

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN REVISION

REVISION

[Tunisia] country strategic plan, revision |04|

Gender and age marker code: |3|

	Current	Change	Revised
Duration	<i>01 April 2018 - 31 December 2021</i>	No change	<i>01 April 2018 - 31 December 2021</i>
Beneficiaries	<i>10 185</i>	<i>7 500</i>	<i>17 685</i>
Total cost (USD)	4 907 865	0	4 907 865
Transfer	2 932 100	0	2 932 100
Implementation	954 006	0	954 006
Direct support costs	722 218	0	722 218
Subtotal	4 608 324	0	4 608 324
Indirect support costs (6.5 percent)	299 541	0	299 541

1. RATIONALE

1. In July 2021, WFP initiated a pilot commodity voucher project as a component of the capacity strengthening support provided to the Ministry of Social Affairs in Tunisia. The pilot planned to target 1,500 vulnerable households (7,500 beneficiaries) for a two month period as a top up to the National Assistance Programme for Needy Families (PNAFN), a national safety net.
2. During the preparation of the pilot commodity voucher, in close coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs and the donor, it was agreed to carry out in-kind distribution instead of commodity vouchers for the following reasons:
 - i. A baseline survey, conducted from August 26th to September 6th 2021 showed that 55% of all surveyed beneficiaries in the governorates of Kasserine, Siliana and Kairouan preferred the in-kind transfer modality. Moreover, the preference for in-kind was expressed even more strongly in Kasserine (91%) and Kairouan (75%).
 - ii. The Market Functionality Index study (MFI)¹, conducted simultaneously with the baseline survey, showed that Kairouan and Kasserine, representing 75% of the covered area, have an index inferior to 3.5² indicating that the most suitable transfer modality would be in-kind. Additionally, the prices of key commodities were found to be quite volatile in many of the targeted regions and beneficiaries interviewed again expressed a clear preference toward receiving in-kind assistance.
 - iii. The Ministry of Social Affairs has similarly indicated a preference for in-kind distribution for the following reasons:

¹ MFI is a quantitative measure designed by WFP's RAM and SC Divisions to benchmark market functionality along the following nine dimensions: 1) Assortment of essential goods, 2) Availability, 3) Price, 4) Resilience of supply chains, 5) Competition, 6) Infrastructure, 7) Services, 8) Food quality, and 9) Access and protection.

² For index values <3.5 the modality should be in-kind, for values ranging between 3.5 and 7 the modality should be vouchers and for values > 7 the modality should be cash.

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- i. To avoid delays in delivering the food assistance (given the lead time needed to initiate cash-based transfers) in order to respond swiftly to the increase in vulnerability caused by COVID restrictions on movement during July 2021.
 - ii. To avoid tensions and negative reactions that could result from providing cash to some groups or households.
 3. This budget revision (BR04) will thus add in-kind as a modality under activity 1 of the CSP in order to facilitate a one-off distribution for an increased caseload of vulnerable households suffering from the socio-economics effects of the COVID-19 crisis in coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs.

2. CHANGES

Strategic orientation

4. The BR does not change the strategic orientation of the current CSP.
5. Previous BRs:
 - a) BR01: A technical revision was completed in October 2018 by HQ in WINGS.
 - b) BR02 (approved by the Regional Director July 2020): Introduced cash-based transfers (CBTs) to vulnerable people affected by school closures in rural Siliana, within the “COVID-19 Response and Recovery Multi-Partner Trust Fund” and expanded capacity strengthening activities.
 - c) BR03 (approved by the Regional Director April 2021): aligned the WFP country strategic plan to the UNSDCF, reducing the CSP timeframe by one year, from 31 December 2022 to 31 December 2021 and introduced a pilot commodity voucher project to 1,500 households.

Strategic Outcomes

Targeting approach and beneficiary analysis:

6. WFP will target 3,000 vulnerable households benefitting from the Ministry of Social Affairs’ National Assistance Programme for Needy Families (PNAFN) and living in areas where household surveys indicate food insecurity. Though the initial plan (introduced under budget revision 3) was to provide assistance for 2 months to 1,500 households, the Ministry of Social Affairs expressed a strong preference for reducing the transfer period from 2 months to 1 month in order to double the number of targeted vulnerable households from 1,500 to 3,000.

Transfer modalities:

7. The assessments identified the most appropriate food basket for a total Kcal 2,100 per beneficiary. It includes pasta, couscous, chickpeas, lentils, and vegetable oil. Due to budgetary constraints, WFP will only be able to provide 50% of the household needs for 1 month, the equivalent of 14 days of food. The total cost of the food basket for 14 days, per household, as of September 2021 was TND 104.85 equivalent to USD 37.69 (1\$=2.782 TND).

Partnerships:

8. The project will be implemented in collaboration with the Union Tunisienne de la Solidarité Sociale (UTSS), an NGO with extensive experience in food and non-food assistance to vulnerable populations in collaboration with the regional ministry of social affairs.

M&E:

9. A beneficiary food security baseline and MFI were conducted between August 26th and September 6th, 2021. Distribution monitoring will be carried out by Tunisia country office using standardized random sampling and a face-to-face Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM), planned to be conducted two weeks after the end of the distribution cycle jointly with WFP's cooperating partner. Remote PDM will also be considered in case of limitations in accessing the households due to mobility restrictions. A light Complaint and Feedback Mechanism tested during 2020 transfers is already in place through a toll free number.

Supply chain challenges:

10. WFP will procure the food and deliver it to the UTSS in the governorates of Kairouan, Siliana and Kasserine. UTSS will be in charge of delivering the food to the beneficiaries. The NGO has a strong record in similar operations and is an entrusted partner to the MoSA. There are no foreseen supply chain challenges.

