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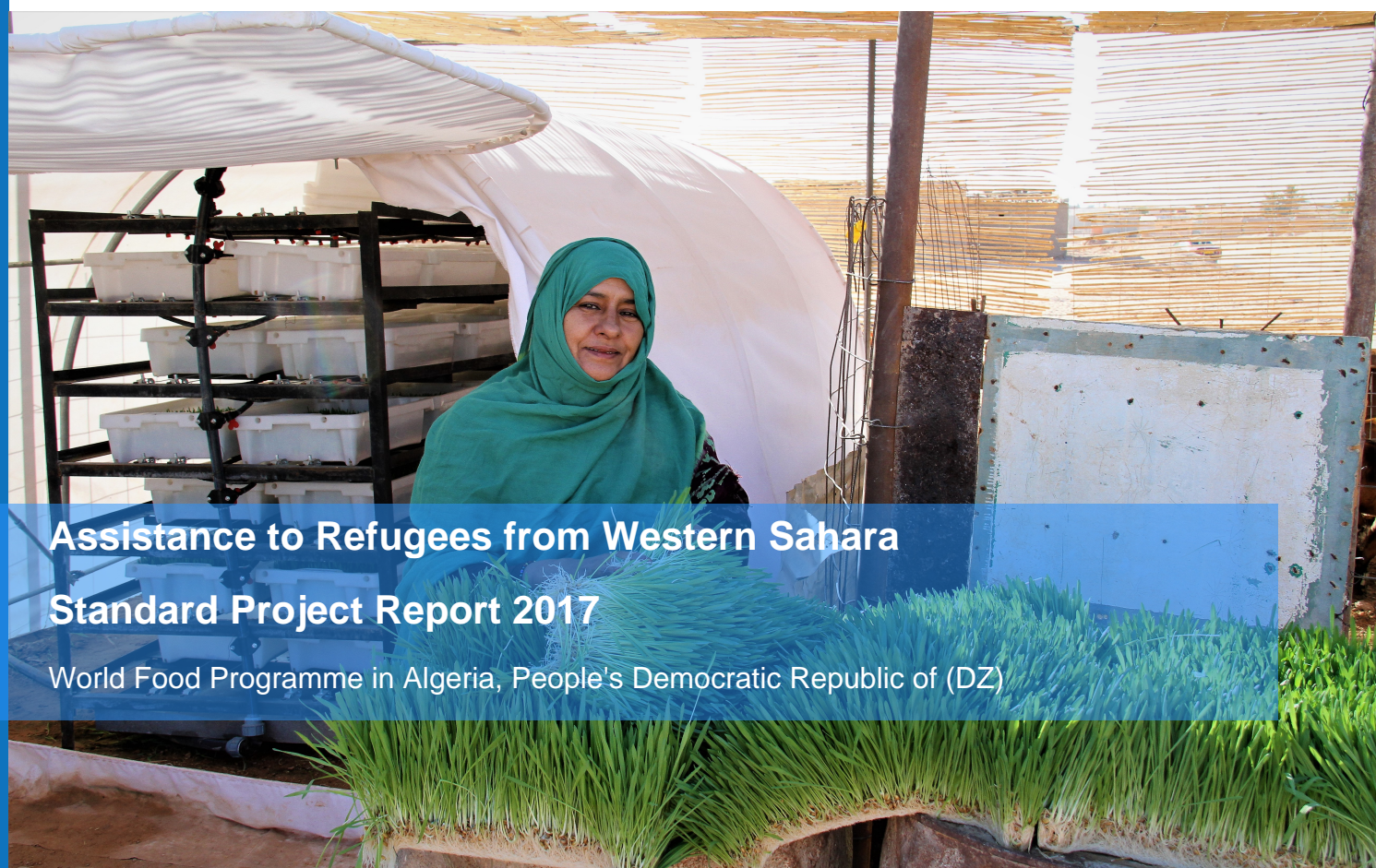
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**Assistance to Refugees from Western Sahara**  
**Standard Project Report 2017**

World Food Programme in Algeria, People's Democratic Republic of (DZ)



**World Food Programme**

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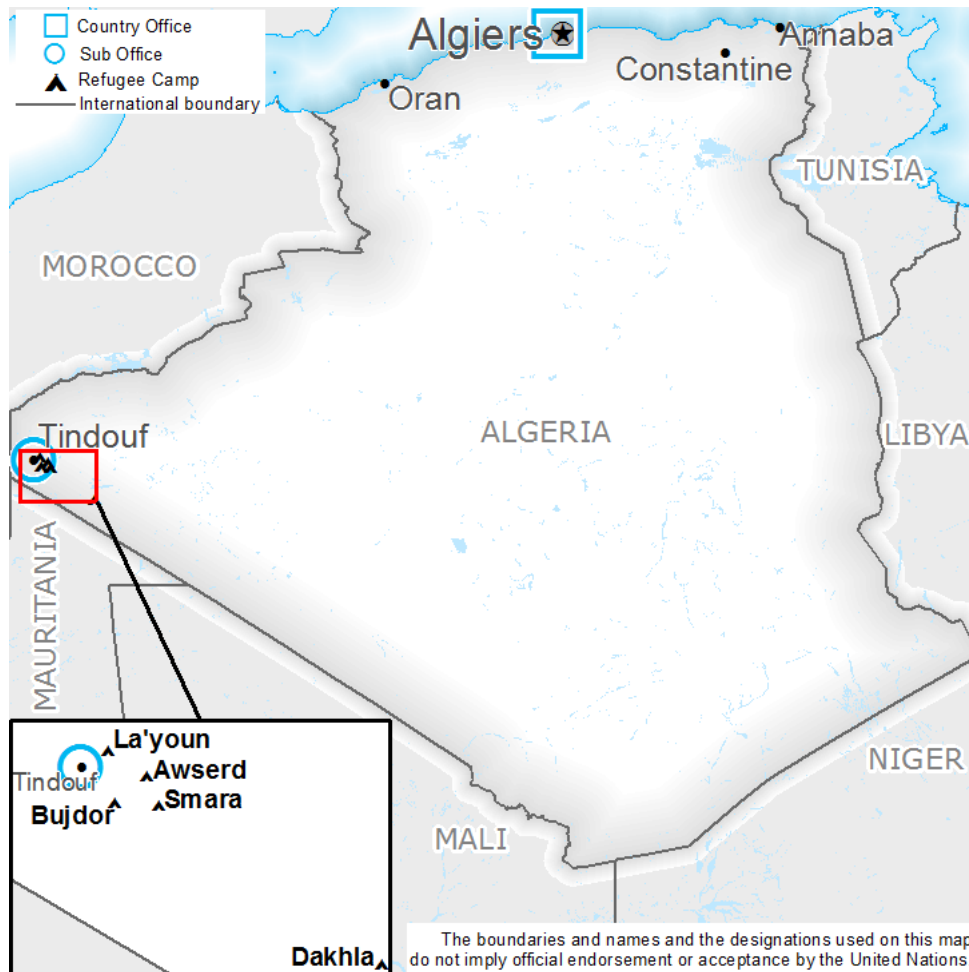
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# Country Context and WFP Objectives



## Achievements at Country Level

The World Food Programme (WFP) provides support to the Sahrawi Refugees camps, located near the town of Tindouf, addressing food insecurity concerns and nutrition needs in the context of a complex, protracted refugee crisis. After more than four decades of displacement, the Sahrawi Refugees are highly dependent on humanitarian assistance, especially regarding food security. Despite severe funding constraints in the first half of 2017, WFP continued general distribution of monthly rations averaging 2,069 kcal per day.

A decentralized evaluation of the nutrition intervention took place during late 2017. WFP commissioned an external team of independent experts to conduct the evaluation in response to the 2016 nutrition survey. The nutrition survey highlighted a deterioration of anaemia prevalence among children and women, and identified overweight and obesity as significant concerns of public health. The evaluation findings and recommendations, expected in the first quarter of 2018, will inform WFP on the reformulation of its nutrition intervention. This was the first evaluation for Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200301, representing an important opportunity for learning and accountability.

In April, WFP secured additional funding for mid-morning snacks, which were distributed to girls and boys in primary school and kindergarten. The snacks consisted of a glass of milk (80 grams) and complemented the high-energy biscuits already being distributed by WFP. With the addition of biscuits, refugee children received a more nutritious snack in the scholastic year 2017/2018, further encouraging their continued attendance to school and contributing to their academic attentiveness.

In an attempt to strengthen food security within the refugee camps, WFP reinforced its food assistance with complementary activities, beyond traditional food distributions. The aim was to improve food security and contribute to increased resilience in the camps, by providing innovative, small-scale, low-tech interventions. The first such intervention, the hydroponic production of green animal fodder for household's livestock, was initiated in late 2016, with the assistance of the WFP's Innovation Accelerator, based in Munich, Germany.

In the hydroponic units, green barley fodder grows in just seven days; requiring little water and no additional nutrients, the fodder can be fed directly to animals. . In the desert environment, where most animals survive on food leftovers and rubbish, green fodder has an incidence on the quality and quantity of milk and meat. At the same time, it provides refugee families with skills training and related opportunities, thereby reinforcing the resilience of the population. The project's attractiveness is mainly due to its simplicity and appropriateness to the living conditions of the Sahrawi refugees. By the end of 2017, a total of 50 hydroponic units and kits directly benefited 500 refugees. Hydroponics generated a high-level of interest within the community, resulting in an increased demand from the refugees. WFP secured dedicated funding and plans to further expand the project in 2018 by an additional 29 units and 145 kits.

