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Country Sheet

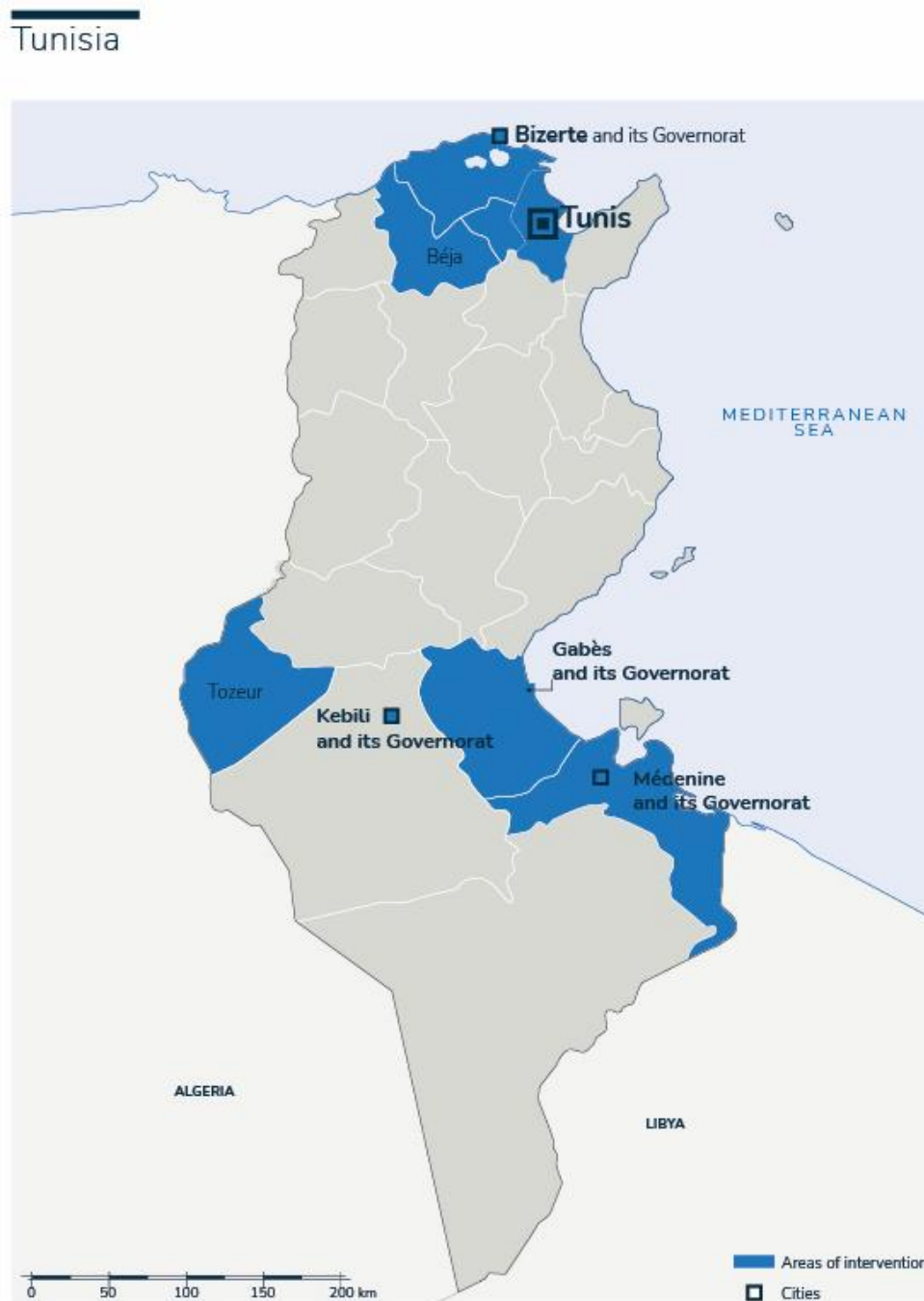
Tunisia





HI's team and areas of intervention

There are 22 people on the Tunisia programme's team (22 employees for Tunisia and 6 employees for the Maghreb programme's regional coordination).



