



WFP Tunisia and Morocco Country Brief

WFP Assistance

Capacity Development for School Feeding in Tunisia DEV 200493 (December 2012 – March 2018)	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	6.5 m	4.6 m (70%)	--
Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (CSP) Apr 2018 – Dec 2022	4.3 m	--	--

*January - June 2018

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

In 2017, WFP continued 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; and (iii) accompanying the piloting of new efficient implementation modalities that are accountable, and support local employment creation.

The pilot initiatives 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 to leverage as hubs to promote community participation, as well as enhancing knowledge for a more nutritious diet.

The Ministry of Education has allocated USD 1.6 million for the construction and refurbishment of two central pilot kitchens, while the Ministry of Agriculture

Highlights

- WFP Tunisia, Ministries of Education and Agriculture, and UNOPS experts conducted visits to schools in three Tunisian governorates. In partnership with the Italian Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS), sixteen primary schools will be upgraded in 2018, to enable them to provide students with daily nutritious hot meals.
- WFP Tunisia continues to build partnerships with local NGOs to contribute to the revitalization of school gardens as hubs for community participation and to facilitate the establishment of sustainable links between rural women's groups and school canteens.

contributes with technical expertise and gardening equipment; plants and seeds. WFP has secured 80 percent funding for the upcoming Tunisia Country Strategic Plan (2018-2022), scheduled to commence on 01 April 2018.

	Total Requirements (in USD)	Total Received (in USD)	6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan T-ICSP MA01 (Jan 2018 – Dec 2018)	213 K	--	--

* January - June 2018, considering resource transfer from DEV to T-ICSP

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 best practices.

WFP Plan of Action for the improvement of the National School Meals Programme was validated by the Government in July 2016, and its implementation constitutes the core of WFP's operations for the 12 months T-ICSP starting January 2018. The plan leverages the findings of the comprehensive assessment phase of the project, encompassing activities for short and mid-term implementation.

WFP provide technical 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

- WFP conducted school assessments following field visits to the Ariana, Nabeul, and Kairouan governorates with regional representatives of the Ministries of Education and Agriculture. WFP continues the selection of the primary schools where it will undertake the refurbishment of school canteens planned for 2018, together with the revitalisation of 10 school gardens. Half of the selected 16 school canteens will be refurbished to enhance their ability to provide nutritious, hot meals under the existing decentralised school feeding model; while the remaining 8 will be integrated into the pilot central kitchen model.
- On 15 December, the Ministry of Education held a follow up meeting with WFP and its National Education Reform's main partners, the Italian Agency for Development and Cooperation (AICS), UNICEF and UNOPS in light of the Seminar "School feeding as a vector of academic and social inclusion" held in November. The partners agreed on the development of Plan of Action covering the 2018-2021 period. Discussions advanced on future partnership between WFP and UNOPS for the physical rehabilitation and equipment of school canteens.

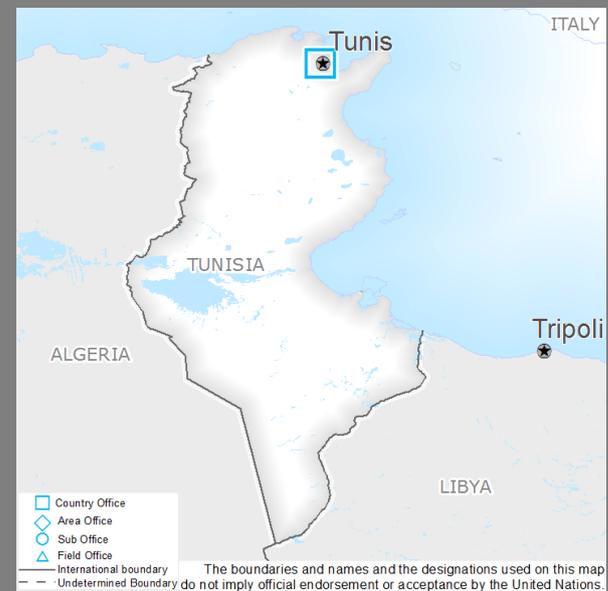
Morocco

- WFP continues to support the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco to enhance its National School Meals Programme as part of the 2015-2030 Education Reform. Under the Morocco Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP), due to start on 01 January 2018, WFP will continue to provide technical support to the Ministry of National Education in the development of innovative, home-grown school meals pilots, as well as standardised guidelines for the implementation of the programme. These guidelines will enable the government to introduce improvements in the areas of governance, financing, supply chain, monitoring and evaluation.

Partnerships

- WFP Tunisia and UNOPS will partner to rehabilitate school canteens in 2018. Eight schools will be identified based on criteria established by WFP in consultation with regional authorities and as a result of the field assessments. The first phase of the partnership will result in UNOPS providing detailed technical specifications for renovation and equipment on each of the selected schools under the decentralised school meals model. WFP will take advantage of UNOPS's expertise in the field of procurement for school rehabilitation and equipment in Tunisia.
- WFP continues to build partnerships with Tunisian local and national NGOs on the revitalisation of school gardens. A selection protocol based on WFP's Corporate Policy for Capacity Building will guide the assessment of six potential cooperating partners who expressed their interest in implementing the project. The strategic purpose of these partnerships is to facilitate the establishment of sustainable links between local agriculture production and the National School Meals Programme, through the revitalization of school gardens as hubs for community participation, notably of women-led community based organisations, students, parents and school staff.

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.

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