In addition, hydroponics won the Jury's Choice Award at the WFP Innovation Accelerator during the May 2017 Pitch Night and was presented during the November 'Innovation for Resilience Convening' workshop organized by WFP and other humanitarian and development Organisations. Other WFP offices in the region have shown interest in duplicating the innovation; WFP Algeria has already begun disseminating information on hydroponic farming. Due to the success of the hydroponic initiative, funding for a fish farming intervention was secured and will also be introduced in 2018.

## Country Context and Response of the Government

Algeria, an upper-middle-income country in North Africa with a population of 40.6 million [1], has hosted refugees from Western Sahara since 1975. The refugees are settled in five camps near the town of Tindouf, in an isolated desert environment, approximately 2,000 km southwest of the capital Algiers. The host country recognizes this populations refugee status, which ensures protection from refoulement and access to basic humanitarian assistance.

The Government of Algeria has granted the Sahrawi refugees administration of the territory surrounding the five refugee camps, until they return to their point of origin. The Polisario Front (from here on referred to as "refugee authorities") is considered by the United Nations as the representative of the people of Western Sahara [2]. Each camp is considered a wilaya (governorate or province) with its own administration and basic services, including health and education. There are currently 27 health clinics and 88 schools and kindergartens run by refugee volunteers for the most part. The refugees can access additional medical care and education elsewhere in Algeria; despite this, they are not authorised to be gainfully employed. The camps hold few employment opportunities, limited market activities, and no banking system.

The camps are located in an isolated, arid region with periods of extreme heat. Though rare, Algeria is at times faced with devastating rainfalls causing emergencies, as was the case in 2015 and 2016. The agro-ecological environment is harsh, water sources are scarce and heavily mineralised, making it impossible for refugees to produce food in any sustainable manner using traditional techniques. In this environment, livelihood opportunities are limited and refugees remain heavily dependent on external support, in particular basic food assistance.

For the first decade of the Sahrawi refugees settlement, Algeria was the sole provider of humanitarian assistance. In 1986, the Algerian Government requested support from the international community. Since then, WFP assists refugees from Western Sahara with basic food assistance. For the past three decades, WFP supported the refugees through successive operations. Until a durable solution is found, the Algerian Government continues to work with, and alongside United Nations humanitarian agencies to provide support, including through the provision of road infrastructure, electrical power, health and education facilities, as well as bilateral assistance to refugee authorities.

The latest WFP and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees joint assessment mission (JAM) report (2016) confirmed that the majority of Sahrawi refugees remain dependent on humanitarian assistance. Notwithstanding, the 2016 nutrition survey indicated a reduction of women's and children's global acute malnutrition and chronic malnutrition among children of 6-59 months. This is likely a result of the continued efforts by WFP and other humanitarian actors to address malnutrition in the camps. However, according to the same survey, a prevalence of anaemia indicated an alarmingly high iron deficiency, rates among children 6-59 months were 39 percent, and 45 percent among women of reproductive age. Furthermore, the survey identified overweight and obesity as rising challenges of public health significance.

WFP conducts a JAM and a nutrition survey every two years; the next JAM is planned for 2018 and the nutrition survey is scheduled for 2019. In addition, WFP plans a Food Security Assessment in early 2018 to identify differences in food insecurity levels among the refugee population.

Despite continued efforts by the United Nations, including the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Western Sahara, the political impasse persists, with little hope for a durable solution that would enable the affected population to return to their areas of origin.

For the time being, WFP presence in Algeria is limited to supporting the refugees from Western Sahara. WFP is exploring opportunities for future cooperation with the Algerian Government, particularly in support of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2: Zero Hunger (achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture); and SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals.

[1] World Bank Data on Algeria <https://data.worldbank.org/country/algeria>.

[2] Point 7, UN Res. 34/37 -Question of Western Sahara- 34th General Assembly UN, 21-11-1979.

## WFP Objectives and Strategic Coordination

For the past 31 years, WFP has worked to address the food security and nutritional needs of the Sahrawi refugees from Western Sahara. The current project builds on achievements of previous operations, realigned to the 2014-2017 WFP Strategic Plan and Strategic Results Framework.

Over the last five years, WFP continued its long-term support with activities implemented through **PRRO 200301 (2013-2017), with an approved budget of almost USD 112 million.**

In line with WFP Strategic Objective 1, to save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies, WFP provides general distributions and nutrition support, to improve the food consumption of the most vulnerable refugees living in the camps and reduce acute malnutrition and anaemia in children 6-59 months and in pregnant and lactating women (PLW).

To reach Strategic Objective 2, to restore food security and nutrition, WFP aims to maintain the enrolment and retention of refugee girls and boys through the provision of school meals that act as incentive for the children to come and stay in school.

WFP food assistance is part of a coordinated humanitarian response led by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which includes other United Nations agencies, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) as well as multiple national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The humanitarian response is organized in sectors to increase efficiency and effectiveness. Inter-sectorial coordination is ensured by UNHCR.

WFP, leading the food and nutrition sector, aims to coordinate and streamline food security and nutrition interventions by different humanitarian actors. Monthly coordination meetings in Algiers and Tindouf include representatives of the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Algerian Red Crescent (ARC), Sahrawi Red Crescent, United Nations agencies, as well as national and international NGOs. In addition, WFP participates in coordination meetings of other sectors, for example the education sector (led by UNICEF), the livelihoods sector (led by UNHCR) and the inter-agency coordination forum.

As a result of the long duration of the refugee situation, coordination between humanitarian actors and the Algerian and local authorities has been well established.

Efforts with the Algerian Government are on-going to adjust current activities to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 2, to end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition, while expanding SDG 17, which focuses on partnerships.

# Country Resources and Results

## Resources for Results

A lack of funding predictability represents a major challenge. In 2017, funding for the WFP Algeria continued to decrease, this is in line with an overall operational trend in recent years; . The five-year Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) 200301 was funded at 86 percent of overall project requirements, though in 2017 funding reached 80 percent. In light of funding shortfalls, WFP's adjusted its operations to prioritize food availability under the general distribution activity over other activities.

The first half of 2017 was characterized by severe budgetary constraints resulting in the reduction of distribution of food rations, were the monthly ration size was 17 kg per person. In January, the ration was reduced by 3.5 kg, in February by 2 kg and in May by 3 kg. A return to a complete food basket distribution was only feasible thanks to the use of the WFP's advance financing mechanism; an advance of USD 2.2 million was received, though it requires reimbursement. Thereafter, funding remained unstable with food ration reductions up until the religious period of Ramadan in May. Advocacy efforts were scaled up and resulted in additional contributions of almost USD 10 million during the summer months.

Despite challenges experienced in early 2017, WFP could generally maintain the average kilo-calorie value of its food basket throughout the year, on average distributing 2,069 kcal against 2,166 kcal planned. Occasionally, due to funding constraints, WFP was forced to distribute a less diversified food basket while seeking competitive prices domestically and internationally. The establishment of specific prepositioned commodities partially mitigated the impact of limited funding predictability, this allowed for a more regularised food distribution. The prepositioned stock are managed by the Spanish Red Cross and have been crucial in limiting interruptions to the supply chain.

Funding shortfalls also affected the implementation of both nutrition and school meal activities during the first half of the year. For the school meals, half the biscuit ration (a pack of 50 grams of high-energy biscuits) accompanied the glass of milk was distributed for 40,500 school and kindergarten children only in April (one month before the end of the scholastic year), though WFP was able to re-establish the provision of a complete snack in September. Concurrently, there was a noted increase to the number of children attending school, reaching 41,500. In addition, starting January to July, the Specialized Nutritious Food (SNF) to treat Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) in children 6-59 months was not available. This directly affected the continuation of the activity; similar pipeline breaks have affected the prevention activity of children under 59 months, and the activity only resumed in the last quarter of the year.

WFP continued efforts to actively advocate for additional funding through donor briefs, meetings and visits to the camps. Thanks to this, WFP Algeria was able to diversify its donor base, reaching non-traditional donors that contributed additional funds. To overcome donor fatigue and maintain interest in the operation, WFP proactively sought out innovative activities that would complement existing programmes of assistance, beyond traditional food assistance. WFP successfully piloted the hydroponic production of green animal fodder, after developing a locally adaptable solution. Hydroponics is a soil-less cultivation technique that enables plant growth in areas that are not fertile; requiring 80 percent less water than traditional agriculture, it produces first crop in just days. The pilot project attracted donors and by end of 2017, WFP had received dedicated funding for scaling up the complementary activity aimed at improving resilience of Sahrawi refugees.

WFP further explored several options to use the cash-based transfer (CBT) modality to diversify the food basket and foster the dignity of choice of refugees. Utilising this modality to replace part of the in-kind food assistance would lower costs by eliminating transportation and storage, as well as reducing overhead operational costs in the longer term, enabling WFP to make its operation more cost efficient. A pilot project to use CBT in Layoune camp for part of the food assistance was not authorized by the refugee authorities. However, as CBT is considered an important modality in such settings, complementing new technologies, fostering partnerships within and beyond the humanitarian community, WFP will continue discussions to introduce the modality.



## Annual Country Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries	Male	Female	Total
Children (under 5 years)	9,250	10,000	19,250
Children (5-18 years)	24,375	26,375	50,750
Adults (18 years plus)	15,375	39,625	55,000
<b>Total number of beneficiaries in 2017</b>	<b>49,000</b>	<b>76,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>



## Annual Food Distribution in Country (mt)

Project Type	Cereals	Oil	Pulses	Mix	Other	Total
Single Country PRRO	17,501	1,382	2,938	1,367	1,806	24,994
<b>Total Food Distributed in 2017</b>	<b>17,501</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>2,938</b>	<b>1,367</b>	<b>1,806</b>	<b>24,994</b>

## Supply Chain

Algeria, the largest country in Africa, continues to expand and develop its overall infrastructure, including road networks and ports. The location of the Sahrawi refugee camps in the isolated arid west of the country means that commodities shipped through the Port of Oran must be transported over 1,500 km by trucks to reach the intermediate storage site of Rabouni, near Tindouf. Locally procured wheat flour and vegetable oil is also transported to Rabouni, but originates from different parts of the country. Other commodities are also procured locally when available and cost efficient.

