



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



DAYS OF ACTIVISM
AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

WFP Tunisia Country Brief December 2022



Operational Context

Despite the democratic achievements of the Jasmine Revolution, Tunisia 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. A new Government was elected in September 2021. However, Parliament has since been frozen by the President. A referendum on constitutional reforms was held in July 2022 granting the President sweeping powers. However, the low turnout cast a shadow both over the legitimacy of the process and Tunisia's democratic system. The adoption of the new Constitution was followed by parliamentary elections in December 2022, however the low turnout again affected the legitimacy of the democratic process.

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 (SDG)" which focuses on SDG 2 (*Zero Hunger*), SDG 4 (*Quality Education*), and SDG 17 (*Partnerships for the Goals*).

Population: **12 million**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2021 Human Development Index: **94 out of 189**

GNI per Capita (PPP): **USD 11,270**

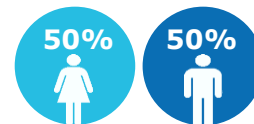


In Numbers

157.56 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 0.5 m six months (January-June 2023) net funding requirements

1,993 people assisted
in December 2022



Operational Updates

- WFP organized a training from 19 to 24 December in Sousse Governorate for school canteen cooks. The training was conducted through the Agency of Training of Tourism Professions in collaboration with the Office of School Works, and brought together participants from cohorts trained in March and December. A total of 48 cooks have so far benefited from a training on culinary preparation and nutrition. Training topics covered the estimation of the nutritional value of the prepared dishes, the necessity of a varied diet and stock management. This is part of the ADAPT* programme implemented in partnership with the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) and funded by the European Union.
* Appui au Développement durable dans le secteur de l'Agriculture et de la Pêche artisanale en Tunisie.
- On 15 December, WFP met with the National Coordination Unit on Climate Change of the Ministry of Environment, to discuss on the management and implementation of projects financed by the Climate Change Adaptation Fund. The meeting focus was on the potential first phase of the Sustainable Management of Oasis Ecosystems in Tunisia. In 2023, WFP will support the Unit with a preparation of a proposal to support the implementation of a project targeting 29 oases in Tozeur governorate.
- In December, WFP's cooperating partner, the Tunisian Union of Social Solidarity, completed the distribution of food parcels (157 mt) to 1,993 vulnerable families in Kairouan, Kasserine and Siliana governorates. Since November, the assistance overall reached the planned target of 7,500 vulnerable families, with a total of 593 mt distributed. This project was launched with the participation Ministry of Social Affairs to mitigate the impact of wheat shortages and price inflation caused by the impacts of the conflict in Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- As part of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, WFP and its partner "Cooperation for the Development of Emerging Countries" (COSPE)

Contact info: Aziza Bouhejba (aziza.bouhejba@wfp.org)

Country Director: Raoul Balletto

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

Photo Caption: School canteen cooks in training.

Photo credit: The Office of School Works

Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2022-2025)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated contributions (in USD)
12 m	6 m
2023 Requirements (in USD)	Six-months Net Funding Requirements January-June 2023 (in USD)
3 m	0.5 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

organised a workshop to present the results of the study on the social and economic conditions of female agricultural workers in the regions of Kasserine and Jendouba. The objective of the analysis is to understand the impact of the successive crises: COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, on food security of women farmers.

The study reveals that 40 percent of the surveyed women were struggling to meet their food needs, and 80 percent experienced a decline in income due to the successive crises.

The workshop was also an opportunity to continue the dialogue of the working group on safe and affordable transport of female agricultural workers. With the National Observatory for Road Safety in lead, discussions were held to study the various recommendations to implement sustainable solutions in this regard. These recommendations included the revision of law on the organisation of agricultural activities, the implementation of appropriate road control mechanisms and the adoption of supplementary insurance that is sensitive to the conditions of female agricultural workers.

- Also in the framework of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, WFP organised with its partner the Center of Arab Women for Training and Research (CAWTAR) a symposium on economic violence against women.

Through different presentations including the study with COSPE, and the study on [the impact of COVID-19 on the food security of rural women](#), 50 participants joined either online or face-to-face. They discussed the socio-economic reality of rural women and the initiatives to economically strengthen the role of women to protect them from precarious situations. Results showed 84 percent of women continued to be highly affected.

Monitoring

- WFP continued to use remote monitoring to measure the progress of the distribution and its impact on beneficiaries. The process monitoring reported no incidents during the month of December.
- Through the Post Distribution Monitoring, WFP has reached 75 percent of the targeted beneficiaries to collect their feedback. Data collection for the remaining 25 percent will be finalized in January 2023.

Partnership

- WFP's Country Director, Mr Raoul Balletto, met with the Coca Cola Foundation to discuss potential engagement in the South of Tunisia. The meetings covered different domains, such as climate change, plastic recycle and water restoration. Regarding the latter, the foundation showed interest in a joint project of beetroot sugar production to boost agriculture in the arid governorates of the South. A follow-up meeting is foreseen to take place within January 2023.
- WFP is planning for meetings with Japan, Switzerland and France to explore the possibility of new/renewed engagements in the country.
- WFP met with the Tunisian Institute of Strategic Studies (ITES) and the Pole of Competitiveness of Bizerte (PCB), to discuss the possibility of a sustainable partnership between the three organizations. The objective is to keep the Tunisian government informed on the strategic issues related to food security and to strengthen the resilience of food systems in Tunisia at times of crisis. A roadmap will be developed to identify priority areas. As a first step, the three partner will organize a workshop to validate the study.

Funding partners

- Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)
- 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