



WFP Tunisia and Morocco Country Brief

June 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**

GNI per Capita (PPP):
Tunisia (in USD): **US\$ 3,500**
Morocco: **US\$ 2,870**

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 Programme (NSMP).

The national programme 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:

- From 26 to 28 June, 87 representatives of the Office for Scholastic Services (*OOESCO – Office des Oeuvre Scolaire Ministry of Education*) from all the governorates in Tunisia participated in the Storage Management Training conducted by Emmanuel Drouhin, a supply chain expert for WFP School Feeding Programme in Jordan. The participants were actively engaged in productive discussions and shared the challenges they faced in conducting their responsibilities as Heads of the catering and accommodation office (*Chefs du bureau de l'alimentation et de l'hébergement - OOESCO*). The training strengthened their capacity to manage efficiently the flow of supplies directed to the school kitchens for the preparation of nutritious meals.
- As part of WFP Tunisia's Gender Transformation Programme (GTP) Improvement Plan, WFP participated in a workshop on "*Social Representation of Gender Base Violence (GBV) amongst the male population in Tunisia*". The workshop was organized by the Women Centre for Research, Study, Documentation and Information (*CREDIF-Centre de recherche, d' Etude, de Documentation et d'Information sur la Femme*). In line with the recommendations, WFP Tunisia agreed to partner with CREDIF in spreading gender equality messaging via the NSFP' activities.

Morocco:

- The Ministry of General Affairs and Governance (MAGG) convened an inter-ministerial advisory board meeting on 20 June, officially launching Morocco's Country Strategic Review (CSR). The meeting resulted in the validation of the CSR work plan and called on all relevant Government stakeholders to participate to the CSR process.
- WFP and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) signed an agreement for ECA to provide the research support that will inform the Morocco CSR.

Main Photo

Credit: WFP / Rein Skullerud
Caption: Boy planting seedlings at the school garden in the Jradou school, Zaghouan governorate

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WFP Country Strategy (Tunisia)

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

4.3 m	2.9 m	0
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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.



WFP Country Strategy (Morocco)

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

0.214 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.



Challenges

Morocco:

- While Morocco's inflation rate is one of the lowest in the region, price increases are grazing a five-year high, triggering some social unrest. Increases in the prices of dairy products, mineral water and fuel triggered a social-media-driven boycott campaign that has hit the balance sheets of companies such as French food giant Danone.

Monitoring

Tunisia:

- On 20 June, a first Steering Committee meeting between the Nadhour Women's Rural Development Group (*GFDA Groupement Femenin de Développement Agricole Nadhour*) and the Development Association of the pilot primary school *Henchir El Jadid I* (*ADEP - Association de Développement de l'Ecoles primaires*) was held in the framework of the agreement signed between GFDA and the Ministry of Education. The role of the Committee is to formally monitor and report on the rehabilitation of the school. The Committee endorsed the school garden's revitalization plan and set the dates for the GFDA and ADEP trainings aimed at promoting the use of locally produced foods in school meals, contribute to job creation and enhance local development.
- WFP held several meetings with its cooperating partners (CPs) to ensure guidance and coordination in the revitalization of the school gardens. A number of 3 out of the 10 selected school gardens for 2018 are ready to supply the school canteens with fresh vegetables and agro-processed foods when school starts in September 2018. Meanwhile, upgrading work has started in the remaining 7 gardens.

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](#) (GCN 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 programmes 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 June, the GCN Forum Preparation Commission composed by WFP, the representatives of the Ministry of Education, Women, Foreign Affairs and the national NGO Women for School Meals (*FCS- Femmes pour le Cantines Scolaires*) met in several occasions to facilitate the preparations of the event. The Forum's venue and the schools selected for field visits during the event were endorsed in the meeting chaired by the Minister of Education H.E. Hatem Ben Salem on 22 June.