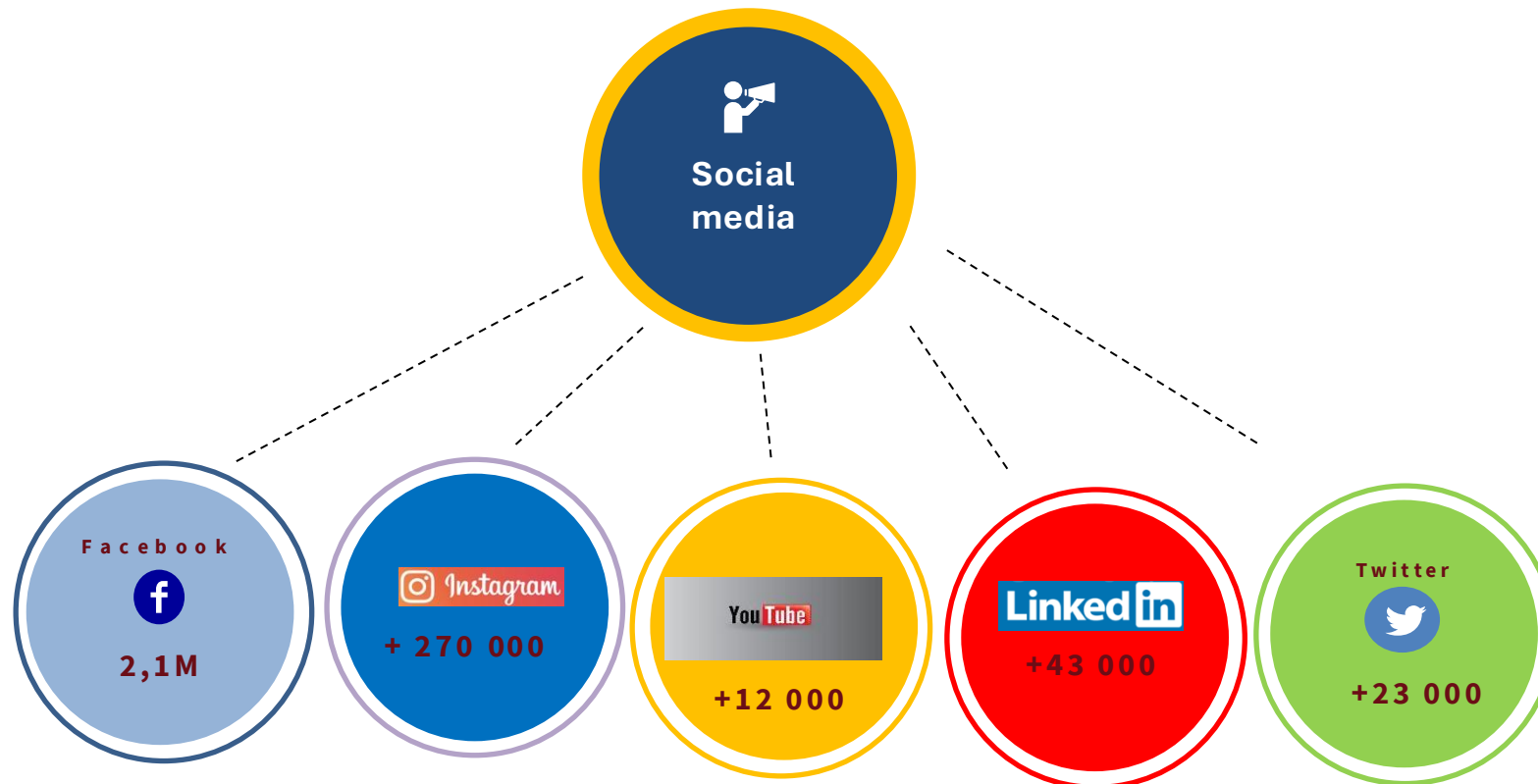
Food hygiene analysis

Pesticides residues, contaminants and additives

Conformity analysis of inputs (pesticides, seeds and plants, veterinary drugs, biocides, fertilizers, etc.)

Expertise and investigations including epidemiological investigations and analytical research falling within the scope of ONSSA's missions

Communication: a key component of ONSSA's priorities



ONSSA is the leading Moroccan public institution on Facebook and Instagram, with the highest number of followers."

