



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Sustaining peace through the promotion of a peaceful, just and inclusive society in Tunisia



Progress report
2019



Royaume des Pays-Bas

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II. PROJECT PRESENTATION

Reporting period	14/12/2018 – 31/12/2019
Donor	The Netherlands Ministry for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation
Project title:	Sustaining peace through the promotion of a peaceful, just and inclusive society in Tunisia
Award ID:	00114456
Project duration:	14 December 2018 – 31 December 2021
Extension(s) (if applicable):	N/A
Executive agency:	UNDP Tunisia
Implementing partner(s):	UNDP
Total resources required	US\$ 33,486,256
Revenue received:	The Netherlands: US\$ 18,808,479
Sustainable Development Goal (s) to which the project contributes (SDGs)	No.16: Peace, justice and strong institutions Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
Applicable output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan	<p>1.1.1 Capacities developed across the whole of government to integrate the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other international agreements in development plans and budgets, and to analyse progress towards the SDGs, using innovative and data-driven solutions</p> <p>1.2.1 Capacities at national and sub-national levels strengthened to promote inclusive local economic development and deliver basic services including HIV and related services</p> <p>1.2.2 Enabling environment strengthened to expand public and private financing for the achievement of the SDGs</p> <p>1.2.3 Institutions and systems enabled to address awareness, prevention and enforcement of anti-corruption measures to maximise availability of resources for poverty eradication</p> <p>1.6.2 Measures in place and implemented across sectors to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)</p> <p>2.2.2 Constitution-making, electoral and parliamentary institutions strengthened to promote inclusion, transparency and accountability</p> <p>2.2.3 Capacities, functions and financing of rule of law and national human rights institutions and systems strengthened to expand access to justice and combat discrimination, with a focus on women and other marginalised groups</p>

	<p>2.6.1 Capacities strengthened to raise awareness of and undertake legal, policy and institutional reforms to fight structural barriers to women’s empowerment</p> <p>3.2.1 National capacities strengthened for reintegration, reconciliation, peaceful management of conflict and prevention of violent extremism in response to national policies and priorities</p> <p>3.2.2 National and local systems enabled and communities empowered to ensure the restoration of justice institutions, redress mechanisms and community security</p>
Applicable outcome(s)/output(s) from the UNDAF:	<p>Outcome 1. The civil, political, administrative institutions are fully operational in respecting the universal principles of human rights, democracy and gender equality</p> <p>Outcome 2. The State adopts a new decentralised territorial organization that complies with the aspirations of Tunisians of a model of democratic governance based on citizen participation and accountability</p>
National partner contact person:	Slim Ben Jrad – General Director of the Governance Services of the Presidency of the Government
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III. ACRONYMS

ARP	Assembly of the Representatives of the People
ASF	<i>Avocats sans Frontières</i> (Lawyers without Borders)
CCL	<i>Code des Collectivités Locales</i> (Local Authorities Law)
CSO	civil society organization
CSM	<i>Conseil Supérieur de la Magistrature</i> (High Judicial Council)
INLUCC	<i>Instance Nationale de Lutte Contre la Corruption</i> (National Anti-corruption Agency)
INLTP	<i>Instance Nationale de la Lutte Contre la traite des Personnes</i> (National Authority against Human Trafficking)
INPT	<i>Instance nationale de la Prevention de la Torture</i> (National Authority on Torture Prevention)
ISF	Internal Security Forces
ITCEQ	<i>Institut Tunisien de la Compétitivité et des Etudes Quantitatives</i> (Tunisian Institute of Competitiveness and Quantitative Studies)
MALEV	Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment
Moi	Ministry of the Interior
NCTC	National Counter-Terrorism Commission
NGO	non-governmental organization
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
PVE	prevention of violent extremism
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
TA	Tribunal Administratif (Administrative Judiciary)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN	United Nations
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) acknowledges the continued support of the Presidency of the Government of Tunisia, the Presidency of the Parliament and other valuable national partners, international partners, and United Nations agencies in the implementation of this Programme.

National partners

Presidency of the Government, Assembly of the Representatives of the People (ARP), National Anti-Corruption Commission (French acronym: INLUCC), High Judicial Council (French acronym: CSM), National Counter-Terrorism Commission, Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment (MALEV), Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Women Affairs, National Institute of Statistics, Human Rights Commission, National Authority against Human Trafficking (INLTP), National Authority on Torture Prevention (INPT) and civil society organizations.

Development partner

The Netherlands

United Nations

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

On 14 December 2018, UNDP signed the programme ‘Sustaining peace through the promotion of a peaceful, just and inclusive society in Tunisia’ with the Tunisian Presidency of the Government, in yet another step in its support to the country’s development agenda. The programme document spells out an integrated approach to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and sustaining a peace agenda in Tunisia by:

- i) Operationalizing key national institutions and processes aimed at promoting democratic governance, consolidating the rule of law and fostering citizenship
- ii) Ensuring that communities, in particular youth, women and vulnerable groups, benefit from and contribute to efforts aimed at promoting local development, strengthening access to justice and security, and social cohesion
- iii) Strengthening the capacities of national and subnational institutions to identify effective solutions towards achievement of SDG 16.

The SDG 16 programme is part of the UN interagency framework for supporting resilience in Tunisia, which is built across the following four programmatic pillars. All are closely interconnected to achieve sustainable development by a peaceful, just and inclusive society:

- Peace engines (support resilience capacities and local youth platforms)
- Stabilization and quick impact responses to communities
- SDG 16 for rule of law and strong institutions
- Risk and resilience framework derived from Pathways for Peace mission¹

The SDG 16 Programme features an innovative, multidimensional and integrated programmatic approach being implemented by UNDP worldwide. Its portfolio of projects – a structure allowed under a new operational modality launched by UNDP in June 2018² – contributes to the achievement of the SDG 16.

In 2019, efforts focused on setting up the foundations of the SDG 16 Programme architecture for effective implementation, including establishing relations with new stakeholders, designing and launching new projects, recruiting programme/project staff and developing project annual workplans. Other projects are in their formulation and/or negotiation phase with national partners and yet to be launched.

A key policy impact during the reporting period was the adoption by Parliament, on 31 January 2019, of the Budget Organic Law. The law introduces, for the first time, the principle of budget management by objective, thus enhancing the effectiveness of public policies. It also provides a comprehensible overview of public policies for all citizens and enables better parliamentary oversight of public spending. While the law was adopted in January 2019, UNDP had provided support in 2018 to enhance

¹ UN/World Bank report Pathways for Peace www.pathwaysforpeace.org/

² According to the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), “A portfolio may be created of two or more projects contributing to shared results (for example, projects contributing to the same outcome or SDG, or having the same targeted groups/geographic area). This is an optional approach intended to reduce the transaction costs of project designing, monitoring, implementing, overseeing and reporting, as many required functions are done for the portfolio instead of separately for each project. Portfolios are also intended to improve the integration of projects that contribute to shared results, as they are managed more closely together” (para. 28).

the understanding of the MPs and the advisors of the parliamentary Oversight Committee on the importance of the Budget by objective.

The Budget Organic Law provides the **framework for the gender-sensitive budgeting in Tunisia** in particular through its article 18. The formulation of this Article was developed by the Women Parliamentarian Caucus with the joint support of UNDP and UN Women.

Significant progress was noted in the **empowerment and efficiency enhancement** of the *Instance Nationale de Lutte Contre la Corruption* (French acronym: INLUCC), the national anti-corruption agency. Among the important achievements that reflected the strengthened efficiency of the anti-corruption institution were the development of the **National Action Plan 2019–2020** developed by INLUC in coordination with 17 national partners representing the legislative, the executive, the civil society and the media, the preparation of the activities **report for the period 2017–2018**, the development of a series of organizational tools, the organization of national events in anti-corruption, and the strengthened capacity to assist local actors in understanding and implementing good practices in anti-corruption.

Results under Outcome 2 have shown an **improvement of respect of human rights** in the police stations where the community policing approach is being implemented. This result is not only linked to the capacity-building actions undertaken by UNDP to the Internal Security Forces, but also to those actions aiming at the participation of communities, in particular youth, women and vulnerable groups, in the decision-making mechanisms set up at the local level. These partnerships are giving results also in other areas. For instance, the top-down decision-making approach implemented in youth centres is gradually being transformed in order to integrate the new approach of the youth sectoral vision, placing young people at the heart of the governance of these structures.

The Government of Tunisia in close collaboration with the Swedish International Development Agency, UN Women and UNDP (through its SDG 16 Programme) organized on 24–26 April 2019, the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality. The international event gathered around 600 participants and explored the potential transformative role of women participating in local spaces/local government, and other issues.

Leading up to High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in September 2019, the Government of Tunisia, UNDP, the Global Alliance for Reporting on Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) hosted a technical consultation on inclusive institutions at the local level (within the SDG 16+ framework³) on 26–27 March 2019 in Tunis. The consultation gathered over 85 representatives of local, regional and national governments, civil society and international organizations from the Arab States and beyond to discuss experiences, best practices and solutions to challenges in the implementation of SDG 16+ on the ground.

With sustaining peace being envisaged as a long-term endeavour, the SDG 16 Programme is now entering its full implementation phase as it looks forward to strengthening key national institutions, supporting local development in target geographical areas through an integrated approach, and enhancing national and subnational capacities towards the achievement of SDG 16. Within this context, the SDG 16 Programme is committed to pursuing all its activities within the overall framework of its programme document and to upholding its strong working relationships with the Government of Tunisia and the donor community.

³ The « plus » in SDG 16+ gives us a fuller understanding of the targets across other SDGs that contribute to peace, justice and inclusion. The Pathfinders, a global, member-State led initiative that also works on SDG 16, identifies peace, justice and inclusion as the three main dimensions comprising the twelve targets of SDG 16 and stresses that targets in other SDGs also contribute to peace, justice and inclusion. Hence, the term SDG 16 “plus” was born (From the Global Alliance SDG16+ Report <https://www.sdg16hub.org/system/files/2019-07/Global%20Alliance%2C%20SDG%2016%2B%20Global%20Report.pdf>)

Background

The year 2019 was unusually consequential for Tunisia as it included both parliamentary and presidential elections and an unexpected event – the death of President Béji Caïd Essebsi on 25 July 2019 – that required changes to the electoral calendar. The two polls originally were scheduled for October and November. But the Tunisian Electoral Management Body (ISIE) revised the timeframe and Parliament amended the electoral law in order to respect a constitutional provision stating that the president *ad interim* could only hold that post for a maximum of 90 days. Consequently, the presidential and parliamentary elections were rescheduled and successfully held a bit earlier (15 September, first round of presidential elections; 6 October, parliamentary elections; and 13 October, second round of presidential elections).

The electoral events had an impact on the legislative calendar, as Parliament tried to accelerate its work to finalize the adoption of the pending draft laws by the end of the 2014-2019 legislature. During the reporting period, some key legislative reforms did take place, including the adoption of the (i) budget organic law that features the concepts of budget management by objective and the gender-sensitive budgeting, (ii) organic law establishing the ‘Amen Social’ programme for the promotion of poor and limited income categories, (iii) organic law on the competencies of the Court of Audit, (iv) organic law on elections and referendum, and (v) organic law on the authority of sustainable development and protection of future generations.

Yet on the other hand, Parliament has failed (as of December 2019) to elect the members of the Constitutional Court, a key institution to safeguard against disputed legislation and ensure due process, thus generating apprehension among civil society.

The Truth and Dignity Commission, whose mandate expired on 31 December 2018, submitted its final report to the President of the Republic and, in 2019 to the President of Parliament and the Prime Minister. Following this, according to the transitional justice law, archives must be handed over to the State and, after the publication of the IVD final report on the official journal (JORT), the government will have one year to prepare an action plan for the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report. Parliament will create a commission to monitor the implementation of the recommendations.

In 2019 the country continued to face economic and security challenges that influenced the government’s work and priorities. Strong monetary and fiscal policies helped reduce inflation during the 2019, but the economic outlook remains weak overall, with annual growth in the gross domestic product (GDP) of only 1 per cent (Q3). The country’s unemployment rate fell slightly but remained relatively high at 15.1 per cent (Q3), with significantly higher unemployment rates among women (22 per cent in Q3 2019)⁴ and graduates (28.2 percent in Q1 2019). The overall weak employment opportunities were a main factor in many Tunisians seeking to migrate to Europe and elsewhere.