General Country Data



General data

Country	Tunisia	Morocco	France
Population	12 356 117	37 457 971	67 935 660
HDI	0.588	0.504	0.825
Gender Development Index	0.931	0.861	0.99
Maternal mortality	37	72	8
Gini index	32.8	39.5	30.7
Population under UNHCR mandate	8952	18 066	693 598
INFORM index	3	3.6	2.3
Fragile states index	66.4	68.2	28.8
Public social protection	50.20		100
Official Development Assistance received	1093.4	965.2	

Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine ban treaty	Ratified on 09/07/1999
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Ratified on 28/09/2010
United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified on 02/04/2008

Geopolitical analysis

Social, cultural and demographic context

Tunisia is situated in North Africa, between Algeria to the west and Libya to the east, and is composed of 24 governorates. Arabic is the official language, French is the second language.

Tunisia's population grew by 1.03% between 2004 and 2014. In 1966, 51% of the population was male, but this percentage has gradually been reversed (50.2% female in 2014) following the improvement in living conditions and the



emigration of a largely male workforce abroad. The unemployment rate¹ was 16.1% at the end of the first quarter of 2023.

2023 was marked by an upward trend in irregular migration. Because of the increasingly complex economic, social and political situation, many Tunisian men and women now share the same desire to leave the country.

Political context

In 2014, following elections for the first pluralist and democratic parliament, the country installed a government. However, this government faced many challenges: social and economic problems, high public expectations, strikes and social movements, the security threat in the country and the thorny issue of corruption. In 2022, the new Tunisian Constitution was adopted by referendum on 25 July; it came into force on 17 August of the same year.

The government of Ahmed HACHANI, which has been running the country since August 2023, faces many social and economic challenges, including an inflation rate² that reached 10% in December 2022, as well as shortages of basic commodities (petrol, sugar, milk, semolina etc.).

Summary of HI's work in the country

HI has been working in Tunisia since 1992, initially on an ad hoc basis and on a permanent basis since 1997, under a cooperation agreement signed with the Ministry of Social Affairs. Until 2003, most of the activities undertaken by Handicap International were in the rehabilitation sector and involved the training of professionals and the equipping of specialised centres.

In 2006, HI began capacity-building actions for associations in project management, the revision of institutional projects and the networking of professionals working with people with disabilities.

Since 2011, the programme has been developing actions to ensure that disability rights are taken into account in the democratic transition process. Our main crosscutting successes include:

- Strong institutional recognition, both at ministerial and civil society level;
- Studies and research, sources of knowledge on disability for action and advocacy by Organisations of People with Disabilities;
- A capacity for innovation and knowledge management, with a strong investment in new technologies;
- A strong territorial foothold, and partners and an intervention methodology that allow us to extend our actions to other vulnerable groups.

¹ INS : Institut National de la Statistique

² INS : Institut National de la Statistique

Main areas of intervention:	Main activities:	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Project start and end date	Donors funding the project
Economic Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service users Training and coaching for employment stakeholders on personalised support for jobseekers; training (life skills, job hunting and setting up an economic activity); diagnosis and definition of a professional project for people with disabilities; support (training, internships, in employment or self-employment). • Suppliers Mobilisation of actors and networking of occupational inclusion service providers; awareness-raising among service providers; adaptation and development of tools and methodologies to support people with disabilities to find 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service users 100 interns and job seekers with disabilities • Suppliers 15 inclusion service providers; 25 training and vocational inclusion professionals • Deciders 10 public, private and specialised companies; social partners; local and national public authorities (senior officials from the Ministries of Social Affairs and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OTDDPH • CCED • CSR & PED • ANETI • FATH • GTT • UTICA • CONNECT • CDCMIR 	Bizerte	July 2021 - June 2024	Agence Française de Développement (AFD)