Overall, WFP purchased 11 different types of commodities in the local or international market depending on availability, cost-effectiveness and lead-times. Of these commodities, almost 75 percent of the tonnage were procured locally, in line with the country strategy to cut costs and reduce lead times. Quality and quantity inspections and laboratory testing of all locally purchased commodities were carried out prior to dispatch. Rice has been partially substituted by local pasta to avoid pipeline breaks and ensure continuity of food distribution. For deliveries of locally procured commodities, local commercial transporters were contracted by WFP through the competitive tendering process. The lead-time for local procurement is two to four weeks.

Purchases through WFP's Global Commodity Management Facility (GCMF) also contributed to reduced lead times and mitigated incidences of pipeline breaks, particularly for Specialized Nutritious Foods (SNFs). Fewer commodities were received either in-kind or purchased on the international market. The lead times for the internationally procured products varied between two to four months.

The port of Oran was the main entry point for the internationally procured commodities, received in containerized cargoes. Once the commodities arrived at the port, WFP's cooperating partner, the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) in collaboration with the Sahrawi Red Crescent took over. WFP's partners were responsible for customs clearance at the port, primary transport to Rabouni of the sealed containers, and destuffing at the intermediate storage site. They also organized forward transport and final distribution in the five camps.

Throughout the year, WFP continuously monitored the supply chain. Post-delivery losses remained within the acceptable limits. They happened mainly during the primary transportation phase to the Rabouni storage site under the responsibility of the transporters. The full value of losses in transit was recovered from the transporters. Extreme temperatures, heavy rain, poor infrastructure, and fragile packing materials account for the post-delivery losses registered at the storage site.

WFP continues to improve and strengthen warehouse management and storage techniques, through regular field visits and coaching. To reduce storage duration, procurement and deliveries of food commodities in-country were timed according to operational needs.



## Annual Food Purchases for the Country (mt)

Commodity	Local	Regional/International	Total
Barley	3,557	-	3,557
Corn Soya Blend	-	855	855
Lentils	-	765	765
Pasta	520	-	520
Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	-	360	360
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	22	22
Rice	-	2,318	2,318
Split Peas	-	720	720
Sugar	-	1,125	1,125
Vegetable Oil	1,528	-	1,528
Wheat Flour	11,999	-	11,999
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,603</b>	<b>6,165</b>	<b>23,768</b>
<b>Percentage</b>	<b>74.1%</b>	<b>25.9%</b>	

## Annual Global Commodity Management Facility Purchases Received in Country (mt)

Commodity	Total
Corn Soya Blend	235
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	12
Split Peas	1,314
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,561</b>



## Implementation of Evaluation Recommendations and Lessons Learned

### **New Post-distribution monitoring questionnaire to allow food security assessment**

With the assistance of WFP Regional Bureau Cairo, WFP Algeria updated its post-distribution monitoring to collect additional information on households' expenditure (food versus others). Additional questions were added to the questionnaire and the frequency of the data collection was changed from monthly to twice a year. The new questionnaire with the market component, provided WFP with sufficient information needed to improve the analysis of the food security and nutritional situation, including a better understanding of food insecurity levels within the refugee population.

### **Importance of the prepositioned stock to reduce food distribution gaps**

In 2017, the operation continued to be characterized by budgetary constraints and lack of funding predictability, resulting in sporadic commodity shortages. WFP relied often on the prepositioned stock, managed by the Spanish Red Cross and Algerian Red Crescent, to maintain regular food distribution. These stocks allowed WFP to borrow commodities to bridge food pipeline shortages, maintaining relatively stable distributions of food assistance on a monthly basis. In protracted refugee situations, a prepositioned stock represents a key mitigation measure.

### **TV show for sensitization and community outreach**

WFP Algeria has found a new way to reach out to the community it serves, to sensitize its beneficiaries and to improve their nutrition understanding. The new TV show "cooking with dignity" aired twice a month on the local Sahrawi channel, providing refugees with tips on how to prepare the food items received from WFP, while at the same time conveying messages on nutrition, health, and other topics. The show has received positive feedback from the local authority and the community. In the past, WFP had received negative feedback from beneficiaries regarding the quality and makeup of the food basket. In some cases, refugees simply did not know how to prepare certain food items and were not aware of their nutritional value. Since the TV show started, monitoring data shows that refugees have less complaints about the quality of the food basket. WFP plans to continue this project and will further enhance it by introducing new activities and strategies to tackle other issues related to health, water and sanitation.

### **Importance of ownership and sustainability for new complementary activities**

After a year of implementing its complementary activity to produce green animal fodder using low-tech hydroponic units, WFP Algeria stresses the importance of ensuring the project's ownership and sustainability. If WFP wants to go beyond traditional food assistance, it needs to ensure that such activities are "owned" by the communities they serve, which also influences the projects' success. In the case of the hydroponic production of animal fodder, WFP relied on material that is locally available, not only to increase cost-effectiveness, but also to ensure that the units are easy to repair, which increased acceptability by the refugees. Finally, by involving a wide range of actors into the process, providing inputs and shaping the project, several perspectives were incorporated, while at the same time increasing the community's ownership of the project.

## Story worth telling

Amel, a 50-year-old mother of three, used to teach Arabic at schools in Dawra district in Layoune camp. She enjoyed her work with the children but had to stop due to a medical condition that made her work too exhausting.

Amel had long been an active member of her community; since the age of 9 she took on responsibilities in her family and community, and was always busy providing a helping hand to others. After having to leave her job, she found herself with too much free time and grew frustrated at the feeling of not being productive, and not contributing to her family and community.

She shared these thoughts with her sisters, who proposed that she apply to the World Food Programme (WFP) hydroponic activity, implemented in partnership with OXFAM. The project teaches Sahrawi refugees to maintain locally-made, low-tech hydroponic production units. These units produce green animal fodder in seven days, using only water and barley seeds. Traditionally, Sahrawi refugees greatly value livestock and their products, but animal fodder in the camps is scarce. Most goats and sheep feed on rubbish, including plastic, which is detrimental to their health and affects the quality, and quantity of milk and meat produced.

The hydroponic intervention seeks to give refugees an alternative to feeding their animals, and by extension their own families. In a population with high anaemia prevalence and malnutrition rates, access to more animal protein, as is found in milk and meat, is key to improving refugees' nutritional status and health, especially of the most vulnerable like young children, pregnant and nursing women, and the sick and elderly.

Hydroponics represented the perfect opportunity for Amel; providing her with regular daily tasks that after just a few days result in fresh green grass. The fodder can be directly fed to the family's livestock, and translates into more milk for her three children. Growing the fodder requires no strenuous physical labor, but a great deal of motivation and dedication – two resources that Amel has in abundance.

The benefits of the intervention became apparent just one month after OXFAM delivered Amel's hydroponic units and trained her to use them. After a few weeks of feeding on the fresh fodder, her herd grew visibly stronger and the animals produced more milk of better quality. At the same time, the effects on Amel herself and her family were also apparent; she once again feels useful and dynamic, contributing to her family's food security and income by generating a small profit from fodder sales, and her children drink a glass of fresh milk every day.

After another three months, Amel became an expert in the hydroponic system and started sharing her experience with other women and youth in the neighborhood to encourage them to start to grow their own fodder at home. WFP is currently creating training material that will help refugees build their own hydroponic units, also counting on people like Amel to act as examples and help with sensitization in their communities. The multilingual training material, also available on-line, will be useful to replicate this successful intervention in other similar contexts outside Algeria.

Referring to the intervention, Amel said, "I love the experience deeply because it changed my life after losing my job, and now, I am even motivating my neighbours to join this project".

Hydroponics enabled her to improve her animals' well-being, counter her own frustration, contribute to her family's food security and income, and to play once again an important role in her community.

WFP and OXFAM monitoring shows that not only does the green fodder improve the health of refugees' livestock and increase meat and milk production, but it also provides beneficiaries a sense of purpose in their daily routines in the camps and, once again, hope for the future.

As for Amel, her hope is to one day build her new business enough to establish a small factory to produce dairy products such as yogurt and butter.

# Project Results

## Activities and Operational Partnerships

### **Strategic Objective One: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies**

*Specific objective PRRO: Improve the food consumption of the most vulnerable refugees living in the camps*

#### **Activity: General Distribution in refugee camps**

The General Distribution (in-kind food assistance) is WFP Algeria's largest activity in the camps. WFP strives to meet the urgent food needs of the most vulnerable refugees through the monthly provision of 125,000 basic dry food rations.

A monthly ration usually consists of 8 kg of wheat flour, 2 kg of barley, 2 kg of rice, 2 kg of pulses, 1 kg of corn soya blend (CSB), 1 kg of sugar and 0.92 kg of fortified vegetable oil. A full ration covers the daily kilo-calorie value of 2,166.

At the beginning of every month, WFP distributes the monthly rations in cooperation with the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) and its implementing partner, the Sahrawi Red Crescent (Sahrawi RC) through 116 final distribution points in the five Sahrawi refugee camps.