On 27 June 2019, two simultaneous terrorist attacks took place in Tunis, against the national security forces and the specialized unit against terrorist crimes. These attacks underscored the fact that although the security situation remains generally stable, the prevention and fight against terrorism remains a priority for Tunisia.

⁴ www.ins.tn/fr/themes/emploi#1908

The results of the SDG 16 Programme outcomes contribute to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) results for the period 2015–2019 and more specifically to the following UNDAF outcomes:

Outcome 1. Civil, political and administrative institutions are fully operational, in accordance with the universal principles of human rights, democracy and gender equality

Outcome 2. The state adopts a new decentralised territorial organization that complies with the aspirations of Tunisians for a model of democratic governance based on citizens participation and accountability

SDG 16 PROGRAMME OUTCOME 1. THE KEY NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESSES AIMED AT PROMOTING DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, CONSOLIDATING THE RULE OF LAW AND FOSTERING CITIZENSHIP ARE OPERATIONALISED.

A key policy impact during the reporting period was the adoption by Parliament, on 31 January 2019, of the **Organic Law on the Budget**.

The introduction of **budget management by objective** involves the allocation of human and financial resources necessary to achieve well defined strategic objectives on a three-year perspective. It aims to implement public policies with a focus on performance, thus enhancing the effectiveness of public policies. Finally, the Budget Organic Law provides a comprehensible overview of public policies for all citizens and enables better parliamentary oversight over public spending.

The Budget Organic Law is innovative in introducing for the first time the principle of gender-sensitive budgeting in its provisions, as part of an effort to better understand and address inequalities.

It provides the **framework for the gender-sensitive budgeting in Tunisia** in particular through its article 18, which places the responsibility on programme managers to respect equity and equality between women/girls and men/boys when setting objectives and indicators, and increasingly embodies the orientation mentioned in article 21 of the 2014 constitution.

The formulation of Article 18 was developed by the Women Parliamentarian Caucus with the joint support of the UNDP Parliamentary Support Project and UN Women.

The publication for the first time of the **ARP oversight report during the legislature 2014–2019**, is an important step in making the **legislature open and accountable** to people. It is also important because it reflects the way in which the parliament has held the **government to account** over the last four years through 21 auditions, 8 plenaries, 443 meetings of the special committees, 5 inquiries, 909 oral questions among other instruments. Finally, it is important because the Parliament has published data that constitute a baseline for the functioning of the parliament in the future.

In yet another step towards **transparency and accountability**, the Parliament published in 2019 a report on the implementation of the laws adopted during the legislature 2014-2019, and the provisions that the executive should put in place (**post-legislative scrutiny**). These reports were produced with UNDP support.

Significant progress was noted in the strengthening of the national anti-corruption agency (*Instance Nationale de Lutte Contre la Corruption* (French acronym: INLUCC), the national anti-corruption agency. Among the important achievements that reflected the strengthened **efficiency** of the anti-corruption institution were the development of the **National Action Plan 2019–2020**, the preparation of the **activities report for the period 2017–2018**, the development of a series of organizational tools, the organization of national events in anti-corruption, and the strengthened capacity to assist local actors, in understanding and implementing good practices in anti-corruption.

Project documents outlining the results frameworks with several rule of law institutions were signed, including those with the High Judicial Council, the National Authority on Prevention of Torture (French acronym: INPT) and the National Authority against Human Trafficking (French acronym: INLTP).

Progress has been made in strengthening the legal framework for the roll-out of the community policy strategy, with support to the Ministry of the Interior on the development of various legal texts.

Indicators	Baseline	Targets – 2019	Results as of 31/12/2019
<p>1.1.1 Number of beneficiaries (MPs and administration) trained</p> <p>1.1.2 Number of mechanisms engaging civil society in parliamentary works</p>	<p>1.1.1 A total of 3,995 beneficiaries trained (2018)</p> <p>1.1.2 Mechanisms engaging the civil society in parliamentary work non-existent</p>	<p>1.1.1 At least 5,300 beneficiaries trained</p> <p>1.1.2 Two mechanisms (a mobile app aiming at engaging citizens in parliamentary works) are developed and operational</p>	<p>1.1.1 A total of 4,965 trained</p> <p>1.1.2 Postponed to 2020 to ensure ownership from the new legislature</p>
<p>1.2.1 Number of organizational tools and feasibility studies made available to new national authorities</p> <p>1.2.2 National strategies developed and updated</p> <p>1.2.3 Percentage of members of bodies involved in the anti-corruption chain (INLUCC/IBOGOLUCC⁵, control bodies, financial & judiciary court, parliamentarians) who consider their training useful</p>	<p>1.2.1 0 (2017)</p> <p>1.2.2 National strategy available</p> <p>1.2.3 0</p>	<p>1.2.1 At least four organizational tools developed</p> <p>1.2.2 The national good governance and anti-corruption strategy updated, and the action plan developed</p> <p>1.2.3 At least 75% (2019)</p>	<p>1.2.1 Nine organizational tools developed as follows⁶:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the INLUCC 2017 report – A coordination matrix and mechanism of all partners working on the implementation of the National Good-Governance and Anti-corruption Strategy – A manual on the Property and Interests declaration in Arabic and French – INLUCC website in Arabic and French – A mobile application that can help identify corruption cases – A database management system for the INLUCC Centre of Studies, Trainings and Information (French acronym: CEFIC). – an organigramme for the whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers unit – a manual of procedures for whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers unit – Job descriptions for whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers unit

⁵ *Instance de la Bonne Gouvernance et de la Lutte Contre la Corruption*. That is the name of the new anti-corruption and good governance authority that the 2014 Constitution specified should be created to replace INLUCC. As of December 2019, Parliament had not passed the legislation to formally create IBOGOLUCC.

⁶ These organisational tools are developed starting November 2019 (beginning date of the SDG16 programme)

			1.2.2 – Report on 2017–2018 Action plan developed and its recommendations shared – Action plan 2019–2020 developed
1.3.1 Short-term operational plan (2019–2020) supported, and support to the coordination of the working teams responsible for defining the operationalisation of the medium-term CCL ⁷ ensured 1.3.2 Percentage of representatives of the target local authorities consider themselves to be familiar with their obligations	1.3.1 Operational plan available (2017) 1.3.2 Information not yet available	1.3.1 To be defined 1.3.2 50%	1.3.2 Training of local officials postponed for 2020
1.4 Percentage of representatives from rule of law and human rights Institutions who consider the capacity-building actions useful	1.4.1 Non-existent	1.4.1 At least 75%	1.4.1 Baseline launched and results yet to be elaborated
1.5.1 Degree of implementation of the generalisation strategy 1.5.2 Number of pilot localities where the community policing approach is implemented	1.5.1 Draft of the generalisation strategy available (2018) 1.5.2 16 pilot localities	1.5.1.1 One legal text of the generalisation strategy approved 1.5.1.2 Generalisation strategy disseminated (elaborate new training curricula according to the new community policing approach and amend existing training material in order to integrate and disseminate the new approach) 1.5.2 18 pilot localities	1.5.1.1 National strategy and action plan developed 1.5.1.2 One (1) training curriculum integrating community policing approach targeting Internal Security Forces (ISF) 1.5.2 16 pilot localities

⁷ *Code des Collectivités Locales*. In English: Local Authorities Law

<p>1.6.1 An integrated prevention of violent extremism (PVE) plan available and implemented</p> <p>1.6.2 Tripartite national platform on PVE between state, civil society and private sector is created and joint initiatives are implemented by its members</p>	<p>1.6.1 None. Ministries are currently finalizing the different plans</p> <p>1.6.2 A preparatory workshop took place in 2017</p>	<p>1.6.1.1 One integrated plan developed</p> <p>1.6.1.2 Support provided to at least two sectoral plans</p> <p>1.6.2.1 Tripartite platform established</p> <p>1.6.2.2 At least four meetings of the platform organized</p> <p>1.6.2.3 Four new joint PVE actions implemented</p>	<p>1.6.1 The sectoral PVE action plans of 11 ministries have been shared with UN agencies, to identify the needs for their implementation within an integrated framework for action.</p>
<p>Ind. 1.7.1 A multisectoral youth policy is available</p>	<p>1.7.1 Non-existent</p>	<p>1.7.1 A multisectoral youth policy is available</p>	<p>1.7.1 Three knowledge products that will inform the multisectoral youth policy were launched and a youth monitoring mechanism of the process has been established</p>

Expected output 1: Parliament is equipped with capacities and mechanisms enabling it to undertake effective and accountable law-making, oversight and representation, including through the systematic engagement of citizens in its work

The Tunisian Parliament has a central role in the governance system established by the Constitution, as it is responsible for ensuring that the constitutional framework is fully implemented. The Tunisian Constitution, which took effect in 2014, was drafted from scratch and it contains numerous provisions that require both new legislative underpinning and institution building. The UNDP parliamentary support project aims to strengthen the Tunisian Assembly of Representatives of the People (ARP) in fulfilling its constitutional role, thus contributing to SDG 16.6, which refers to developing effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

Budget Organic Law (EV18)

The ARP approved on 31 January 2019 the Budget Organic Law, one of the key legislative reforms in Tunisia because it introduces important new features in the way the budget is designed and implemented.

The introduction of **budget management by objective** involves the allocation of human and financial resources necessary to achieve well defined strategic objectives on a three-year perspective. It aims to implement public policies with a focus on performance, thus enhancing the effectiveness of public policies. Finally, the Budget Organic Law provides a comprehensible overview of public policies for all citizens and enables better parliamentary oversight over public spending.

The Budget Organic Law also enshrines the **principle of financial autonomy** that the Constitution guarantees to a number of institutions, including Parliament.

The adoption of this Important law is also due to the work done by UNDP in 2018 to enhance the understanding of the MPs and the Committee councillors on the importance of the Budget management by objective.

The Budget Organic Law is innovative in introducing for the first time the principle of gender-sensitive budgeting in its provisions, as part of an effort to better understand and address inequalities.

It provides the **framework for the gender-sensitive budgeting in Tunisia** in particular through its article 18, which places the responsibility on programme managers to respect equity and equality between women/girls and men/boys when setting objectives and indicators, and increasingly embodies the orientation mentioned in article 21 of the 2014 Constitution.

UNDP and UN Women supported the Women Parliamentarians Caucus in the formulation of the above-mentioned article.

During the reporting period, support was provided to the ARP in the preparation of its **strategic development plan 2030 and the five-year parliamentary plan 2019–2024**. These documents were the result of an inclusive and participatory process that included an initial assessment of the situation, identification of areas that need improvement, and identification of the clients of the ARP and their expectations. As a result, the ARP drew up a draft strategic development plan for 2030 as well as a five-year action plan that is expected to be submitted for validation to the next legislature 2019–2024.

The **institutional capacity development** of the Tunisian Parliament continues to be a prominent feature of the parliamentary support project. After two years of operation, the Parliamentary Academy – a unique experience in parliamentary development worldwide, established with UNDP support – has proved to be successful, as it ensures the sustainable strengthening of the capacities of the MPs and the parliamentary administration from a long-term perspective.

During the reporting period, 970 beneficiaries (MPs and members of the administration) enhanced their capacities and knowledge on:

- the parliamentary function of oversight (budget policies and evaluation of public policies);
- law-drafting (constitutional and legislative harmony, legislative procedures, law-drafting standards, the life of a law after its adoption); and
- English language, to strengthen and extend international relationships.

In addition, technical support was provided in response to requests from parliamentary committees through a series of parliamentary days on priority themes of the legislative calendar including: (i) the balance between price controls and the protection of agricultural production ([EV1](#) and [EV1.1](#)); (ii) the reforms and the modernization of oversight mechanisms ([EV3](#)); (iii) the challenges and perspectives of the socio-economic situation in Tunisia; (iv) the draft law on the organization of the state of emergency ([EV2](#)); (v) challenges and perspectives of the socio-economic situation in Tunisia; (vi) reflection on the reform of the oversight mechanisms ([EV3](#)); (vii) institutional and legislative system of children’s rights, in partnership with UNICEF; (vi) the rights of people with disabilities, in partnership with OHCHR; (vii) the role of MPs in the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2030, during which MPs and the administrative staff became familiar with various elements of the Agenda 2030, the national voluntary report, SDG monitoring indicators, and the importance of the role of Parliament in the oversight of the implementation of the Agenda 2030; and (viii) Overview of the oversight function of the ARP during the legislature 2014–2019. These workshops served also as exchange platforms among Parliament, government representatives, civil society, academics and international organizations.