	<p>employment; improved accessibility of inclusion services; organisational and operational capacity-building actions; creation of a national CSR and Disability working group; development of a code of good conduct for companies in terms of CSR and Disability.Deciders</p> <p>Identifying and raising awareness among business leaders about hiring people with disabilities; training entrepreneurs on inclusive support and empowering entrepreneurs with disabilities; advocacy actions carried out by organisations of people with disabilities at national and local level to influence public authorities and social partners.</p>	<p>Vocational Training and Employment).</p>				
<p>Integration inclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participative territorial diagnostics, citizen mobilisation, identification and selection of initiatives and urban micro-projects, support for social and technical innovation of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 micro-projects and 5 initiatives supported • 60 public, associative and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratoire de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (Lab'ess) 	<p>Béja Grand Tunis Gabès</p>	<p>July 2022 – December 2023</p>	<p>Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</p>



	initiatives, networking, capitalisation of good practice, etc.	private actors identified in the neighbourhoods are informed about the concepts of urban policy, inclusion, local governance, social cohesion and sustainable development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agence de Réhabilitation et de Rénovation urbaine (ARRU) 			
Integration inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving interventions with children with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorders) by the professionals involved through the promotion of early detection, adapted professional approaches and a pilot experience of adapted psycho-pedagogical care and school inclusion in the governorates of Tozeur and Medenine. • Information and awareness-raising on the signs of autism for parents/families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 children with ASD in the governorates of Tozeur and Médenine will receive appropriate support and monitoring from strengthened centres • Health professionals • Families of children with ASD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Social Affairs and Ministry of Health 	Tozeur Médenine	February 2023 - January 2026	Monaco Department of International Cooperation



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness-raising workshops for frontline professionals on autism and early diagnosis• Training of psychologists and child psychiatrists on tools for the early diagnosis of autism• National forum on autism to foster practice-sharing between professionals in charge of diagnosing autism• Co-facilitation of regular multi-actor meetings for networking the professionals involved in the referral and psycho-pedagogical development of children with ASD.• Identification and validation of methods and approaches for the management of ASD in specialised centres• Equipping diagnostic centres in each governorate as well as the ISES with adequate kits• Equipping specialised centres for children with ASD to carry out early stimulation (sensory,					
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	<p>communication and psychomotor stimulation) and support autistic children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributing to the setting up of a national commission involving the different structures concerned to harmonise and update the approaches to autism care with current methods at the central level 					
<p>Protection against violence:</p> <p>Inclusive governance</p> <p>Social services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building the capacities of Tunisian institutions to provide technical support to victims of gender-based violence and ensure the application of laws that protect their rights. • Capacity building and technical support to improve data collection and management by the Tunisian government to improve the distribution of disability benefits to eligible citizens • Raising awareness of victims of gender-based violence and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunisian institutions supporting GBV victims • People with disabilities benefiting from public policies adapted after improvement to the management of disability data • People with disabilities and women victims of violence informed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAMSS • Ministry of Social Affairs • Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly 	<p>Nationwide</p>	<p>October 2021 - September 2024</p>	<p>US State Department / Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs</p>



	with disabilities to enhance their ability to exercise their rights	about their rights and benefitting from more inclusive services				
Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusive, inter-sector experiments to support families and individuals in vulnerable situations to ensure their social inclusion and access to rights, contributing to the development of methods and practices. Overhaul of the social work of the three lines of management of the Ministry of Social Affairs' establishments and services in order to provide personalised inter-sector support based on local experiments for families and individuals in vulnerable situations to ensure their social inclusion and access to rights. Sector-based policy dialogue at regional and national level with an inclusive, multi-actor approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil society organisations Social work professionals Tunisian public policy actors Vulnerable Tunisian people benefiting from improved social protection services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fondation Agir Contre l'Exclusion – Tunisie Centre de Recherche et d'Etudes Sociales Ministry of Social Affairs 	Nationwide	September 2023 - August 2028	European Commission DG NEAR



Donor and partner logos

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US State Department / Bureau of Near
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Direction de la Coopération Internationale
de Monaco



Commission Européenne/DG
NEAR

