



SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Algeria Country Brief July 2021

Operational Context

Algeria has been hosting refugees from Western Sahara since 1975. These refugees are in camps in the harsh and isolated desert environment of western Algeria, where opportunities for self-reliance are limited, forcing them to depend on humanitarian assistance for their survival.

The latest 2018 Food Security Assessment confirmed the dependence of the Sahrawi camp population on food assistance; 30 percent of the population is food insecure, while 58 percent is vulnerable to food insecurity. A mere 12 percent of the Sahrawi population is food secure.

A nutrition survey conducted in 2019 indicated a deterioration of women's and children's nutritional status compared to 2018. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) among children aged 6-59 months increased from 4.7 percent in 2016 to 7.6 percent. The anaemia prevalence among children aged 6-59 months was 50.1 percent, and 52.2 percent among women of reproductive age.

WFP currently represents the main regular and reliable source of food for the Sahrawi refugees in Algeria. Upon the request of the Algerian Government, WFP has been present in the country since 1986.



Anaemia prevalence: **50% among children 6-59 months**

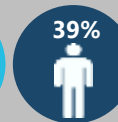
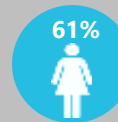
Anaemia prevalence: **52% for women 15-49 years**

Global acute malnutrition: **> 7% of children between 06-59 months**

Chronic malnutrition: **28% of children between 6-59 months**

In Numbers

133,672 rations distributed in July 2021



2,094.6 MT of food assistance distributed

2,005 kcal/person/day provided through the general food basket

US\$ 2.7 m six-month net funding requirement (August 2021 – January 2022)

Operational Updates

- In July, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations that included 8 kg of wheat flour, 2 kg of lentils, 2 kg barley, 1 kg of pasta, 750 g sugar, 1 kg gofio and 920 g of fortified vegetable oil. About 2,005 kcal per person per day were received by beneficiaries during the month of July.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and anaemia of pregnant and lactating women (PLW), WFP distributed daily rations of super cereal wheat soy blend and vegetable oil to 695 women. In addition, around 8,243 PLW received fresh food vouchers to provide a more nutritious diet and to prevent MAM and anaemia.
- WFP continued the sensitization about the Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS) (1 tablet per woman per day) targeting 8,243 pregnant and lactating women.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children, 535 children aged between 6-59 months received daily rations of specialised nutritious food (PlumpySup) throughout July, while MAM prevention activities reached 13,789 boys and girls aged 6-59 months, who also received specialized nutritious food (Nutr butter) in health centres.
- Schooling in the refugee camps stopped given that the school year ended on the 9th June. The school feeding activity will resume in the next school year starting September 2021.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (mid-2019-mid-2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (in US\$)
59 m	42 m
2021 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (August 2021 –January 2022)
20 m	2.7 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #1: Targeted food-insecure Sahrawi refugees in camps near Tindouf meet their basic food and nutrition needs all year

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide general food assistance to targeted food-insecure refugees in camps near Tindouf.
- Provide nutrition-sensitive school feeding.
- Provide refugees with complementary livelihood opportunities that benefit women and men equitably.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome #2: Targeted Sahrawi refugees in camps near Tindouf have improved nutrition status by 2022

Focus area: Crisis response

Activities:

- Provide children aged 6–59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls with assistance for the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition.

The situation in the camps

- According to the local authorities, there was a significant increase in COVID-19 cases across the five refugee camps in July. On 26 July, a total number of 100 active cases was reported in the last 72 hours.
- During the month of July, WFP continued to limit movements to the camps to essential movements only, to prevent the spread of the virus and limit the risk of contagion.

Challenges

- The COVID-19 crisis with its many health, social and economic implications continues to pose a threat to the Sahrawi refugees who find themselves in a difficult context with a weak health system and challenging water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) situation.

COVID-19 vaccination campaign

The Algerian government provided 15,000 vaccines to the Sahrawi health authorities. Vaccination continues in the refugee camps, as the second phase started in the third week of July.

Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM)

WFP Algeria completed its bi-annual Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey’s data collection across the camps in July and WFP team is working on the PDM report. The final PDM report will be shared with all the involved stakeholders.

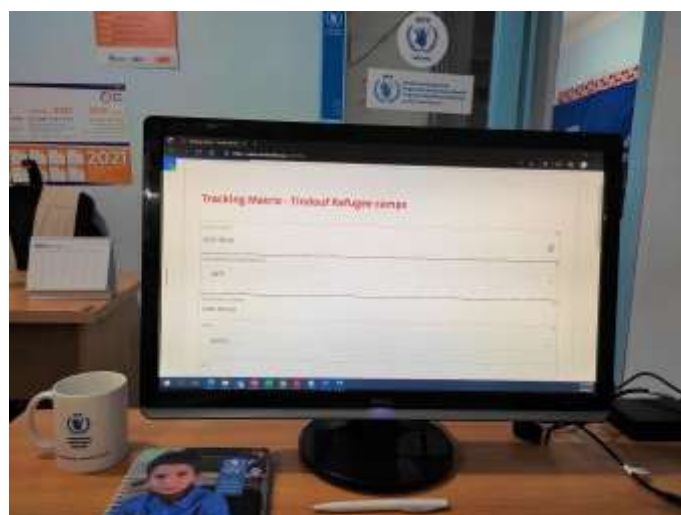
Monitoring activities

Despite the COVID19 pandemic, WFP staff conducted regular monitoring visits in the field, during the distributions and the focus group discussions. Some feedback was also received through the Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) Hotline.

New monitoring tool: MODA!

WFP Algeria started using a new data collection platform which is the new Mobile Operational Data Acquisition (MODA) platform replacing the previous Mobile Data Collection and Analytics (MDCA) platform.

MODA allows WFP Algeria to store its data collected safely and determines where and when to take action, monitors performance, assesses the results of interventions and improves future programming.



Credit: WFP/ Kousseila Iberrakene

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