A delegation of Tunisian MPs participated in the Arab Region Parliamentary Forum on the 2030 Agenda ([EV4](#)), which focused on empowering parliamentarians in their role in the implementation, follow-up and review of the SDGs.

In 2018, the ARP with support from UNDP launched **the citizen engagement platform** – an innovative tool aiming at the engagement of the citizens in parliamentary work – and **a charter that regulates the**

relationships between Parliament and civil society, which was developed as a result of a series of consultations with civil society. On 14 March 2019, over 200 civil society representatives were presented with the final version of the charter and the development of different mechanisms regulating the partnerships between Parliament and citizens.

In collaboration with the ARP, it was agreed that the mobile application mechanism aiming at enhancing engagement of citizens into parliamentary work is developed in 2020 to ensure ownership and operationalisation from the new MPs.

The project also finalised **the extranet portal** that includes all legislative archives from 1960 to 2019 and makes them available for access and review all MPs, researchers, civil society representatives and citizens in general. The digitalization of the archives, which necessitated the scanning of over 43,000 pages is an important step towards enhancing the transparency and openness of parliamentary work.

During the parliamentary summer recess, the UNDP parliamentary subproject focussed on the preparations for the new MPs to ensure a smooth induction to their parliamentary work. In this respect, the 217 MPs were equipped with tablets containing all the digital applications (ARP Web portal, civil society platform, ARP mailing platform, correspondence management, etc.) as well as all the parliamentary reports for the period 2017–2019 and the guides on the different structures of the ARP developed with UNDP support.

As part of the induction training to the new MPs, a series of video clips developed with UNDP support in 2018 on Parliamentary [oversight](#), [representative](#) and [legislative](#) functions, as well as on the [ARP structure](#) and [parliamentary academy](#), was made available.



*Open Gov parliamentary day with CSOs
ARP, 25 February 2019*

Gender dimension

UNDP and UN Women supported the Women Parliamentarians Caucus in the formulation of Article 18 of the Budget Organic Law, adopted by the Parliament on 31 January 2019, which provides the legal framework for the gender sensitive budgeting in Tunisia.

A gender lens approach was incorporated in all project activities to ensure women's representation in capacity-strengthening activities, whether engaging parliamentarians or the parliamentary administration.

Expected output 1.2: The institutional framework on public accountability is efficiently operational

The 2014 Constitution foresees the establishment of five independent bodies, including the Good Governance and Anti-corruption Commission. Accordingly, the currently active Tunisian anti-corruption agency, (*Instance Nationale de Lutte Contre la Corruption*, French acronym INLUCC), which was set up in 2011, will be replaced by an independent anti-corruption authority, *Instance de la Bonne Gouvernance et de la Lutte Contre la Corruption* (French acronym: IBOGLUCC). The Tunisian parliament adopted the legal basis establishing IBOGLUCC on 27 August 2018; however, as of December 2019 the law had not been implemented.

During the period November 2018–September 2019, UNDP in partnership with Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and The Netherlands furthered its support to INLUCC. The project contributes to the achievement of the SDG 16.5 that aims to substantially reducing corruption and bribery in all their forms; SDG 16.6, promoting effective, accountable and transparent institutions the public access to information.

Significant progress has been achieved in **strengthening INLUCC's capacities, efficiency and coordination role on the implementation of the National Good-Governance and Anti-Corruption Strategy**.

More specifically, support was provided to the **evaluation of the implementation of the National Good Governance and Anti-Corruption Strategy and the Action Plan 2017–2018**. One result was a progress report reflecting the implementation status of the 16 strategic initiatives of the 2017–2018 action plan, including lessons learned and recommendations. This report informed the **finalization of the 2019–2020 action plan**, which will shape government programmes and priorities in setting up anti-corruption measures and facilitate the mobilization of national and international resources for the strategy's implementation. The action plan was prepared by 17 national partners (ARP, ministries etc.) under the leadership of a National Board presided by INLUCC, the Presidency of the Government and the Presidency of the parliament.

INLUCC developed **the 2018 annual report** ([EV9](#)), a critical accountability and transparency tool of the agency. It remains the only independent body to present its annual report on a regular basis. Officially submitted to the country's president, prime minister and president of Parliament, the report provides an overview and update of the agency itself, including its organization, resources and activities, as well as the current legal framework on anti-corruption in Tunisia and related statistics. Furthermore, it contains information on investigations of cases conducted by the INLUCC, as well as data on cases transmitted to the courts. With a view to strengthening the framework of the fight against corruption in Tunisia, the report includes also INLUCC recommendations to public institutions, authorities, public sectors, civil society and media. **Unlike the previous year, when the report was developed with UNDP support, the 2018 report was fully prepared by INLUCC, a result that reflects the level of competencies acquired by INLUCC.**

In 2019, the project supported the **development of the following eight organizational tools**:

- a coordination matrix reflecting all the initiatives undertaken by INLUCC and development partners in the implementation of the National Good-Governance and Anti-corruption Strategy ([EV8](#)). This coordination matrix will ensure a better coordination between agencies and avoid overlapping of interventions;

- a manual on the property and interests’ declaration in Arabic and French, as well as two radio spots for a better dissemination of this declaration ([EV7](#));
- a new website in Arabic and French detailing INLUCC activities and resources, as well as online declaration of assets and interests ([EV5](#));
- a mobile application for corruption cases reporting from citizens ([EV6](#));
- a database management system for the INLUCC Centre of Studies, Trainings and Information (French acronym: CEFIC) that will archive over 800 documents and knowledge products. This database will be an important tool for researchers, academics, students, investigators and international partners working in anti-corruption in Tunisia;
- an organigramme for the whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers unit;
- a manual of procedures for whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers unit;
- job descriptions for whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers unit

UNDP supported the **INLUCC in strengthening its coordination role and capacities through the organization of the fourth National Anti-Corruption Congress** on 8–9 December 2019. Over 500 participants, including the Prime Minister, ministers and government officials, MPs, representatives of independent bodies, governorates, embassies and development partners, civil society, private and public institutions, political parties, academics and journalists engaged in debates and meetings on the implementation of the National Good-governance and Anti-corruption Strategy. Among other things, the meeting provided opportunities to:

- present an assessment of the enhanced legal and regulatory framework in anti-corruption two years after the implementation of the most important laws in this area;
- identify levers for strengthening integrity and the anti-corruption fight in a context of decentralization;
- present the results and progress achieved in the ‘integrity islands’ (health, customs, municipalities, police) and lessons learned; and
- mobilize and involve civil society, the media, students, civil servants, elected officials and all stakeholders in the mobilization of national efforts to combat corruption.

In addition, 12 INLUCC officials enhanced their knowledge and capacities on corruption risk assessments and the development of associated mitigation measures for the sectors of health, customs, municipal and Internal Security Forces.

Progress was made in strengthening the accountability mechanisms for the ‘integrity islands’ (health, customs, municipal and Internal Security Forces) through the implementation of their respective action plans. By the end of 2019, the implementation rates were 26 per cent for customs, 30 per cent for municipal councils and 35 per cent for health sector.

Efforts took place for accelerating the ratification of the conventions of the African Union related to anti-corruption through the organization of African Governance Days in Ethiopia. At that gathering, a Tunisian delegation composed of two MPs, representatives of 16 ministries and national public institutions and four associations became familiar with the legal framework and the provisions of the conventions and had the opportunity to compare experiences with other countries including Benin, Djibouti, Morocco, Egypt, and Algeria.

The project supported Tunisian participation in the eighth Session of the Conference of the States Parties (COSP) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption that was held in Abu Dhabi on 16–20 December 2019.

Gender dimension

UNDP supported INLUCC in integrating a gender approach in the fight against corruption. A side event titled 'Women – key actors for strengthening accountability and combating corruption' was held during the Tunis Gender Equality Forum. Of its 59 participants, 43 were women representing ministries, public institutions and youth associations. The event was organized in partnership with the Network of Tunisian Women in the Fight Against Corruption.

Expected output 1.3: The Government defines and implements a national approach for the implementation of the decentralization process and conducts effective training and communication actions, strengthening ownership by stakeholders and the population

The scale and budget of this project component had to be reduced for 2019 because the project document was signed with the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment (French acronym: MALEV) only in July 2019.

The activities at the national level are progressing slowly. The political and institutional context for decentralization makes it difficult even for the Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment to exercise control. Given that the leadership of line ministries belongs to different political parties, the coordinating role of MALEV is not completely acknowledged. The main issues at stake are the institutional framework and the normative texts for implementation of the Local Authorities Law (French acronym: CCL); allocation of responsibilities across different levels of government; financial resources and their allocation; fiscal autonomy and state transfers; solidarity of communities and fiscal equalization; administrative capacity and territorial structure; participation of citizens; and integration of various elements of sustainable development. MALEV has defined a decentralization process spread over three stages of three years each through which it is attempting to gradually improve the local institutional capacities, the fiscal transfers and the responsibilities transferred to local and regional governments.

In this respect, UNDP has already provided support to MALEV / IPAPD in developing a methodology for the development of the 2019–2021 Operational Plan and support the work of the functional commissions. UNDP is still waiting to receive the Operational Plan, in order to assist with the elaboration of a monitoring and evaluation instrument.

Expected output 1.4: The key rule of law and human rights institutions are able to perform their core roles and attributions

In line with the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), the SDG 16 Programme, in cooperation with OHCHR, will support the strengthening of several key national institutions, namely the Constitutional Court, the High Judicial Council (*Conseil supérieur de la magistrature*; French acronym: CSM), the Administrative Court, the Human Rights Commission (HRC) in cooperation with OHCHR, the National Authority for Torture Prevention, and National Authority against Human Trafficking. In this respect, specific projects documents will be signed with the respective national partners.

Within the framework of the SDG 16 Programme and jointly implemented with OHCHR, UNDP signed in June 2019 a project document that aims to support the CSM's ability to fulfil its mandate of ensuring the independence of the judiciary. The activities seek to strengthen its capacities in terms of strategic planning, internal organization, appointment mechanisms of magistrates and coordination with other justice stakeholders.

During the reporting period, UNDP supported the **strengthening of strategic capacities of the CSM in developing a three-year strategic vision and its action plan for the period 2019–2020.**

Cooperation was fostered with foreign high judicial councils, including a study visit to Italy in December 2019. The graphic design and the logo of the CSM have been developed and validated along with the CSM website.

The project supported the exposure of the CSM to international comparative experiences concerning the system of evaluation criteria for magistrates. In this respect, a conference on ‘Evaluation criteria for magistrates’ was organized on 26–27 April 2019 to review international standards for the evaluation of judges – including in areas such as independence, neutrality, competency, integrity and expertise – and to compare them with the criteria adopted by the CSM. The conference contributed to the important debate that emerges at the beginning of every judicial year concerning the appointment of magistrates in the different courts across the country, the impact of such appointments on the functioning of justice in general, and the professional evolution of magistrates that depends on their annual evaluation. The conference offered multiple suggestions to facilitate the process and to strengthen trust in the CSM’s evaluation and to face the critics with concrete explanations. It was agreed that to enable further transparency and public access to information, the CSM should consider publishing some or all the evaluation results. Emphasis also was placed on activities that could promote the quality of the judicial system, including improved training of judges, more opportunities for professional development and merit-based promotion, and improving working conditions in different areas of the country.



*Signature of the joint project document in support of the CSM
Tunis, June 2019*

From left to right: the OHCHR representative, the CSM President, the UNDP Resident Representative

In support to the National Authority for Torture Prevention (French acronym: INPT), support was provided to the translation in English and French of its first activity report for the period 2016–2017. Printed copies of the English version of the report were distributed during the 4th International Symposium of the INPT. Such activities help to introduce the work of the INPT at an international level

and to assess its sustainable performance with respect to international standards. Monitoring conditions of detention as well as recommendations detailed in the report help to promote institutional reform and good practices that reduce the risk of torture and ill-treatment.

