

- **Vincent Melilli, Founding Partner, Morocco**

From 1981 to 1989, Vincent Melilli founded and managed the Escorial Cinema in Paris, and he directed the theater known as Max Linder on the Grands Boulevards in Paris from 1987 to 1998. He also developed the Cinema and Communications Department of the Maison de la Culture de Bourges (Central Region) from 1996 to 1998, headed the French Institute of Marrakech (institution under the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs) from 1998 to 2002, and held the positions of Audiovisual Attaché and Director of the French Institute in the United Kingdom in London from 2002 to 2004. These experiences naturally led Mr. Melilli to found the School of Visual Arts in Marrakech in order to help train a new generation of filmmakers in a region that previously had lacked the resources to provide them with proper arts education. From 2004 to 2006, Mr. Melilli developed and created the Visual Arts School of Marrakech, including the curriculum and architectural program, as well as supervised work and organized the first entrance examination. Since 2006, he has held the position of Managing Director of the School of Visual Arts in Marrakech. Responsibilities include orchestrating the enrollment and leadership development of students, hiring and managing faculty and staff, as well as many other administrative and financial responsibilities. Since 2011 he was one of the partners of Greenhouse, a Development Program for Mediterranean Documentary Filmmakers and is now a is now, along with the founding members of Greenhouse team, a leading partner for Close-Up, an international co-production initiative for emerging Middle East and North African filmmakers.