



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

## WFP Tunisia Country Brief October 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 (FAO) 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: **94 out of 188**



### In Numbers

WFP Tunisia country programme focuses on Government capacity building

**US\$ 0.1 m** six months net funding requirements (November 2023 to April 2024)

### Operational Updates

#### UN System Annual Retreat: Enhancing Collaboration and Planning for Tunisia's Sustainable Development

In October, WFP participated in the second UN System annual retreat - covering the four development outcomes - for inter-agency working groups convened under the Resident Coordinator's Office to monitor progress towards implementing [Tunisia's 2021-2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework \(UNSDCF\)](#). The retreat aimed to establish a shared understanding of the national and global context of Tunisia, assess the UN's performance over the past three years, and formulate harmonized and cohesive joint work plans to ensure synergy among UN partners.

WFP Tunisia is actively contributing to three out of the four outcomes outlined in Tunisia's 2021-2025 UNSDCF. Outcome 1 is related to the socio-economic development of Tunisia, Outcome 3 is related to health, education, and social protection, and Outcome 4 is related to resource management, climate change, resilience to crises, and climate-related risks. Moving forward, the retreat outcomes will guide the UN System's tailored support to Tunisia, reiterating its commitment towards assisting the country in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

#### The PROFITS Project

Under the framework of IFAD's "Siliana Territorial Development Pathways Promotion Project (PROFITS) that focuses on supporting the implementation of the National School Feeding Programme (PNAS) in the southern zone of Siliana governorate, WFP conducted a training session on 10 and 11 October in Siliana governorate led by its Cooperating Partner, Youth Activists. The sessions aimed to empower 12 educators and school club animators, including seven women, representing five schools. The training equipped participants with essential tools for efficient planning, management, and facilitation of school club sessions, with a specific focus on promoting healthy eating habits aligned with the project's objectives.

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**Photo Caption:** School child from the primary school El-Houchiette Bizerte – Credit: ©WFP/Aziza Bouhejba

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

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Total Received (in US\$)
<b>11.6 m</b>	<b>7.8 m</b>
2023 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (November 2023 to April 2024) (in US\$)
<b>3.1 m</b>	<b>0.1 m</b>

**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

- Activities:**
- 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 their capacity to implement enhanced school meals and social protection programs that advance food security and nutrition by 2025.  
**Focus area:** Root Causes

- Activities:**
- Provide technical assistance to national institutions through innovations, enhanced data, pilot transfer modalities and South-South cooperation.

**The sub-Saharan Migrant Crisis in Tunisia**

The escalating situation of the migrants and refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa in Tunisia has become a sensitive social and political issue in 2023, leaving vulnerable individuals struggling for essentials like shelter, food, and healthcare. In response, WFP alongside other UN agencies participated in an inter-agency field mission to the Algerian border, to assess migration flows and identify urgent needs in collaboration with the Tunisian Red Crescent (TRC).

A joint plan was drafted based on a coordinated and collaborative approach between the UN System and the TRC where WFP has proposed offering technical assistance and capacity-building support to enhance the TRC's ability to address the immediate needs of those vulnerable people.

**Challenges**

WFP anticipates funding challenges in 2024 due to emerging global emergencies to carry out its planned activities that are integral in ensuring the sustained support for food systems in Tunisia.

To address these challenges, the country office is doubling its efforts to secure additional resources and broaden its funding sources.

In addition, among WFP Tunisia's funding priorities is to continue building the capacities of Tunisia's Ministries of Social Affairs and Agriculture to strengthen the existing food security monitoring system.

This capacity building program aims to significantly enhance the response of the country's social protection system to shocks.

**Donors**

Government of Japan, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), Ministry of Agriculture - Regional Commissariat for Agricultural Development of Siliana (CRDA), Principality of Monaco, UNMPTF RWEE FUND (Sweden / Norway)



**Photo caption:** WFP delivered training sessions for educators and school club animators in Siliana Governorate – Credit: ©Yassine Nasraoui – WFP Cooperating Partner, Youth Activists