Because places of freedom deprivation are not places of rights' deprivation (SDG 16.3)

In a joint effort, UNDP and OHCHR supported the Ministry of Justice and the INPT in the final phase of the preparation of the Prisoner's Guide in Tunisia and the manual of the Tunisian penitentiary law. This work was supported by the Council of Europe with funding from the European Union.

These two knowledge products were launched on the International Day of Human Rights and will be distributed to the 23,000 people detained in Tunisia, to staff working in prisons, and to judges, lawyers and civil society actors.

UNDP supported the Parliamentary Electoral Commission in fulfilling the assigned task of preselecting the **new Human Rights Commission (HRC)** members. This process included a joint OHCHR-UNDP delegation holding a hearing session with the Parliamentary Electoral Commission on 6 March 2019, at which the delegation expressed concerns that the tight application deadlines could result in a limited number of applications, and probable under-representativeness of woman on the HRC. In addition, the delegation expressed its interest in supporting the Commission's efforts to further guarantee an inclusive and transparent election process. On 15 March 2019, the Parliamentary Electoral Commission, with OHCHR and UNDP support, organized a press conference on the selection process, followed by an open public debate.

Due to the complexity of the situation in the country, the previous legislature failed to include the election of the HRC (which is the final step of the process) in its legislative calendar.

Expected output 1.5: A generalization strategy of the community policing is defined and its implementation supported and monitored

The Ministry of Interior (MoI) adopted a Tunisian model of community policing in 2014 that entails the implementation of a new organizational structure, rehabilitation of police stations, development of new training methods and curricula, and development and adoption of operational tools and mechanisms for the management of police stations. The multidimensional approach of community policing contributes to efforts to address insecurity from a development perspective, including by targeting a broad spectrum of issues such as social cohesion, impunity and the inadequate provision of public services. This approach, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focuses not just on reducing criminal acts, but also on improving the quality of life, respecting human rights and creating conditions to prevent violence. Following the successful implementation of the community policing approach in selected sites, the MoI is preparing for a national roll-out of such an approach, the launch of a legal reform process, and a new legal framework that allows for the creation of local security committees (LSC) for the management of police stations.

Reporting on the results achieved within the framework of the UNDP project 'Fostering local resilience through community policing and security' (with funding from Canada and the United Kingdom) is included in this report because they contribute also to SDG 16. A new project document funded by the SDG 16 Programme was discussed with the MoI in 2019 and is expected to be signed during the first quarter of 2020.

During the period under review, the project supported **the institutionalization of community policing** by assisting in the development of a quality legal framework. Technical expertise was provided in the development of a series of texts including the development of the Code of Conduct for Internal Security Forces (ISF) ([EV11](#)), the adoption of the ministerial policy on inspection, and development of the complaint management and inspection mechanism.

Support was provided **to scale-up the implementation of community policing** through the completion of the rehabilitation work in four new pilot stations in the governorate of Médenine ([EV10](#)). This effort brought the total number of the rehabilitated pilot stations in the governorate to seven.

In addition, the project supported the capacity strengthening of the ISF from a long-term perspective by establishing a mobile training unit composed of 48 trainers, all officials of the National Guard and Police. The unit members are currently undergoing a training process that includes an evaluation of their knowledge and a test to gauge their capacities as trainers. The process will be finalised in 2020 through a final test to be conducted with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). The mobile training unit includes three types of trainers: 16 specialists on the management of violence against women, 16 specialists in the prevention of violent extremism (trained in Standing Police Capacities, in collaboration with UNPol) and 16 specialists in community policing. This unit has already contributed to the strengthening of capacities of 446 ISF deployed in 18 governorates. This will ensure the respect of human rights in general by the ISF, the implementation of Law 58-2017 regarding violence against women and children, and promotion of the population's access to quality justice services.

Expected output 1.6: The capacities of the National Counter-terrorism Commission are strengthened to effectively lead national efforts on preventing violent extremism.

In partnership with Sweden, Switzerland and the Netherlands, UNDP is currently supporting the National Counter-Terrorism Commission (NCTC) in ensuring the implementation of the National Strategy to Counter-Extremism and Terrorism Strategy that envisages prevention as one of the pillars. The NCTC focal points from all government ministries have drafted sectoral plans. Those plans have not yet received formal approval from the competent ministries, however, a situation that is blocking the development of an integrated plan. In this respect, the project chose to develop specific partnerships with selected government ministries – and particularly with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) – with the aim of creating a fund to support innovative research on prevention of violent extremism (PVE) in Tunisia.

A consultative workshop was organized in July 2019, in partnership with the NCTC and the MHESR, gathering around 70 researchers, members of media, and representatives of civil society groups and development partners. The workshop focused on undertaking a collective review of the available literature on violent extremism and the identification of focus areas for the first call for proposals of the research fund. Focus areas selected included the following: (i) the process of socialization and violence; (ii) education system; (iii) security and justice systems; (iv) evaluation of interventions to prevent violent extremism; and (v) political economy of violent extremism.

As a result, the **NCTC has established cooperation network** with 19 researchers, 31 journalists (trained in PVE), 8 civil society organizations (see output 2.4 for more details) and 48 local authorities in decentralized state institutions (see output 2.4 for more details).

With UNDP support, a regional Conference on Prevention of Violent Extremism was organized in Tunis on 25–26 February 2019, with attendees including government officials from 11 Arab countries, academic experts and representatives from UN agencies and civil society. The aim of the conference was to promote progress achieved in PVE at the national and local level in the 11 countries and the

implementation of national PVE plans (EV12). The choice of Tunisia as the venue for the regional conference was made to promote the Tunisian experience in the implementation of its National Counter-Extremism and Terrorism Strategy, in particular in terms of prevention. The conference contributed to the sharing and discussing of comparative experience and learning and partnership opportunities, such as the Strong Cities Network (SCN) approach in facilitating local PVE networks. During the conference, four Tunisian PVE practitioners strengthened their knowledge on the practical application of the PVE local network model at the municipal level, which could lead to the adoption and implementation of community plans for the PVE during a study mission to Málaga, Spain.

The project supported consultations on human rights and fundamental freedoms on 2 May 2019, with NCTC and media representatives. This first open interaction helped NCTC to gain a better understanding of the media environment and to recognize and understand the challenges related to a lack of specialized journalists in media coverage of terrorist events.



450 communication tools of the NCTC produced with the UNDP/OHCHR support



Launch of the research fund on violent extremism, Tunis, 22 July 2019

The project supported the NCTC's exposure and networking at the international level, including by supporting the participation of its president to the Regional High-Level Conference on Combating Terrorism and Preventing Violent Extremism, held in Nairobi on 10–11 July 2019. The conference, which gathered over 1,000 participants, was opened by the UN Secretary-General. Through its president's attendance at the conference, the NCTC acquired new knowledge on the prevention and fight against violent extremism, particularly with regard to early warning systems (such as the one established in Canada) and the reintegration and rehabilitation of detainees charged for terrorist acts (Moroccan experience). The NCTC president presented the National Counter-Extremism and Terrorism Strategy and engaged in a debate focused on the challenges of implementation and the integration of human rights into PVE actions.

Expected output 1.7: A multisectoral policy on youth is defined and its implementation supported and monitored

In early 2018, the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MYS) adopted a sectoral vision on youth, based on a dialogue organized in 2016, with the objective of creating an environment conducive to the emergence of civically engaged, qualified, autonomous and fulfilled young people. UNDP supported the MYS in the implementation of the youth strategic vision for the period 2018–2020, which constitutes the first phase towards the development of a multisectoral youth policy.

The presentation of the sectoral vision of youth to public and/or international actors was supported, in order to increase their awareness of youth issues, raise their interest and encourage their coordination.

The ODD 16 programme contributed to strengthening the commitment, understanding and ownership of the sectoral vision on youth amongst over 500 youth centre directors, 86 inspectors and youth leaders through a series of workshops organized from November 2018 to February 2019 (EV14). In addition, a youth committee ('JEUNES') was established to promote ownership and understanding of the sectoral youth policy, with its members given the skills and responsibility for monitoring the policy's implementation. Committee members fully engaged in various MYS awareness activities associated with the presentation of the national sectoral policy to development partners. As a result of a long engagement process, youth actors reached to the identification of the below roadmap for the development of the youth multisectoral vision.



Members of JEUNES Committee promoting the youth sectoral vision

In addition, during the mid-term review of the youth sectoral vision, held in December 2019, participants engaged in a reflection on the bottlenecks and risks associated with accelerating the

implementation actions of the youth sectoral vision in 2020. This reflection led them to identify a number of key actors for the youth sector, other than the Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Women and the Family, Ministry of Culture, etc.), on which to focus coordination in 2020. They thus drew the attention of the Secretary of State for Youth and the Directorate General for Youth to the need to strengthen the Ministry's communication with these actors and to increase, at the national and local levels, attempts at cooperation.

Furthermore, the SDG 16 Programme is supporting the development of the national survey on young people's knowledge, perceptions and expectations concerning institutions and public action which aims to collect up-to-date and accurate data on youth. In particular, it aims to 1) identify the knowledge, perception and expectations of young people of both sexes regarding public institutions and action in general; and specifically in areas such as : access to rights, formal and informal education, accountability and the fight against corruption, decentralization and local governance, and the key themes covered by the sectoral vision of youth; 2) establish recommendations for public institutions, enabling them to put in place inclusive and appropriate public policies and action programmes.

SDG 16 OUTCOME 2. COMMUNITIES, IN PARTICULAR YOUTH, WOMEN AND VULNERABLE GROUPS, BENEFIT FROM AND CONTRIBUTE TO EFFORTS AIMED AT FOSTERING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT, STRENGTHENING ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND SECURITY AND PROMOTING SOCIAL COHESION.

According to a key recommendation of a United Nations and World Bank joint study⁸, the best way to prevent societies from descending into crisis, including but not limited to conflict, is to ensure that they are resilient through investment in inclusive and sustainable development. It also emphasizes the importance of a people-centred approach that includes mainstreaming citizen engagement in development programmes and local conflict resolution to empower underrepresented groups such as women and youth.

During the reporting period, some transformational changes toward these goals have been observed. Most are due to capacity-building actions and partnerships created between communities, including youth and women, and state and non-state institutions in the design and implementation of various public services.

Pending the establishment of a strategic framework for decentralization, UNDP has initiated inter-communal and local development initiatives. It has thus established local structures and commissions to promote community leadership and the participation of young people in the management of their development. Capacity-building for elected municipal officials has been undertaken to promote social cohesion and encourage the adaptation of SDOs at the local level.

In synergy with the Peace Building Fund project and through a pilot initiative, a youth council was set up in the municipality of Médenine, paving the way to (i) involving young people in local decision-making, (ii) strengthening their leadership skills and (iii) empowering them to have their voice heard.

Local Security Councils, which are inclusive security mechanisms that also include civil society actors, are one example. They have shown to be important in conflict prevention because they identify the security-related threats in the areas they operate and then develop plans of action that include non-security-related actions, thus **fostering the trust of the community in the police**. In addition, capacity-building actions with the ISF have furthered a culture of client-service among the police/national guard, thereby helping to improve their relationships with the population. **The baseline survey conducted within the framework of the project 'Access to justice in Médenine' showed that the litigants were satisfied in terms of respect of human rights when arriving at the police stations.**

The results of this baseline survey reflect the importance of the synergies between UNDP interventions under Outcome 2. For instance, the security and justice sectors in Médenine are two deeply interconnected sectors. Indeed, without security, communities would not be able to access justice and other basic services delivery and vice versa.

