



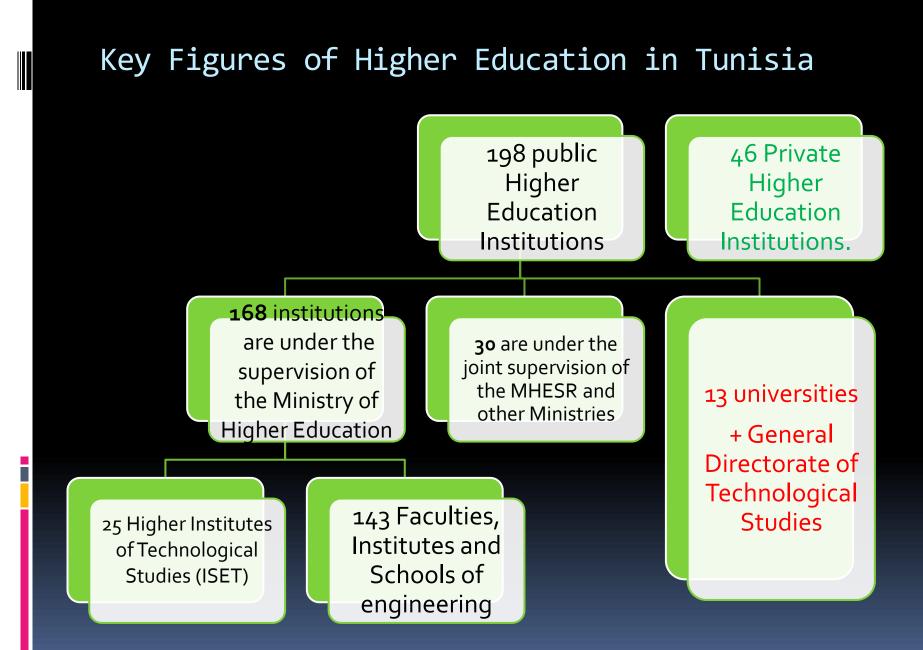
## Higher Education in Tunisia

Dr Mohamed Salah Harzallah National Erasmus+ Office of Tunisia Coordinator Higher education in Tunisia is governed by the Act of 25 February 2008 which resulted in the establishment of the three cycle-degree system, the reform of university governance and the establishment of a system of quality.  Access to higher education in Tunisia is open to anyone who holds a baccalaureate, a degree obtained after the successful completion of the secondary school education.

 The admission of students to universities and courses is carried by a computerised system taking into account pupils' wishes, merits and the number of places available.

#### Higher Education programmes and qualifications

- HEIs Provide courses based on the structure of three cycle system. The Bachelor education takes 6 semesters leading to the accumulation of 180 credits while the Master degree is awarded after 4 semesters of study (120 credits). The doctoral degree takes three years.
- However, the three cycle system is not included in the medical, architecture and engineering courses.



### Regional Distribution of Tunisian Universities

#### Norh

• Virtual University

- Ezzitouna University
- Manouba University
- Tunis University
- Tunis El Manar
- Carthage University
- Jendouba University
- General Directorate of Technological Studies

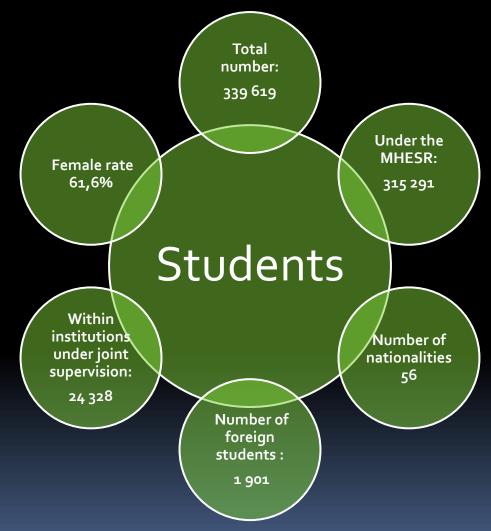
#### Centre

- Sousse University
- Monastir University
- Kairouan University

#### South

- Sfax University
- Gabes University
- Gafsa University

### Students: key figures



# Governing bodies of the higher education institutions



#### University

Higher Education Institutions (faculties, institutes, etc)

#### Higher Education Institutions

- Faculties are headed by deans
- Institutes and Schools are headed by directors.
  Both directors and deans are elected by the
  - teaching staff.
- Apart from the deans and directors, higher education institutions in Tunisia have elected councils.