Accountability to affected populations, protection risks, restrictions of gender and disabilities:

11. WFP will continue implementing a complaint and feedback mechanism and conducting sensitization on social norms prescribing gender roles on receiving and deciding over the use of the transfer. The campaign will be built upon the experience of the 2020 CBT pilot project, the feedback received from beneficiaries and the PDM's findings.

Risk Management:

12. Two main risks were identified:
 - i. Beneficiaries' lists can be contested by local populations and UTSS might need to deal with discontent. To mitigate this risk, TNCO requested most up to date lists from MoSA and is also setting up a feedback mechanism to deal with complaints.
 - ii. Food suppliers might not deliver food products on time or face shortages. To mitigate this risk TNCO is strictly following WFP's procurement guidelines in the selection of suppliers. TNCO has identified at least three suppliers for each food product.

Beneficiary analysis

TABLE 1: DIRECT BENEFICIARIES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME, ACTIVITY & MODALITY

Strategic Outcome	Activity/modality ^[1]	Period	Women (18+ years)	Men (18+ years)	Girls (0-18 years)	Boys (0-18 years)	Total
1	1/CBT	Current	1,222	2,037	3,259	3,667	10,185
		Decrease	900	1,500	2,400	2,700	7,500
		Revised	322	537	859	967	2,685
	1/FOOD	Current	0	0	0	0	0
		Increase	1,800	3,000	4,800	5,400	15,000
		Revised	1,800	3,000	4,800	5,400	15,000
TOTAL (without overlap)		Current	1,222	2,037	3,259	3,667	10,185
		Increase	900	1,500	2,400	2,700	7,500
		Revised	2,122	3,537	5,659	6,367	17,685

Transfers

TABLE 2: FOOD RATION (g/person/day) or CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUE (USD/person/day) BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY

Strategic outcome	1
Activity	1
Beneficiary type	PNAFN Vulnerable households (average of 5 individuals per HH)
Modality (indicate food or CBT)	Food
Cereals (pasta + couscous)	400 gr
Pulses (Peanut + lentils)	100 gr
Oil	25gr
Salt	
Sugar	
Supercereal	
Supercereal Plus	
micronutrient powder	
total kcal/day (to be completed for food and cash modalities)	2100 kcal
% kcal from protein	23%
Cash-based transfers (USD/person/day; use average as needed)	
Number of feeding days per year	14

TABLE 3: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS AND VALUE

Food type / cash-based transfer	Current Budget		Increase/(Decrease)		Revised Budget	
	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)	Total (mt)	Total (USD)
Cereals	0	0	84	28 570	84	28 570
Pulses	0	0	21	59 230	21	59 230
Vegetable Oil	0	0	5	12 409	5	12 409
Mixed and blended foods	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other (Transfer Cost)	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (food)	0	0	110	100 209	110	100 209
Cash-Based Transfers (USD)		221 100		- 109 380		111 720
TOTAL (food – USD)	0	221 100	110	- 9 171	110	211 929

COST BREAKDOWN

TABLE 4: COST BREAKDOWN OF THE REVISION ONLY (USD)

	Strategic Result 5/ SDG Target 17.9	Total
Strategic outcome	1	
Focus area	Root causes	
Transfer	-	-
Implementation	-	-
Direct support costs		-
Subtotal		-
Indirect support costs (6.5%)		-
TOTAL		-

TABLE 5: OVERALL CSP/ICSP/LEO COST BREAKDOWN, AFTER REVISION (USD)

	Strategic Result 5/ (SDG Target 17.9)	Total
Strategic outcome	1	
Focus area	Root causes	
Transfer	2 932 100	2 932 100
Implementation	954 006	954 006
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Annex 1: Revised Line of Sight

TUNISIA CSP (2018-2021)

SR 5 – Countries have strengthened capacity to implement the SDGs
(SDG Target 17.9)

FOCUS AREA : Root Causes

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 2021

BUDGET SO 1: USD 4,907,865

OUTPUTS:

1. School children and communities (Tier 3) benefit from Government's enhanced access to accurate data, strengthened school meals, food security and nutrition and-social protection regulatory frameworks and tools, improve life skills and advance social inclusion (C: Capacity development and technical support provided;)
2. School children and communities in selected districts (Tier 3) benefit from an upgraded decentralised school feeding model and from strengthened technical capacities to organize and participate in sustainable food system that promote nutrition-sensitive social protection, advance social inclusion and improve school life. (C: Capacity development and technical support provided N: School Feeding provided; E: Social and behaviour change communication delivered)
3. School children, smallholder farmers and communities (Tier 3) in targeted areas benefit from the design and implementation of innovative school meals modalities and from strengthened technical capacities to organize and participate in sustainable food system promote nutrition-sensitive social protection, advance social inclusion and improve school life. (C: Capacity development and technical support provided and N: School Feeding provided)
4. Girls, boys, adolescent girls, vulnerable women and men, including household in targeted governorate (Tier 3) benefit from the enhanced capacities of Government to coordinate and provide nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive platforms and SBCC- integrated services at the national and local levels (C: Capacity development and technical support provided; E: Social and behaviour change communication delivered).
5. Vulnerable and shock -affected women, men, boys and girls (Tier 3) benefit from enhanced government capacities to implement an integrated shock responsive social protection system that identifies and meets their food security and nutrition needs increasing their resilience. (C: Capacity development and technical support provided)
6. Shock -affected women, men, boys and girls in targeted governorate (Tier 1), receive adequate, timely, direct assistance and training to protect their food security and recover their livelihoods (A: Resources transferred)

ACTIVITY 1: Provide policy advice and technical assistance to national institutions on school meals, food security and nutrition and shock responsive social protection programmes. (CSI: Institutional capacity strengthening activities)

Modality: CBT, CS, Food

TOTAL BUDGET: USD 4,907,865