



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Tunisia Country Brief December 2018

In Numbers

WFP provides capacity-strengthening activities aiming at enhancing **Government-run National School Meals Programmes** that reach **260,000 children** (125,000 girls and 135,000 boys)

US\$ 1.7 m allocated by the **Tunisian Government** for the construction and equipment of a pilot central kitchen and a first School Food Bank hub

Operational Context

Tunisia has undergone significant changes following the 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 11,490 purchasing power parity (World Bank, 2017). The 2018 UNDP Human Development Index (HDI) ranks Tunisia 95 out of 189 countries and 58 on the Gender Inequality Index (GII 2018).

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



Population:
11 million

2018 Human Development Index:
95 out of 189

Income Level:
Lower middle

GNI per Capita (PPP):
US\$ 3,690

Operational Updates

- On 12 December, WFP facilitated a twinning experience between the Nadhour kitchen pilot of Zaghuan Governorate and Boulazar primary school of Korba delegation. WFP's cooperating partner (CP) ATPNE Korba (*Association Tunisienne de la Protection de la nature et de l'environnement Korba*) gained from the experience shared by WFP's CP GFDA Nadhour (GFDA - *Groupement Feminin de Development Agricole*) in home-grown school feeding modalities and how to create revenue opportunities for the women groups by linking the garden's production to the school kitchen. ATPNE is supporting the revitalisation of Boulazar's school garden by engaging a group of rural women active in the region.
- On 14 and 15 December, the OOESCO (Ministry of Education's Office of School Services) and WFP organized a school chef competition in Tunis. With the participation of the National Association of Chefs, WFP's CP URPCT (*Un Repas Pour Chaque Tunisien*) and *Association Des Professionnels De L'Art Culinaire* (APAC), 16 chefs from different regions participated in sharing experiences and challenges on daily meals preparation for school children. The event was an important opportunity for these chefs to build their capacity and their motivation.
- On 1 December, WFP's CP ATPNE organized a nutrition awareness event in Boulazar Primary School on the healthy benefits of integrating blue fish into the diet. A women group association from Kerkena Island entertained the children by reading tailor-made stories on fishing traditions in Tunisia. A nutritionist from the Ministry of Health facilitated the exchange of experiences between parents, teachers and children, followed by a culinary demonstration on blue fish recipes performed by three well-known chefs and members of the Chef National Association.

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Photo: Member of the National Association of Chefs coaching the group of participants during the first school chef competition in Tunisia.

WFP/Magid Chaabane

Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (February – July 2019)
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.

Monitoring

- WFP continues to conduct field visits and hold meetings with counterparts to monitor the progress accomplished by its four cooperating partners. During the reporting period, WFP Tunisia staff met with the representatives of the four cooperating partners to assess the progresses done under the signed field-level agreements (FLAs) and set the way forward for 2019. All four FLAs will be extended in order to finalise few pending activities in the area of nutrition education and capacity strengthening.

Challenges

- A series of strikes of the public sector continued in December to protest the salary reductions announced by the Government as a fiscal austerity measure. Despite the strikes, WFP was able to engage with the Ministry of Education at central, regional and local levels, as well as with its civil society partners, to conduct the activities planned for the month.

Partnerships

- On 14 December, WFP, together with the main technical and financial partners in the education sector, participated in the Education Sector Review, organized by the Ministry of Education. The Minister, HE Hatem Ben Salem, opened the meeting, summarising the strategic plan's results and future perspective to address the challenges encountered in 2018. He applauded the progress achieved in school feeding with WFP's support and called for a much stronger coordination system to be set in place between sectors and among the different partners.

Italian Ambassador visits Nadhour Central kitchen, Zaghouan region

On 13 December, the Minister of Education, H.E Hatem Ben Salem, accompanied the Italian Ambassador to Tunisia, H.E. Fanara and AICS's delegation to visit Nadhour central kitchen pilot in Zaghouan governorate. The minister highlighted the results achieved with the support from WFP and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) in piloting new school feeding implementation modalities to improve school life and support local development. Important economy of scale resulted in improved school meals delivered by the upgraded central kitchen to surrounding satellite schools. The minister stressed the importance of replicating the Nadhour centralized model across the country.

Donors

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).