

Signing of Japanese ODA Loan Agreement with Tunisia: Contributing to a solution to the water shortage in a major metropolitan area with the second largest city in Tunisia through the construction of seawater desalination facilities

On July 14, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed a loan agreement with the Government of the Republic of Tunisia in Tunis to provide a Japanese ODA loan of up to 36.676 billion yen for the Sfax Sea Water Desalination Plant Construction Project.

The project will construct a new seawater desalination facility (water production volume: 100,000 cubic meters/day) in Sfax in central Tunisia with the aims of strengthening the water supply capacity and improving the water quality in the Sfax metropolitan area. The loan funds will be allocated to the construction of seawater desalination facilities, the procurement and installation of water transportation pipes, and consultation services (including bidding assistance and construction supervision).

The Sfax metropolitan area has a population of approximately 600,000 people, most of which live in Sfax, the second city of Tunisia, but a water shortage began this year due to scarce water sources, a reliance on other regions for the majority of the water supply, and population that has been growing in recent years. By 2030, the gap between supply and demand is expected to reach approximately 150,000 cubic meters per day. Therefore, the development of water resources through seawater desalination for a stable supply of water in the Sfax metropolitan area is a priority. Since the project will lead to a stable supply of high-quality water to the Sfax metropolitan area, it is expected that the project will improve the living environment and contribute to economic development and social stability there.



signing ceremony

1. Terms and Amount of Loan

Project title	Amount (million yen)	Annual interest rate (%)		Repayment period (years)	Grace period (years)	Procurement
		Project	Consulting services			
Sfax Sea Water Desalination Plant Construction Project	36,676	1.7%	0.01%	25	7	General, untied

2. Executing Agency

National Water Distribution Utility
 Address: 2, Avenue Slimane Ben Slimane, El Manar II, 2092, Tunis, Tunisia
 Phone: +216-71-494-266, fax: +216-71-494-185

3. Planned Implementation Schedule

- (1) Completion of project: June 2023 – when the facilities are put into service
- (2) Issuing of letters of invitation for consulting services (including construction supervision):
October 2017
- (3) Tender announcement of initial procurement package for international competitive bidding on project construction:
Lot 1 title: Construction of Desalination Plant
Release date: August 2017