



UN-HABITAT

UN-Habitat Normative and Operational Activities in Tunisia

Ad-Hoc Working Group on Programmatic, Budgetary and Administrative Matters
11 March 2026



Country Context & Operating Environment

1

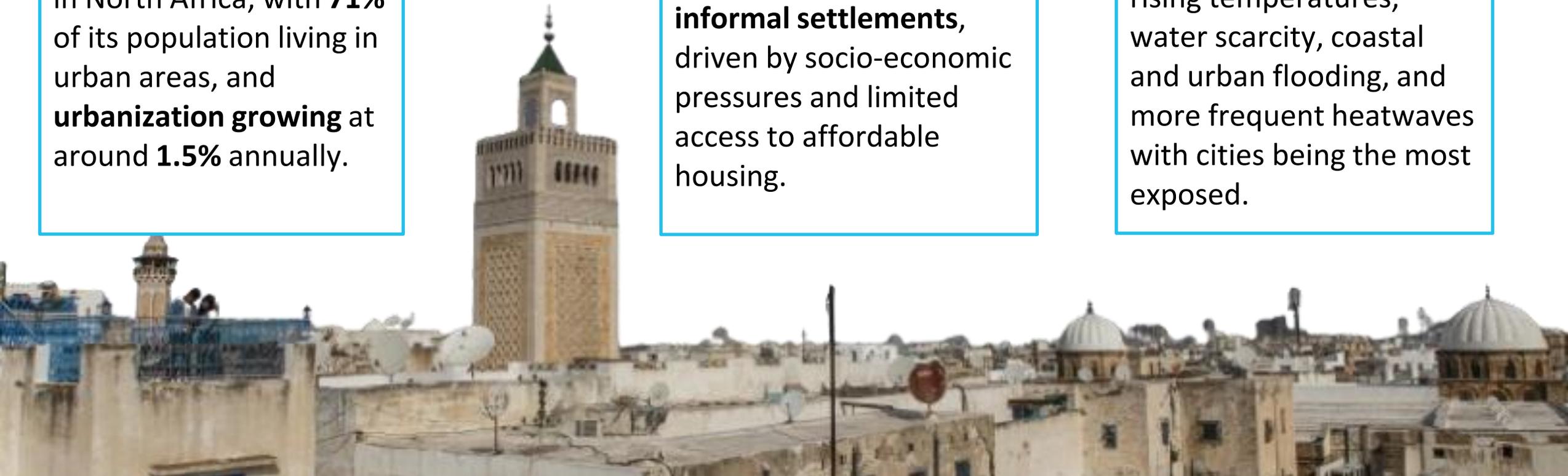
Tunisia is one of the most urbanized countries in North Africa, with **71%** of its population living in urban areas, and **urbanization growing** at around **1.5%** annually.

2

Since 2011, Tunisia has experienced an **accelerated expansion of informal settlements**, driven by socio-economic pressures and limited access to affordable housing.

3

The country faces significant **climate vulnerabilities**, including rising temperatures, water scarcity, coastal and urban flooding, and more frequent heatwaves with cities being the most exposed.



Impact

Urban planning and governance

- Support to National Urban Policy implementation
- Update of National Housing Strategy
- Contribution to reform of Land Development and Urban Planning Code
- Strengthening evidence-based urban governance

Environment and climate action

- Urban greening and inclusive public spaces
- Climate-sensitive and nature-based approaches
- Improved waste management and methane reduction
- Vulnerability assessment and resilience action plan in Kerkannah

Urban crisis response

- Support to vulnerable neighbourhoods
- Participatory public space upgrading (Karamti project)





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Inspiring Examples of Achievements



Kerkennah Resilience Initiative (Soumoud Project)

Donor



Duration

2024- 2027

Completion of the **Multilayered Vulnerability Assessment (MVA)** identifying climate, environmental and socio-economic risks.

Development of the **Urban Resilience Action Plan (URAP)** through extensive local engagement, defining priority resilience actions.

Launch of an ICLEI-supported feasibility **study** for an integrated eco-tourism and wetland restoration project, identified as a URAP priority.

Signature of a tripartite MoU (UN-Habitat, Bank of Tunisia & Emirates, The Environmental & Development Federation) for the **implementation of URAP projects**.



Karamti (My dignity)



Gouvernement Princier
PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO

Donor

Duration

2023- 2026

Community-driven
upgrading of public spaces in a vulnerable neighbourhood.

Co-design process involving residents, youth and local authorities to identify priorities and solutions.

Delivery of multifunctional public spaces integrating safety, accessibility and climate-sensitive design.

