



WFP Tunisia and Morocco Country Brief

May 2018

Operational Context

Tunisia has undergone significant change following the Jasmine Revolution of January 2011. The strategic direction of the Government currently focuses on strengthening democracy, while laying the groundwork for a stronger economic recovery. Tunisia has a GNI per capita of USD 11,250 purchasing power parity (World Bank, 2015). The 2016 UNDP Human Development Report ranks Tunisia 97 out of 188 countries and as 58 on the Gender Inequality Index (GII 2015).

Morocco is a middle income, yet food-deficit country where the agricultural production fluctuates yearly as a result of weather variations and relies heavily on international markets to meet its consumption needs. Morocco is ranked 123 out of 188 countries in the 2016 HDI and as 113 on the GII 2015.

WFP has positioned itself on a technical advisory role through capacity reinforcement activities in both countries, with the provision of technical assistance aiming to improve the national school meals systems.



Population:
Tunisia: **11 million**
Morocco: **33.8 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
Tunisia: **97 out of 188**
Morocco: **123 out of 188**

Income Level:
Tunisia: **Lower middle**
Morocco: **Lower middle**

In Numbers

US\$1.6 m allocated by the Tunisian Government for the construction and equipment of two pilot kitchens

WFP provides capacity strengthening activities aimed at enhancing government-run national school meals programmes.

The national programmes reach **250,000 children** (120,000 girls and 130,000 boys) **in Tunisia**; and **1.4 m children** (658,000 girls and 742,000 boys) **in Morocco**.

Operational Updates

Tunisia:

- During the month of May, WFP signed a set of Field Level Agreements (FLAs) with three local NGOs to execute school garden improvements, as well as to build the capacity of local smallholder farmers to participate in the school meals supply chain. The FLAs include scopes of work extending until 31 December 2018. WFP currently has 4 active FLAs with national NGOs: *Un Repas Pour Chaque Tunisien* (URCPT, A meal for every Tunisian, signed in April), *Association Tunisienne de Protection de la Nature et de l'Environnement - Korba* (ATPNE, Tunisian association for the protection of nature and the environment - Korba), *Groupement de Développement Agricole "Amal" Jeradou* (GDA Amal, Rural Development Group Amal - Jeradou), and *Groupement Femenin de Développement Agricole Nadhour* (GFDA Nadhour, Women's Rural Development Group).
- On 10 and 15 May, a WFP communications expert provided training for ministerial staff at the central and regional level on how to improve the media coverage and visibility of the Ministry's activities, as well as its social media presence. A total of 51 officials - 26 regional focal points and 25 staff at central level, including 10 members of the Ministry's communications team, and 15 senior ministerial staff - participated in the training sessions, and benefitted from individual follow-up sessions.

Morocco:

- On 23 May, the Ministry of General Affairs and Governance (MAGG) notified WFP of its agreement to launch Morocco's Country Strategic Review (CSR), with the research to be conducted by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). On 30-31 May, WFP met with the consultant who will lead the research, the Lead Convener for the CSR and representatives of ECA and FAO. The MAGG agreed will convene an inter-ministerial advisory board meeting on 20 June to validate the work plan and ensure all relevant Government stakeholders' participation.

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Main Photo

Credit: WFP / Rein Skullerud
Caption: Children planting seedlings at the Jradou primary school, Zaghouan, Tunisia.

WFP Country Strategy (Tunisia)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Seven-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June – December)
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Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

4.3 m	2.9 m	-
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Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening (SDG 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 1: National institutions in Tunisia have strengthened capacity to implement enhanced school meals and social protection programmes which advance food security and nutrition by 2022.

Focus area: Root Causes

WFP Country Activities (Tunisia CSP)

SO 1

1- Provide policy advice and technical assistance to national institutions implementing school meals and social protection programmes.

Monitoring

Tunisia:

- WFP, UNOPS, regional representatives of the Ministry of Education and school directors sat together to validate the technical specifications to launch a tender to identify the construction company(ies) which will perform the canteen upgrades for six selected canteens operating under the decentralized school feeding model. In addition, UNOPS will also manage the upgrade of two additional school canteens in satellite schools to be linked to the central kitchen pilot in Nadhour.
- WFP held several pilot project working group meetings with the GFDA Nadhour. The FLA signed on 15 May includes a scope of work covering improvements for the school garden situated next to the central kitchen, as well as continued training for the GFDA members, to strengthen their capacity to promote the use of locally produced foods in school meals, contribute to job creation and enhance local development.

Challenges

Tunisia:

- The Government has selected the first warehouse site to launch the food bank pilot in Rakada, Kairouan governorate. The choice was validated by the Minister of Education during a meeting which took place on 16 May. WFP will support the Government in improving the building to the technical specifications in terms of quality and safety, and to set up the supply chain management system for the food bank.

Tunisia to host the 20th annual Global Child Nutrition Forum in October 2018

Tunisia has been confirmed as host country for the 2018 [Global Child Nutrition Forum](#), which will take place in Tunis on 21-25 October. Organized annually by the Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF) and WFP's Centre of Excellence against Hunger, the mission of the Forum is to help governments around the world build national school meal programs that are locally-sourced and country-operated.

Marking the event's 20th anniversary, this will be the first time the Forum is held in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

In May, the Ministry of Education set up an internal Commission for the organization of the forum, which includes 5 sub-commissions on content, logistics, security; information and communication, and foreign relations. WFP is working closely with the Ministry of Education to facilitate the preparations for the Forum.

WFP is the Government's key partner to improve national school meals in the framework of the WFP Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022).

WFP Country Strategy (Morocco)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Confirmed Contributions (in USD)	Seven-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June – December)
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Morocco Transitional –Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)

0.214 m	-	0.12 m
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Strategic Result 5: Capacity Strengthening (SDG 17.9)

Strategic Outcome 1: National institutions in Morocco have strengthened capacity to implement enhanced school meals and social protection programmes which advance food security and nutrition by 2018.

Focus area: Root Causes

WFP Country Activities (Morocco T-I CSP)

SO 1

1- Provide policy advice and technical assistance to national institutions implementing school meals and social protection programmes.