



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tunisia and Morocco Country Brief August 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 Index (HDI) 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**

2016 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\$ 3,690**
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.**

The National School Meals Programme reached **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:

- The upgrading and refurbishment works for the first food school bank's warehouse in Tunisia have started in order to meet security and safety standards. The warehouse, identified in the Mahmoud Messaadi College (Mornag delegation, Grand Tunis region), is part of WFP's support to the Tunisian Government in strengthening regulatory frameworks and tools of the National School Meals Programme (NSMP) using blockchain technology. The food school bank (BAS - *Banque Alimentaire Scolaire*) will address the food supply stock-outs experienced by school canteens by applying a transparent and more accountable system of tracking deliveries.
- WFP continues to support the Ministry of Education in setting up the first central kitchen pilot in the primary school Henchir El Jadid in Nadhour. Installation of the kitchen and canteen's equipment and upgrading work for two satellite schools have started. The Regional Commission of Education (CRE - *Commissariat Regional Education*) identified a number of cooks who will take part in the hygiene and cooking training to be facilitated by WFP in September. The Nadhour kitchen pilot is expected to produce daily meals, delivering lunches to five satellite schools in the rural area of Nadhour, as well as fulfil the nutrition needs of 1,500 boys and girls.
- WFP Tunisia is conducting the preparation phase of its first Decentralized Evaluation (DE). The Evaluation Function Steering Group has approved WFP Tunisia application to the Contingency Evaluation Fund (CEF) for a total of US\$ 69,609. The DE aims at informing WFP Tunisia and its counterparts (MoE and MoA, mainly) on the strategic directions to be undertaken to successfully achieve Tunisia CSP's outcomes. WFP is now in the process of selecting the evaluation team and preparing the document library.

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WFP Country Strategy (Tunisia)



Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
4.3 m	2.9 m	0

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

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

Activities:

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

WFP Country Strategy (Morocco)



Morocco Transitional –Interim Country Strategic Plan (2018)		
Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
0.214 m	-	-

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

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

Activities:

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

Morocco:

- The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) continues to work closely with the Ministry of Health and Agriculture to inform the Morocco Country Strategic Review (CSR). The first findings of the CSR have been discussed internally, and the Morocco CSP Concept Note was presented during the Integrated Road Map (IRM) regional workshop held in Cairo on 27-28 August.

Monitoring

Tunisia:

- During the month of August, WFP Tunisia's Programme unit conducted five field visits in three different regions to monitor the progress accomplished by its cooperating partners (CPs).

- The GFDA Nadhour (GFDA - *Groupement Feminin de Development Agricole*) composed by 22 rural women, completed the set-up of the 1 ha school garden and collected the first seasonal production to supply the Nadhour kitchen pilot.
- The GDA Amal in Jeradou, Zaghouan Governorate started the food processing of several school garden produce to be used for meals preparation.
- In Ariana governorate, WFP's CP, *Un Repas Pour Chaque Tunisien* (URPCT), finalized the installation of Sidi Tabeth Primary school garden's irrigation system, while in the Governorate of Korba, the *Association Tunisienne de la Protection de la nature et de l'environnement* (ATPNE) held the first steering committee meeting with the representative of the Ministry of Education, the school director and the governor, and endorsed the revitalization plan of Boulazard primary school garden for 2018.

Challenges

Tunisia:

- WFP Tunisia is advocating for and supporting the engagement of the Tunisian civil society to promote the enhancement and sustainability of the NSMP. Notably, WFP is collaborating with the Tunisian non-governmental organizations to build their capacity in terms of organizational, management and communication competencies. These capacity-building activities are part of the signed FLAs and require a high level of engagement of WFP staff in sensitize and train its CPs to ensure they successfully perform the programme operations.

Partnerships

Tunisia:

- In May, WFP Tunisia signed Field Level Agreements with five CPs who will be in charge of the revitalisation of six school gardens out of the ten planned for 2018. WFP's CPs are now operational in four different governorates across the country.

Tunisia to Host the 20th Annual Global Child Nutrition Forum in October 2018

WFP Tunisia is supporting the Government of Tunisia in preparing the 2018 [Global Child Nutrition Forum](#) (GCN Forum), set to take place in Tunis on 21-25 October. A High Level Dialogue will take place in the framework of the WFP MENA Initiative for School Meals and Social Protection. The panel, entitled "Education and School Meals Programmes as an instrument for Enhanced Social Inclusion and Stability in the MENA region", will bring together WFP high-level delegations across the world and ministers who preside over the national institutions in charge of school meals programmes to share concrete examples, challenges and success stories on how national school meals programmes can provide substantive contributions to ensuring peace and stability.

Donors

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).