The distribution modality is in-kind food assistance, however, in 2017, WFP made efforts to introduce the Cash Based Transfer (CBT) modality. Donors showed great interest in funding CBT and an agreement was reached with one of the donors to pilot CBT in one refugee camp, by replacing one food basket item. A CBT training was organized for both WFP and partner staff on the use of the SCOPE platform, WFP's beneficiary and transfer management platform. In addition, WFP sought buy-in from the Sahrawi authorities for the new distribution modality; the authorities have indicated that the local market is not ready for CBT and they do not want to take the risk to unsettle both assistance and the market. Furthermore, the authorities do not agree on the use of the modality for general distribution. WFP is continuing discussions with the refugee authorities on the introduction of CBT targeted to specific beneficiary groups.

WFP piloted a new complementary activity aimed at ensuring food security and nutrition. This activity is designed to enhance refugees' resilience, through low-tech hydroponic production of green animal fodder. Providing a nutritionally appropriate crop for animals, benefits the overall quality of animal protein and milk, thereby contributing to the nutritional intake of beneficiaries.

### **Strategic Objective two: Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies**

*Specific objective PRRO: Maintain the enrolment and attendance of refugee girls and boys*

#### **Activity: school meals**

WFP provides a mid-morning snack consisting of a glass of milk and high-energy biscuits to more than 40,000 refugee children in all 45 primary schools, 31 kindergartens and 12 special needs centers in the five camps. All children in these institutions receive the snack that is stored in the schools, prepared by refugee volunteers, and distributed with WFP's cooperating partners, the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) and Italian Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP).

WFP's school meals programme also includes deworming campaigns with CISP, and sensitization sessions on hygiene and sanitation, organised in collaboration with the local health and education authorities, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

CISP regularly conducted microbiological tests to ensure the quality of the milk provided, and trained the volunteers on hygiene. Moreover, regular meetings between parent associations and partner CISP aimed at increasing community involvement and strengthening of ownership (teachers, parents, community, and children).

As part of the education sector's wider efforts, WFP continued to rehabilitate school kitchens and stores to ensure hygienic conditions in schools and kindergartens.

### **Strategic Objective one : Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies**

*Specific objective PRRO: Reduce acute malnutrition and anaemia in children 6-59 months and in pregnant and lactation women (PLW)*

## **Activity: Nutrition support to treat and prevent malnutrition and anaemia in children 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women**

WFP's nutrition activities are fully integrated into the Sahrawi Programme on Reproductive Health. WFP focuses on moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) while UNHCR and other partners target severely acute malnourished children. WFP combines both prevention and treatment approaches to address malnutrition, anaemia and stunting among children 6-59 months, and pregnant and lactating women (PLW) through the distribution of Specialized Nutritious Foods (SNFs).

In its prevention blanket programme for all PLW and children 6-59 months, WFP provided women with micronutrient supplementation to prevent micronutrient deficiencies, and children with small quantity of lipid-based nutrient supplement (LNS-SQ) to prevent chronic malnutrition.

Children and women were included in the treatment programme based on Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening conducted in the 27 health clinics by Sahrawi health workers, under the supervision of Algerian Red Crescent and Sahrawi Red Crescent.

Malnourished PLW received a premixed ration of vegetable oil, super cereal, and sugar at the health centers. Malnourished children 6-59 months were provided a Ready-to-use supplementary food (RUSF) that comes as a paste that is easy for young children to eat.

All partners implementing nutrition interventions included nutrition messaging and counselling as part of their activities.

Starting in September, WFP conducted a decentralized evaluation of its nutrition activity, the final report with recommendations is expected in March 2018. The outcomes of the evaluation will inform WFP to reformulate the activity.

### **Operational partnerships**

In a context where the number of cooperating partners is limited, WFP continued working with its partners to improve services to the refugees. WFP cooperates with the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC), Sahrawi Red Crescent (Sahrawi RC), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP) and OXFAM.

The main partners for general distribution were the ARC, Sahrawi RC and UNHCR. Both ARC and Sahrawi RC organize the distributions at the 116 final distribution points. According to the tripartite agreement between WFP, UNHCR and ARC, the latter reports on food movement, distribution, and the use of WFP food. While WFP covers the transport costs from the port to the main hub in the camps (Rabouni), UNHCR paid for the secondary transport up to final distribution points.

The Algerian Government designated the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) as the official implementing agency for all humanitarian assistance provided to the Sahrawi refugees. WFP has been closely collaborating with them since the beginning of WFP's presence in-country (1986). According to the WFP-ARC Memorandum of Understanding, ARC is responsible for clearance of WFP commodities at the port of Oran, onward primary transport to the extended delivery point in Rabouni, food handling and storage and distribution to refugees. The ARC works closely with the Sahrawi RC. The ARC and Sahrawi RC also organise the secondary transport leg for the distribution by using a dedicated fleet of trucks managed by the NGO Asociación de Trabajadores y Técnicos sin Fronteras (aTTsF).

The Sahrawi RC allows refugees to be involved in all aspects of the WFP project including planning and implementation. The Sahrawi RC co-chairs, with WFP, the food and nutrition monthly coordination meeting in Tindouf. The collaboration with the Sahrawi RC is key as it facilitates collaboration with the local authorities, and enables WFP to work with the refugee camps' civil society structures to ensure effective food distributions in clinics, schools and at distribution points.

Following more than 30 years of close collaboration with the ARC and Sahrawi RC, the operational partnerships are well established and the key role of both partners in all of WFP's activities is well recognized.

The Spanish RC and ARC jointly managed the prepositioned stock which led to greater flexibility and allowed WFP to better programme its food assistance. The stock can be drawn upon to avoid pipeline breaks, if WFP can guarantee reimbursements based on funding from confirmed contributions. WFP also ensures prepositioned stock rotation.

A joint monitoring team, made up of UNHCR and WFP field monitors, conducts joint field monitoring visits, including visits to warehouses for physical inventories, distributions, and post-distribution monitoring. A partnership with CISP complements WFP-UNHCR monitoring to increase coverage, ensuring a larger sample size. CISP relies on a strong human resource pool, having trained and empowered 20 female Sahrawi monitors, allowing WFP to get

closer to the Sahrawi community and better understand their needs.

The partners for the nutrition activities to treat and prevent malnutrition, were ARC, Sahrawi RC and UNHCR. WFP focuses on prevention and the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition. UNHCR addresses severe acute malnutrition in children 6 - 59 months with their intervention.

For school meals, CISP has been WFP's partner for five years. CISP supervises, monitors and trains school meals focal points, in collaboration with Sahrawi RC and the local authorities.

In addition, WFP started a new partnership with CISP for the culinary TV show aimed at enhancing communication and accountability towards the community. The show informs refugees about the WFP ration including food items' nutritional value, and provides tips on food preparation. It is also an opportunity to sensitize the community on other issues such as health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). The Sahrawi RC is also involved. The TV show is anchored by a locally trained cook who understands the Sahrawi tradition and culture, and who speaks the local language and can address sensitive issues appropriately.

For its complementary activity, the hydroponic production of green animal fodder, WFP partnered with OXFAM. This partner has extensive experience in the context, with its first operation in the camps dating back to 1976. It is one of the biggest NGOs in the camps with strong livelihood capacities, co-leading the livelihood sector with UNHCR.

UNHCR provided yeast to refugees and special rations of fresh products during the holy month of Ramadan to complement the monthly WFP food ration and dates. Both Spanish RC and OXFAM provided the refugees with fresh food monthly, which presents an important factor for diet diversity in a protracted refugee situation. In addition, WFP collaborates with complementary partner NGO Médicos del Mundo (MDM) that assists the Sahrawi health authorities in training health workers and strengthening the health information system.

## Results

### **Strategic Objective One: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies**

#### **Outcome 1.2: Stabilized or improved food consumption over assistance period for target households**

##### **Activity: General Distribution**

In 2017, the World Food Programme (WFP) met the refugees' food and nutrition needs by distributing 125,000 monthly food rations, to address food insecurity, chronic malnutrition and anemia in the five refugee camps. Despite funding shortfalls, an average energy intake of 2,069 Kcal per day was reached through the general distribution (in-kind food assistance).

During the first six months, WFP reduced rations due to a lack of funding, cutting high-energy value food items such as corn soy blend (CSB), sugar and rice quantities, and increasing the portion of locally procured wheat flour and vegetable oil. This was done in order to maintain dietary diversification and nutritional value of each ration. The addition of one-off distribution of pasta and dates during Ramadan allowed some diversification to the food basket. Further, the prepositioned stock mechanism managed and maintained by the Spanish Red Cross, enabled loans to compensate shortfalls to a great extent. Other humanitarian actors complemented the rations with the distribution of fresh foods such as onions and potatoes, however they too faced funding constraints. It is worth mentioning that in 2017, the monthly fresh food ration was reduced from five to two kilograms per person, and refugees also did not receive any canned fish.

Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) revealed that the percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (FCS) increased compared to 2016, highlighting a reduced consumption or absence of animal proteins. Meanwhile, the percentage of households with acceptable FCS declined, and the percentage of households that fall within borderline FCS increased. In 2016, less than one percent of the households were classified as having poor food consumption, in comparison to 3 percent in 2017, this deterioration from last year is attributed to the shortfall of some food items and reduction of fresh food provided by WFP and partners.

The shortfalls of some food commodities, the reduction of fresh food and the lack of canned fish have all had a direct impact on the diet diversity score (DDS). The trend shows a slight decrease of the number of food groups consumed. In spite of the above, the DDS remained at the medium threshold, though showing a slight decrease in the percentage compared to 2016. It worth noting that the DDS score is a valid indicator to evaluate micronutrient inadequacy which explained by the reduction of fresh products during the year.

