PREPARATORY ASSISTANCE FOR THE GENERAL CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE IN TUNISIA

KEY RESULTS
The project team provided technical support for the preparation of the General Census of Agriculture and Fisheries. As such, the project contributed to strengthening the national system of agricultural statistics for the census, both in terms of improving logistics and methodologies, as well as capacity building.

- Organization of two training workshops on the profile of field agents for the piloting of the survey.
- Organization of a study tour in Côte d’Ivoire for officials/executives of the General Census of Agriculture and Fisheries team.
- Preparation of a medium term action plan to implement the strategy for the development of agricultural and rural statistics.
- Establishment of a communication strategy.
- Preparation of technical documents and tools (questionnaires, methodological documents, manuals for field agents).
- Establishment of institutional mechanisms to implement newly prepared census instruments.
- Training of the team of facilitators for the pilot community survey.
- Finalization of a ready-to-share project document for potential resource partners on the preparation of the General Census of Agriculture and Fisheries.
- Reinforcement of capacities of DGEDA.

KEY FACTS

- **Project symbol**: TCP/TUN/3503
- **Programme country**: Tunisia
- **Contribution**: USD 401 000
- **Duration**: May 2015 – December 2017
- **Partner**: Ministry of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries (MARHP)
- **Beneficiaries**: Senior officials within the MARHP and, in particular, the General Department of Studies and Agricultural Development (DGEDA), the decision-makers tasked with producing policies in the fields of agriculture and development, as well as rural populations.
CATALYTIC EFFECTS

The project document created by this project was used for the development of the Agricultural Census Component of the FAO Trust Fund project UTF/TUN/041/TUN. The General Census of Agriculture is budgeted at USD 4 221 186 out of a total budget of USD 9 777 703, with the remaining balance being used to conduct a forest inventory.

Exploitation of the General Census of Agriculture data will enable the establishment of sound agricultural development policies and programmes, as well as contribute to the reduction of poverty and food insecurity. As a result, the Government will have a reliable information system reflecting the reality of the sector and its operators at its disposal.

POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM THE FIELD

The team of regional supervisors trained in the pilot census created a Facebook page, including the following testimony from an officer who participated in the pilot census.

"The pilot enumeration in the Tunis governorate sector went well with a satisfactory data collection application, which works offline. The pilot enumeration benefited from a very professional and yet simple GIS application to digitize farm boundaries, identify blocks, plots and fields on a satellite image, to calculate their surface area with great accuracy and to create an instant geographic base with indications of real and automatic positions. A big thank you to this project. Thanks also to the geometrician. After coming back from our field trip, I downloaded, set up, tested and ran the application, and used it in the field to correct misrepresentations. It is a great tool".