



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Tunisia Country Brief October 2024



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, slow economic growth, high unemployment, severe droughts, regional disparities, and reliance on cereal imports threaten the ability of vulnerable populations to access a nutritious diet. Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity has risen to 27 percent, affecting 3.3 million Tunisians, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) [2024 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 program focuses on Government and community capacity building.

Operational Updates

Under CSP Strategic Outcome 1: WFP's Joint Programme on Accelerating Progress towards Rural Women's Economic Empowerment (JP RWEE)

WFP partners with FAO, IFAD, and UN Women on the JP RWEE project to empower rural women in Tunisia by enhancing their livelihoods and resilience for sustainable development as part of the Tunisia 2030 Agenda.

- In October, WFP, in collaboration with the Bizerte Competitiveness Pole (PCB), conducted a **two-day Community-Based Participatory Planning (CBPP)** session in Kairouan for **three Professional Agricultural Organizations (OPAs)**: Briket et Argoub, Jaweher Weslet, and Dar Jlass, **engaging 26 participants in community development planning activities under the programme.**
- Additionally, WFP, in partnership with PCB and the Tunisian Technical Center for Food (CTAA), **organized a three-day training** on hygiene and safety methods in agricultural product processing, for 22 participants.

Under CSP Strategic Outcome 2, WFP Tunisia's Support for Sustainable Development in the Agriculture and Artisanal Fisheries Sector in Tunisia (ADAPT*)

- In October, as part of the National School Feeding Program (PNAS) and through the Social and Behavioural Change Communication (SBCC) strategy, WFP and its partners have completed filming the 16-episode sitcom "Salla Salla," set to air on the national channel 'Al-Wataniya'. This series aims to connect with Tunisian family traditions while promoting healthier eating habits, emphasizing local food products, and encouraging balanced, nutritious family meals. WFP continues to support healthy eating practices and reduce bread waste, raising awareness among schoolchildren and their parents about the nutritional benefits of locally produced cereals.

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

| Total Requirement (in US\$) | Allocated contributions (in US\$) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 11.6 m | 7.8 m |
| 2024 Requirements (in US\$) | |
| 2.9 m | |

SDG Target 4: Sustainable Food systems

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

SDG Target 5: Capacity Building

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.

- As part of capacity-building efforts under PNAS, WFP Tunisia, in collaboration with the Training Agency for Tourism Professions (AFMT) in Hammamet, **conducted training sessions in October for 24 cooks from the School Works Office (OOESCO)** of the Ministry of Education. These sessions covered hygiene standards, school meal preparation, and the effective use of cooking equipment to ensure the delivery of nutritious and safe meals for the health of schoolchildren.

Climate Change Adaptation Fund project endorsed for Tozeur’s vulnerable Oases

During its 43rd meeting held in October in Bonn, the Adaptation Fund Board endorsed the WFP concept note titled ‘Strengthening Adaptive Capacity and Livelihood Security in the Most Vulnerable Oases of the Governorate of Tozeur’. This endorsement followed the Board’s technical clearance under the first phase of the review process and will be followed by the development and submission of the revised project.



Photo Caption: Filming a family dinner scene for the sitcom ‘Salla Salla’, a WFP SBCC activity promoting healthy eating, with characters gathered around a meal symbolizing the shift toward healthier eating and better family habits, – Tunisia - 2024 ©MOLT Tunisia affiliated to Ogilvy.

Donors

- Government of Japan
- Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)
- Principality of Monaco
- UNMPTF RWEE FUND (Sweden / Norway)