Overall, food consumption indicators are in decline compared to previous years, because of funding shortfalls and the lack of funding predictability, resulting in frequent unavailability of some commodities. This trend already became apparent in the first quarterly monitoring report.

Further in 2017, the intake of vitamin C, riboflavin (vitamin B) and iron was particularly low, especially the lack of iron was highly problematic in a population with high anemia prevalence among children and women. The lack of micronutrient rich commodities, such as beans, CSB, fresh food, and canned fish explain in part this trend.

## **Strategic Objective One: Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies**

### **Outcome 1.1: Reduced or stabilized under nutrition among children under 5 years of age and Pregnant and Lactating Women**

#### **Activity: Nutrition - prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM)**

Under the prevention programme, pregnant and lactating women (PLW) did not receive any micronutrient powder (MNPs) in 2017. The prevention program for under 5 was impacted by underfunding, commodity shortfalls and irregularity of distributions. Small quantities of lipid-based nutrient supplement (LNS-SQ) was distributed to children aged 6 to 59 months only in the last quarter of the year.

The treatment program of malnourished PLW, through the provision of a premix of corn soy blend, vegetable oil and sugar, was the only sustained nutrition intervention during the year. WFP suspended part of its nutrition activity due to severe funding constraints, affecting its ability to procure and distribute Specialized Nutritious Foods (SNFs). The Ready to Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) used for the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) of children between 6 to 59 months was interrupted for parts of 2017. RUSF was only distributed during the first and last quarter of the year.

The mortality rate remained at zero, while the recovery rate shows an encouraging stability since last year. Yet, the non-response rate and the number of defaulters increased in 2017. This deterioration of the non-response and default rates are likely attributed to the irregularity in distribution of SNFs, which discouraged mothers from taking their children to the health centers to be screened and/or to collect the products when they were available. Even though once the absence of a beneficiary was noted, active absentee tracking and follow up was conducted by health volunteers through home visits, the instability of the nutrition pipeline was detrimental to the continuity of the program.

The 2016 nutrition survey results indicated that the anemia prevalence among women of reproductive age has reached 45 percent, 60 percent among pregnant women, this was attributed to several factors including food habits, culture and other factors that will require another study and investigation. Furthermore, the survey identified overweight and obesity as challenges of public health significance. With the shortfall of MNPs to distribute to PLW under the prevention programme, WFP tried to address some of the anaemia-related issues, as recommended in the protocol for PLW developed by WFP and partners in 2015, to complement the MNPs by provision of any type of fresh food. WFP utilized some in-kind donations received during the year to distribute to all PLW additional cheese and dates. WFP provided 1 kg of cheese to approximately 8,000 PLW during January and February, 1 kg dates was also distributed to the same number of PLW from July to December, to increase their overall calorific intake. As for the minimum acceptable diet, it was reported at 95 percent of children received minimum recommended meal frequency, yet this result is no guarantee of child dietary adequacy, since it calls into question any assumption that having enough food in a household necessarily results in adequately fed children.

Beyond the distribution of SNFs, WFP in collaboration with cooperating partners and health authorities conducted four health sensitization campaigns in all camps targeting both men and women specifically girls at reproductive age and PLWs, and provided training to community health workers on the health and nutrition protocol which includes infant and young children feeding, sanitation, etc. In addition, WFP provided basic material to the health centers such as Mid-Upper Arm Circumference tapes (MUAC) for PLWs and records books and form. Throughout the year, WFP continued the monitoring of all health centers, raised concerns and discussed issues at meetings of the WFP led food and nutrition sector, and at the health sector.

WFP plans to reformulate its nutrition activity in 2018, to better respond to refugees' nutritional needs, considering also the outcomes of the decentralized evaluation of the activity.

## **Strategic Objective Two: Restore food security and nutrition or rebuild livelihoods in fragile setting and following emergencies**

### **Outcome 2.2 Improved access to assets, including community and market infrastructure**

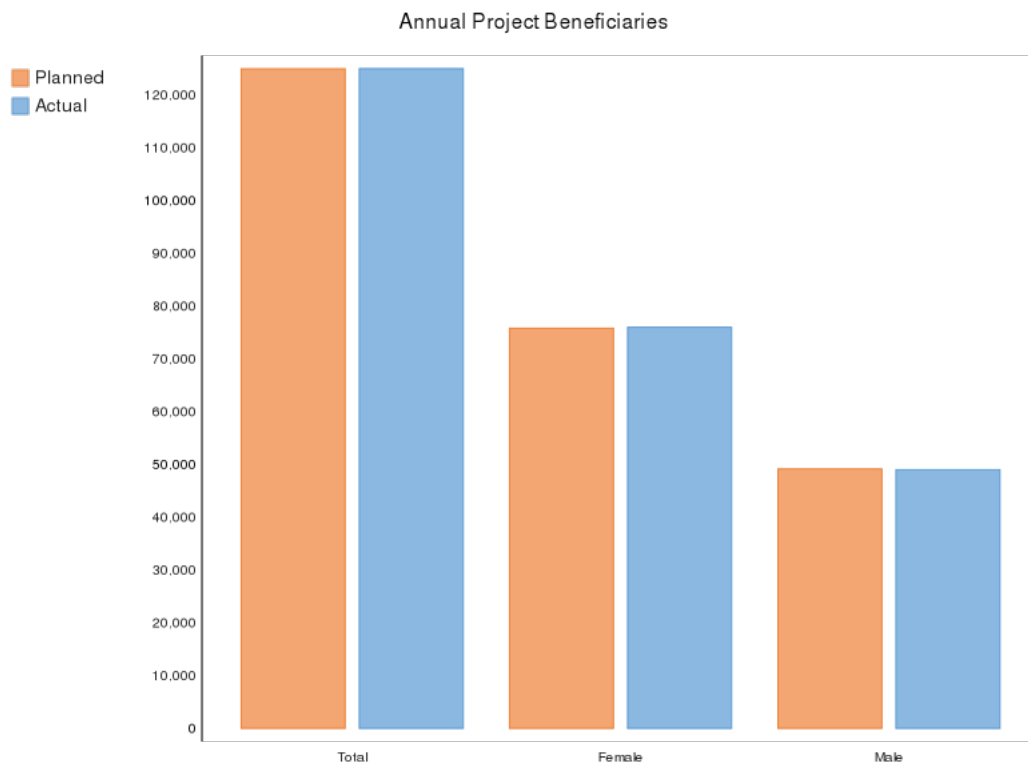
#### **Activity: School Meals Programme**

WFP continued in 2017 to provide mid-morning snacks for 41,426 school children in primary schools, special needs centers and kindergartens that contributed to high retention and enrolment rates.

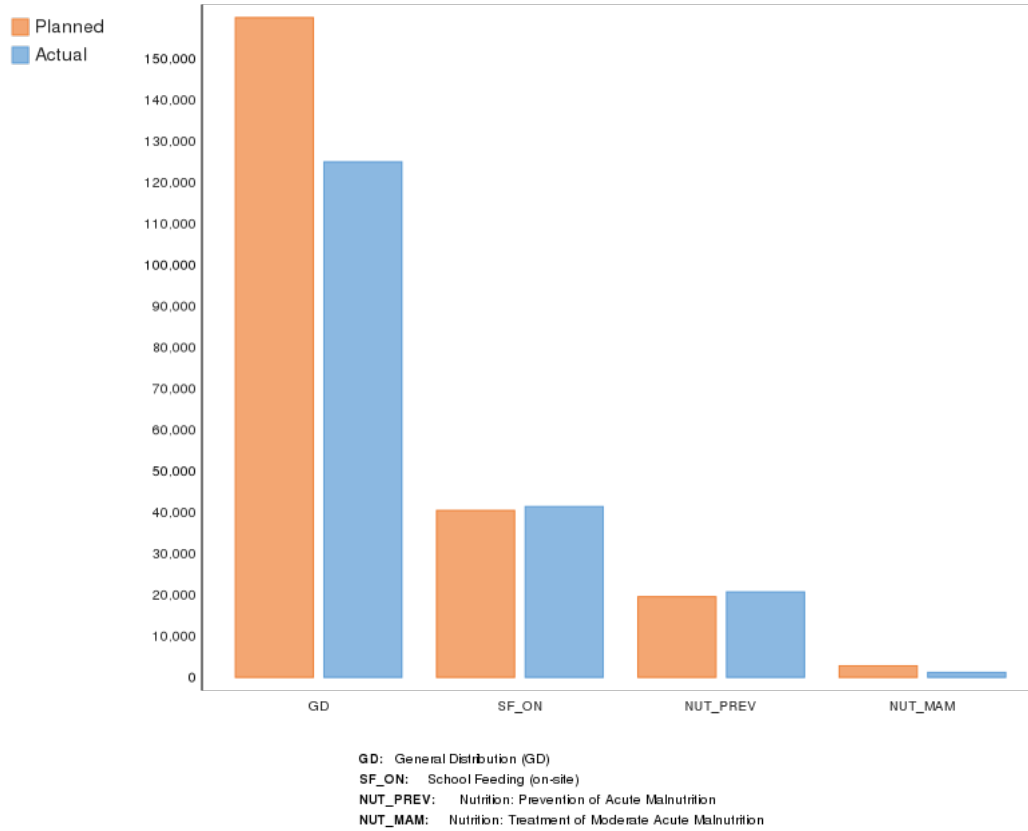
During the first three months of the year, the snack only consisted of 80 grams of dried skimmed milk (DSM) - equivalent to two glasses of milk. Thanks to an in-kind contribution, WFP could complement the milk with 50 grams of high energy biscuits (HEB) from April, contributing to the increased attentiveness of school children. Feedback from cooperating partners, children and parents shows that the biscuits added a value to the snack and were highly appreciated and encouraged attendance.