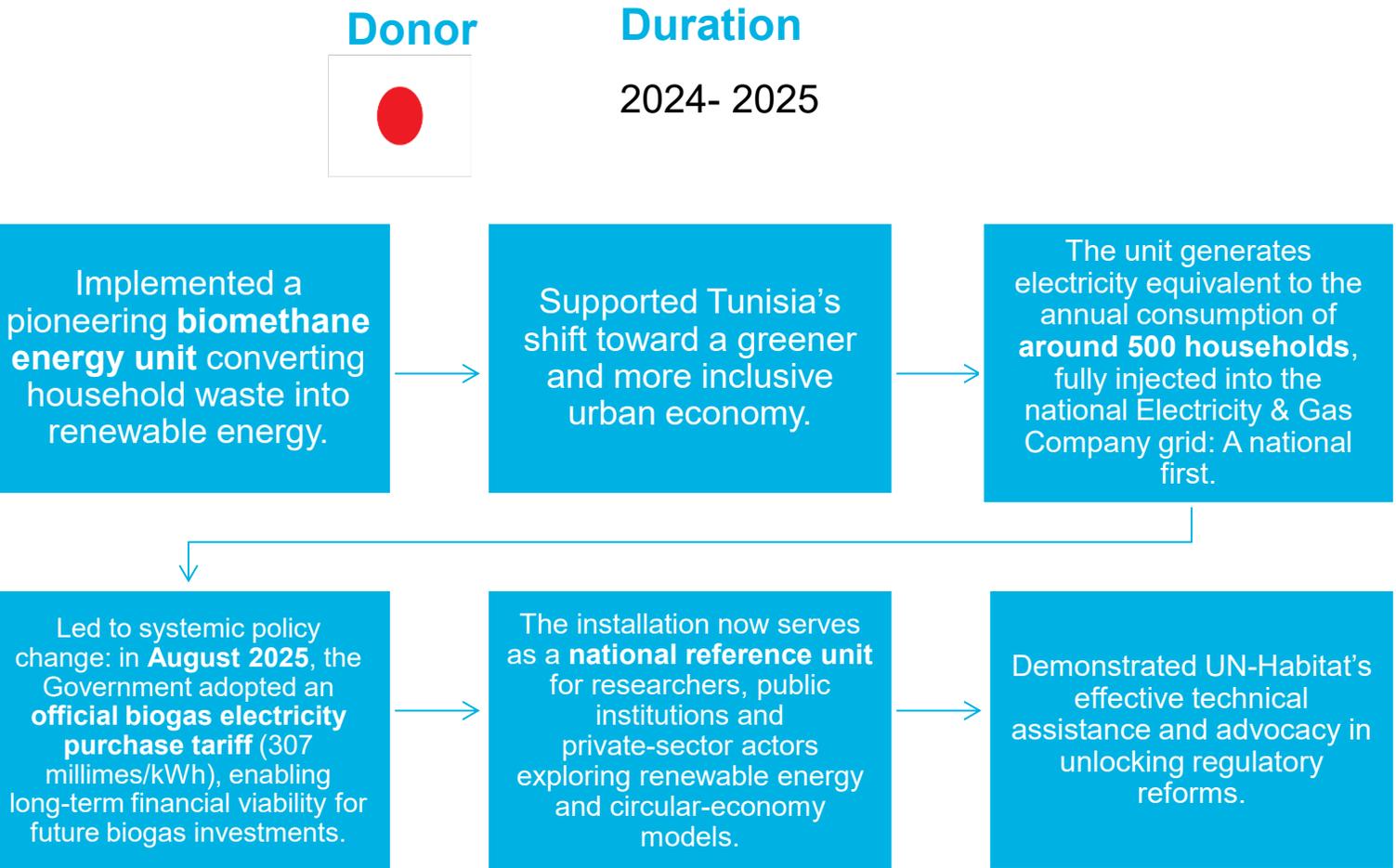
Demonstrated strong social cohesion benefits and increased local ownership of public space.

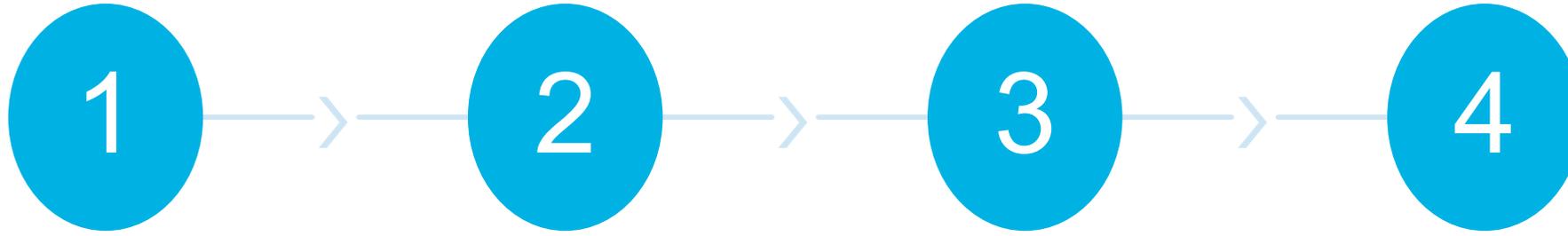
Strengthened municipal capacities in waste collection methods and small-scale urban interventions.

Model replicated as a best practice for inclusive urban upgrading in similar contexts.



Renewable Energy from Biomethane: Oued Laya Pilot Unit





Government and public institutions

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- Ministry of Equipment and Housing;
- Ministry of Interior,
- Ministry of Environment
- Municipality of Tunis
- SNIT - National Real Estate Company

Academic institutions

- University of Manouba
- Faculty of Legal, Political and Social Sciences of Tunis;
- Institute of Urban Planning
- School of Architecture

Civil society

- Environmental and Development Federation (FTED)
- LAMS association: Supporting people with visual and hearing impairments.

International partners

- University of Gustave Eiffel
- Bank of Tunisia and Emirates
- WWF north Africa
- Arab Institute for Human Rights
- French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD)
- Association of Volunteers in International Service (AVSI)

Lessons Learned



11 VILLES ET COMMUNAUTÉS DURABLES



TECHNICAL EXPERTISE AND LOCAL PARTICIPATION ESSENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE AND ADAPTATION TO CITY-SPECIFIC CHALLENGES



PROGRAMMATIC, INTEGRATED PLANNING APPROACHES ESSENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE AND LARGE-SCALE IMPACT



PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS INSTITUTIONS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND ACADEMIA STRENGTHEN EVIDENCE-BASED PLANNING, INCLUSION AND RESILIENCE



REPLICABLE NORMATIVE TOOLS AND METHODOLOGIES SUPPORT SCALING UP IN OTHER CITIES AND CONTEXTS





IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

Thank you!

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