



World Food Programme

SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES



## WFP Tunisia Country Brief January 2019

### In Numbers

**WFP provides capacity-strengthening activities** aimed at enhancing the **Government-run National School Feeding Programme** that reaches **260,000 children** (125,000 girls and 135,000 boys) in **2,500 primary schools**.

**US\$ 1.7 m were allocated by the Tunisian Government** for the construction and equipment of a pilot central kitchen and a 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 gross national income (GNI) per capita of USD 10,275 purchasing power parity (UNDP, 2018). The 2018 United Nations Development Programme (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 as a technical advisor 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

- The WFP Tunisia Country Office, in consultation with the Regional Bureau Cairo and WFP's Office of Evaluation (OEV) launched a decentralized evaluation to review and inform the strategic and operational direction of WFP's capacity strengthening support to the National School Feeding Programme (NSFP – *Programme National de l'alimentation Scolaire*) in Tunisia. Between 21 and 25 January, the independent evaluation team conducted an inception mission and met with the main actors of the NSFP at central level, including the representatives of the Ministry of Education and WFP's main donor. The inception report will detail the objectives, the methodology and the timeline for the evaluation, which covers the period from 2016 to 2018. The evaluation team will conduct the data collection phase in March.
- On 18-19 January, WFP's cooperation partner *Groupement Féminin de Développement Agricole Nadhour* (GFDA, Women's Rural Development Group) attended a communication and conflict resolution training, as part of the capacity strengthening support WFP is providing to rural women-led associations in charge of the management of school gardens under the NSMP. Twenty-five women were actively involved during the workshop and participated in role-playing and problem-solving exercises, aimed at boosting their leadership and team building skills.
- On 10 January, WFP facilitated a working group meeting with some representatives of the Ministry of Health's (MoH) *Direction de la Santé de Base* (Direction of Basic Health) in Tunis. The meeting resulted in agreement to undertake concerted efforts to disseminate hygiene and better nutrition messages to the school communities using WFP and MoH-developed guidelines. The Ministry of Health agreed to contribute with technical expertise (nutritionists) for training and other strengthening activities in cooperation with WFP and the Ministry of Education.

**Contact info:** Maria Lukyanova (maria.lukyanova@wfp.org)

**Head of Office:** Maria Lukyanova

Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/tunisia](http://www.wfp.org/countries/tunisia)

**Photo:** Women members of the *GFDA Nadhour* participating in the Communication Training organized by WFP Tunisia and the Ministry of Agriculture.  
*WFP/Silvia Luchetti*

## Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
<b>4.3 m</b>	<b>2.9 m</b>
2019 Requirement (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (February – July 2019)
<b>1.2 m</b>	<b>0</b>

### 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 active cooperating partners. During the reporting period, WFP Tunisia staff met with representatives of all of its cooperating partners to discuss and review priorities on the revitalisation of school gardens and nutritional education activities at school level. WFP's partner United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) recently launched the bidding process to select the construction companies responsible for the upgrading of six (6) primary school kitchens, operating under the decentralised model to enable them to provide hot, nutritious meals.

## Challenges

- A series of strikes called for by Tunisian teachers to protest against the salary reductions imposed by the Government as a fiscal austerity measure continued in January. In spite of 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 29-30 January, WFP participated in the Tunisia United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2019-2020 realignment exercise. The UNDAF Results Groups composed of representatives of all the UN agencies active in the country was able to re-structure the UNDAF logical framework and outcomes under five different axes; integrating the recommendations of the UNDAF 2015-2020

mid-term independent evaluation. WFP's operations are aligned with the Tunisia UNDAF Axis IV on social protection and equitable access to quality social services.

## "WFP and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) support the National School Feeding Steering Committee"

On 31 January, the Minister of Education convened a meeting of the Tunisian National School Feeding Programme (NSFP)'s Steering Committee (SC). The SC met to review the progress achieved in 2018, as well as to discuss and validate the 2019 priorities under the Plan of Action (2018-2021) for the enhancement of national school feeding. The Plan of Action is a joint, inter-ministerial effort led by the Ministry of Education and facilitated by WFP with the aim to operationalize Tunisia's Sustainable School Feeding Strategy in the 2018-2021 period. The SC is a coordination mechanism composed by different ministerial partners but is also open to the participation of donors and civil society organisations active in strengthening and implementing the NSFP. During the event, WFP presented those results achieved in 2018 thanks to the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)'s contribution. A number of priorities were identified for 2019 such as the scaling up of the central kitchen model and the set-up of two additional warehouses for the School Food Bank.

## Donors

[Italian Agency for Development Cooperation \(AICS\).](#)