



- WFP, the African Development Bank and the Tunisian Ministry of Education are discussing ways to foster synergies in collaboration with the Tunisian Government in the shared efforts to build a stronger education sector and enhanced social safety nets.
- The first food and environment classes were held in a newly established school garden developed with WFP support. The garden will serve as a hub for community participation, nutritional, environmental and agricultural education for children and adults.

WFP Tunisia and Morocco Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Capacity Development for School Feeding in Tunisia DEV 200493 (December 2012 – June 2018)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	6.5 m	1.6 m (25%)	0.8 m (100%)

*April - September 2017

Tunisia – WFP supports the Government of Tunisia in enhancing its National School Meals Programme, which reaches 120,000 girls and 130,000 boys (aged 6 – 11) in 2,500 primary schools, as a key component of the Education Sector Reform. Starting in July 2013, WFP provided assistance under three main areas: (i) a review of the existing programme; (ii) study visits for South-South cooperation, sharing experiences and best practices; and (iii) development of a Sustainable School Meals Strategy, which was validated in December 2014. The Government requested WFP's continued assistance in a second phase spanning 2015-2018 to provide technical assistance and policy advice to implement its Sustainable School Meals Strategy.

In 2017, WFP continues to provide technical assistance and policy advice for the National School Meals Programme, with specific focus on: (i) strengthening regulatory frameworks and tools; (ii) upgrading the current decentralised school feeding model, in order to augment the system's capacity to provide nutritious meals; and (iii) accompanying the piloting of new implementation modalities that are efficient, accountable, and support local employment creation.

The pilots foster links with local smallholder farmers' groups, especially rural women's community-based organisations, and promote the use of local agricultural produce. School gardens are currently being set up to support nutrition and environmental education, and be leveraged as hubs to promote community participation, as well as enhancing knowledge of children and families on how to add fresh vegetables and fruits for a more nutritious diet.

The Ministry of Education has supported the project by allocating USD 1.6 million to the construction and equipment of two central kitchen pilots, while the

Ministry of Agriculture contributes equipment and inputs such as plants, seeds and technical analyses.

Capacity Development for School Feeding in Morocco DEV 200494 (July 2013 – December 2017)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	1.5 m	1.5 m (100%)	-

*April 2017 – September 2017

Morocco - In 2013, the Government requested WFP's support to review the National School Meals Programme, which provides meals for 658,000 girls and 742,000 boys in primary, secondary and boarding schools, of which 70 percent are located in rural areas. In response, WFP designed a Development Project that was implemented in three phases: (i) an assessment of the existing school meals programme; (ii) the development of a Plan of Action for the improvement of national school meals; and (iii) study visits and sharing of experiences.

A Plan of Action for the improvement of the National School Meals Programme was submitted to the Government in December 2015 and validated in July 2016. The plan leverages the findings of the comprehensive assessment phase of the project, encompassing activities for short and mid-term implementation. In October 2016, WFP approved Budget revision 5, extending the Development Project until the end of 2017.

WFP will provide technical assistance and policy advice for the implementation of the Plan of Action. Specifically, the activities under the extended phase of the project aim to (i) strengthen regulatory frameworks and tools in the areas of governance and normative guidelines; and (ii) support the Government in the design of school meals pilots that are efficient, accountable and support local employment creation.

Operational Updates

Tunisia

- On March 06, WFP, the African Development Bank and the Tunisian Ministry of Education visited the site of the central kitchen school meals pilot in the Zaghouan governorate to learn about how WFP supports the Tunisian Government in enhancing the national school meals programme and discuss ways to foster synergies in collaboration to build stronger social safety nets.
- The first food and environment class was held in a newly established school garden in Nadhour, Zaghouan governorate. The school garden is part of a WFP developed home-grown, multi-dimensional approach to school meals that is being piloted in Tunisia. It allows pupils to cultivate fruit and vegetables and serves as a hub for community participation and a site for nutritional, environmental and agricultural education for children and adults.
- The Nadhour primary school, which is part of the WFP-developed sustainable school meals pilot, has reached out to a group of local women interested in taking care of the garden during school holidays. Promoting community participation is a key dimension of the pilot, aimed at strengthening local resilience and ownership.
- The construction of a central kitchen that will serve nutritious meals to nine surrounding schools is well underway: this month the central kitchen's roof was finalised. The central kitchen will use locally produced food and serve school meals based on WFP-developed nutrition guidelines.

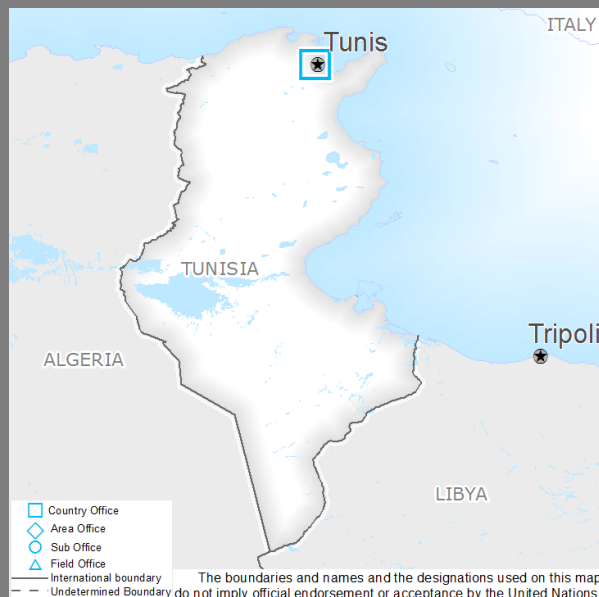
Morocco

- In line with Morocco's Plan of Action for the enhancement of the National School Meals Programme, developed jointly by WFP and the Government, WFP continues to provide technical assistance aiming to strengthen regulatory frameworks and governance tools, as well as to support the design and implementation of school meals pilots that are efficient, accountable, and foster links with local agricultural production.

Partnerships

- WFP has been actively engaged in fundraising, working to diversify its donor base and foster new partnerships. Partnerships are essential to the Tunisian model, bringing together the Ministries of Education and Agriculture, international organisations, national NGOs, the private sector and communities.

Country Background & Strategy



Tunisia has undergone significant change following the Jasmine Revolution of January 2011. Legislative and presidential elections were held between October and December 2014, a successful milestone in the democratic transition. The strategic direction of the Government focuses on strengthening democracy, while laying the groundwork for a stronger economic recovery. Tunisia has a GNI per capita of USD 11,250 purchasing power parity (World Bank, 2015). The 2016 UNDP Human Development Report ranks Tunisia 97 out of 188 countries and as 58 on the Gender Inequality Index (GII 2015).

Morocco is a middle income, yet food-deficit country where the agricultural production fluctuates yearly as a result of weather variations and relies heavily on international markets to meet its consumption needs. Morocco is ranked 123 out of 188 countries in the 2016 HDI and as 113 on the GII 2015.

WFP has repositioned itself to a technical advisory role through capacity reinforcement activities in both countries, with the provision of technical assistance to the governments as part of their on-going effort to review and improve the national school meals systems. The projects contribute to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2, ending hunger and SDG 17, revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development.

WFP has been present in Tunisia since 2011 and in Morocco since 2013.

Tunisia Population: **11 million**
Morocco Population: **33.8 million**

2015 Human Development Index:
Tunisia: **97 out of 188**
Morocco: **123 out of 188**

Income Level:
Tunisia: **Lower middle**
Morocco: **Lower middle**