En appui aux politiques nationale et sectorielles de Prévention de l'Extrémisme Violent (PEV), le PNUD a appuyé le développement de partenariats stratégiques entre la Commission Nationale de Lutte contre le Terrorisme (CNLCT) et le monde académique (réseau de 19 chercheurs), des OSC (8 associations nationales et locales), les autorités locales (48 correspondants dans les institutions décentralisées de l'Etat), ainsi que les Médias (31 journalistes formés à la thématique)

Furthermore, the top-down decision-making approach implemented in youth centres is gradually being transformed in order to integrate the **new approach of the youth sectoral vision, placing young people at the heart of the governance of these structures.**

⁸ Pathways for peace: Inclusive approaches to preventing violent conflict

Indicators	Baseline	Targets - 2019	Results as of 31/12/2019
<p>2.1.1 % of elected council members in targeted localities disaggregated by sex and age for which the effectiveness of local planning training is observed (Target = 50%)</p> <p>2.1.2. Number of municipalities and regions that have a Local or a Regional Development Plan (Target = 9 municip)</p> <p>2.1.3. % of actions that fall under the budget of the regions and municipalities and which are part Local/Regional Development Plan implemented (or started the implementation) for each of the local authorities targeted (Target = 20%)</p>	<p>2.1.1. 0%</p> <p>2.1.2. 0</p> <p>2.1.3. 0%</p>	<p>2.1.1. 50%</p> <p>2.1.2. 9 municipalities</p> <p>2.1.3. 20%</p>	
2.2.1. Number of legal aid demands supported (target = 100)		2.2.1. 100	4 legal aid demands were supported
<p>2.3.1 # of localities where the community policing approach is implemented (Target = 7)</p> <p>2.3.2 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around in the target municipalities (Target = 15%)</p>	<p>2.3.1. 10 (including 1 in the region of Médenine)</p> <p>2.3.2. Information not available</p>	<p>2.3.1. 16 (including 7 in the region of Médenine)</p> <p>2.3.2. 15%</p>	2.3.1- 16 localities are adopting the community policing approach
2.4.1. Number of governorates and municipalities with PVE action plans available and under implementation	2.4.1 - 0		Delayed

2.5.1 % of identified actions in the regional plans implemented (Target = 10%) 2.5.2 Proportion of women that feel safe walking alone in the target regions (Target = NA)	2.5.1 – 0 (plan not available yet) 2.5.2 information not yet available	2.5.1 – Médenine 10% 2.5.2 Tatatouine 0 Gabès 0 2.5.2 Baselines available for Médenine	
2.6.1 # of renovated youth centres (Target = 4) 2.6.2 Evolution of the attendance rate 2.6.3 # of youth integrated into a capacity building process on citizenship and dialogue for the prevention of violent extremism (men / women) (Target = 500)	2.6.1 – 0 2.6.2 -200 ⁹ 2.6.3 - 0	2.6.1 -5 2.6.2 - 0 2.6.3 - 500 (40% at least are women)	2.6.3- 1409 of which 53% young women
2.7.1. Number of CSOs supported (Target = 30) 2.7.2. Number of young people benefitting from the support (Target = 5000)	2.7.1 0 2.7.2 0	2.7.1 – 30 2.7.2 – 5000 (at least 40% women)	

Expected output 2.1: The capacities of the members of nine municipalities and three regional councils are strengthened to perform their missions and mandates, and to promote local sustainable development

The scale and budget of this project component had to be reduced for 2019 because the project document with MALEV was signed only in July 2019.

At the local level, the municipal councils of all nine partner communes have approved their participation in the project. Five local consultants have been recruited to support activities of the local communities, particularly with regard to the implementation of the local development strategies and plans. Training and technical assistance activities have been completed, including in regard to preparing a budget for 2020, gender and urban planning.

⁹ National average in 2017 calculated by dividing the number of subscribers (64,494) on the number of youth centers (321). The baseline will be updated upon receipt of data from the Ministry of Youth.

Local development projects have been identified for each participating community, project *fiches* have been elaborated, and some potential partners for implementation of these projects have been identified (e.g., FAO for Ben Guerdane and Remada, Cities Alliance for Médenine, etc). Two project components focus on providing specific assistance to target municipalities. One is being co-financed by Agency of Catalan cooperation for the development (ACCD) – or youth councils in Médenine – and Spanish Agency for of the International Cooperation for Development (Spanish acronym: AECID) is co-financing another for development of sustainable tourism in Médenine, Tataouine and Beni Khedech.

Within the framework of decentralisation support project, municipal actors are committed to the localization of SDGs and social cohesion. Local commissions are set up as privileged interlocutors and decision-making contributors for the implementation of community youth projects.

A youth council has been established in the municipality of Médenine in synergy with the Peace Building Fund project. It is a pilot experience for the governorate that seeks to help promote the engagement of young people in decision-making processes at the local level by strengthening their leadership skills and giving them the opportunity to make their voices heard. A process has been launched for the identification and mobilization of young people in the municipality of Médenine and to promote the project, including (1) the organization of a citizens' consultation; (ii) a launching ceremony; (iii) a cultural café; (iv) the organization of a designation day; and (v) the implementation of a communication campaign throughout the project. This consultation enabled the identification of the needs and expectations of the population of Médenine, including those of young people.

Within the framework of the enhancement of the cultural and national heritage and the promotion of tourism in the three municipalities of Médenine, Tataouine and Beni Khedech, a memorandum of understanding was established with the Federation of Authentic Tourism Destination Daher FTADD.



*#EnaZeda (MeToo) mural denouncing the violence against women
16 days of activism on gender equality*

Gender dimension

The project provided support to raising awareness on gender issues among its partners. It has organized two training sessions on the subject, one led by an international expert on gender mainstreaming in urban planning and another in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. The project also organized an open debate on the topic of rape with young people from the Médenine region.

Expected output 2.2: Improved access to justice in target regions

Within the framework of the SDG 16 Programme, the joint UNDP/OHCHR project ‘Improved access to justice in the governorate of Médenine’ was signed with the Ministry of Justice in April 2019. The project aims to strengthen access to justice among the population of Médenine, with special focus on increasing and expanding the services of existing judicial and penitentiary institutions, informing the public of their rights, and supporting the public in efforts to bring cases to courts.

The project contributes to the achievement of SDG 16.3 target that aims at ‘promoting the rule of law at the national and international level and ensure equal access to justice for all’ – and SDG 5.2 that aims to ‘eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation’.

Partnerships agreements with the National Centre for State Courts (NCSC) and *Avocats Sans Frontières* (ASF) were signed on 14 June 2019 to enable specialized assistance of vulnerable groups in accessing justice.

During the reporting period, some progress was made in strengthening the functioning of judicial and penitentiary institutions through capacity-building activities, improvement of procedures and logistical support.

In particular, the **capacity-building activities** conducted by NCSC included training on archiving management to 10 archivists and archive managers of the courts of Médenine and training techniques for 22 clerks. In addition, following two needs assessments, logistical support was provided by UNDP and OHCHR, including procurement of computers and scanners for the courts and the prison of Harboub.

Work towards **strengthening of the legal aid services** was implemented by ASF, including (i) training of lawyers and social workers on reception and communication techniques and orientation of vulnerable complainants; (ii) organization by lawyers of orientation sessions, legal consultations and mediation within the *Centres de Défense et d’Intégration Sociale* (CDIS) targeting 18 beneficiaries, of whom 14 were women; (iii) take in charge four free legal aid cases of people in vulnerable situations and accompanying them to the Legal Aid Office.

UNDP and OHCHR launched a perception survey and situation analysis, including a qualitative survey (30 interviews with some main actors of the judicial system in Médenine) and a quantitative survey realized with the Centre for Legal and Judicial Studies (acronym in French: CEJJ). The quantitative survey included questionnaires sent to 450 litigants and detainees and their families. Another perception and survey and situation analysis are expected to be conducted at the end of the project.

During the reporting period, significant efforts were made to ensure the **engagement of local civil society** in the project. A regional platform of associations with expertise in the field of justice was established with the aim of raising citizens' awareness on their rights and the procedures for taking legal action, including those related to violence against women. During the various activities that took place during this period, 15 associations from Sidi Makhlouf, Beni Khedech, Médenine, Ben Guerdane and Djerba were given free space to discuss obstacles to access to justice in Médenine and to suggest

solutions and activities to which they could contribute in order improve the situation. Following a series of information meetings with NGOs, 13 CSO proposals were received in response to the call for proposals launched by the project. Working and training sessions took place in October–November 2019 to improve the quality of these proposals from other perspectives, such as leaving no one behind, gender, results-based management (RBM) and human rights-based approach (HRBA). Finally, seven proposals were received, and the selection of the winning proposals will take place in January 2020.



*Capacity strengthening of the civil society on projects’ formulation on access to justice
Jerba 23-24 November 2019*

Expected output 2.3: Community policing approach in the target governorates and municipalities is implemented

This output result will contribute to SDG 16.1 that aims to ‘significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, SDG 11.7 ‘provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities and SDG 5 (‘eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation’).

The Mol has identified the governorate of Médenine as the pilot area for the implementation of the community policing approach. Following an evaluation phase, it will be extended to other governorates through a gradual implementation of the roll-out strategy at the national level.

During the reporting period, the project supported the implementation of the community policing approach in six rehabilitated police stations through the establishment of six additional Local Security Councils (LSC), thus bringing the total number of LSCs to 16. (LSCs are structured as partnership and oversight mechanisms among security forces, public authorities, and civil society organizations¹⁰. The six new LSCs were established in Jerba Houmet Souk, Médenine Northern district, Médenine Southern district, Zarzis, Sidi Makhoulouf and Boughrara.)

¹⁰ The LSC is composed of the public authority (*délégué*), the president of the municipal council (*les sous-délégué*), and representatives of the local security forces and civil society. Each LSC has about 20 members.

This approach has enabled the separation between the administrative services and the judicial investigation services, in compliance with international standards on the rights of defendants and a better management of the public's access to and engagement at police stations. Six security assessments accompanied by action plans were developed by the LSCs, thus enabling them to identify the security challenges in their respective locations and to propose non-security solutions through the partnerships established among the ISF and the CSOs and the local authorities within the committees. The six new LSCs and an existing one in Ben Guerdane received capacity-building training on the use of community policing mechanisms to prevent crime and violence. Positive behaviour changes were noted during a baseline assessment conducted within the framework of another UNDP project, with litigants expressing satisfaction in terms of respect of human rights within the police stations in Médenine.

Gender dimension

The project strengthened the capacities of the Mol on prevention of violence against women and children through the elaboration of a training guide for the ISF on management of violence victims, especially women and children. In addition, the specialised units of the Mol were provided with registration equipment to help register the complaints.

A Women Safety Audit (WSA) was carried out in four localities to identify security problems related to women's needs. This process allowed for the identification of common types of violence and the development of local action plans to address these security issues. The WSA was conducted in partnership with the Centre for Research, Studies of Documentation and Information on Women (CREDIF) and the Mol and then disseminated among partner NGOs and the public at large. The WSA in Fernana identified the gender-related risks of human trafficking among young girls from poor families who are sent to the capital as domestic helpers. In response, awareness-raising actions targeting parents and families are foreseen in the local actions plans.

Within the framework of the 16 days of activism, the project supported the campaign #OrangeMédenine, whereby representatives from 13 local CSOs and activists marched in the centre on 1 December 2019, using the orange colour to call attention to the various forms of violence against women and to raise awareness about the emergency number 1899 to denounce violence cases.

UNDP, in partnership with the Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence, held a workshop dedicated to the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) on 22–25 January 2019. This first workshop on the subject was attended by 15 Mol staff members engaged in PVE within the ministry.

Local security committees – successful stories from the field

Fatma, 17 years old, lives in Fernana, in the governorate of Jandouba, a region that is particularly affected by human trafficking, terrorism, delinquency and poverty. Passionate about martial arts, she dropped out from school because her family could no longer afford the fees. After being supported by the CLS of Fernana, Fatma went back to school. Her devotion to her passion can be seen by her winning a medal in an international competition in martial arts.

Mabrouka, 52 years old, lives in a remote village in Gloubéssirène, but from the perspective of the Tunisian State she did not exist. She lacked the document that proves her legal existence, a national ID card. With project support, Mabrouka was able to access for the first time in her life her most fundamental right, that of a legal identity, a *sine qua non* condition for the enjoyment of her civil, economic and social rights.

Providing legal identity for rural women in Fernana, Jendouba (SDG 16.9)

The Tunisian Electoral Authorities estimate that about 400,000 persons¹¹, of which 300,000 are rural women, lack proof of legal identity. These persons, who are **excluded from society through the lack of legal identity** cannot seek protection from the law, access public services (health or education for example) or exercise the right to participate in civic processes. Hence, they are invisible to the State and at a **very high risk of being left behind**. In an effort to close this gap, a pilot initiative was launched to encourage citizen engagement in public services, which sought to identifying and enabling underprivileged potential voters, in particular youth and women. A six-day campaign that targeted the 12 sub-delegations in Fernana (Jendouba governorate), managed to enable 1,059 persons (78 per cent women) and young citizens (28 per cent) to access an ID card for the first time. The initiative was conducted by the UNDP Electoral Support Project in partnership with the UNDP Community Policing Project.