L'ONSSA among the 5 first public institutions on LinkedIn twitter

Press:

During 2025:

- More than 20.000 media mentions related to ONSSA.
- More than 1,600 articles per month, including over 1,000 articles in the digital press.



Centre de Relation de l'ONSSA :
080 100 36 37
<http://www.onssa.gov.ma>

Awariness days : Building a Culture of Food Safety



Regional awareness days help bring food safety messages closer to communities, professionals and future generations.

ONSSA and International Cooperation

Three complementary dimensions of cooperation

Bilateral cooperation

More than 25 bilateral agreements have been signed since ONSSA was established in 2010.

Technical support • Expertise transfer •
Information exchange

Multilateral cooperation

Participation in cooperation programmes with partners such as FAO, World Bank, UNIDO, IAEA and the European Union.

Projects • Training • Technical assistance
• International networks

South–South cooperation

Sharing ONSSA's operational experience with countries of the South through workshops, seminars, study visits, technical exchanges and training.



ONSSA International Cooperation Network



Some of the Agreements signed with Bilateral Partners



Germany



Belgium



China



France



Spain



Netherlands



Russia



Japan



USA (USDA)



Saudi Arabia



UAE



COOPERATION
& SYNERGY



Multilateral partners



WOAH (OMSA/OIE)



World Bank (WB)



FAO



US FDA



WTO / SPS



European Union (EU)



IPPC (CIPV)

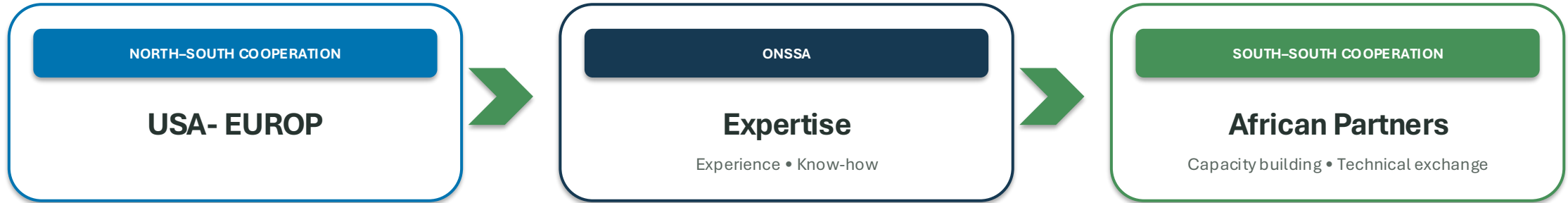


Mauritania, Gabon, Sénégal

From North–South Cooperation to South–South Cooperation

Sharing expertise, experience and knowledge across regions

Expertise is shared, adapted and transferred



A CONCRETE EXAMPLE OF NORTH–SOUTH COOPERATION



ONSSA – BfR (Germany)

15–17 September 2026 • Rabat

Training workshop on phytopharmaceutical products

ONSSA – BVL (Germany)