The 2016 floods affected the water and sanitation system in the camps, impacting the education facilities. Many schools' latrines and class rooms were damaged, which forced humanitarian actors to find temporary solutions such as provision of tents as classrooms. However, not all needs could be addressed and gaps remain as agencies struggle to find funding to cover all school needs such as latrines and the first priority was given to building of classrooms. WFP, in agreement with the education authorities, considers the slight decrease in girls' retention rates in 2017 as a result of the poor water and sanitation conditions in the schools (lack of latrines and water). WFP is part of a joint humanitarian effort to rehabilitate school infrastructures, including school kitchens and access to latrines.

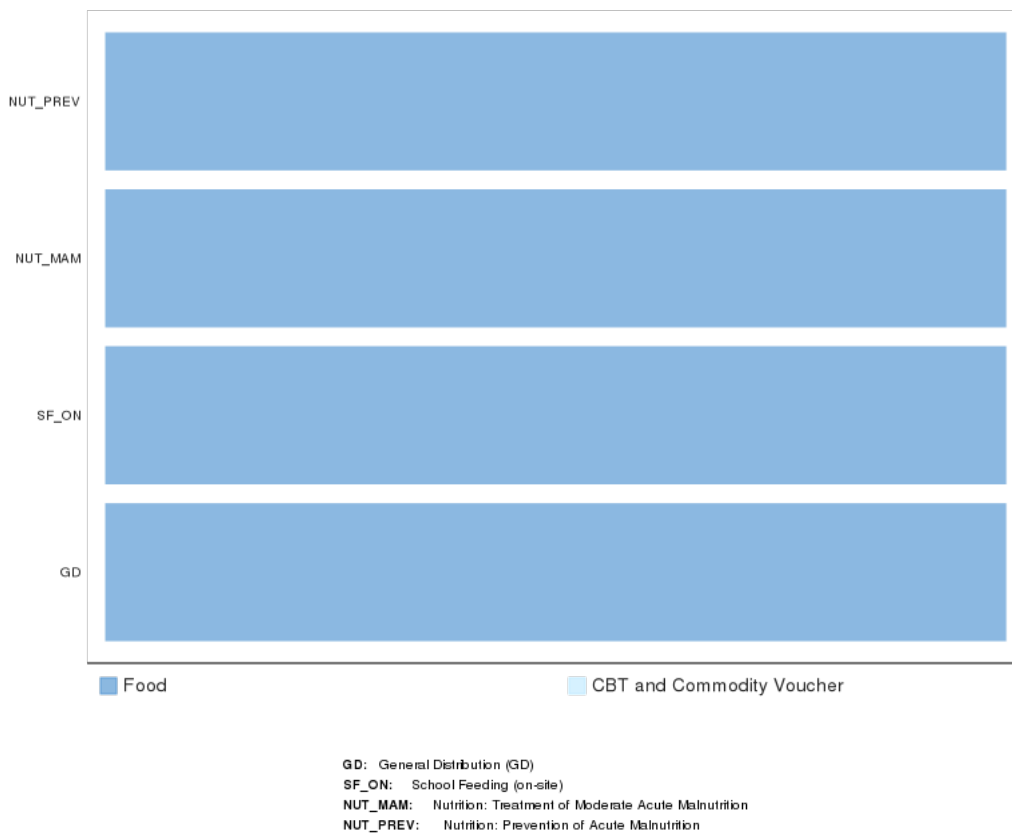
Moreover, WFP continued efforts to ensure the health of children through a deworming campaign conducted with the education authorities and cooperating partners. The coordination of the campaign was jointly discussed with parent and teacher associations, the latter showed great interest and fully supported the initiative.



Annual Project Beneficiaries by Activity



Modality of Transfer by Activity







## Annual Project Food Distribution

Commodity	Planned Distribution (mt)	Actual Distribution (mt)	% Actual v. Planned
Barley	2,302	3,001	130.4%
Cheese	-	1	-
Corn Soya Blend	1,542	1,145	74.3%
Dried Fruits	-	200	-
High Energy Biscuits	360	201	55.8%
Lentils	1,151	1,375	119.5%
Micronutrient Powder	2	0	13.8%
Pasta	-	250	-
Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	577	478	82.8%
Ready To Use Supplementary Food	108	21	19.5%
Rice	2,302	2,188	95.0%
Split Peas	1,905	1,562	82.0%
Sugar	1,511	1,127	74.6%
Vegetable Oil	1,421	1,382	97.2%
Wheat Flour	13,674	12,063	88.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,855</b>	<b>24,994</b>	<b>93.1%</b>



## Cash Based Transfer and Commodity Voucher Distribution for the Project (USD)

Modality	Planned (USD)	Actual (USD)	% Actual v. Planned
Value Voucher	350,360	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,360</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

## Performance Monitoring

World Food Programme (WFP) is part of a joint effort, among UN humanitarian agencies, several international non-governmental organisations (INGOs), the Algerian Red Crescent and the Sahrawi Red Crescent (ARC, Sahrawi RC), to provide a comprehensive monitoring strategy that ensures that assistance reaches the right people at the right time in the right form.

For the past six years, WFP has been conducting a joint monitoring team with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The joint team visited the camps daily, for on-site food basket monitoring, during the first two weeks of every month, and for Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM), in the last two weeks. These joint household visits aim to (1) collect data on corporate food security outcomes, (2) gather information on beneficiaries' access to and utilization of food assistance, (3) assess beneficiaries' perception of the food assistance, and (4) measure the level of satisfaction. In 2017, joint monitoring teams also visited schools, health

centers and hydroponic production sites (as part of the complementary activities). The teams are composed of equal numbers of male and female monitors. In addition to joint visits, a joint database for outcome measurements has been established in 2017 to ensure standardized and comparable reporting among stakeholders.

In addition to onsite monitoring and post distribution monitoring, WFP supervises all aspects of the supply chain, from the port of Oran to the Rabouni humanitarian storage site, including the conduct of warehouse monitoring for physical inventory and dispatches. Process and operational issues raised during monthly monitoring activities are tracked through an internal matrix identifying focal points for immediate actions to be taken. Robust tracking of issues allowed WFP to take corrective actions and lay out appropriate mitigation measures, where necessary.

In addition, qualitative and quantitative data collected for outcome monitoring is disaggregated by gender, whenever appropriate, with the aim to understand priorities and evaluate the effect of the intervention on different groups of people, including men, women, boys and girls. WFP analyses the information, identifies new activities and implements corrective measures, in coordination with all partners involved in food security. Issues requiring immediate attention or decisions are reported at the monthly food and nutrition sector coordination meetings in both Tindouf and Algiers.

### **Supporting tools: mobile technologies and outsourced monitoring**

WFP relies on a comprehensive monitoring toolkit using android tablets, which automatically feeds data into the joint WFP and UNHCR database. In addition, an outsourced monitoring agreement was signed between WFP and Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP), which provided enumerators to conduct additional 2,000 PDM interviews for outcome monitoring, on behalf of WFP and partners. These additional visits ensure a representative sample, are used for annual reporting and complements the data collected by the joint monitoring team.

WFP is using the corporate Country Office Tool for Managing Programme Operations Effectively (COMET) that was rolled out in 2015 to track all output and outcome related data.

### **Reporting**

Ultimately, monitoring aims at providing information and analyses to improve the design, the effectiveness and the cost-efficiency. In 2017, quarterly monitoring reports compiled the information on output and outcome data collected in the field and helped to show trends. The data analysis was presented twice a year to all stakeholders at coordination meetings in Algiers and Tindouf. This information was also key for fundraising efforts and allowed for better informed strategic decisions.

## **Progress Towards Gender Equality**

WFP has made progress towards gender equality in the Sahrawi refugee camps by empowering both men and women to play active roles in food management, both at the household and the community level. WFP continues to advocate and sensitize the refugee community on the importance of gender equality starting from the household to the distribution points, and to cooking and sharing of food.

Women and girls are traditionally influential in Sahrawi society and hold important decision-making roles at both the household and community level, which is further encouraged by the Sahrawi refugee leadership. This includes a central role in the household food management, whereby in the camps, food access and control is generally attributed to women. In most households, food-related decisions are made by women, and the percentage of households where decisions are made exclusively by men has decreased in 2017. Women were also actively involved in the food distribution process as food distribution committee leaders. They were responsible for coordinating the distribution of rations, in addition to managing the dispatch and delivery of food at final distribution points.

However, due to the already strong position of women in the camps, WFP continues to encourage both women and men to play equal roles in society, advocating for joint decision-making regarding all issues related to the well-being of the whole family, and by pushing for broad participation in activities.

At the community level, the number of men in leadership roles in food committees increased in 2017, showing a rise in men's participation and sharing of responsibility. WFP also conducted two annual campaigns on good hygiene practices and nutrition in all five camps that targeted both men and women.

WFP further advocated for gender-related issues and promoted discussions among the refugee community, through the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence Campaign in December. Seminars and group discussions took place with various social groups jointly coordinated with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), other partners and Sahrawi associations. Community members included youth, parents, teachers, judges and lawyers. The campaign had various sessions, games, debates and group discussions all focused and guided to prevent and eliminate violence against women and girls.

In its complementary activities, WFP seeks to empower women refugees by specifically targeting them as direct beneficiaries. Women's active engagement allowed for the prioritization of activities that were crucial for the whole family, while highlighting the importance of women's equal participation in productive and economic activities in the camps.