Output 2.4: Local authorities engage in efforts aimed at preventing violent extremism with government, civil society and local authorities

The following results were achieved within the framework of the Tarabot project, jointly funded by Switzerland, Sweden and the SDG 16 Programme.

The project supports local authorities in the Médenine region to identify and implement multi-stakeholder long-term actions on PVE that are aligned with the priorities set out in the National Strategy to Counter-Extremism and Terrorism and adapted to the local context.

During the reporting period, spaces for dialogue and analysis with the community, in particular with vulnerable groups (victims of terrorism, rural women, etc.) were opened through a series of interventions supported by the project. The project **supported local interventions to address the root causes of violent extremism** by promoting human security, inclusive dialogue and conflict prevention and strengthening good governance and protection of human rights, community engagement, youth and women's empowerment and employment generation. A call for proposals launched in December 2018, targeting associations in Médenine, resulted in the selection of 8 initiatives out of 38 received. The network of the eight partner associations is a precursor to the creation of a local network of NCTC partner associations that will contribute to the implementation of the prevention pillar of the National Strategy to Counter-Extremism and Terrorism and that will inform new strategies at the local and regional levels.

With UNDP support, the NCTC has initiated the mobilization and training of a network of regional focal points across the country's 24 governorates. The role of these focal points will be to coordinate the implementation of the National Strategy to Counter-Extremism and Terrorism at the territorial level by adapting its strategic orientations. To help facilitate this process, the NCTC and UNDP organized a training course on the targeting a network of 48 focal points within the decentralised state institutions from 10–12 December 2019. The training course was designed to enhance their knowledge and give them opportunities to learn about the necessary tools to monitor relevant preventive strategies at the local level.

In an effort to produce evidence through research at the local level, the project started the test phase of a **survey on social cohesion in the governorate of Médenine** that will inform the implementation of interventions in the areas of governance, the rule of law, and violence prevention. The survey, the results of which are expected to be available in early 2020, will be implemented in close collaboration with the National Institute of Statistics, a Tunisian research centre based in Médenine (*Institut des*

¹¹ www.realites.com.tn/2019/05/tunisie-400-mille-tunisiens-nont-pas-de-carte-didentite/

Regions Arides) and the Presidency of the Government. The methodology of the Social Cohesion Index was developed through a partnership between UNDP and the American University of Beirut and first tested in Lebanon.



*PVE focal points learn how to implement preventive strategies at the local level.
Tunis, 10–12 December 2019*

Gender dimension

Two of the eight pilot civil society initiatives implemented in Médenine with the support of the Tarabot project aimed specifically at exploring the link between women’s empowerment and the prevention of violent extremism. Therefore, 15 housewives from rural and peri-urban areas of Médenine were mobilized and benefited from capacity-building sessions in art. These sessions operated as a safe space where they could voice their concerns through creative art products presented to the public in Médenine and at the Swiss Embassy in Tunis ([EV17](#)).

In Ben Guerdane, 26 rural women developed their skills for the management of income-generating activities, and they were trained on dialogue facilitation to engage in public affairs. These two specific initiatives have generated learning on the impact of women’s empowerment in strengthening community resilience to violence extremism, which will be documented in an evaluation report that will be issued early 2020.

Expected output 2.5: Regional implementation plans of the National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security are defined and implemented in the target regions

The Government of Tunisia in close collaboration with the Swedish International Development Agency, UN Women and UNDP organized on 24–26 April 2019 the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality ([EV15](#)). The event gathered 600 participants and explored the potential transformative role of women participating in local spaces/local government, and other issues.

In terms of women, peace and security, there was a recognition of the need to claim women’s space at the table in both formal and informal decision-making processes and across the conflict cycle. This was seen as critical to ensure that women, including those who are rarely heard, are meaningfully

included and engaged. Some of the questions posed during the forum related to exploring ways of how to ensure that more financial resources reach women's organizations.

Some of the key recommendations of the Tunis Forum on Gender Equality included the following:

- Adopt a comprehensive, gendered approach that centres on women's participation and analysis across different fields such as governance, protection, and humanitarian response and throughout all phases of conflict.
- Claim space at the table by presenting strategic solutions to problems comprising an intersectional perspective that includes taking account of climate crisis as a cause of armed conflict.
- Link accountability for women, peace and security to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to ensure stronger accountability mechanisms – including by making the CEDAW Committee's General recommendation no. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situation an integral part of Tunisia's CEDAW official and shadow reporting.
- Continuously explore clear linkages/coherence/coordination among the SDGs, the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, CEDAW and other relevant conventions, and the Security Council's Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda including as expressed in National Action Plans.
- Develop early warning and alert mechanisms to enable women's organizations to report peace and security threats and protection concerns to responsible community, government and international bodies. Work in this area can be improved by continuously collecting and evaluating the impacts of scarcity of resources (including resource scarcity produced by over-extraction by international corporations), climate violence and warfare. Early warning mechanisms could include research on strategies to recognize disaffection among women that could lead to their potential engagement in violence.
- Protect women human rights defenders and peace makers through national legislation and accountability and response mechanisms, including protection of activists resisting climate violence.
- Ensure protection includes adequate provision of support for post-trauma, healing and mental wellness and issues related to sexual and reproductive rights.
- Ensure that women's economic empowerment is continuously connected to the WPS response, especially for women affected by war (refugees, widows, women disabled by war and those caring for people with disabilities, orphans, etc.)
- Make gender analysis and planning a prerequisite to ensure gender-responsive policies and requirements, including gendered allocation and tracking of financial resources.

As a follow-up of the Tunis Forum, the UNDP SDG 16 Programme and UN Women have started to conceptualize a joint project that aims at promoting women's rights in the governorates of Médenine, Tataouine and Gabès through the establishment of three regional platforms on women, peace and security. The project also will focus on the provision of grants to women's organizations in implementing sectoral plans within the framework of the National Action Plan¹² for the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women Peace and Security.

¹² The National Action Plan 2018-2020 for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security was prepared and adopted by the Tunisian Council of Ministers on 8 August 2018. The plan indicates the need for women's participation in conflict resolution processes at all levels for a sustainable peace.

Expected output 2.6: Young women and men have access to improved services provided by youth centres and direct support to initiatives that promote their talent and creativity

The implementation of the MYS youth sectoral vision requires existing youth centres to rethink their model of governance in terms of inclusiveness and participation, increase the attractiveness of centres and enhance the capacities of their staff. This new concept of the second-generation youth centres aims to increase and improve the services provided to youth by engaging in public-private partnerships, including with civil society organizations.

During the reporting period, the top-down decision-making approach implemented in youth centres was gradually being transformed in order to integrate the **new approach of the sectoral vision, placing young people at the heart of the governance of these structures**. The youth committee JEUNES has played an active role in the conceptualisation process of transforming the youth centres – a process that has not been standardized because it considers the local and specific dimension of each youth centre.

"It's time that the youth centre is no longer seen as a simple space with certain facilities. The youth centre is full of skills just waiting to be unleashed. The creative young person, entrepreneur, citizen is there ... let's open the doors to him. »

Director of the Jendouba Youth Complex

A call for proposals was announced in December 2018 as part of an effort to strengthen the role of civil society in the implementation of the youth sectoral vision. The call resulted in the selection and launch of 42 civil society initiatives among 140 proposals received ([EV16](#)), with 1,409 youth engaged (of whom 53 per cent are young women). Despite the short implementation period, these projects **have initiated profound changes due to their focus of changing the dynamics and the governance model of the youth centres through a participatory and inclusive approach, where youth are part of the steering committee**.

The partnerships with the CSOs **have enabled the youth centres to propose new and better services and activities** that meet the changing needs and expectations of young people, thus strengthening the centres' appeal. During the reporting period, 500 directors of youth houses have strengthened their capacities in dialogue facilitation, consensus building, communication techniques, gender approach and strategic planning. Youth inspectors have benefited from training in dialogue facilitation techniques and public accountability, activities organized in partnership with the INLUCC.

"I could no longer see a future for myself," Sarra*, 20 years old and a school dropout, talks about the Nahel Youth Centre, Gabes as her second chance. After learning about the new service of the Nahel Youth House, Sarra's father encouraged his daughter to join and sign up for the activities. She began to participate in the debates and training sessions: "Little by little, my perspective changed, I realized that I had many hidden abilities that were just waiting to be revealed. I also understood that there is a place in society for young people like me. ». Thanks to the ATCC-led project to promote youth participation and citizenship, the youth of Nahel have taken ownership of the youth centre. Sarra is currently in charge of the citizenship club. "My dream is to really participate in public life, although my current studies do not prepare me for it. I am ready to redouble my efforts to achieve my ambition and I have found in the youth centre of our region the ideal partner.

*Pseudonym



Signing ceremony of partnership agreements with civil society organisations, 21 December 2018

Also, CSOs are supporting the youth centres in their **innovation and creativity efforts**, including creation of public-private partnerships with the National Agency for Employment and Self-Employment, the Agency for the Promotion of Industry, the Agency for the Promotion of Agricultural Investments, business centres, business incubators, local civil society, among others.

"We have signed 10 agreements between the Youth Centre of Cité Erriadh in Sousse and institutions supporting entrepreneurship as well as 5 contracts with companies for internships. These agreements aim to sustain the activities of the entrepreneurial club, which is now managed by a youth leader from the youth centre. »

Hassen, Arab-African Council for Sustainable Development, Sousse

In collaboration with the MYS, the youth centres of Kairouan Sbikha, Gabès Udhref, Médenine Ejjmila and the complex of Jendouba and Tataouine were identified as the pilot second-generation youth centres. For each centre, needs assessments in terms of staff capacity strengthening, contracting modalities and infrastructure were carried out.

Gender dimension

Gender is at the heart of the project. Awareness raising on gender approach, strengthening equity, and encouraging women's involvement have resulted in 48 per cent of the project leaders of the supported initiatives to be women. Similarly, 1,409 young people, 53 per cent of whom are girls, have been reached by the civil society initiatives supported and implemented in partnership with youth centres.

Expected output 2.7: Strengthening of civil society in the target regions and support to the implementation of interventions that contribute to the sustainable local development and to the realization of SDG 16

The project document was signed in September 2019, following the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) meeting held on 30 August 2019 and activities will start in 2020.

SDG 16 OUTCOME 3: CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL AND SUBNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS STRENGTHENED TO IDENTIFY EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SDG 16

Indicators	Baseline (2017)	Targets - 2019	Results as of 31/12/2019
3.1.1. Platform (target= 1 platform) 3.1.2. Integrated plan of action available (target = 1 plan of action)	3.1.1 Platform non existent 3.1.2. Plan of action non existent	3.1.1 Platform established (ToR endorsed) and meets twice 3.1.2. Plan of action is available	
3.2.1. Number of functioning mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and accountability for SDG 16 (target = 1 report) 3.2.2. Existence of an established and completed indicator framework for SDG16, that includes disaggregated data (Target = 60%)	3.2.1 SDG 16 Platform established for the elaboration of the SDG16 Baseline study in Tunisia 3.2.2 List of indicators available	3.2.1 -First progress report on SDG 16 developed by the platform and presented to the HLPF 2019 3.2.2 - 60% of selected indicators available	Contribution to the Global report on SDG16 provided by Tunisia
3.3.1 Number of new innovative initiatives related to sustaining peace and the achievement of SDG 16 and other SDGs implemented (Target = 2 national initiatives) (Target = 3 governorate initiatives)	0	3.3.1 - 2 at the national level and 3 at the intranational level (one per targeted governorate)	1 initiative at the national level launched

3.4.1 Number of new potential crisis and conflicts identified (Target = 4)	0	3.4.1 - 4 (1 national et 1 for every target region)	
3.5.1 # of new knowledge/support packages generated (Target = 1 edition) (Target = 9)	0	3.5.1. 1 (First edition of information bulletin on SDG16 on Tunisia) 3.5.1. 9 (Second annual report of the programme, 4 quarterly newsletters and 4 blogs from CTAs and partners)	

Expected output 3.2: Inclusive mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and accountability for SDG 16 at the national level are in place

Leading up to High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in September 2019, the Government of Tunisia, UNDP, the Global Alliance for Reporting on Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) hosted a technical consultation on inclusive institutions at the local level (within the SDG 16+ framework) on 26–27 March 2019 in Tunis. The consultation gathered over 85 representatives of local, regional and national governments, civil society and international organizations from the Arab States and beyond to discuss experiences, best practices and solutions to challenges in the implementation of SDG 16+ on the ground. The consultation shed light on how to ensure more inclusive, multi-stakeholder participation in planning, delivering, measuring and reporting on SDG 16 at the local level. A number of key messages on SDG 16+ implementation and reporting emerged:

- SDG 16+ encourages rethinking of the institutional frameworks needed at all levels of government to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 2030 by adopting a territorial approach in strategic planning, budgeting and monitoring.
- Build on SDG 16+ to create a shared rights-based narrative to promote transparent and effective local governance, meaningful participation and social and territorial cohesion.
- The building blocks of effective local governance include responsive and accountable local governments, strong local ownership of the development agendas and the full engagement of empowered local actors.
- To prevent discrimination and marginalization, local and regional governments, with the support of civil society, are well placed to maximize diversity and inclusion of women, youth, and vulnerable groups such as migrants and forcibly displaced people.
- SDG 16+ is a call for renewed trust in public institutions across levels and sectors, and between people and institutions to co-create cohesive societies and local democracy.
- A culture of peace is one of the levers of local sustainable development through the promotion of mediation and non-discriminatory policies.
- Ongoing efforts of innovation and experimentation can contribute to better information sharing, communication, participation and data collection for monitoring, reporting and continuous improvement of policies and strategies.
- To unlock the full potential of all local actors, strategies to strengthen their capacities need to be tailored to local contexts and priorities.