Project under Discussion for 2027 • Rabat

International Training for Safer Food in africa

ONSSA's Cooperation with African Countries

From institutional dialogue to practical technical exchange

FOOD SAFETY

Official controls and sanitary inspection

ANIMAL HEALTH

Veterinary services and disease control

PLANT HEALTH

Phytosanitary protection and technical expertise

LABORATORIES

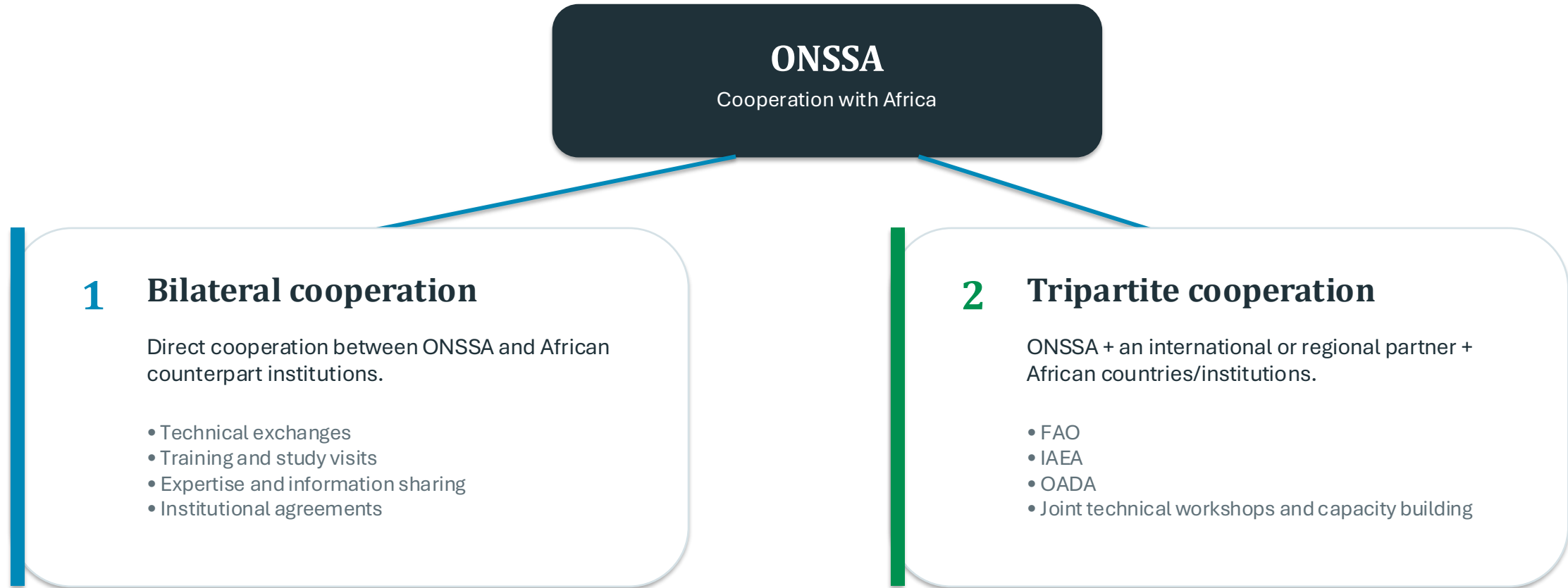
Analytical methods and laboratory capacity

SPS & TRADE

Technical requirements and market access

Two Levels of Cooperation

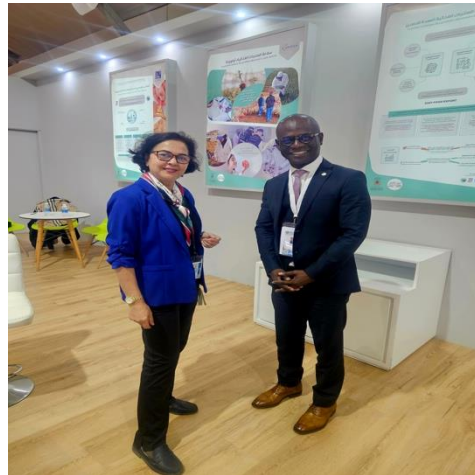
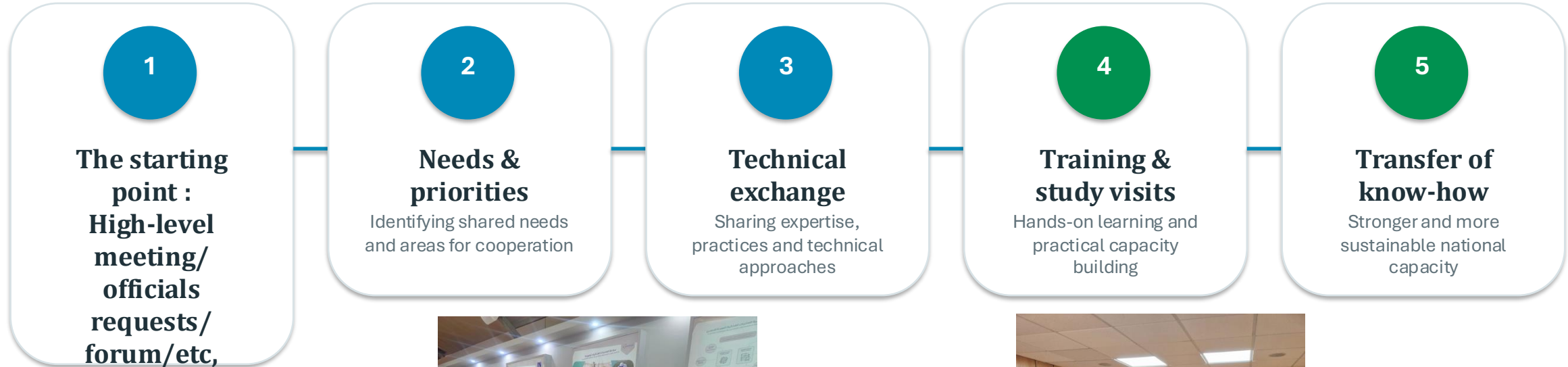
ONSSA's cooperation with African partners combines direct institutional partnerships and tripartite technical cooperation.



