Responding to the Coronavirus Crisis
Update on Tunisia (12/11/20)

EBRD Policy Comparator

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Economic channels of disruption
Tourism, transport, global value chains, FDI
- The crisis has important implications from lower demand domestically and in Europe, Tunisia’s main trading partner and source of supply chains for the textile and clothing and car-parts industries, the slowdown in tourism and transport, and a decline in global FDI flows.
- But, lower global oil prices will benefit the economy, as Tunisia is a net importer.
- In late April, the national security council announced several measures to ease economic restrictions by adopting a three-phase plan depending on the activity sector. In October, the government reintroduced restrictions and curfews to counter the rise in infection cases.

Selected crisis impact indicators
- EBRD GDP growth outlook 2020: -8.0% (Sep 2020) 2021: 4.0%
- Tunisia stock market (TUNINDEX) 6,622 (11 Nov 2020) (down 7% YTD)

Crisis response measures to date
Fiscal emergency plan, social transfers and interest cuts
- Emergency plan of TD2.5bn ($0.8bn) includes VAT exemptions; VAT refund procedures and reimbursement acceleration; the creation of a TD100mn fund for the acquisition of equipment for public hospitals; the purchase of emergency medical equipment and medicine; increasing strategic food reserve
- BCT asked banks to suspend fees for electronic payments and withdrawals.

Selected crisis response indicators
- IMF: $745mn (Rapid Financing Instrument (RFI))
- Italy: €50mn to counter the outbreak of the virus.
- AMF: $98mn to support financial reform and $59mn to support the external financial position and meet emergency needs.
- AFD: redirect €80mn for Covid-related budget needs
- IsDB: $280mn to the central pharmacy to purchase medicines and support the health ministry
- EC: €600mn under the €3bn MFA package.
- EU: €325mn for health and socio-economic needs.
- WB: $210mn to support the healthcare sector and critical economic reforms.
- US: $25mn to strengthen response to the pandemic.

Key short-term priorities
Digitise government services; benefit from relocation of value chains; and commit to energy and public administration reforms

To learn more about EBRD’s support to Tunisia visit: https://www.ebrd.com/tunisia.html
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