These messages fed into the Global Report on SDG 16+ presented at the HLPF 2019. In this respect, a Tunisian delegation participated in a workshop in May 2019 in Rome to finalise the report.

Expected output 3.3: Innovative initiatives relating to sustaining peace and the achievement of SDG 16 and/or other SDGs are implemented

Support to the social cohesion within universities

Recurrent conflicts within the university environment affect the smooth running of higher education institutions and prevent students from completing their studies; moreover, they have a negative impact on the general social climate. Because universities are an essential part of life for a large proportion of Tunisian youth, they are strategic areas of intervention to strengthen cohesion and prevent risky behaviour, including illegal immigration, violent extremism and gender-based violence.

The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research has embarked on an ambitious reform project to strengthen the resilience of universities against the risks of exacerbating conflicts by supporting the design of a strategic vision of cohesion in the university environment. During the reporting period, a ministerial strategic vision to strengthen cohesion in higher education environments was developed through the engagement of 145 people (including 25 students) in the reflection and conceptualisation process of a mediation tool. The finished product was endorsed by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

Unlike traditional approaches to conflict resolution, which are based on monitoring and internal mediation, 13 university mediation centres have been set up and will intervene at an early stage to resolve conflicts arising from socio-professional conflicts. Forty people from university mediation centres have been trained in dialogue facilitation and 70 people in mediation techniques.



Employment justice

A project document aiming at improving justice to workers is currently being drafted in partnership with The Hague Institute for Innovation of Law.

VII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Following the signature of the Cost Sharing Agreement between UNDP and the Netherlands on 28 November 2018, a Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) meeting was held on 12 December 2018 with the participation of the Presidency of the Government, the UNDP Resident Representative, chief technical advisors of the SDG 16 subprojects and UNDP officials. The aim of the LPAC meeting was to assess the quality of the SDG 16 Programme against UNDP's quality standards for programming. Subsequently, a project document was signed by the Presidency of the Government and UNDP.

A coordination unit composed of all subprojects of the SDG 16 Programme is established and regular meetings have been held to discuss planning and progress, and to provide support as needed. In particular, these meetings have helped in enhancing synergies among subprojects, especially at the local level.

During the reporting period, several monitoring field visits were carried out at the project level as reflected in the below table. Reports of these visits are archived at the project level.

Monitoring activity	Date	Key findings and recommendations
Mid-term review of the 42 initiatives supported (Tamkeen project on Youth)	26–28 April 2019	Two-day review in Hammamet to support CSOs in the implementation of their project. CSOs presented the project and the progress made to peers and received feedback/potential solutions on issues encountered during the implementation phase.
Monitoring mission in Jendouba, Kairouan, Nabeul, Sousse, Gabes, Médenine and Djerba of 29 CSOs supported by the Tamkeen project on youth	3–7 July 2019 12 July 2019	Field mission during which meetings were held with 29 CSOs to review the progress made within the framework of the CSO initiatives on the implementation of the youth sectoral vision of the Ministry of Youth and Sports.
Closing ceremony on the completion of 22 initiatives supported by the Tamkeen project on youth	19–21 July 2019	Twenty-two CSO partners that had completed their projects in partnerships with the Second-Generation Youth Centers presented the achieved results and their experiences during a closing ceremony.
Monitoring mission in Jendouba, Kairouan, Nabeul, Sousse, Gabes, Médenine and Djerba of 16 CSOs supported by the Tamkeen project on youth	19–22 September 2019	Monitoring mission on the ground to visit 16 CSOs and review the progress of their initiatives.
Monitoring mission in Médenine	16–19 April 2019	Field mission to support partner associations of the Tarabot project in developing the results framework for their projects. The mission took place during the launch phase of the associative initiatives. Its objective was to strengthen a common understanding between each association and the UNDP monitoring unit on the objectives of each initiative. This field mission contributed to establish a working relationship with the various CSOs, and

		trained them on the importance of the monitoring and evaluation of their projects.
Mid-term review of the eight PVE initiatives	5–6 July 2019	Joint NCTC, UNDP and Swiss Cooperation mission in Djerba to carry out the mid-term review of the initiatives funded by the SDG 16 Programme, under the Tarabot project, in terms of progress, challenges and lessons learned. The mid-term review was an opportunity to review and validate the financial reports of each associative project, which enabled CSOs to identify their limitations in terms of financial management. The latter was the subject of an exchange and questions/answers between CSOs and the UNDP financial unit to clarify contractual obligations relating to financial reporting.
Training on M&E to partner associations	6–7 July 2019	The Tarabot project organized a first capacity-building session to strengthen the monitoring and evaluation capacities of the eight community-based organizations. This training responded to a need identified by the project team and the expectations of partner associations to analyse and enhance the direct effects of their interventions on community resilience to violent extremism. Twenty-four community leaders benefited from this training, which was provided by the UNDP Monitoring and Evaluation Unit.
Monitoring mission to Médenine	27–31 August 2019	During this mission, the Tarabot project team met with partner associations to identify project management challenges and gaps while proposing solutions to ensure the successful completion of the second phase of each project. In addition, a meeting between the UNDP Resident Representative and one of the CBO and its beneficiaries took place.
Evaluation meeting with the NCTC	5 October 2019	The Tarabot team project organized an evaluation meeting with members of the National Counter Terrorism Commission who participated in study visits in Spain, Canada and Kenya. The evaluation emphasized the need for follow-up actions in terms of partnerships building and for applying new learnings in national PVE strategies.
Monitoring mission to Médenine	17–19 October 2019	The three-day field mission focused on supporting the partner Community based Organisations of the Tarabot project for the finalization of their

		initiatives. More specifically, the monitoring team discussed the progress of each CBO's initiative and reviewed its action plan for the delivery of their second phase.
Evaluation of the Tarabot CSO partners' projects	12–14 November 2019	Under the framework of the mid-term evaluation of the Tarabot project, the M&E UNDP unit organized a mission in Médenine to assess the relevance of the CSO projects funded by the project towards the thematic area of preventing violent extremism. The mission also enabled the project team to better understand the local context and the factors leading to violent extremism in Médenine, thus informing the launch of a new call for proposal in 2020.
Evaluation of the Tarabot CSO partners' projects: meeting with beneficiaries	25–27 November 2019	After the above-mentioned evaluation of the relevance of the CSOs' projects towards the thematic of PVE, the M&E team met with direct beneficiaries of the initiatives to collect evidence related to the results of the projects, their understanding of the PVE challenge and their recommendations for engaging youth and women in this field.
Field mission for the monitoring of the study on social cohesion in Médenine	02–03 December 2019	In partnership with a local research institute (Institute des Régions Arides), the Presidency of the Government and the National Institute for Statistics, UNDP has launched a survey on social cohesion in Médenine. The data collection phase started 29 November 2019, and the Tarabot project team organized a field mission to monitor the proper implementation of the survey with due respect to the methodology and the interview manual.
Finalization of the results framework for the project 'Access to Justice in Médenine'	February – April 2019 April – September 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Finalization of the logical framework of the project results (outcomes, outputs, indicators, activities and resources), the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) and the project document before its signature (1 April 2019) – Field mission for the first meeting of the project board (11 April 2019 in Djerba) and the constitution of a project local committee that will ensure the monitoring of the activities at the local level (14 July 2019 in Djerba), during

		<p>which the 2019 Annual workplan of the joint project was discussed and approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Finalization and signature of partnership agreements with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and <i>Avocats Sans Frontières</i> (ASF), (14 June 2019, and organization of a joint UNDP-NCSC mission to Médenine (3–5 July 2019), which focused primarily on planning and elaborating the detailed content of the actions/timing for the period September–December 2019. – Field mission to assess the infrastructure, information technology (IT) and security needs of the courts and the prison in Médenine led by a joint UNDP-UNOPS-Ministry of Justice team (17–19 June 2019) followed by priority needs programming meetings at the Ministry of Justice level (started on 23 August 2019 and continued in October and November 2019) – Official request sent to the Ministry of Justice (23 August 2019) to provide court statistics to Médenine, according to a template designed by the project M&E – Elaboration of the concept note (July–August 2019) of the research activities for the elaboration of the project baseline, including the programming of the realization (during the 4th quarter 2019) of two perception surveys: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a qualitative survey of actors in the judicial and penitentiary system in Médenine, based on semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders and the organization of focus groups (activity started in Médenine between 20 and 25 September 2019). By the end of third quarter 2019, approximately 80% of the actions planned in this survey were carried out (ii) a quantitative survey targeting litigants in Médenine: (a) users of judicial services, (b) persons detained in Harboub prison in Médenine and (c) relatives of persons detained in the same prison visiting them. To this end, three specific questionnaires were developed: measuring knowledge of laws and rights and perceptions of effective access to quality judicial and/or prison services. The field phase of the questionnaires was scheduled to start on 25
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		November 2019 with the participation of the Centre for Judicial and Legal Studies of the Ministry of Justice (CEJJ).
Finalization of the results framework for the project in support to the High Judicial Council (French acronym: CSM)	June–July 2019 September 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Finalization of the project logical framework (outcomes, outputs, indicators, activities and resources), the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) and the project document before its signature (19 June 2019) – Development of the Strategic Plan of the CSM and its annual plan. – Preparation of the 2019 Annual Workplan of the CSM and its finalization on (5 November 2019)
Elaboration of the results framework for the project in support to the National Authority for Prevention of Torture (French acronym: INPT) and National Authority against Human Trafficking (French acronym: INLPT)	July–September 2019	Initial discussions between UNDP and OHCHR teams on the contents of the Project logical framework (outcomes, outputs, indicators, activities and resources). The project document was expected to be signed by the end of December 2019.