From direct partnerships to shared platforms: cooperation is built around knowledge sharing and capacity building.

From High-Level Dialogue/contacts/ meetings to Practical Cooperation

Dialogue creates the link; technical cooperation turns it into a concrete cooperation



Meeting with GD of AGASA (Gabon) avril 2025



Meeting with H.E. the Ambassador of Madagascar • 23 July 2025

What ONSSA Brings to South–South Cooperation

Practical experience that can be shared through targeted technical partnerships

Operational expertise

Official controls, sanitary inspection and implementation experience.

Technical & laboratory capacity

Analytical methods, laboratory organization and technical know-how.

Training & knowledge transfer

Study visits, workshops, technical placements and expert exchange.

SPS & regulatory experience

Experience with sanitary/phytosanitary requirements, certification and market access.

The approach is based on sharing experience and learning through cooperation

Mauritania: A Concrete Example of South–South Cooperation

From institutional agreements to technical exchange and training



2017 — ONSSA / ONISPA (National Office for Sanitary Inspection of Fishery and Aquaculture Products)

Cooperation protocol signed; several training

For 2026: 3 trainings are planned for Nov–Dec 2026.

2022 — Animal production & health

Cooperation agreement signed in the fields of animal production and animal health.

2025 - Cooperation expanded

Draft agreement with AMSA (Mauritanian Food Safety Agency) created in 2023

A long-term partnership built through institutional dialogue, training and practical technical cooperation.

ONSSA – IAEA – Africa

A practical model of tripartite cooperation on food safety



**Third Technical Meeting on Food Safety in Africa • Marrakech •
7–11 October 2024**

FAO/ OADA : Regional Knowledge Sharing: Pesticide Registration and Safe Use



OADA/FAO regional workshop • July 2025

12 participating countries

IAEA: Regional workshop on integrated fruit-fly management using the Sterile Insect Technique (SIT).



28–30 April 2025 | | Agadir • Regional African workshop

16 participating countries

Another Successful Model of Triangular Cooperation: ONSSA – **Consumer Protection Associations** – African Countries



The city of Laâyoune, hosted a study day (22 November **2025**) organized by the **Moroccan Federation for Consumer Rights**, with the participation of official delegations representing consumer protection associations from **Mauritania, Senegal, Mali, and Côte d'Ivoire**.

“Consumer Protection: Advancing African South–South Cooperation”

PHOTO TIMELINE

Selected milestones of ONSSA's cooperation with African partners

2015 → 2016 → 2017 → 2018 → 2019 → 2020 → 2021 → 2022 → 2023 → 2024 → 2025 → 2026

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2015



2015

11 June 2015 | **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

Visit by Ms. Ida K. Naserwa, Director General of the Bukanga-Lonzo Agro-Industrial Park, to ONSSA.

Institutional exchange around **Morocco's food-safety experience**.



2015

05 October 2015 | **Gabon**

Two officials from the Gabonese Food Safety Agency (AGASA) were hosted for a two-week study visit **under the 2014 ONSSA-AGASA cooperation protocol**.

Study visit focused on food-safety cooperation and institutional experience.

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2016–2017



2016

04–11 December 2016 | **Côte d'Ivoire**

A delegation of eight senior officials visited Morocco as part of the launch of a project to **establish a food-safety agency**.

Exchange on institutional design and food-safety governance.