Moreover, WFP placed attention particularly on the inclusion of men in gender and protection activities carried out by technical staff and counterparts, to foster sustainable changes. This was mainly implemented through applying the rule of equal participation in food committees' membership, encouraging the Sahrawi Red Crescent to involve more men at the distribution sites. In addition, WFP jointly with UNHCR provided two training sessions to warehouse staff on basic protection mainstreaming such as safe lifting, material handling, personal *protection* to familiarize the staff with the concepts of protection, and to provide them with an understanding of how they can incorporate protection into their day-to-day work.

To further promote gender equality through assistance, the country office put in place a gender network that includes members from all WFP units, and is made up of both men and women. The network drafted a Gender Action Plan that in the future will help to adapt the operation to further encourage the equal participation of men, women, girls and boys in WFP projects, and to ensure that food assistance does not harm the safety, dignity and integrity of the refugees. The Gender Action Plan will be implemented in 2018, after a gender assessment and gender mainstreaming exercise is conducted in the camps.

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations

In refugee situations, the host government is usually responsible for protecting the rights of refugees. The Algerian Government transferred the responsibility over to the refugee authorities in 1975. Through the protection sector, humanitarian actors such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), World Food Programme (WFP), and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) support the refugee authorities in fulfilling their protection obligations. UNHCR, as the lead agency, coordinates information sharing on protection, and follow-up with the camp authorities.

The camps generally present a safe and secure environment. In 2017, no security incidents were reported. Insecurity and risks are mostly related to weather phenomena including rain and floods, last experienced in 2015 and 2016.

Refugees receiving food rations under general distribution were not exposed to any risk or threats. Food distributions are safe, well organised and carried out in each *daira* (commune), with 116 food distribution points - limiting the distance between such points and refugees' homes. Furthermore, for vulnerable cases such as for people living with disabilities and elderly people, the refugee authorities organize and ensure food deliveries to their homes.

WFP's accountability to the refugees is closely linked with the effectiveness of food assistance, as knowledge of entitlements helps people ensure their access to assistance. Feedback mechanisms enable WFP and partners to carry out verification and better adapt activities to beneficiary needs.

The Sahrawi Red Crescent (Sahrawi RC) announced the entitlements every month via the local radio and the television channel. In cases of reduced entitlements, refugees were informed ahead of time. The proportion of interviewed beneficiaries who were fully informed about food entitlement remained high in 2017 at 88 percent. This is partly due the longevity of the operation and the fact that the entitlement remained unchanged over the years. In some cases, refugees are not informed about the entitlements since they are outside of the camps for different reasons (medical, education, etc.).

However, refugees were also well informed about how to provide feedback. WFP keeps an open line of communication with beneficiaries, through a steady presence of WFP field monitors in all camps to help in this regard. In addition, WFP collaborates with UNHCR to fulfill its protection role through the joint monitoring

mechanism, which monitors the compliance of fairness, timely and participatory provision of humanitarian assistance by bringing attention to shortfalls and advocating for equal rights. WFP also assists UNHCR in enhancing the implementation of preventative measures.

In addition, a TV show was created to ensure that refugees are well informed about the rations make-up and nutritional value. The aim of the show is to maximize the utilization and benefits of distributed food, while also conveying messages on nutrition, health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) through cooking and meal preparation. The show is moderated by a Sahrawi woman chef and is broadcasted twice a month in partnership with non-governmental organization (NGO) Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP). Since the start of the show, WFP has received less complaints regarding some of the new commodities received in kind, which means refugees know better how to use the commodities.

Furthermore, WFP continues to improve its accountability to the affected populations through the post-distribution monitoring (PDM) feedback mechanism, while in early 2018 another form of feedback - a telephone hotline, will be operational.

## Enhancing food security and resilience through innovative use of hydroponics

Since 2016, World Food Programme (WFP) have been complementing its traditional food assistance with innovative interventions to enhance food security and nutrition, and contribute to refugees' resilience after over 40 years living in camps.

These interventions offer occupational opportunities to the refugees from Western Sahara, particularly the youth and women. They also build on existing expertise, while offering transferable technical know-how and small business management skills.

### Hydroponic Innovation

The hydroponic project tackles a particularly pressing issue in the camps. Though most refugee families traditionally own livestock, fodder is not available and most animals feed on trash, adversely affecting milk and meat production. Increasing access to animal protein through milk and meat is extremely beneficial in a context where malnutrition rates and anaemia prevalence remain a big challenge.

In 2016, WFP with its cooperating partner, the non-governmental organisation (NGO) OXFAM, started testing the hydroponic technique in the refugee camps, using high-tech units. Green fodder is grown in just seven days from barley seeds, with little water and no nutrients. The green fodder can be directly fed to sheep and goats, which increases their milk and meat production.

Throughout 2017, trials allowed for the adaptation of the technique and develop low-tech solutions, made from locally available material that are familiar to refugees, and are easy to maintain. Three different low-tech local solutions were developed during the pilot, namely (1) irrigated green houses, (2) irrigated mud brick domes, and (3) hand-watered family kits.

The green houses and domes produce 60 percent of the fodder produced in high-tech units (USD 35,000 per unit), at only one tenth of cost (USD 3,500 per low-tech construction). The daily production of 60 kilograms of fodder feeds 20 animals.

The family kits produce one third of the fodder produced in green houses and domes, at one tenth of the cost (USD 350 per kit). The daily production of 20 kilograms of fodder is sufficient to feed the average household's herd size of seven animals.

By the end of 2017, 29 family kits and 21 low tech units in all five refugee camps benefitted 500 refugees, most of them women.

To solve technical challenges, such as water recycling, units' temperature control, and human crops compatibility, WFP partnered with German research institute Fraunhofer.

WFP will scale-up the intervention in 2018, adding 145 family kits and 29 low tech units in 2018, following a dedicated contribution to its complementary interventions.

Multilingual training materials are being prepared that will also be available online, to provide Sahrawi refugees, or anyone, with step-by-step instructions and explanations on how to set up and maintain a low-tech unit. WFP is also

continuing to fine-tune the approach and search for solutions for remaining challenges. It is expected that the family kit cost will be further reduced, so it can be easily replicated in other similar arid environments.

WFP Executive Director, David Beasley, visited the project in December, when he stated, *“These hydroponic units are examples of how an innovative approach delivers real results for the people WFP serves. This hydroponic innovation will not only help these refugee camps, it can support food-insecure families living in harsh conditions anywhere.”*

# Figures and Indicators

## Data Notes

Cover page photo © WFP/Naim Hamidouche

Amel Talbi is proud of the fresh animal fodder she grows in her hydroponic unit in Layoune camp.

## Overview of Project Beneficiary Information

**Table 1: Overview of Project Beneficiary Information**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total Beneficiaries	49,154	75,806	124,960	49,000	76,000	125,000	99.7%	100.3%	100.0%
<b>By Age-group:</b>									
Children (under 5 years)	9,247	9,997	19,244	9,250	10,000	19,250	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Children (5-18 years)	24,367	26,367	50,734	24,375	26,375	50,750	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Adults (18 years plus)	15,540	39,442	54,982	15,375	39,625	55,000	98.9%	100.5%	100.0%
<b>By Residence status:</b>									
Refugees	49,154	75,806	124,960	49,000	76,000	125,000	99.7%	100.3%	100.0%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality

**Table 2: Beneficiaries by Activity and Modality**

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	124,960	35,036	159,996	125,000	-	125,000	100.0%	-	78.1%
School Feeding (on-site)	40,500	-	40,500	41,426	-	41,426	102.3%	-	102.3%

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition	2,800	-	2,800	1,203	-	1,203	43.0%	-	43.0%
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	19,560	-	19,560	20,721	-	20,721	105.9%	-	105.9%

## Annex: Participants by Activity and Modality

Activity	Planned (food)	Planned (CBT)	Planned (total)	Actual (food)	Actual (CBT)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (food)	% Actual v. Planned (CBT)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
General Distribution (GD)	124,960	35,036	159,996	125,000	-	125,000	100.0%	-	78.1%
School Feeding (on-site)	40,500	-	40,500	41,426	-	41,426	102.3%	-	102.3%
Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition	2,800	-	2,800	1,203	-	1,203	43.0%	-	43.0%
Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition	19,560	-	19,560	20,721	-	20,721	105.9%	-	105.9%

## Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)

**Table 3: Participants and Beneficiaries by Activity (excluding nutrition)**

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>General Distribution (GD)</b>									
People participating in general distributions	63,168	96,828	159,996	49,170	75,830	125,000	77.8%	78.3%	78.1%
Total participants	63,168	96,828	159,996	49,170	75,830	125,000	77.8%	78.3%	78.1%

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Total beneficiaries	63,168	96,828	159,996	49,170	75,830	125,000	77.8%	78.3%	78.1%
<b>School Feeding (on-site)</b>									
Children receiving school meals in pre-primary schools	3,972	4,028	8,000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Children receiving school meals in primary schools	16,129	16,371	32,500	20,547	20,879	41,426	127.4%	127.5%	127.5%
Total participants	20,101	20,399	40,500	20,547	20,879	41,426	102.2%	102.4%	102.3%
Total beneficiaries	20,101	20,399	40,500	20,547	20,879	41,426	102.2%	102.4%	102.3%

## Nutrition Beneficiaries

### Nutrition Beneficiaries

Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
<b>Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>									
Children (6-23 months)	450	450	900	195	195	390	43.3%	43.3%	43.3%
Children (24-59 months)	450	450	900	-	220	220	-	48.9%	24.4%
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	1,000	1,000	-	593	593	-	59.3%	59.3%
Total beneficiaries	900	1,900	2,800	195	1,008	1,203	21.7%	53.1%	43.0%
<b>Nutrition: Prevention of Acute Malnutrition</b>									
Children (6-23 months)	3,300	3,300	6,600	3,914	4,040	7,954	118.6%	122.4%	120.5%
Children (24-59 months)	3,300	3,300	6,600	2,146	2,525	4,671	65.0%	76.5%	70.8%