*CBOs receiving M&E training, Djerba, July 2019
Médénine, June 2019*



CBOs meet a Representative of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs,



Risklog

#	Description	Risk category	Impact (I) & Probability (P)	Evolution of the risk	Mitigation measures and level of implementation
1	The complexity of institutional arrangements and levels of intervention (national and subnational) hinders implementation	Organizational	P = 3 (Moderate) I = 5 (Critical)		Support and close coordination on key programme elements with key national/national and subnational/national stakeholders. Put in place coordination mechanisms and a programme presence at the local level.
2	Inconsistency with the rest of the efforts related to the SDGs and Agenda 2030	Strategic	P = 4 (Important) I = 3 (Moderate)		Efforts are made to build on the cross-cutting characteristics of SDG 16 and establish links with other Agenda SDGs (SDG 16+)
3	Sense of stigmatization in targeted intervention areas	Strategic	P = 4 (Important) I = 4 (Important)	The growing number of PVE interventions in the governorate of Médenine may generate a sense of stigmatization among its population.	<p>Clear communication with government and other stakeholders from the onset on the SDG 16 Programme objectives.</p> <p>The project team favours a cautious and progressive approach based on field work to collect empirical data related to violent extremism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The expertise accumulated by UNDP projects, particularly in Médenine, helps to capitalize on the lessons learned and recommendations at involving all partners in a multi-stakeholder process. – The project on PVE adopts a conflict-sensitive approach and systematically ensures that it does not raise unrealistic expectations. – The project on PVE includes media training on conflict-sensitive coverage and PVE issues to strengthen the capacities of national and local journalists in covering violent extremist events in a non-stigmatizing way

4	The lack of willingness of actors to obtain a coordinated response to the phenomenon	Political	P = 3 (Moderate) I = 4 (Important)		Coordination actions with the government foreseen in the project document
5	Lack of national capacities on programme implementation	Operational	P = 4 (Important) I = 4 (Important)		The programme is adopting the 'direct implementation' modality aiming at capacity strengthening
6	Lack of appropriate technical expertise at the international and national levels	Operational	P = 4 (Important) I = 4 (Important)		Part of the programme team has been recruited and the recruitment process of the program coordinator is expected to be completed by the beginning of Quarter 1, 2020 The SDG 16 Programme has already started building a network with other partners, including OHCHR, UN Women.

Some of the most relevant knowledge products published during the reporting period are listed below:

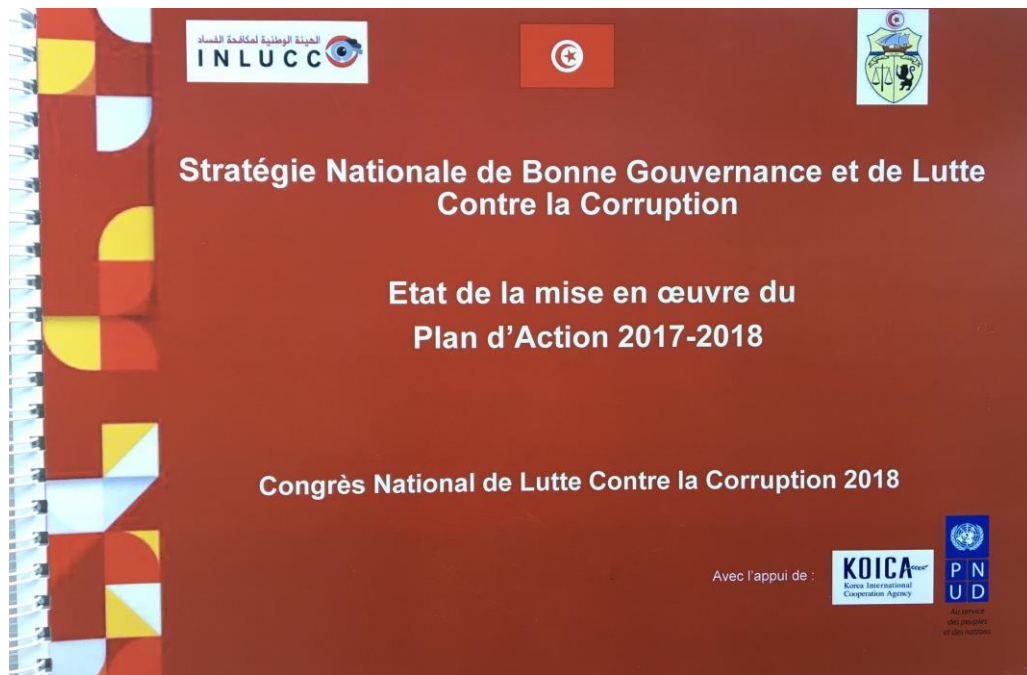
1. Report on the ARP oversight work during the legislature 2014–2019



2. Report on the implementation of the laws adopted during the legislature, and the provisions that the executive should put in place (post-legislative scrutiny).



3. INLUCC report on the implementation status of the Action Plan 2017–2018 of the National Strategy of Good Governance and the Fight against Corruption



4. National voluntary report on SDGs' implementation in Tunisia



5. Prisoner’s guide in Tunisia and manual of the Tunisian penitentiary law



IX. LESSONS LEARNED

Acknowledging the innovative character of the SDG 16 portfolio of projects, UNDP has taken care to evaluate and to engage in a codification process of the lessons learned that will serve to improve its programmatic intervention in a broader context.

Better coordination at the local level

The increased number of interventions in Médenine requires additional coordination among projects. While coordination at the Tunis level has certainly improved, local authorities in Médenine need to be better informed on the SDG 16 Programme approach to avoid confusion and most importantly have full ownership of the initiatives on the ground. The UNDP local office that is expected to open in 2020 will certainly help improving the relationship on the ground.

Importance of partnering with UN agencies

The SDG 16 Programme, despite being in its early stages only, has forged partnerships with OHCHR and UN Women in the planning, implementation and monitoring of joint initiatives. During the reporting period, one project was signed with OHCHR and another one is currently being discussed with UN Women. Strong partnerships are crucial in the SDG 16 Programme implementation as they enhance effectiveness and reduce implementation costs of activities.

Importance of tailor-made support/coaching to local CSOs (Tarabot project)

CSO partnerships have extended the reach of programmatic activities of the SDG 16 Programme to a larger audience. A tailored and more frequent support to partner associations at the local level will help monitor more effectively the implementation of the initiatives funded by the SDG 16 Programme. To that end, monthly missions will be carried out from the project (PVE) to prevent challenges in terms of budget monitoring and to contribute to a better evaluation of the results achieved.

The social cohesion survey in Médenine could be replicated to other areas (Tarabot project)

The collaboration with the NCTC, the Presidency of the Government and the National Institute of Statistics, in the methodological validation of the survey is a clear sign of national ownership of the survey. The above-mentioned partners have expressed interest in extending the survey to two other governorates (Tataouine and Gabès) after the pilot phase in Médenine. Their engagement from the earliest phase (conceptualization) was crucial.

National ownership (Tarabot project)

Engaging national institutions from the earliest stages of the process is important because it can enhance the institutional ownership and sustainability of the actions. This is the case with the NCTC, which was involved from the earliest stages of the call for proposals on grants to selecting CSOs initiatives within the framework of the SDG 16 Programme. A relationship of trust is gradually being established between the partner associations and the NCTC, thus paving the way for effective collaboration towards to development of the tripartite PVE regional platform.

Partnership between civil society and youth centres

The partnership between civil society organizations and youth centres can be particularly fruitful for the implementation of the youth sector vision, youth participation at the local level and their inclusion in local governance systems. Nevertheless, both parties need to strengthen their skills in key areas, such as communication, in order to attract young people, and to advocate for the dissemination of the approaches and good practices resulting from their partnership.

Long-term approach in parliamentary strengthening

Given the end of the 2014–2019 parliamentary session and turnover of MPs, more focus was given to capacity-building activities aimed at strengthening parliamentary administration. Strengthening the capacities of the permanent staff of the ARP contributes to a longer-term perspective of the institutional strengthening.

Adjustment of interventions between the local and central level

It is essential to adapt the interventions at the local level and the sectoral reforms undertaken at the central level. This is the case of the health ‘integrity island’, which should support local dynamics by integrating and accelerating reforms in this sector (conflict of interest, management of hospitals, and organization of the circuit of medical products, among others).

X. EVIDENCES

Evidence	Link
EV1	http://arp.tn/site/main/AR/activites/fiche_act.jsp?cn=105265&t=37
EV1.1	www.youtube.com/watch?v=6OkGTxYGryI
Video clips on parliamentary functions and ARP structure	<p>Oversight function: www.youtube.com/watch?v=l1mjCH7jCoc</p> <p>Representative function: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6mD6QsWVrJ4</p> <p>Legislative function: www.youtube.com/watch?v=68jfU3kesOY</p> <p>ARP structure and mechanisms: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kz2Jnu4m-hs</p> <p>Parliamentary academy: www.youtube.com/watch?v=xSolb-CDs5Y</p>
EV2	https://tn24.ween.tn/fr/article/tunisie-la-cour-constitutionnelle-d-abord-et-la-loi-sur-l-etat-d-urgence-ensuite-plaide-salsabil-klibi-97286
EV3	www.letemps.com.tn/article/110187/sur-le-vif-journ%C3%A9-internationale-de-la-d%C3%A9mocratie-l%E2%80%99arp-d%C3%A9termin%C3%A9-%C3%A0-renforcer-la
EV4	www.unescwa.org/events/2019-arab-parliamentary-forum-2030-agenda
EV5	www.inlucc.tn/www.inlucc.tn/index.php?id=194&L=1
EV6	www.xtensus.net/app-release.zip
EV7	www.inlucc.tn/www.inlucc.tn/index.php?id=139
	www.inlucc.tn/www.inlucc.tn/index.php?id=121&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=1486&cHash=85c7cb6066ffc58d053d9e91debdd693

EV8	
EV9	www.inlucc.tn/www.inlucc.tn/index.php?id=121&L=1&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=1930&cHash=b9131477ced4abbb1ef871b40548e8a7
EV10	www.interieur.gov.tn/actualite/9982/-/ولاية-ة-إلى-ميداني-عمل-زيارة-في-الداخلية-في-وزارة-عمل-ميداني-ة-إلى-ولاية-مدنين?fbclid=IwAR1B7T3AJ0E9vqdobDnf21plQFCTnyVAYq7IRoUwhJ4ypx_MvbEqSCW8TB4
EV11	https://legislation-securite.tn/fr/node/54718
EV12	www.cnlct.tn/fr/?p=1545
EV13	www.arabstates.undp.org/content/rbas/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2019/tunisia-hosts-regional-talks-about-preventing-violent-extremism-.html
EV14	www.facebook.com/ministere.jeunesse.sport.tunisie/photos/a.948548071823990/2192569357421849/?type=3&permPage=1
EV15	https://tunisgenderforum.org/
EV16	www.facebook.com/ministere.jeunesse.sport.tunisie/photos/a.948548071823990/2205985176080267/?type=3&theater
EV17	www.jetsetmagazine.net/FR.1.magazine.evenements.exposition - illuminations - a l'ambassade de suisse a tunis.1166?fbclid=IwAR21LSe8ne1qJK_liZXwUjYlyycFS6eMUSHLQKEKJsAqm0v2WdG1HY9Aae8
EV18	http://www.gbo.tn/images/LOB-V-Fr.pdf

Every effort has been made to represent the actual expenditures made against the related budget in accordance with UNDP financial rules and regulations and the project's budgeting policies. The figures enclosed in this report are subject to change pending the application of GMS pertaining to the period. The project total delivery as of 31 December 2019 is US\$ 2,848,495 corresponding to 22 per cent of the funds received from donors. The consolidated project expenditures against budget are reflected in the table below:

Donors	Contributions received (a)	Expenditures 2018 (b)	Expenditures 2019					Total Expenditures (d) = (b) + (c)	Balance (e) = (a) – (d)	% of implementation (f) = (d)/(a)
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total (c)			
The Netherlands	13,000,000	584 032	121 020	320 660	1 011 416	811 367	2 264 463	2 848 495	10 151 505	21.91
Total	13,000,000	584 032	121 020	320 660	1 011 416	811 367	2 264 463	2 848 495	10 151 505	21.91

NB. The commitments amount to US\$ 84,237 and will be paid during the first quarter of 2020.

Outputs	Expenditures 2018	Expenditures 2019	Total Expenditures
Output 1.1	0	485 374	485 374
Output 1.3	0	15 171	15 171
Output 1.4		11 179	11 179
Output 1.6	0	44 076	44 076
Output 1.7	0	346 605	346 605
Output 2.1	0	275 722	275 722
Output 2.2	0	380 850	380 850
Output 2.4	0	17 820	17 820
Output 2.6	0	833 967	833 967
Output 3.1	286 240	-253 335 ¹³	32 905
Output 3.2	297 792	-297 792	0
Output 3.3	0	35 655	35 655
Output 3.5	0	22 286	22 286
Programme management and monitoring	0	346 885	346 885
Total (USD)	584 032	2 264 463	2 848 495

¹³ The negative figures in Output 3.1 and Output 3.2 reflect corrective actions of expenses initially allocated in the wrong budget lines



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