

## WFP Tunisia Country Brief June 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

- In June, WFP's five cooperating partners carried out activities in their respective primary schools in the governorates of Ariana, Nabeul and Zaghouan, as part of the celebrations of the end of the school year, in cooperation with WFP and the school teachers. Over the course of the school year, children and parents learned about healthy eating habits and the importance of adding fruits and vegetables to their diet. The learning activities were based on the practical guide for hygiene and nutrition developed by WFP and the National Institute of Nutrition in Tunis.
- On 15 June, WFP and the international NGO [CEFA Tunisia](#) (*Comité Européen pour la Formation et l'Agriculture Tunisie*, European Committee for Training and Agriculture) signed a Field Level Agreement (FLA) with the objective of revitalizing school gardens in 9 schools in the Kairouan (6) and Kasserine (3) governorates. The project aims to strengthen links between the meals being served in schools and local agricultural production, contributing to enhancing resilience in the targeted communities.
- WFP finalized the assessment of more than 30 local NGOs who applied to a request for proposals launched in April 2019. Discussions have started regarding the selection of school sites and signature of FLAs for the revitalization of school gardens with some of the potential cooperating partners.
- In the framework of the WFP Tunisia Gender Transformative Plan (GTP), and as stipulated in the WFP Tunisia gender improvement plan, WFP liaised with the Ministry of Education's Office of School Services (OOESCO) to discuss the development of an agreement with a Tunisian women's rights organization to conduct a field assessment to analyze gender stereotypes and existing practices in school feeding. The selected partner will develop trainings and tools aiming to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. The trainings will target different stakeholders participating in the school feeding programme at central, regional and school level, over the 2019-2021 period.

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**Photo:** Nutrition messaging at a rural school in the Zaghouan governorate.  
*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) (July– December 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 Ministry of Education 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 June, the overall progress of construction works in the targeted sites was assessed to be 40 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. A WFP CP training on project management, monitoring and reporting will take place in July 2019.

**Partnerships**

- WFP Tunisia collaborated with UNHCR and IOM in the

development of the Interagency Contingency Plan (IACP) for the potential 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.

**WFP participates in international conference on Engineering and Food Security in Africa**

On 24 and 25 June, in collaboration with the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, the [Order of Tunisian Engineers](#) organized an international conference on [Engineering and Food Security in Africa](#).

The objective of the two-day conference was to examine the contribution of various engineering disciplines to the development of agriculture in Africa and the role of technologies in achieving food security and in the evaluation of natural resources; as well as to foster networking between engineers, agricultural experts, policy and decision makers from African countries to exchange information and expertise, identify food security challenges and best practices.

A senior expert from WFP Engineering Services (Rome HQ) delivered a keynote address presenting WFP's work around the world, with a particular focus on the role of WFP Engineering in fighting hunger.

WFP Engineering is a global team of engineering professionals working in WFP's field operations, guided and supported by a team based at Rome HQ. In both routine and emergency situations, WFP Engineering provides technical direction and support to all engineering services or construction activities related to WFP, inter-agency, or broader humanitarian operations.

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