



Country Sheet

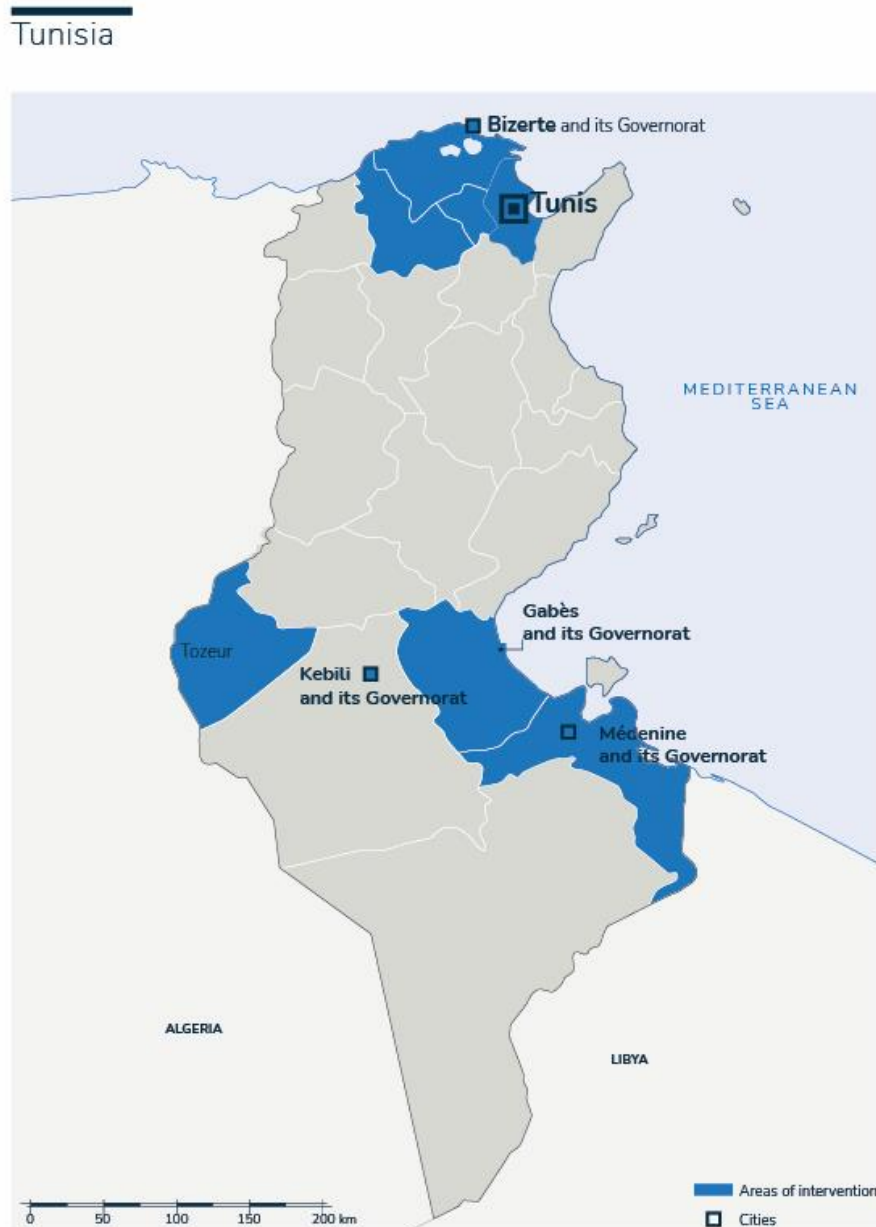
Tunisia





HI's team and areas of intervention

There are 17 people on HI's team in Tunisia





General Country Data

a. General data

Country	Tunisia	Morocco	France
Population	11 935 764	37344787	67 499343
HDI	0.74	0.69	0.90
Gender development index	0.900	0.835	0.987
Maternal mortality	42	88	4
Gini index	32.8	39.5	32.4
Population under UNHCR mandate	9371	18228	580898
INFORM index	3.4	3.9	2.3
Fragile states index	68.2	71.1	30.9
Public social protection	50.20	6.6	100
Official development assistance received	984.03	757.86	

b. 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

c. 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 rate was 17.9% in June 2021.



