



Photo: S Lindstrom

# USAID/TUNISIA COUNTRY PROFILE

## OUR WORK

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Tunisia promotes strengthening the social contract between Tunisian citizens and the government, inclusive private sector-led economic growth, and supporting a social safety net that provides direct relief to vulnerable Tunisians. Since 2011, USAID has provided nearly \$585 million in assistance to Tunisia.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH

To mitigate the economic and financial crisis in Tunisia, much of USAID's Economic Growth programming focuses on direct support to small and medium-sized enterprises. In the past year alone, more than 19,000 Tunisian businesses have benefited from our financial or technical assistance. USAID has also focused on improving the business-enabling environment to create conditions for businesses to grow and thrive. USAID has focused on far-ranging public financial management reforms, which should, once fully implemented, substantially improve government transparency and accountability, currently a major source of public concern.

### KEY RESULTS

- **30,000** businesses assisted
- **42,000** new jobs created
- **40,000** people trained
- **\$300 million** financing facilitated
- **\$500 million** in increased sales for assisted businesses
- **\$400 million** in increased exports for assisted businesses

## DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE

USAID works with civil society organizations, Tunisian institutions, youth, and other stakeholders to strengthen Tunisia's democratic institutions and political processes, encourage diverse citizen participation and engagement, and promote positive youth development. USAID's Democracy and Governance program helps advance democratic values by promoting the inclusion of traditionally underserved areas of Tunisia, civic and voter education, electoral systems strengthening, political participation, and citizen oversight initiatives.

### KEY RESULTS

- Reached over **1 million citizens** through civic and voter education campaigns and ensured that people with disabilities were included in the 2019 elections by developing a sign language lexicon, a smartphone application, and a series of animated videos into the Election Commission's voter outreach efforts
- Reached over **3,940 participants** in community-based activities to promote positive youth development and prevent violent extremism
- Engaged **45,000 followers** on social media to promote positive youth development
- Refurbished and equipped **47 safe spaces** in communities throughout Tunisia, providing Tunisian youth with opportunities to improve their skills and contribute to their communities

## SOCIAL SAFETY NET

The Social Safety Net portfolio provides relief to vulnerable Tunisians to lessen the impact of the economic crisis and food prices while supporting Tunisia's ability to more effectively target social assistance to the most vulnerable to lessen the need for subsidies and government expenditures.

### KEY RESULTS

- Over **425,000 children** received a one-time back-to-school allowance for education expenses for the 2022-2023 school year.
- By August 2023, **305,000 children** benefited from monthly cash transfers to cover food, education, and health expenses.
- **680 students** participated in the school dropout prevention program, a model employing a systemic approach to reduce school dropout rates through structural and pedagogical measures.
- In 2023, the school dropout prevention pilot program expanded to 13 more schools, totaling **22 pilot schools**.
- Financed the purchase of **25,000 metric tons** of durum wheat to help the Tunisian people face supply disruptions, particularly for the most vulnerable households.

## **CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

### **TUNISIA JOBS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND BUSINESS SUCCESS (TUNISIA JOBS)**

**2018-2024 • \$77.6 million • Chemonics International**

Tunisia JOBS works on accelerating the growth and job creation potential of Tunisian firms through firm-level interventions that improve productivity and competitiveness; improve access to finance for small and medium enterprises; workforce development through training, job matching, curricula reform; and improvements to the business-enabling environment.

### **PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN TUNISIA**

**2022-2024 • \$60 million • UNICEF**

This multi-donor partnership provides cash transfers for economically vulnerable families with USAID's support targeted to children ages 6-18, accompanied by other social safety measures for education, food security, health, and child protection.

### **MA3AN (“TOGETHER” IN ARABIC)**

**2018-2025 • \$59.5 million • FHI360**

Ma3an increases Tunisian youth civic engagement and economic empowerment. Ma3an improves youth access to skills, services, and opportunities for civic engagement and economic empowerment and supports Tunisian youth to lead and meaningfully participate in activities to address youth and community priorities.

### **POWER TUNISIA**

**2022-2027 • \$58 million • Deloitte US**

Power Tunisia accelerates the adoption of firm-level energy efficiency and renewable energy solutions to reduce carbon emissions, lower electricity bills, mitigate the business impact of electricity supply and price shocks, and improve the competitiveness of Tunisian small businesses.

### **VISIT TUNISIA**

**2021-2026 • \$50 million • Chemonics International**

Visit Tunisia enhances Tunisia's tourism potential, generating revenue and jobs and contributing to Tunisia's growth and development.

### **TUNISIA POLITICAL TRANSITIONS PROJECT (PTP)**

**2020-2025 • \$29 million • IFES, NDI, IRI, and Internews**

PTP supports civil society organizations, media, and key institutions to increase public trust and inclusive participation in the political process.

### **NASSEJ (“INTERWOVEN” IN ARABIC)**

**2023-2028 • \$25 million • Democracy International**

Nassej empowers Tunisian citizens to advocate for advancing Tunisia's development at local, regional, and national levels and strengthening the legitimacy and sustainability of civil society.

### **FISCAL AND ACCOUNTING SYSTEM OF TUNISIA (FAST)**

**2019-2024 • \$18.9 million • DAI Global LLC**

FAST supports the systems and procedures necessary to operationalize and accelerate the Government of Tunisia's reforms that are modernizing the system for managing public revenues and expenditures.

### **TUNISIA EMERGENCY FOOD SUPPLY**

**2023-2024 • \$12 million • World Bank**

This activity provided an emergency purchase of wheat to help Tunisia avoid a disruption in supply. It provides technical assistance and analytics to address structural weaknesses in the grain value chain.

## **INVEST TUNISIA**

**2017-2024 • \$10 million • DAI Global LLC, SEAF, and CrossBoundary**

INVEST Tunisia promotes innovative private capital solutions for small to medium enterprises, introduces new financial products, and leverages capital and expertise from local and international investors.

## **LOCAL SOLUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES**

**2023-2025 • \$5 million • United States Institute of Peace (USIP)**

This activity improves the effectiveness of existing local governance structures and develops the technical capacity of civil society organizations and grassroots activists to address climate and environmental issues.

## **USAID-NREL Partnership for Decarbonized and Climate-Resilient Energy Systems**

**2020-2024 • \$2.5 million • National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory**

This activity provides experts from two U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratories to support Tunisia in transitioning to advanced energy systems for clean, reliable, and affordable power, which is crucial for achieving development goals, meeting climate targets, and reducing dependence on foreign fossil fuel sources.

## **CONTACT:**

### **USAID/TUNISIA MISSION**

Phone +216 71 107 000

Email: [doctunisia@usaid.gov](mailto:doctunisia@usaid.gov)

### **USAID HEADQUARTERS**

Tunisia Desk

Email: [tunisiadesk@usaid.gov](mailto:tunisiadesk@usaid.gov)