## **BMCE BANK FOUNDATION -PRESTIGIOUS AWARDS**

#### THE FRENCH REPUBLIC'S LEGION D'HONNEUR

Dr Leïla Mezian-Benjelloun, BMCE Bank Foundation's Chair, was awarded the Officer medal of the French Republic's *Légion* d'Honneur Tuesday 3 March 2020 in Rabat. This decoration was presented to her by France's Ambassador to Morocco, Mrs Hélène Le Gal, at a ceremony attended by several Moroccan and French dignitaries from the diplomatic, political and business world.

#### PHONORARY PRESIDENT OF TEACH FOR MOROCCO

Dr Leila Mezian Benjelloun has accepted an invitation to become Teach for Morocco's Honorary President.

#### AFRICAN-NESS AWARD

Dr Leila Mezian Benjelloun was honoured recognition of her initiative, commitment and The African-ness Award was presented to her 23 November 2020 at the 'ICESCO Day for





# BMCE BANK FOUNDATION, AN UNRIVALLED COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

BANK OF AFRICA Group's commitment to the Kingdom's economic and social development is underpinned by a deep-seated belief that education plays a vital role in economic, social and cultural development. Established in 1995, its Foundation's primary aim is to support the actions of the public authorities in combating illiteracy, pupil drop-out and young girls not attending school. With this in mind, BMCE Bank Foundation for Education and the Environment provides pragmatic and long-term solutions to the challenges of providing education in the Kingdom's underprivileged areas and in those countries in which the Group has operations. Its actions are aimed at improving access to education and combating insecurity as a result of educational inequality in an era of digital development.

Through its flagship Medersat.com programme which focuses on pre-school and primary education, more than 10,000 children in Morocco and sub-Saharan Africa are provided with an education.

The Foundation's educational programme, which espouses values such as tolerance, modernity and open-mindedness, encourages foreign language learning as well as promoting the use of mother tongues such as Tamazight.

This ground-breaking initiative in Morocco has been made possible as a result of a number of partnerships. These include those with Hassan II University's Confucius Institute and the Chinese Embassy for Mandarin Chinese teaching, the French Institute in Morocco for high-quality French teaching and the Royal Institute for Berber Culture (IRCAM), renowned for its expertise in teaching Tamazight.

BMCE Bank Foundation's commitment to environmental causes was further highlighted in the Eco-Schools programme, in partnership with the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection. In addition to incorporating environmental aspects into the construction of schools, the Eco-Schools programme is an educational project that raises pupils' awareness about sustainable development and invites them to adopt eco-friendly behaviour in their daily lives

#### **BMCE BANK FOUNDATION'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Promote education in rural areas in Morocco and Africa by espousing values that combine tradition, modernity and Make preschool open-mindedness education available to all and stand out by means Replicate past successes of an innovative in sub-Saharan Africa educational approach and high-quality infrastructure and equipment Instill sustainable Introduce modern development awareness technological learning and environmentally aids to prepare future generations for society's STRATEGIC GOALS friendly behaviour in students from an early digital transformation age Instill in students, from an early age, sustainable Build eco-friendly development principles, sustainable schools in behaviour and an rural areas environmentally conscious way of life Provide a multilingual education and promote the use of mother tongues, especially Tamazight

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF BMCE BANK FOUNDATION BMCE Bank Foundation for Education and the 1995 Environment established 1998 Medersat.com programme launched 2000 First schools in rural communities set up • Awarded the 'WISE Award' by the Qatar Foundation at the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) in Doha 2013 • L'Ecole de la Palmeraie, a documentary produced for the Foundation, awarded a 'Gold Dolphin' in the Education category at the Cannes Corporate Media & TV Awards Mandarin Chinese teaching introduced after a partnership was formed with Hassan II University's 2014 Confucius Institute and the Chinese Embassy • Partnership agreement formed with the French Institute of Morocco to deliver French lessons to Medersat.com network teachers 2016 • Awarded the Rockefeller Foundation's 'Bridging Leadership Award' in New-York • Dr Leila Mezian Benjelloun, the Foundation's Chair, awarded the Al Arsh Wissam by His Partnership agreement signed with the Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Majesty King Mohammed VI 2017 Protection as part of the Eco-Schools programme • Partnership agreement signed with the Ministry of National Education to build 2018 pre-school units in public institutions • Medersat.com school opened in Rwanda and the • Dr Leïla Mezian-Benjelloun, BMCE Bank Daara-Rama Franco-Arab college in Diamandio, Foundation's Chair, awarded the Officer Dakar 2019 medal of the French Republic's Légion Cooperation bolstered with the Confucius d'Honneur Tuesday 3 March 2020 in Rabat Institute to extend face-to-face Mandarin • Partnership agreement signed with the Chinese teaching to Boujdour school pupils French Institute of Morocco to enhance the quality of French language teaching at primary level across the Medersat.com 2020 network · Medersat.com Academy established, a virtual training institute • Dr Leila Mezian Benjelloun, BMCE Bank Foundation Chair awarded the African-

ness Award 2020, as well becoming Honorary Chair of Teach for Morocco