- The members of the councils represent staff, students and the community and businesses in the surrounding area.
- The heads of departments in the higher education institutions are elected by the academic staff.

### Universities

- Each university is headed by a President elected by the members of the university council.
- The President is elected for a three-year term.
  Each university has a university council the members of which are elected by the members of higher education institutions councils.

### Ministry

- The Ministry decides the overall policy of the higher education sector.
- Though the Higher Education Act of 2008 stipulates that universities should be independent institutions, the scope of action of the latter is very limited, all major decisions are taken by the Ministry.

### Quality Assurance

 The Higher Education Act of 25 February 2008 introduced the concepts of quality assurance and accreditation for the first time. It resulted in the creation of the National Commission of Accreditation, Quality and Assessment in November 2013.

- Several initiatives have been launched to train a pool of Tunisian university professors in the quality-based approach.
- Tempus has contributed to this effort through many projects. For example, two structural measures projects 58889 and 511248 respectively sought to reinforce internal quality assurance and introduce certification procedures within the higher education system.

The Tempus project EVAFOR, for example, provided training to <u>30 Tunisian professors</u> in the field of quality assurance. It is worth noting that most of the Tempus projects included quality assurance as part of their workpackages  As far as the accreditation of new curricula is concerned, Tunisia has national accreditation committees for each discipline  All new curricula are assessed by the faculty Scientific council, the University council, the Council of universities and the relevant accreditation committee. After its implementation, each study programme is subject to reassessment after a four-year period.  In 2011, the Ministry of Higher Education launched a quality assurance programme PAQ (Programme d'Appui à la Qualité) the aim of which is the enhancement of the teaching standards and the implementation of a new decentralized system of higher education.

### Erasmus+ actions

KA1 Learning mobility for individuals

Credit mobility (National Agencies)

Joint Master Degrees KA2 Cooperation for innovation and good practice

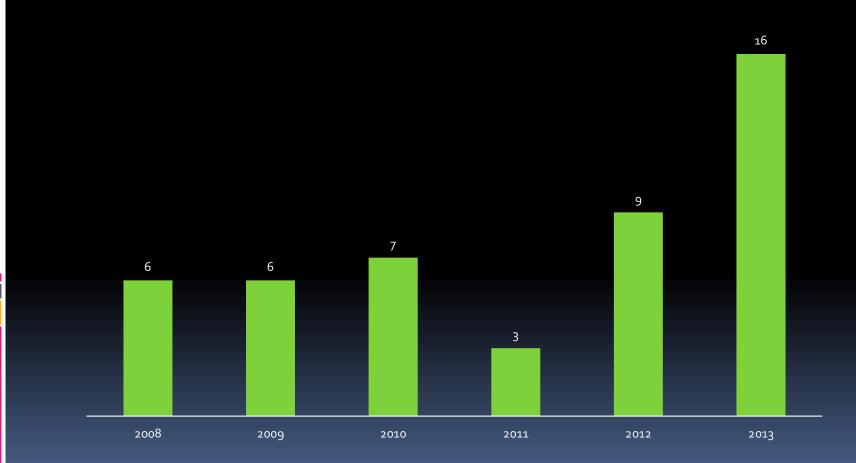
Capacitybuilding actions KA3 Support for policy reform National Erasmus+ Offices Higher Education Reform Experts Publications Studies Events

Jean Monnet activities

### Tempus IV in Tunisia

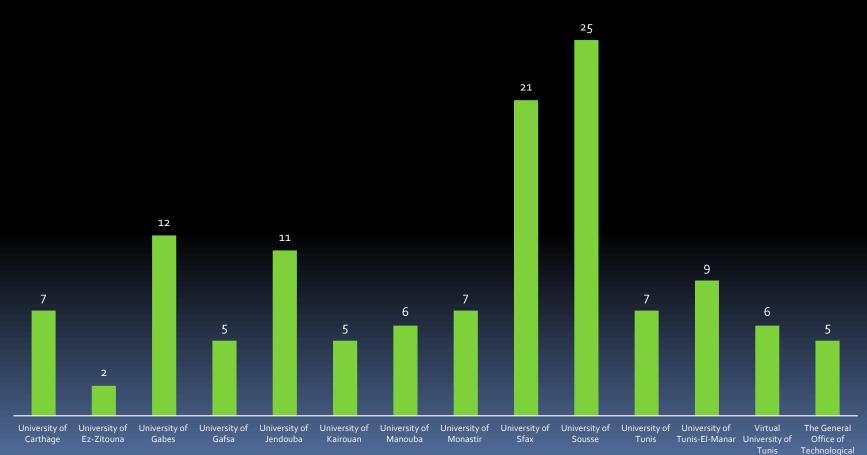
#### TEMPUS IV: Selected projects in which Tunisia is involved as a partner