The year 2022 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 situation

In 2014, following elections for the first pluralist and democratic parliament, the country installed a government. However, this government faces 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.

2021 was marked by the freezing of the activities of the Tunisian parliament, the resignation of the government in July 2021 and the announcement of a constitutional state of emergency by the President of the Republic, Kais Saied. The socio-political context of Tunisia and the impact of the health crisis that peaked in July 2021 helped ensure the acceptance of these presidential decisions.

Pending legislative elections in December 2022, the transitional government of Najla Bouden Rohmdane is leading the country. She faces many social and economic challenges, including an inflation rate that reached 8.6% in August 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 then 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 focused on the rehabilitation sector and involved the training of professionals and the equipping of specialist 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 cross-cutting 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.



Overview of current projects

Main sectors of intervention	Main activities:	Beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Project start and end date	Donors funding the project
Social & Inclusion / Economic services	<p>Service users:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and coaching of support and employment actors on personalised support for job seekers; • Training (life skills, job seeking and setting up a business) • Diagnosis and definition of professional projects for people with disabilities; • Accompaniment (training, internship, in-company or self-employment) <p>Suppliers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilisation of actors and networking of vocational inclusion service providers; • Service provider awareness-raising; • Adaptation and development of tools and methodologies to help people with disabilities find employment • Improving the accessibility of inclusion services; • Strengthening organisational and operational capacity-building; • Creation of a national CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) and Disability working group; • Development of a code of conduct for companies on CSR and disability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service users: 100 interns and job seekers with disabilities • Suppliers: 15 vocational inclusion service providers; • 25 training and vocational inclusion professionals; • Decision-makers: 10 public, private and specialised companies; • Social partners (employees' trade unions, employers' organisations) • Local and national public authorities (senior officials from the Ministries of Social Affairs and Vocational Training and Employment). 	OTDDPH CCEDRSE & PED ANETI FATH GTT UTICA CONNECT CDCMIR	Bizerte	July 2021 – June 2024	Agence Française de Développement (AFD)



	<p>Decision-makers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying and raising awareness among company managers on hiring people with disabilities; • Training of business actors on inclusive support and the empowerment of entrepreneurs with disabilities; • Advocacy actions run by organisations of people with disabilities at national and local level to influence public authorities and social partners. 					
<p>Social & Inclusion / Social services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Territorial participatory diagnoses • Citizen mobilisation • Identification and selection of urban initiatives and micro-projects • Support to the social and technical innovation of initiatives • Networking, knowledge capitalisation of good practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 micro-projects and 5 initiatives supported • 60 public, associative and private actors are informed about the concepts of urban policy, inclusion, local governance, social cohesion and sustainable development • Follow-up of the initiatives and micro-projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Le Laboratoire de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire (Lab'ess) • Agence de Réhabilitation et de Rénovation urbaine (ARRU) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Béja • Grand Tunis • Gabès 	<p>July 2022 - December 2023</p>	<p>Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</p>
<p>Social & Inclusion / Education services</p> <p>Health & Prevention /</p>	<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 410 children on the autism spectrum 	<p>Ministry of Social Affairs Ministry of Health</p>	<p>Tozeur, Médenine</p>	<p>June 2020 to January 2023</p>	<p>Department of International Cooperation – Monaco (DCI)</p>



Advocacy / Inclusive development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information and awareness-raising on the signs of autism for parents/families• 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 to 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, communication and psychomotor stimulation) and support autistic children• Contributing to the setting up of a national commission involving the different structures concerned to harmonise and update the approaches					
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	to autism care with current methods at the central level					
Protection & Risk reduction / Protection against abuse and violence Social & Inclusion / Social services, services linked to justice, citizenship and political participation	<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 with disabilities to enhance their ability to exercise their rights		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TAMSS,• Ministry of Social Affairs• Ministry of Family, Women, Children and the Elderly	Nationwide	October 2021 - September 2024	US State Department / Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs



Donors

<p>Agence Française de Développement (AFD)</p>  <p>MINISTÈRE DE L'EUROPE ET DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES</p> <p><i>Liberté Égalité Fraternité</i></p>	<p>US State Department / Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs</p> 	<p>DCI Monaco (Direction de la Coopération Internationale de Monaco)</p>  <p>Gouvernement Princier PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO</p>
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