



World Food Programme

SAVING
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WFP Tunisia and Morocco

Country Brief

September 2018



Operational Context

Tunisia has undergone significant changes 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 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 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 reach **250,000 children** (120,000 girls and 130,000 boys) **in Tunisia**; and **1.4 m children** (660,000 girls and 740,000 boys) **in Morocco**

Operational Updates

Tunisia:

- WFP continues to support the Ministry of Education in setting up a pilot central kitchen, which will provide daily meals to 1,500 children in the hub school and five satellite schools in the Nadhour district of the Zaghuan governorate. The construction works for the central kitchen were completed, and the equipment is being installed – both infrastructure and equipment were fully funded by the Government. Also, upgrade works in two satellite schools have started using government resources, while the remaining three schools to be assessed and upgraded by WFP, in partnership with the United Nations Office for Project Services.
- A government delegation is participating in a visit to Oregon, United States, to learn about the US and Oregon Farm to School programme. The objective is to identify best practices, which could inspire innovation in the Tunisian school meals programme, notably in the home-grown aspect. This initiative is part of WFP's continued support to strengthen the Government's capacity to implement and enhance the national school meals programme.
- On 22 September, members of WFP's cooperating partner *Groupement Féminin de Développement Agricole Nadhour* (GFDA, Women's Agricultural Development Group) participated in an event organised by UN Women on the theme "gender and employment". The GFDA Nadhour members gave a presentation on their collaboration with WFP, and on how school meals can empower rural women groups, create employment opportunities and advance local development.
- On 29 September, WFP's cooperating partner *Un Repas Pour Chaque Tunisien* (URPCT, A Meal for Every Tunisian) brought together the community of the Sidi Tabeth primary school (Ariana Governorate) and representatives from the ministries of education and agriculture to officially present their work plan for the 2018/2019 school year. A rich exchange of views took place after URPCT's presentation.

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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	-

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 first full draft of the Strategic Review (SR) of the Food and Nutrition Situation in Morocco was finalised by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) experts in Rabat. The document is currently being revised by WFP prior to its final validation by an inter-ministerial steering committee convened by the Secretary General of the Ministry of General Affairs and Governance. Findings from the SR will inform the Morocco Country Strategic Plan Concept Note (2019-2021), which lays out the continuation of WFP's government capacity-strengthening in the country.

Monitoring

Tunisia:

- The Programme unit continues to conduct field visits and hold meetings with counterparts to monitor the progress accomplished by its five cooperating partners.

- On 26 September, WFP met with the teachers, the director and the pedagogic inspectors of the Nadhour pilot school to plan training sessions on subjects related to agro-ecology and nutrition. Representatives from the Training and Vulgarization department of the Ministry of Agriculture also participated in the meeting.
- WFP's partner *Association Tunisienne de Protection de la Nature et de l'Environnement* (ATPNE, Tunisian Organization for the Protection of Nature and the Environment) Korba met with GFDA Beni Aiaish to discuss their interest in implementing the school garden revitalisation plan for the Boulazar primary school, Nabeul Governorate, as well as manage additional farming activities linked to the garden to create sustainable links with the school canteen.

Challenges

Tunisia:

- Most of the Tunisian territory suffered heavy rainfall on 22 September. In the north-eastern peninsula of Cap Bon (Nabeul Governorate), an unusually heavy rainfall caused disastrous flooding. WFP participated in the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) led by the UN Development Group (UNDG) in order to identify the needs and respond accordingly to the emergency. Two schools, which are part of WFP's programme, reported damage to their gardens and infrastructure. WFP's cooperating partners are working with the affected schools and communities to repair the damages.

Partnerships

Tunisia:

- Trilateral negotiations between WFP, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Government of Tunisia are ongoing to identify government contribution to WFP in the framework of the WFP Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022) and IFAD's PROFITS project. PROFITS aims to promote the agricultural sector for the territorial development the Siliana region, a landlocked province in the north of Tunisia. The planned activities include the revitalisation of school gardens and projects to promote nutrition-sensitive behavioural change.

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

- WFP Tunisia is working closely with the Government of Tunisia in preparation for the 2018 [Global Child Nutrition Forum](#), which will be hosted by the Tunisian Ministry of Education and will take place in Tunis on 21-25 October.
- On 21 October, H.E. the Minister of Education of Tunisia will convene a High Level Round Table on "The Role of School Feeding in Promoting Development and Social Inclusion in the MENA Region". Participants will include WFP's Executive Director, Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Education from several countries MENA region, representatives from international organizations, and donor countries.

Donors

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).