

QUICK REFERENCE

NATE Project — Fact Sheet

Total Solar Eclipse, Morocco — August 2, 2027

Key Dates

- **Main event:** Monday, August 2, 2027 — total solar eclipse over Northern Morocco
- **Rehearsal:** August 12, 2026 — training eclipse in Palencia, Spain
- **Programme window:** October 2026 – September 2027 (recruitment through post-eclipse reporting)

Location & Scope

- **Region:** Northern Morocco, along ~450 km of coastline from Asilah to Saïdia
- **Network:** ~10 synchronized telescope stations, one per community hub
- **Logistics hubs:** Tangier (international airport) and Nador (regional airport)

Scientific Goals

- Capture the dynamics of magnetic fields and plasma in the solar corona
- Extend continuous coronal observation to ~**10 minutes** by combining staggered totality across stations — far beyond the few minutes any single site could capture
- Contribute to forecasting **space weather**: the solar flares and coronal mass ejections that can disrupt satellites, power grids, and communications
- Train participating teams in data-processing techniques applicable to a wide range of future scientific research

Observing Conditions

- **Totality duration:** ranges from ~4 minutes (Saïdia) to nearly **5 minutes** at the longest station (Martil/Tétouan, ~4m 54s)
- **Sun altitude during totality:** up to approximately **40°** above the horizon — a highly favorable, high-altitude viewing angle
- Considered the **longest total solar eclipse recorded in Morocco in centuries**

People & Partners

- **25–30** trained field-team members: students, teachers, astronomers, and engineers from Spain, Morocco, and the United States
- Led by **IAC** (Spain), with **UM6P** (Morocco) and **NSO** (United States) as core partners

- Plus local municipalities and youth associations across all ten host communities

Public Outreach

- **10** community hubs doubling as public outreach centers
- **SpaceBus** mobile outreach unit touring all hubs for ~ 1 month around the eclipse
- Guided solar observation, solar-glasses workshops, and solar-system model-making for schools and families

Legacy

- All station equipment **donated to host communities** after the eclipse
 - Data feeds international eclipse-science collaborations led by IAC, UM6P, and NSO
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