



World Food Programme

SAVING  
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LIVES



## WFP Tunisia Country Brief May 2019

### In Numbers

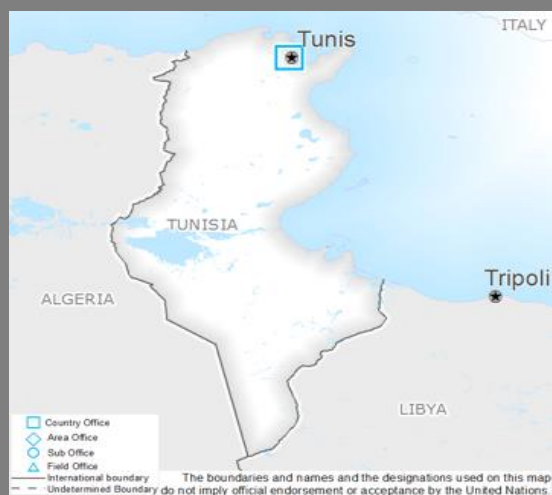
WFP provides **capacity-strengthening activities** aimed at enhancing the Government-run **National School Feeding Programme (NSFP)** that reaches **260,000 children** (125,000 girls and 135,000 boys) in **2,500 primary schools**.

The budget for national school feeding doubled in 2019, reaching **USD 16 million per year**. **USD 1.7 million were allocated by the Tunisian Government** for the construction and equipment of a pilot central kitchen and development of a School Food Bank.

### Operational Context

Tunisia has undergone significant changes since the Revolution of January 2011. The strategic direction of the Government currently focuses on strengthening democracy, while laying the groundwork for a strong 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 58th on the Gender Inequality Index (GII 2018).

WFP has positioned itself as a technical advisor through capacity-strengthening activities in Tunisia, with the provision of technical assistance aiming to improve the National School Feeding Programme (NSFP).



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 1 May, WFP's cooperating partner ATPNE (Tunisian Association for the Preservation of Nature and the Environment) Korba, organized and facilitated a working session to develop the parcel plan for the Boulazhar primary school's garden. The women's community-based organization GFDA Beni Ayachled (*Groupeement feminine de developement Agricole*, Women's Agricultural Development Group), which is associated to the school garden, led the exercise. The fresh vegetables produced on site will be used by the school kitchen to prepare nutritious hot meals for its 200 students.
- On 15 May, ATPNE Korba organized a nutrition awareness activity at the Boulazhar Primary school as part of the monthly programme developed in cooperation with WFP and the school teachers. The learning activities are based on the practical guide for hygiene and nutrition developed by WFP and the National Institute of Nutrition in Tunis. School children learned about healthy eating habits and the importance of adding vegetables to their diet.
- Between 20 and 23 May, WFP Tunisia conducted a field assessment mission in the southern regions of Tunisia, Kebili, Medenine and Gafsa in order to select new canteens and school gardens to be upgraded under the Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022). Meetings were held with representatives of the Ministry of Education (MoE) at regional level including the OOESCO (*Office de Oeuvres Scolaires*, Office of School Services) coordinators, representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) and local NGO's. During the field mission, 13 schools were visited and assessed.

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**Photo:** Participants to the Decentralize evaluation restitution Workshop in Tunis on the 31 May 2019.  
*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) (June–November 2019)
<b>1.2 m</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 works with the MoE and the Regional Education Commissariats (CRE) of the Nabeul, Kairouan, Kasserine and Ariana governorates and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) to monitor the progress towards upgrading the infrastructure and equipment of six selected school kitchens that will enable them to prepare hot nutritious meals.

With the same partners, WFP works on monitoring three “satellite” schools that will be upgraded to benefit from hot meals prepared in the pilot central kitchen of Nadhour.

In the month of May, the overall progress of construction works in the targeted sites was assessed to be 15 percent.

## Challenges

- Since May 2018, WFP Tunisia has concluded agreements with five cooperating partners (CPs) who are executing the revitalisation of the school gardens launched in 2018. WFP continues to work to expand its geographical coverage through additional CP agreements for the gardens planned for 2019 and 2020.

One of the challenges encountered during the CP selection is the limited capacity of associations active in the country, which risks to affect the implementation rate. As a mitigation action, WFP provides the partners with trainings to build and develop their capacity. In May 2019, WFP assessed more than 30 local NGOs who applied to the request for proposals launched in April.

## Partnerships

- WFP Tunisia partners with UNHCR and IOM in the development of the Interagency Contingency Plan (IACP) for the eventual influx of refugees and migrants from Libya into southern Tunisia. WFP is leading the food security sector planning process in coordination with the Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC) and other local partners previously involved in the 2011 crisis. According to the planning scenario, 18,400 persons of concern including refugees, Libyan nationals, and other nationalities will be in need of immediate humanitarian assistance. An assessment was conducted by IOM and

UNHCR in the Tataouine Region to identify the possible camp site for the people in need of humanitarian assistance.

- WFP and the Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC) agreed in principle to develop a partnership around the National School Feeding Programme, capitalizing on the experience gained by the local organization in community development.

## WFP Tunisia finalized the Decentralized Evaluation on its capacity-strengthening activities for the improvement of the National School Feeding Program in Tunisia (2016–2018)

On 30 and 31 May 2019, the Evaluation team returned to Tunis for the dissemination of the decentralized evaluation’s results detailed in the Evaluation Report.

The evaluation had the two-fold objective of reporting on the results obtained by WFP and the performance of technical assistance and advisory activities to the Tunisian government, as well as to learn from this experience by identifying good practices that could be replicated.

During the restitution workshop, the evaluators gave a presentation on the main findings and recommendations to internal and external stakeholders such as MoE, MoA, the ministries of Development Cooperation (MoDC) and Foreign Affairs (MoFA), UNOPS and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and a number of WFP’s cooperating partners.

The Evaluation highlighted how WFP has positioned itself extremely well with the MoE and MoA, in support of the Sustainable School Feeding Strategy (SSFS), as well as the relevance of WFP Tunisia’s intervention with the government’s priorities in the framework of the education sector reform.

## Donors

Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS).