



# **Emerging Tunisia**

## **Tunisian R&D Policy**

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# Geo economic features

- **Small country** bordering two oil-based economies and facing European Union.
- **Scarcity** of its natural resources, smallness of its domestic market
- At the **confluences** of African, Arab, Mediterranean and European cultures

Strongly determined the Tunisian Development Model built around an

**“Outward-looking development strategy”**

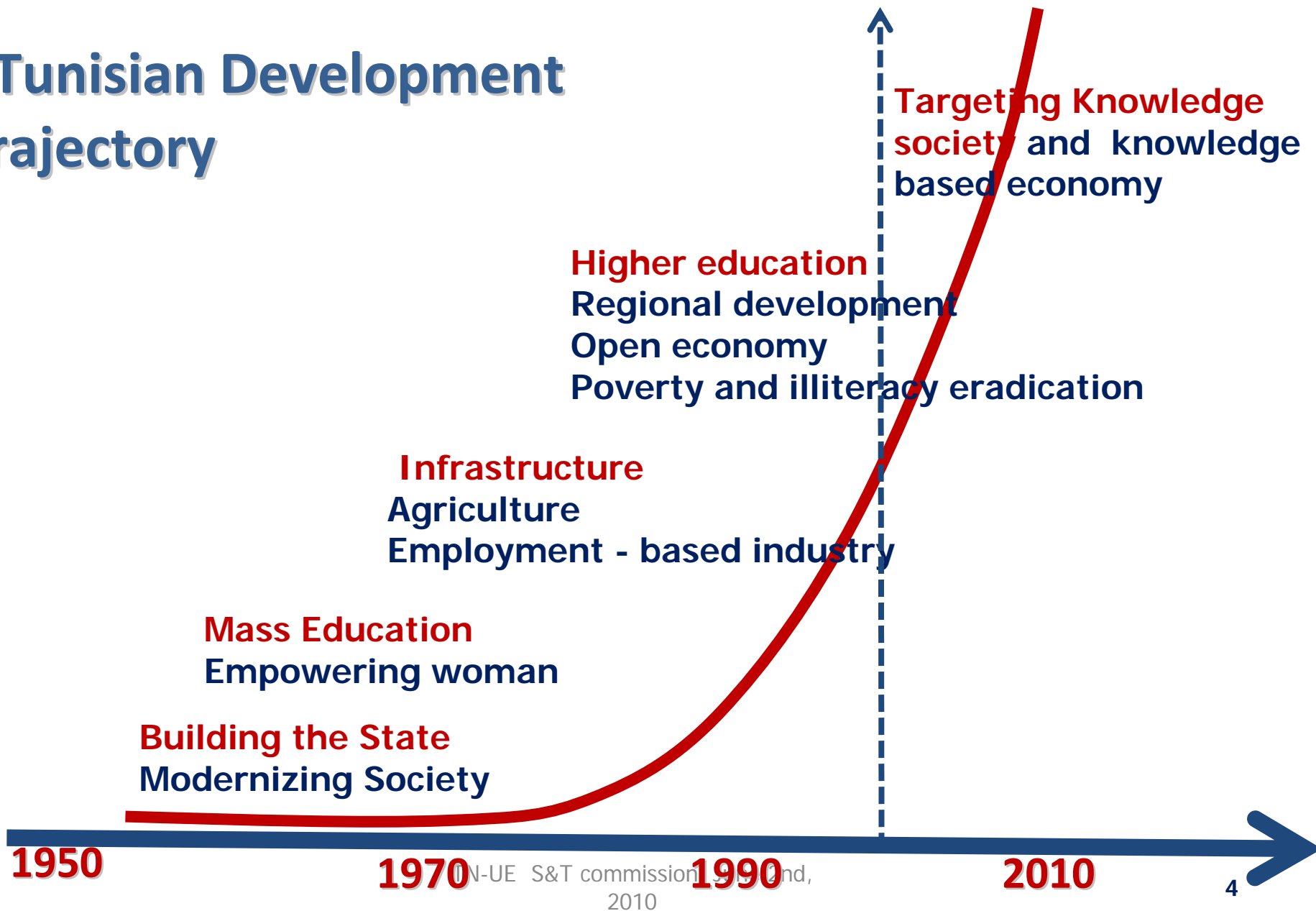
**based on education and modernity pillars.**



**where do we  
come from  
and where are  
we going ?**

# From state founding to ... society enabling

## • Tunisian Development Trajectory



**R&D Policy**

**Adequacy  
between Goals  
and Means?**

- **Main Goal: Create knowledge based growth engines and HQ jobs generators**

- Means:

Promote Research by:

- Building competitive research, (QIS)
- fostering cross boundary collaborations (Networks and clusters)
- Road map technologies (Dev. Foresight capacities)

Promote Innovation by:

- Creating a propitious environment for Innovation and knowledge commercialization,
- Building R&DI capacities in SME's ,
- fostering sustainable Partnerships between Research and Production Systems
- Connecting Research with social and economic needs,
- Boosting Private contribution to GERD

Promote International cooperation by:

- involving more R&D teams in International projects and networks,
- Boosting R&D-based Partnerships with Foreign investors,
- Marketing Tunisia as an S&T-based Destination for EDI

# Creating propitious environment for Innovation

## What we have done !

Five decades of Ongoing reforms in all sectors



Irreversibly open economy keeping its fundamentals under control



Educated large middle class with Open mind and ambitious youth

Wealth

National Innovation System

Social, Cultural and Economic substrates

# Creating propitious environment for Innovation

What we are doing !

Disseminate S&T Culture



Modernize Administration and scale up ICT infrastructure,



Boost innovative entrepreneurship



Boost Private-Public sector collaboration



Create S&T-based Market and Jobs

Wealth

National  
Innovation  
System

Social, Cultural and Economic  
substrates

# Structuring NIS

2010

GERD 1.25%

HLS&TC  
NARIP  
Graduate Schools

Wealth

Incubators and Science Parks

2000 CNEAR IPR Laws GERD 0.45%

Labs & Units  
R&D Research Centers

R&D Law

First SERST

National  
Innovation  
System

Social, Cultural and Economic  
substrates

1990

# Structuring NIS

2015

GERD 1.5%

Tunisia as S&T Investment Destination

R&D International Partnership

RD&I Capacity Building in SME's

Forsight and Technology Road Mapping

Innovation Clusters

R&D Networks

R&D Transfer Process

Wealth

National  
Innovation  
System

Social, Cultural and Economic  
substrates

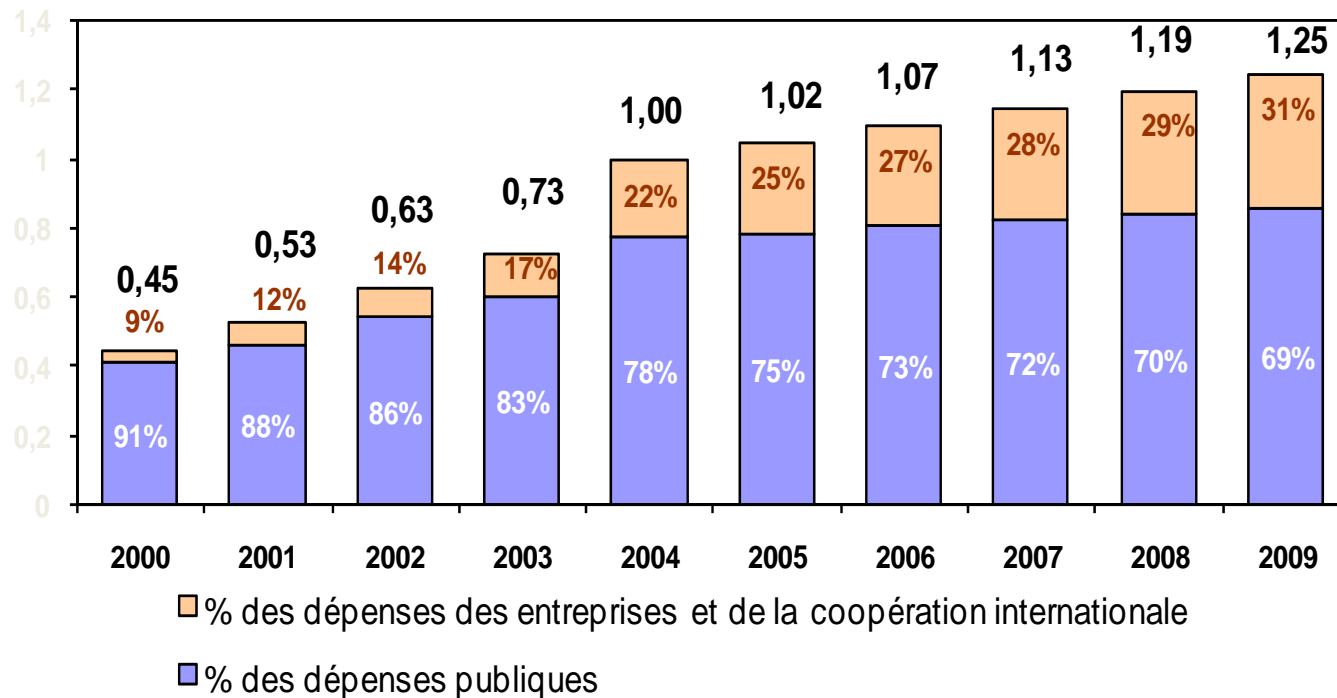
2010



**Who is funding  
and how much?**

# Empowering NIS

- Mainly Public funded research: GERD pointing to 1.5% on 2014





**...How the public  
research  
responded?**

- Basic and Applied research activities mainly developed in academic institutions (638 RU, 146 RL) and R&D centers (33) spread on main areas, putting **Tunisian relative research productivity** in a pole position in Africa.

# Empowering NIS

Output: Number of papers on 2004-2009 period in 20 major advanced research areas

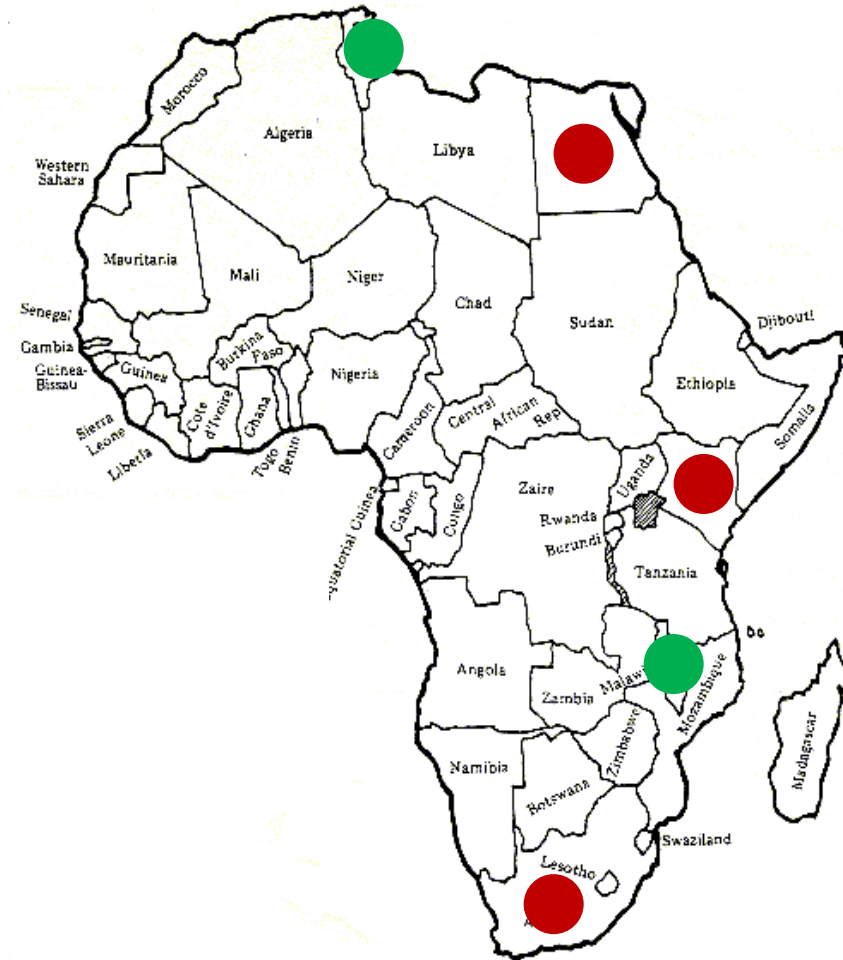
“...Indexing output against GDP shows that:

The real leaders are **Tunisia** and **Malawi** with very different economic bases but **strong relative productivity** in both cases.

South Africa, Kenya and Egypt all have significant relative productivity.”

April 2010.

Source: *Web of ScienceSM*





**... Going  
Forward!**

**Thank You for Your  
ATTENTION**