



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tunisia Country Brief December 2020



In December 2020

Within the framework of the "School Canteen Redevelopment Project", WFP Tunisia contracted UNOPS services to refurbish, rehabilitate and renovate school canteens. This month, UNOPS delivered to WFP and its partners, the 10 rehabilitated canteens. An official ceremony will take place in January 2021.

Operational Context

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 USD 10,800 at purchasing power parity (UNDP, 2020). The 2020 United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Index (HDI) ranks Tunisia 95 out of 189 countries and 65th on the Gender Inequality Index (GII).

WFP has positioned itself in a technical advisory role through capacity-strengthening activities, providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Education (ME) and Ministry of Agriculture, Marine Fisheries and Hydraulic Resources (MAPRH), as well as working with other ministries and national stakeholders aiming to improve national school feeding and other social protection programmes in Tunisia.



Population: **11.7 million**

2019 Human Development Index:
95 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

GNI per Capita (PPP): **USD 10,800**

Operational Updates

- Within the framework of the interagency contingency plan and following the joint UN mission to Tunisia's border crossing with Libya in Ras Jedir (Tunisia), WFP Tunisia has confirmed its contribution of USD 7,000 to UNHCR and UN committee for the rehabilitation of Ras Jedir border. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers crossing from Libya will be welcomed through this site. WFP will support the local government in implementing a food storage area in the site.
- A baseline study in the region of Bargou, Kesra and Rouhia, in the governorate of Siliana, funded by IFAD and carried out by Islamic Relief Tunisia, has been launched. The study aims to assess the nutritional status, behaviour and eating habits of school-aged children and their parents in five schools in the above-mentioned regions. The analysis of the results will inform the formulation of a nutrition education package in these schools for school children, school staff and parents.
- A field nutritional survey was conducted in the governorate of Zaghuan in close cooperation with WFP's Regional Bureau of Cairo, to assess the eating habits of schoolchildren and their families. The survey will help formulate a Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) strategy, within the framework of the "Last Mile Ecosystem" project which aims to improve the nutritional quality of school meals by promoting the local procurement of fresh products from smallholder farmers.
- As WFP office in Tunisia also covers Morocco, WFP presented its credentials to the government of the Kingdom of Morocco this month. A mission was conducted by WFP Tunisia Programme and Communication team to support the launch of WFP activities in Morocco, particularly in terms of school feeding.

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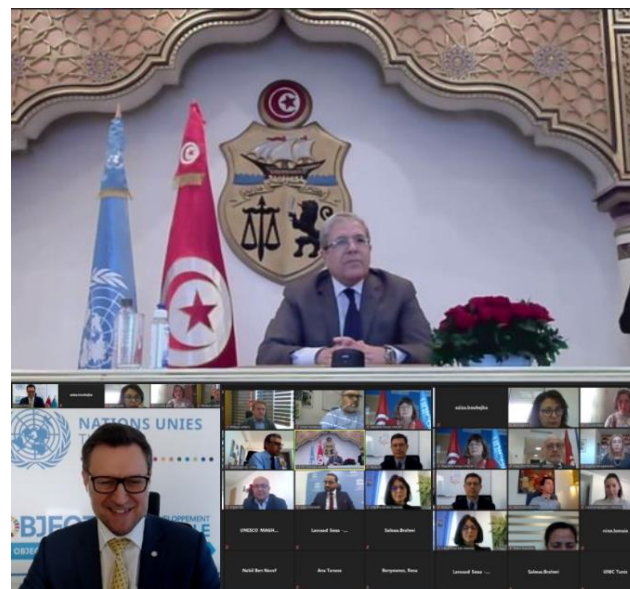
WFP Head of Office: Fatimata SOW SIDIBE

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Tunisia

Photo: Ennahala School canteen, in Ain Djeloula (Kairouan) rehabilitated by UNOPS.
UNOPS/ Naim Belguith

UN agencies and the Tunisian Government signed the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025.

At the end of December, the United Nations agencies and the Tunisian Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated virtually in the signing of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021-2025.



This cooperation framework constitutes the common response of the United Nations to the priorities of the Tunisian Government as expressed and confirmed during the consultation workshops that took place during the month of June 2020. Its implementation will be ensured through the country program documents of the various entities of the United Nations System operating in Tunisia as well as through the development of joint work plans of the agencies, funds and programs. The United Nations is committed to strengthening the political dialogue and strategic partnership with the Tunisian Government and other key actors on public policies in order to enable Tunisia to take an upward trajectory in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

WFP Tunisia is thankful that the Tunisian Government has recognized the importance of food security and nutrition (SDG2) especially in times of crisis, such as that of COVID-19; and is humbled to accompany the Government in its efforts to reach the objectives of Agenda 2030, mainly through the reinforcement of the national school meals program.

Funding partners

- Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Ministry of Agriculture - Regional Commissariat for Agricultural Development of Siliana (CRDA)
- UNAIDS - Unified Budget, Results and Accountability Framework (UBRAF)
- UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund
- Principality of Monaco

Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
4 m	4 m
2021 Requirements	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (February - July 2021)
0.7 m	0 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

Activity:

- Provide policy advice and technical assistance to national institutions implementing school meals and social protection programmes.

- At the end of December, within the framework of South-South cooperation, WFP Tunisia conducted a mission to Togo accompanied by the former director of the *Office des Oeuvres Scolaires*, to support the establishment of central canteens in Togo.

Monitoring

- The vulnerability assessment (mVAM) conducted in the governorates of Siliana, El Kef, Kairouan and Sidi Bouzid has been finalized. The economic situation of households has been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. Their food security is precarious although the government implemented actions to support the most vulnerable households. The results will help WFP and national institutions to formulate concrete actions to support these families.

Challenges

- A few of WFP's interventions are still on hold due to COVID-19 health security measures. These interventions include mainly the capacity strengthening support to the government through trainings, such as the roll out of the nutrition and hygiene guidelines as well as the nutrition-sensitive activities conducted by WFP's cooperating partners at the school level.

Partnerships

- WFP Tunisia is cooperating with the "Centre National des Technologies en Education" (CNTE) to establish a centralized database of school meal recipients for the Ministry of Education.
- WFP Tunisia and the African Development Bank agreed to conduct a joint study on food sovereignty and security in Tunisia.