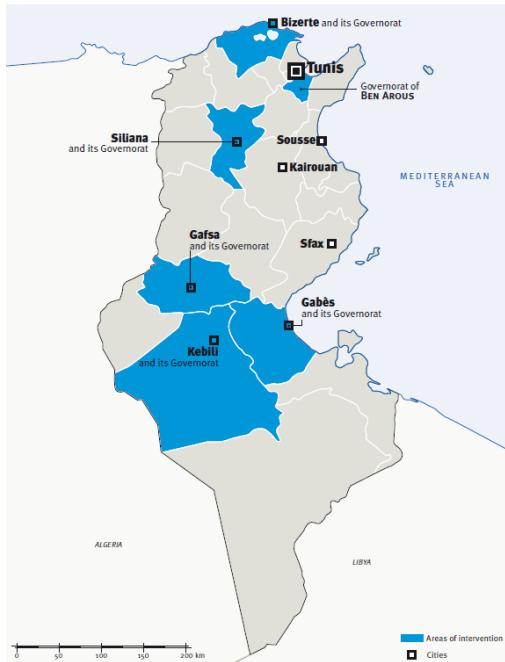




Tunisia



MANDATE

Handicap International's goal in Tunisia is to promote the social inclusion of the most vulnerable people and to improve their living conditions by advancing their rights and ensuring their needs are taken into account.

SITUATION

Despite a long period of political stability and socio-economic progress in Tunisia, a persistent refusal to respond to criticism from human rights organisations regarding the freedom of association and expression, combined with widespread nepotism, led on 14 January 2011 to the fall of President Ben Ali, who had been in power since 1987.

The future role of civil society groups as representatives and operators in development efforts is now firmly on the agenda. Tunisian organisations now hope to become independent operators representative of the population in all its complexity. The association sector is now one of the leading promoters of human rights in Tunisia.

Despite these extremely positive steps forward, the voice of the most marginalised populations still risks being ignored in the transition towards democracy. This is particularly the case for people with disabilities.

INITIAL ACTIONS

Handicap International launched its operations in Tunisia in 1992 and set up a permanent programme in 1997, as part of a general cooperation agreement signed with the Ministry for Social Affairs and Solidarity.

Since July 2011, the actions conducted by Handicap International in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia have been grouped into a regional programme, with a head office in Rabat, Morocco.

STAFF

- National staff: 12
- Expatriate staff: none

KEY FACTS

Human Development Index (HDI) *	96/188 classified countries	The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRDPH)	Ratified on 2/4/08
Gross National Income per capita * (\$PPA)	\$10,404	Oslo convention on cluster munitions	Ratified on 28/9/10
Surface area**	163,610 sq.km.	Ottawa mine ban convention	Ratified on 9/7/99
Population (millions) **	11.1		
Life expectancy *	74.8 years		

*UNDP: 2015 Human Development Report
 **UNSD 2015

Current projects 2016



Professional inclusion

GOAL

Improve access for people with disabilities, particularly young people and women, to decent job opportunities.

METHOD

Project implementation revolves around:

- Identifying and networking professional inclusion service providers. The next step is to identify with them job opportunities and needs in the main business sectors and coordinate the professional inclusion of people with disabilities.
- Providing personalised support for disabled job seekers and helping companies to integrate workers with disabilities.
- Raising the awareness of labour relations stakeholders on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and disabilities.

BENEFICIARIES

- Disabled job seekers, particularly young people and women, their families and dependents.
- Professional inclusion service providers.
- Professional inclusion services staff.
- Public, private and specialised companies.
- Labour relations partners.
- Local and national government.

PARTNERS

- Tunisian Employment and Self-Employment Agency (ANETI)
- Ministries of Social Affairs – General Department for the Enhancement of Social Wellbeing (DGPS).
- Federation of Tunisian Associations Working in the Disability Field (FATH).
- Tunisian General Work Union (UGTT).
- Enda inter-arabe (microfinance institution)
- Tunisian Professional Training Agency (ATFP).
- Confederation of Tunisian Citizen Companies (CONNECT).

LOCATION

Tunisia, specifically the Ben Arous, Gabès and Gafsa governorates.



Inclusive education and local development

Regional project run in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia

GOAL

In Tunisia, improve access to quality education for children with disabilities in the governorates of Bizerte and Kebili. This improvement takes the form of developing the skills of local stakeholders, local social action schemes, concerted local policies and discussion dynamics at regional level.

METHOD

Handicap International is doing the following:

- Raising the awareness of the parents of children with disabilities, local stakeholders and the media on the right to education.
- Training and supporting teaching professionals in relation to inclusive practices and personalised social support.
- Bolstering the mechanisms for supplying orthopaedic devices and technical aids for children with disabilities.
- Putting in place local social action schemes and technically and financially supporting DPOs to ensure that they take part in these schemes.
- Delivering advocacy and local consultation training to DPOs.
- Training local stakeholders on developing and coordinating inclusive public policies.
- Facilitating and developing a regional skills, distance learning and discussion scheme.

BENEFICIARIES

- 2,000 children with disabilities and their families benefitting from inclusive services, of whom 100 have a personalised support or education plan.
- 30 education services are being supported in order to foster the development of an inclusive environment.
- Members of partner organisations who have received training in advocacy and local consultation.
- The local population whose awareness has been raised on inclusion principles.

PARTNERS

- Federation of Tunisian Associations Working in the Disability Field (FATH)
- Tunisian Organisation for the Defence of the Rights of People with Disabilities (OTDDPH)

LOCATION

Governorates of Bizerte and Kebili.



Increasing the socio-economic and political inclusion of people with disabilities

Regional and national project run in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia

GOAL

Facilitate dialogue between organisations working in the disability field, civil society organisations and public authorities in order to enable inclusive public policies aimed at advancing the rights of people with disabilities to be developed, rolled out and monitored.

METHOD

Handicap International is implementing this project in partnership with organisations working in the disability field and benefitting directly from the initiative. This partnership combines Handicap International's expertise in the field of rights and advocacy for people with disabilities and the specific inclusive policy analysis skills of local partners. The direct involvement of people with disabilities is key to the success of this project which primarily hinges upon the implementation of methods for developing advocacy and association activities.

BENEFICIARIES

- Tunisian Organisation for the Advancement of the Rights of People with Disabilities
- People with disabilities in the three countries.





PARTNERS

Tunisian Organisation for the Advancement of the Rights of People with Disabilities (OTDDPH)

LOCATION

Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.

MAIN FUNDING BODIES

<p>French Development Agency (AFD)</p> 	<p>European Commission</p> 	<p>Principality of Monaco Department for International Cooperation</p> 
<p>Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs</p> 	<p>UNICEF</p> 