Number of Projects

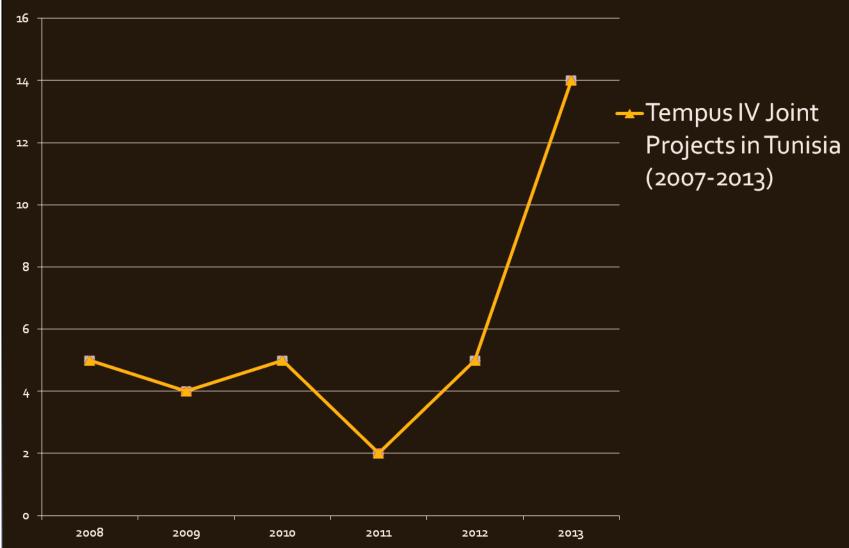


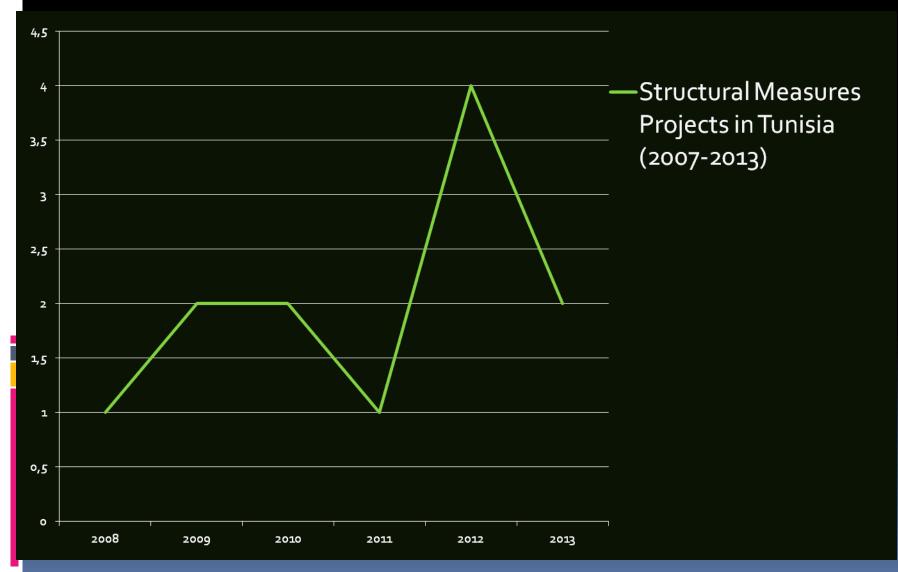
#### Tempus IV and Tunisian Higher Education Institutions: 2008-2013

Number of projects



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#### TEMPUS IV AND PARTNERSHIP WITH SWEDEN

YEAR	NUMBER OF PROJECTS		TOTAL
	SWEDEN AS COORDINATOR	SWEDEN AS PARTNER	IUIAL
2008	0	1	1
2009	0	0	0
2010	0	1	1
2011	0	1	1
2012	0	1	1
2013	0	4	4

### National Erasmus+ Office of Tunisia www.erasmusplus.tn