



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Tunisia Country Brief February 2020



## In Numbers

### In February 2020

WFP tri-partite partnership to promote local agricultural development and better through a **USD 340,000** investment in the 2020-2022 period.

The national budget for national school feeding doubled in 2019, reaching **US\$16 million** per year. The Tunisian Government invested **US\$ 1.7 million** in 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 of Tunisia currently focuses on strengthening democracy, while laying the groundwork for a strong economic recovery. Tunisia has a gross national income (GNI) per capita of USD10,275 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 in a technical advisory role through capacity-strengthening activities, providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Education (MoE) and Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), as well as working with other ministries and national stakeholders aiming to improve national school feeding and other social protection programmes in Tunisia.



Population: **11 million**

2018 Human Development Index: **95 out of 189**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

GNI per Capita (PPP): **USD 3,690**

## Operational Updates

- WFP in cooperation with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Ministry of Agriculture organized a workshop to launch the tri-partite USD 340,000 project (2020-2022) to promote local agricultural development and better nutrition consumption through innovative, home-grown school feeding in the southern Siliana region. The project aims to improve the living conditions of vulnerable rural populations by developing agricultural value chain. WFP will support the development of the capacities of smallholder farmer families to manage their own future by reinforcing their technical and marketing skills. Linking smallholder farmers to school canteens will bolster the rural economy while contributing to the sustainability of the National School Feeding Programme.
- On 25-26 February, WFP met with national partners to prepare the launch of the food security and nutrition study of people living with HIV, with a kick-off workshop planned on 16 March. The study, funded under the USD 25,000 Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF) contribution received by WFP Tunisia, will be used to conduct a food security and vulnerability assessment of the nutrition status across 3,000 HIV and AIDS affected population in Tunisia. The assessment will inform the implementation of the 2018-2022 National Strategic Plan for HIV-AIDS and sexually-transmitted infections (STI) and is part of WFP's capacity strengthening activities in support of national social protection programmes.
- During the reporting month, WFP met the Tunisian Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment (MALE) and the National Office of Civil Protection (ONPC) to prepare a memorandum of Understanding to conduct emergency preparedness activities in follow up to the Global Preparedness Partnership exercise conducted in 2019.

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**Photo:** Workshop with school children in Nabeul governorate on fruit consumption and waste management.

WFP/Rabeb Azouzi

**Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)**

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
<b>4.3 m</b>	<b>3.2 m</b>
2019 Requirement (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (April – August 2020)
<b>1.2 m</b>	<b>0 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.
- WFP Tunisia is supporting MALE and ONPC to develop a comprehensive Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) plan of action enabling Tunisia to reach and adequate level of preparedness to respond to natural disasters.

**Monitoring**

- WFP and United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) started their collaboration for school canteen upgrade in 2018. As of February 2020, 6 school canteens are now fully operational serving hot meals to roughly 500 boys and girls in primary school. Moreover, the 3 “satellite” canteens rehabilitated by WFP in partnership with UNOPS were linked to the central kitchen in Nadhour, Zaghouan, raising the number of beneficiaries to 1700. The pilot is now operating efficiently beyond its planned capacity of 1500 meals/day. In line with the Ministry of Education’s request, these schools serve as prototypes for future upgrade of schools operating under the decentralized model.

**Challenges**

- The recent upsurge of armed conflict in Libya perpetrated by state and non-state actors has contributed to internal population displacement, deteriorated living conditions, breakdown in the rule of law and political discontent, and civil unrest. In the framework of the Inter-Agency Contingency Planning (IACP) for the influx of refugees and migrants from Libya, the Logistics Capacity Assessment (LCA) launched by WFP is being finalised and its result are planned to be delivered for Government validation by April. WFP is also

leading the development a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for the food security response of the IACP.

**Partnerships**

- WFP continued its active participation in the Tunisia’s United Nations County Team work to develop its Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework’s (UNSDCF). After the restitution workshop of the Country Capacity Assessment (CCA) held on 31 January 2020, the CO participated in a series of workshops to start developing the theory of change (cause analysis) for the five identified risks and outline the UNSDCF results chain.

**Capacity strengthening through south-south cooperation: Ministry of Education participation to the EvalMENA 2020**

WFP Tunisia accompanied the Senior Advisor to the Minister of Education Mr. Moez Boubaker to the EvalMENA 2020 Conference “Evaluation for Sustainability and change” which took place in Jordan. Mr. Boubaker presented the lessons learned during the collaborative WFP – Minister of Education evaluation and examples of the uses of joint evaluation findings by governments.

The evaluation report concluded that the implementation of WFP’s activities has been effective and has contributed to significant progresses related to the regulatory frameworks and governance of national school feeding, in particular through strengthening the capacity of the Office of School Services (OOESCO) which incorporated the evaluation management response into its annual workplan for 2020.