Beneficiary Category	Planned (male)	Planned (female)	Planned (total)	Actual (male)	Actual (female)	Actual (total)	% Actual v. Planned (male)	% Actual v. Planned (female)	% Actual v. Planned (total)
Pregnant and lactating women (18 plus)	-	6,360	6,360	-	8,096	8,096	-	127.3%	127.3%
Total beneficiaries	6,600	12,960	19,560	6,060	14,661	20,721	91.8%	113.1%	105.9%

## Project Indicators

### Outcome Indicators

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>SO1 Save lives and protect livelihoods in emergencies</b>				
<b>Stabilized or reduced undernutrition among children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women</b>				
<b>MAM treatment recovery rate (%)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.11, Secondary data, PISIS report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, PISIS report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, PISIS report</i>	>75.00	86.00	80.00	80.00
<b>MAM treatment mortality rate (%)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2011.12, Secondary data, PISIS report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, PISIS report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, PISIS report</i>	<3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>MAM treatment default rate (%)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2011.12, Secondary data, PISIS Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, PISIS report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, PISIS report</i>	<15.00	0.00	14.00	17.00
<b>MAM treatment non-response rate (%)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2011.12, Secondary data, PISIS Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, PISIS report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, PISIS report</i>	<15.00	14.00	6.00	7.00
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.10, Secondary data, Health RECORDS, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, PISIS Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, PISIS report</i>	>90.00	0.00	98.00	98.00
<b>Stabilized or improved food consumption over assistance period for targeted households and/or individuals</b>				
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM</i>	<3.00	3.00	0.19	3.35

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (female-headed)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM</i>	<3.00	3.00	0.16	3.34
<b>FCS: percentage of households with poor Food Consumption Score (male-headed)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM</i>	<3.00	3.00	0.24	1.32
<b>Diet Diversity Score</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, WFP programme monitoring, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM</i>	=4.50	5.88	6.02	5.95
<b>Diet Diversity Score (female-headed households)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, WFP programme monitoring, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM</i>	=4.50	5.78	5.82	5.69
<b>Diet Diversity Score (male-headed households)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, WFP programme monitoring, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM</i>	=4.50	5.97	6.33	6.22
<b>SO2 Support or restore food security and nutrition and establish or rebuild livelihoods in fragile settings and following emergencies</b>				
<b>Improved access to assets and/or basic services, including community and market infrastructure</b>				
<b>Retention rate in WFP-assisted primary schools</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, MOE Annual Report, Base value: 2012.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report</i>	=90.00	85.00	95.50	95.87
<b>Retention rate (girls) in WFP-assisted primary schools</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.12, Secondary data, MOE annual report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual report</i>	=90.00	85.00	97.00	96.00
<b>Retention rate (boys) in WFP-assisted primary schools</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.12, Secondary data, MOE annual report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, MoE Annual report</i>	=90.00	85.00	94.00	94.35
<b>Enrolment: Average annual rate of change in number of children enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.02, Secondary data, MOE Annual report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report</i>	=6.00	3.50	3.50	3.56

Outcome	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Enrolment (girls): Average annual rate of change in number of girls enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2010.12, Secondary data, MOE annual report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual report</i>	=6.00	11.00	2.00	2.13
<b>Enrolment (boys): Average annual rate of change in number of boys enrolled in WFP-assisted primary schools</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2012.12, Secondary data, MOE data, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual Report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, MOE Annual report</i>	=6.00	11.00	5.00	5.00
<b>Stabilized or reduced undernutrition, including micronutrient deficiencies among children aged 6–59 months, pregnant and lactating women, and school-aged children</b>				
<b>Proportion of target population who participate in an adequate number of distributions</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, WFP programme monitoring, PDM, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, WFP programme monitoring, CP report</i>	>66.00	92.00	80.00	81.57
<b>Proportion of eligible population who participate in programme (coverage)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Secondary data, CP report, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Secondary data, CP report, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Secondary data, CP report</i>	>70.00	90.00	98.00	98.00
<b>Proportion of children who consume a minimum acceptable diet</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, Project End Target: 2017.02, Base value: 2014.10, Joint survey, WFP and UNHCR Nutrition survey 2012 Data, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Joint survey, WFP and UNHCR Nutrition survey 2016 Data, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12, Joint survey, WFP and UNHCR Nutrition survey 2016 Data</i>	>70.00	95.00	95.00	95.00

## Output Indicators

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
<b>SO1: Food-Assistance-for-Assets</b>				
Number of institutional sites assisted	site	49	49	100.0%
<b>SO1: General Distribution (GD)</b>				
Number of cooking demonstrations undertaken for fortified foods, complementary foods and special nutritional products	demonstration	12	8	66.7%
<b>SO1: Nutrition: Treatment of Moderate Acute Malnutrition</b>				
Number of health centres/sites assisted	centre/site	27	27	100.0%
Number of staff members/community health workers trained on modalities of food distribution	individual	300	271	90.3%
Number of targeted caregivers (male and female) receiving 3 key messages delivered through WFP supported messaging and counseling	individual	3	3	100.0%
<b>SO2: School Feeding (on-site)</b>				

Output	Unit	Planned	Actual	% Actual vs. Planned
Number of children in WFP-assisted schools who received deworming treatment at least once during the year	individual	40,500	41,426	102.3%
Number of institutional sites assisted	site	82	82	100.0%

## Gender Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of households where females and males together make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=35.00	50.58	43.00	34.00
<b>Proportion of households where females make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=60.00	44.71	52.00	62.00
<b>Proportion of households where males make decisions over the use of cash, voucher or food</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=5.00	4.71	5.00	3.00
<b>Proportion of women beneficiaries in leadership positions of project management committees</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=50.00	80.00	86.00	81.32
<b>Proportion of women project management committee members trained on modalities of food, cash, or voucher distribution</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=60.00	75.00	78.00	76.00

## Protection and Accountability to Affected Populations Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
<b>Proportion of assisted people (men) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=80.00	95.00	81.00	94.00
<b>Proportion of assisted people (men) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site</b>				
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>	=90.00	100.00	86.00	100.00

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Base Value	Previous Follow-up	Latest Follow-up
Proportion of assisted people (women) informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)	=80.00	97.00	95.00	84.00
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>				
Proportion of assisted people (women) who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme sites	=90.00	100.00	77.00	96.32
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>				
Proportion of assisted people informed about the programme (who is included, what people will receive, where people can complain)	=80.00	95.00	88.00	88.55
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>				
Proportion of assisted people who do not experience safety problems travelling to, from and/or at WFP programme site	=90.00	100.00	63.00	96.00
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Base value: 2014.12, Previous Follow-up: 2016.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>				

## Partnership Indicators

Cross-cutting Indicators	Project End Target	Latest Follow-up
Amount of complementary funds provided to the project by partners (including NGOs, civil society, private sector organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks)	=0.00	0.00
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>		
Number of partner organizations that provide complementary inputs and services	=6.00	7.00
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>		
Proportion of project activities implemented with the engagement of complementary partners	=90.00	100.00
<i>TINDOUF, General Distribution (GD), Project End Target: 2017.12, Latest Follow-up: 2017.12</i>		

## Resource Inputs from Donors

### Resource Inputs from Donors

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Purchased in 2017 (mt)	
			In-Kind	Cash
Algeria	ALG-C-00014-01	Wheat Flour	-	614
Brazil	BRA-C-00117-04	Corn Soya Blend	-	123
European Commission	EEC-C-00582-01	Vegetable Oil	-	349
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Barley	-	1,550
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Corn Soya Blend	-	688

Donor	Cont. Ref. No.	Commodity	Purchased in 2017 (mt)	
			In-Kind	Cash
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Lentils	-	360
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Pasta	-	520
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Rice	-	833
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Split Peas	-	1,314
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Sugar	-	450
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Vegetable Oil	-	445
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Vegetable Oil - Soya Bean	-	293
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Wheat - Flour	-	1,247
European Commission	EEC-C-00678-01	Wheat Flour	-	1,378
Germany	GER-C-00661-01	Sugar	-	270
Germany	GER-C-00661-01	Wheat Flour	-	2,200
Italy	ITA-C-00200-04	Corn Soya Blend	-	112
Italy	ITA-C-00200-04	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	22
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Barley	-	1,247
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Corn Soya Blend	-	383
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Ready To Use Supplementary Food	-	12
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Rice	-	765
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Split Peas	-	720
MULTILATERAL	MULTILATERAL	Wheat Flour	-	997
Spain	SPA-C-00129-05	Barley	-	760
Spain	SPA-C-00129-05	Lentils	-	405
Spain	SPA-C-00129-05	Vegetable Oil	-	292
Spain	SPA-C-00129-05	Vegetable Oil - Soya Bean	-	54
Spain	SPA-C-00129-05	Wheat Flour	-	2,585
Switzerland	SWI-C-00583-18	Rice	-	720
Switzerland	SWI-C-00583-18	Sugar	-	405
Switzerland	SWI-C-00583-18	Vegetable Oil	-	25
Switzerland	SWI-C-00587-03	Plain Dried Skimmed Milk	-	360
USA	USA-C-01250-01	Wheat Flour	-	321
USA	USA-C-01250-02	Vegetable Oil - Soya Bean	-	70
USA	USA-C-01250-02	Wheat - Flour	-	403
USA	USA-C-01250-02	Wheat Flour	-	2,575
		<b>Total</b>	-	<b>25,865</b>