



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Tunisia Country Brief June 2023

Operational Context

Since the 2011 Jasmine Revolution, Tunisia has been struggling with a challenging political and socio-economic context. Tunisia has had 14 governments over the past ten years and is suffering from perceptible social tensions and slow economic recovery due to ongoing structural challenges and an economy that is highly dependent on external revenue sources. While progress has been made in combating malnutrition, Tunisia still grapples with the dual burden of malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies, along with overweight and obesity. Although hunger levels are low according to the Global Hunger Index, an economic recession, high unemployment, climate change, regional disparities, and cereal imports threaten the ability of vulnerable populations to access a nutritious diet. Prevalence of food insecurity has risen to 28 percent, affecting 3.3 million Tunisians, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [2022 Food Security report](#).

In Tunisia, WFP is providing technical assistance and policy advice through capacity-strengthening activities at both the government and community levels. WFP Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 2022-2025 continues to enhance the Government-run school feeding programme, 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 will supplement its regular monitoring efforts with gender-sensitive food security and nutrition assessments aimed at supporting evidence-based policy design and implementation.

Population: **12 million**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

2021 Human Development Index:
97 out of 188



In Numbers

WFP Tunisia country programme focuses on Government capacity building.

48 women attended the Participatory Community Planning workshop in June 2023

US\$ 0.2 m six months net funding requirements (July - December 2023)

Operational Updates

- As part of the implementation of the Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE) project with FAO, IFAD and UN Women, in June, WFP conducted a Participatory Community Planning (PCP) workshop in Jendouba Governorate, with 48 rural women attending. Additional project plans were developed to address the economic empowerment needs of the project's target population, which includes 1,700 women members of professional organizations.
- In June 2023, WFP conducted a second round of training on nutrition education guidance for teachers and other stakeholders as part of WFP's nutrition education programme. WFP developed that guidance in 2022 for elementary school educators in Tunisia to promote a healthy, balanced, and diversified diet among school-age children and their families. A total of 25 participants (12 women) were trained on the diet and nutritional needs of school children, and the hygiene standards. They drew up a list of activities to be carried out in the classroom and school clubs to apply the new knowledge and to sensitize students to healthy, diversified, and balanced nutrition. The participants included teachers, inspectors, and employees of the Office des Oeuvres Scolaires (OUESCO), with over 10 schools represented.
- The Tunisian Government and the United Nations in Tunisia announced in June the creation of a [Multi-Partner Trust Fund \(MPTF\) for Employment and Youth](#). As part of this initiative, in June, WFP Tunisia collaborated with the International Labor Office (ILO) in Tunisia to plan a joint local development project that compounds their efforts in advancing youth employment by improving the socio-economic conditions of rural populations as well as promoting agricultural production in Tunisia. The project plan builds on ILO's activities under their European Union funded project IPDLI (Pilot Initiative for Integrated Local Development), that aims to create a local economic dynamic that generates decent jobs in five governorates of Tunisia (Jendouba, Nabeul, Gafsa,

Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) (2022-2025)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated contributions (in US\$)
11.6 m	6.7 m
2023 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-months Net Funding Requirements (July to December 2023) (in US\$)
3.1 m	0.2 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

Kasserine, and Tataouine). Accordingly, WFP participated in field visits to Jendouba to view some of ILO's projects in the area and inform the planning process. Building on these experiences, WFP and ILO have drafted a concept note outlining their joint local development project. This project follows in the footsteps of the IPDLI project and aims to improve the socio-economic conditions of rural populations and promote local agricultural production.

Partnerships

- In June, WFP Tunisia organized a training for members of local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) on how to register and use the United Nations Partner Portal. Through this portal, NGOs will be able to apply for calls for expressions of interest from WFP and other

Challenges

WFP in Tunisia expects funding shortfalls throughout 2023 to carry out planned activities under its CSP, due to global shrinking resources, coupled with the rise in new emergencies worldwide such as the Sudan crisis. The country office will continue to advocate the needs to its donors and seek to diversify funding sources.

Donors

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