

**9th Edition of Carthage Investment Forum**

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# Agenda

**I – An open country, a competitive economy**

**II – The industrial Tunisia**

**III – Tunisia's three assets**

- . A favorable business environment
- . Qualified human resources
- . Modern Infrastructures

**IV- Investment opportunities for the XI Plan**

## **I- An open country, a competitive economy**

**Tunisia is the first country of the MEDA region to sign an association agreement with the EU (1995) and to proceed with the tariff dismantling according to the expected calendar (0% of customs duties by the end of 2007)**

**Its economy is strongly integrated within the European space (+85% of exchanges).**

# **I- An open country, a competitive economy**

## **Competitiveness Annual Report ( DAVOS )**

- . In 2007, Tunisia made a stride of 8 places forward compared to 2005 (from 37th to 29th).**
- First in Africa and the Arab world.**
- 29th globally out of 128 countries.**
- Ahead of some 20 countries in the Euro zone.**

# I- An open country, a competitive economy

This ranking in terms of global competitiveness is due to:

- A “ **cost-related competitiveness** ”,
- And a “ **non cost-related competitiveness** ” which reinforces Tunisia’s attractiveness :
  - Very short delivery periods,
  - System and product Quality,
  - Geographical and cultural proximity.

# **I - An open country, a competitive economy**

- . A GDP sustained growth of 5 % per year**
- . A fair division of the growth outcomes.**  
*(The middle class represents 80 % of the population).*
- . A controlled inflation: 3 % per year.**
- . Balanced public finances : Budgetary deficit 3 % .**

## II - The industrial Tunisia

*In 10 years, Tunisia has quadrupled its industrial exports:*

*Industrial exports*

**2 billion Euros in 1996**

**8 billion Euros in 2006**

Share in total exports:

**From 40% in 1981 to 87% in 2006**

*in 25 years industry has replaced oil*

*( nevertheless, the oil sector is witnessing a strong resumption this year)*

## II - The industrial Tunisia

### PARTNERSHIP

*The number of created partnered companies in Tunisia has gone up from **20 / year** during the 70s, to around **160 / year** since the 90s.*

**Industry related FDI have been multiplied by more than seven during the last decade:**

**50 MD in 1996**

**347 MD in 2006**

**2200 industrial partnered companies notably with the EU**

# **III – Tunisia's three assets :**

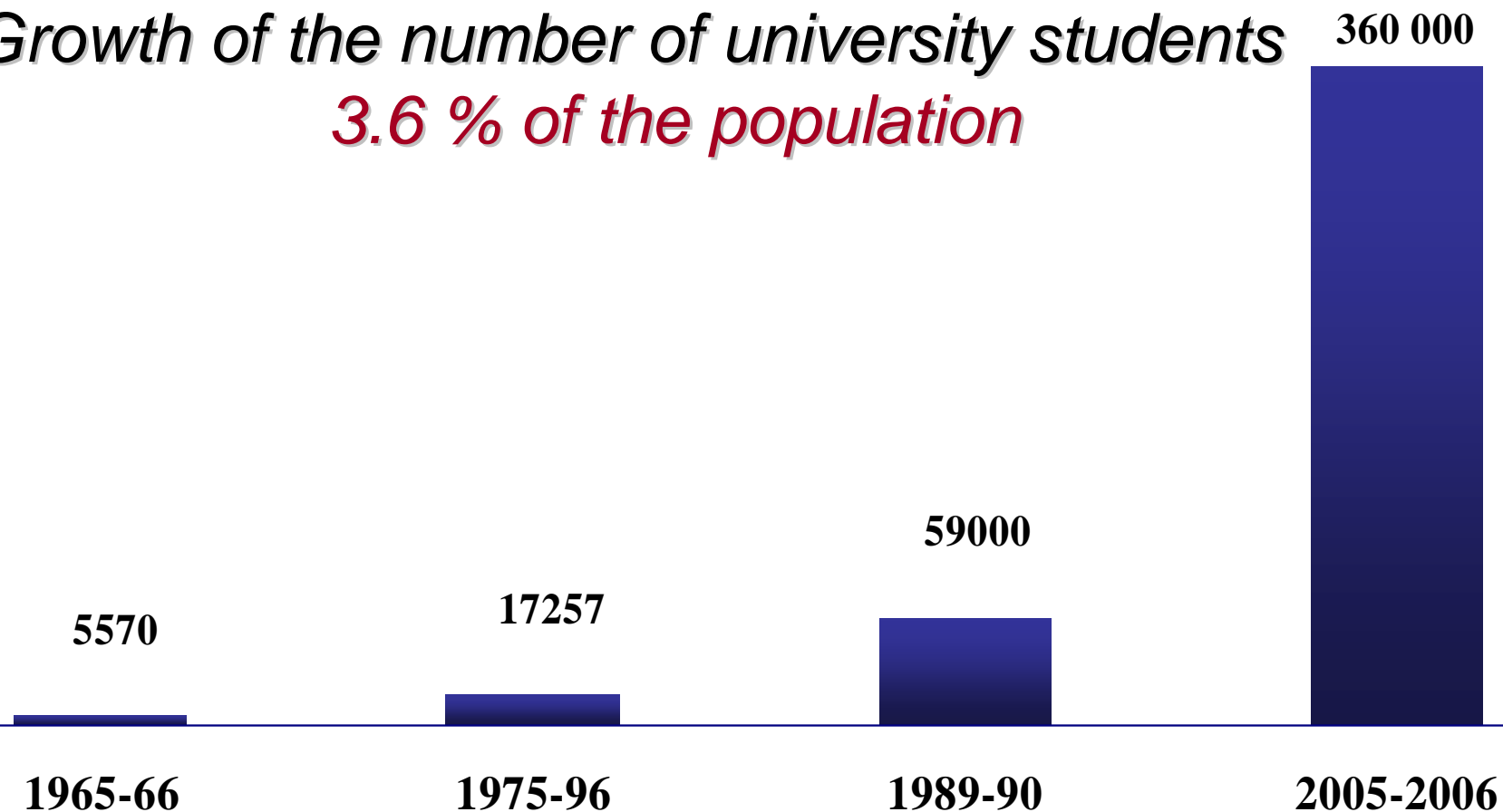
## **III-1- Favorable business environment**

- ➔ A climate of safety, stability and social peace.
- ➔ International agreements on investment guarantees.
- ➔ A legislation aimed at the industrial property protection.
- ➔ Free benefits transfer of invested capital.
- ➔ Simplified and fast administrative procedures, specialized support structures and an incentive-based fiscal framework.

# III – Tunisia's three assets :

## III-2- Qualified human resources

*Growth of the number of university students*  
*3.6 % of the population*



## **III – Tunisia's three assets :**

### **III-3- Modern infrastructures**

- . More than 100 industrial zones and 10 *Techno parks, new FDI attraction tool.***
- . 20 naval connections and 166 regular flights linking Tunisia to Europe on a daily basis.**
- . Totally digitized telecommunication infrastructure, generalization of optical fibers and an ADSL ambitious program.**

## IV- Investment opportunities for the XIth Plan

### In the infrastructure projects

- ❑ Energy, Transport, Environment,
- ❑ Industrial zones, technological parks,
- ❑ Computer science, telecommunications,
- ❑ Training, higher education,
- ❑ Health.

## IV- Investment opportunities for the XIth Plan

In the industrial projects :

- ❑ **30 strategic positioning studies** covering the different industrial sectors have been realized.
- ❑ **These studies allowed:**
  - ✓ **Identification of 110 project ideas.**
  - ✓ **375 potential international partnerships.**

*Thank you for your attention*