2017

03–14 July 2017 | **Union of the Comoros**

Two officials undertook a study visit on the institutional and legal environment of **animal health**

Meetings with ONSSA central and regional services and relevant agricultural authorities.

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2018–2019



2018

24 October 2018 | **Burkina Faso**

Eight officials visited ONSSA and learned about the Office's mandates, particularly in **animal health**.

Both sides expressed interest in strengthening bilateral veterinary health cooperation.



2019

20 February 2019 | **Côte d'Ivoire**

Five officials from Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Agriculture visited ONSSA's Regional Laboratory of Analyses and Research in Casablanca.

Focus on laboratory analyses and research across the ONSSA laboratory network.

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2019–2020



2019

01 July 2019 | **Mali** | South–South / Morocco–FAO

Three officials from Mali's Ministry of Livestock visited ONSSA.

South–South / Morocco–FAO cooperation; **focus on laboratories and the safety of animal products and by-products.**



2020

30 January 2020 | **Niger**

Seven senior officials led by the Secretary General of the Agriculture Department visited ONSSA during a working visit to Morocco.

Focus included **ONSSA's mandates, particularly in animal health.**

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2021–2022



2021

14 October 2021 | **Gabon**

The Ambassador of the Republic of Gabon to Morocco received by ONSSA’s Director General
Institutional dialogue and prospects for cooperation.



2022

22 June 2022 | **Nigeria**

14 Nigerian officials visited ONSSA’s Regional Laboratory of Analyses and Research in Bouznika.

Focus on **laboratory analyses and research, particularly cereal seeds.**

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2022–2023



2022

July 2022 | **Burundi**

visit of a Burundian delegation to ONSSA.

Institutional exchange and cooperation between Moroccan and Burundian counterparts.



2023

20 June 2023 | **Madagascar** | IFAD/Morocco Triangular Cooperation

A delegation from Madagascar’s Ministry of Agriculture visited ONSSA.

IFAD/Morocco Triangular Cooperation; **focus on plant health and certification of seeds** and planting material.

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2023–2024



2023

31 October 2023 | **Kenya**

A delegation from Kenya’s Trade Network Agency (KENTRADE) visited ONSSA in Rabat.

Discussions covered **information systems and digitalization** of sanitary and phytosanitary control procedures.



2024

06 February 2024 | **Nigeria**

Around 30 Nigerian officials from several departments visited ONSSA during a study visit to Morocco.

Focus on ONSSA’s role in **sanitary and phytosanitary certification of agri-food products for import and export**.

Selected Cooperation Milestones



2026

May 2026 | **Burkina Fasso**

A Delegation from Burkina Faso Representing the **Poultry Sector**

2025

25 June 2025 | **Senegal**

ONSSA and **Senegal’s National Laboratory for Research and Control (LANAC)** signed a cooperation protocol.

Objective: exchange expertise and strengthen technical and scientific skills.

Selected Cooperation Milestones

Photo timeline | 2026



2026

03–07 August 2026 | **Burkina Faso**

A technical officer from **ANSSEAT** (l’Agence Nationale de Sécurité Sanitaire de l’Environnement, de l’Alimentation, du Travail et des Produits de Santé / **National Agency** for Health Security of the Environment, Food, Labour and Health Products

Focus on strengthening **laboratory analytical capacities** for food safety.



2026

06–17 April 2026 | **Benin** | Triangular cooperation

ONSSA hosted officials from the Beninese Agency for Food Safety (ABSSA), with support from **ENABEL**.

Triangular cooperation • Programme included central and regional meetings and field visits to provincial control services.

Priority needs identified through institutional and technical cooperation

1

Understanding the Moroccan Model (usually from high level officials , during a requested meeting through Diplomatic

Institutional structure, governance, oversight and mandate

2

Strengthening Analytical Laboratory Capacities (training from 1 to 4 weeks)

3

Animal and Plant Health (usually workshops organized by OADA/ FAO / IAEA)

4

Control of food and feed

5

Quality Management System

6

Digitalization of Processes

Let's Cooperate and Build Sustainable Partnerships

Together, we can build a Safer Food in Africa



Sharing expertise



Building capacity



Strengthening cooperation



Knowledge & innovation



Institutional and technical partnerships



Exchange, adaptation and innovation





Thank you

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