



World Food Programme

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WFP Tunisia Country Brief March 2022



In March 2022

- **WFP successfully organized a training for 20 people** on Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) installation and maintenance.
- **24 people** attended the school canteen cooks training.

Operational Context

Tunisia has steadily progressed toward democracy since the 2011 Jasmin Revolution, but still confronts significant political and socioeconomic challenges. Due to persisting structural issues and an economy that is primarily dependent on external funding sources, the country has had 14 governments in the past 10 years and is experiencing visible social tensions and a delayed economic recovery. In July 2021, President Kais Saied prompted changes in the country's political governance from a parliamentary to presidential system. While a new Government came into being in September 2021, parliamentary activity has been frozen ahead of an expected referendum on constitutional reforms in July 2022, to be followed by a parliamentary election in December 2022.

The new WFP Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2022-2025 consolidates the previous work accomplished in school feeding, while strengthening the resilience of smallholder farmers and the capacity of government institutions to improve the quality, flexibility, inclusivity, and shock responsiveness of national social safety nets.

The CSP is aligned with the Government's reform of the education sector and its Sustainable School Meals Strategy, as well as with Tunisia's United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025). WFP's operations in Tunisia contribute to the implementation of WFP's Strategic Result 5 "Developing countries have enhanced ability to implement the Sustainable Development Goals" which focuses on SDG 2 (targets 2.1 and 2.2), SDG 4 (target 17.9), and SDG 17 (target 17.9).



Population: **12 million**

2020 Human Development Index:
95 out of 189

Income Level: **Lower middle**

GNI per Capita (PPP): **USD 10,261**

Operational Updates

- WFP conducted a follow up training for technicians from the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Office of Land Border (of the Ras Jedir cross border post), on the installation and maintenance of Mobile Storage Units (MSU) from 8 to 10 March in Tunis. The MSUs have been procured thanks to a donation from Japan. The training gathered 20 participants, including 7 women. The session was focused on management of stocks and supplies, procurement processes and inventory management during crises.
- WFP through the Agency of Training of Tourism Professions (AFMT) in collaboration with the Office of School Works (OOESCO), have organized a training of 5 days in Sousse from 21 to 25 March. Intended for school canteen cooks, this training brought together 24 participants. They were trained in culinary preparation but also in nutrition, such as the estimation of the nutritional value of the prepared dishes and the necessity of a varied diet; they were also trained in stock management.
- For the celebration of the International Women's Day, WFP, the Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) and their partners Le Réseau francophone pour l'égalité Femmes-Hommes de OIF and the Euro-Mediterranean Women's Foundation, with the participation of UNWOMEN and FAO organized on 9 March, a webinar on the theme: "Rural Women's Resilience as an Asset for Post-Covid-19 Recovery: Evidence from the Field." This event brought together more than 20 speakers and more than 200 people watched the webinar live on Facebook. The webinar presented and discussed recent surveys conducted in relation to the topic, as well as case/country studies and future projects around the issue of rural women's economic empowerment in Tunisia and the MENA region.

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[WFP Tunisia 2021 Annual Country Report](#) **New**

Image OOESCO: School kitchen cooks during the training provided by AFMT and OOESCO with the support of WFP.

WFP Country Strategy

Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2022-2025)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
11.4 m	1 m
2022 Requirements	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (April - September 2022)
3.6 m	0.9 m

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable groups have increased economic opportunities and strengthened resilience to shocks and climate risks.

Focus area: Resilience Building

Activity:

- Provide technical assistance to smallholder farmers

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 2: 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 technical assistance to national institutions through innovations, enhanced data, pilot transfer modalities and South-South cooperation

It also provided an opportunity to connect national and regional actors, notably the Ministry of Women and the Ministry of Agriculture, to allow for better synergy between projects and enhanced cooperation.

- WFP and the Pole of Competitiveness of Bizerte (PCB) organized on 16 March a workshop with the national institutions of the agri-food sector to develop a National Strategy and an Action Plan of resilience of the agricultural and agri-food sector to crises and disasters. The workshop brought together more than 38 people including 20 women. The main recommendation is to confirm and present the results of the field surveys conducted by PCB, the Tunisian Union of Agriculture and Fisheries (UTAP) and the Ministry of Industries among agricultural producers and agri-food enterprises in sectors prone to crises. Also, it was recommended to support the formulation of a strategic orientation of the agri-food sector, to strengthen the pillar of the country's food security in a global or regional context threatened by more crises related to climate change, epidemics or immigration.

Challenges

- WFP's activities at school level, such as culinary demonstrations, are currently on hold due to COVID-19 health security measures. Activities are planned to resume in May, if the health situation continues to improve.

WFP participates to the Balades Culinaires Festival

WFP contributed to the 2nd edition of the Balades Culinaires organized by the NGO Tunisia Plus on 11,12,13 March. The festival aims to support the empowerment of local artisans, natural and organic farming and alternative tourism in particular by linking rural craftswomen and local artisans with the tourism sector. This approach encourages sustainable development in the different regions of the country and promotes Tunisia as a tourist destination of choice through the intangible heritage.



Image WFP/Artworks Production: Mrs Azwel, owner of the amazigh coffee shop Ben Jemaa in Tamarazt (South of Tunisia).

The event has brought together about thirty craftswomen, farmers, artisans and artists who have exhibited their expertise at the palace of the town hall of Sidi Bou Said in Tunis. The festival organized a fashion show highlighting the usage of plant fibre; a workshop on traditional weaving techniques from Nefza, Ouedhref and Metouia; a video exhibition on the theme of resilience of women farmers and producers which portrayed rural women supported by WFP. A culinary festival allowed the public to discover the culinary specialties of the regions of Tunisia.

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
- Government of Japan