



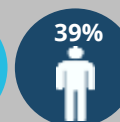
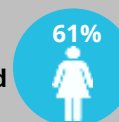
WFP Algeria

Country Brief

August 2021

In Numbers

133,672 rations distributed
in August 2021



2,094.6 mt of food assistance distributed

2,147 kcal/person/day provided through the general food basket

US\$ 3.9 m six month (September 2021– February 2022) net funding requirement.

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

Operational Updates

- In August, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations which included 8 kg of wheat flour, 2 kg of lentils, 2 kg barley, 1 kg of pasta, 750 g sugar, 1 kg of dates and 920 g of fortified vegetable oil (distribution is still ongoing). Around 2,147 kcal per person per day were received by beneficiaries during the month of August.
- 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, sugar and vegetable oil to 709 women. In addition, around 8,423 PLW received fresh food vouchers to provide them with 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 8,423 pregnant and lactating women.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children, 568 children aged between 6-59 months received daily rations of specialised nutritious food (PlumpySup) throughout August, while MAM prevention activities reached 13,732 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 9 June. The school feeding activity will resume in the next school year starting on 14 September 2021.

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

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (in US\$)
59 m	50 m
2021 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (September 2021 –February 2022)
20 m	3.9 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, on 31 August, a total number of 26 positive COVID-19 cases was reported in the previous 72 hours, reaching a total of 86 active cases in camps.
- During the month of August, WFP continued to limit movement to the camps to essential movements only, to prevent the spread of the virus and limit the risk of contagion.
- In coordination with UNHCR, WFP is assessing the COVID-19 situation in the camps and the possibility of resuming field visits in September.
- 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 problematic water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) situation.
- The COVID-19 vaccination campaign continues in the refugee camps.

The fish farm project

Currently, the production is starting to be mastered as the first harvest of 1.4 tons took place at the end of August. The second harvest will take place in October/November, and the last one in January/February 2022 (last production under WFP funding). The estimation of the total production by the end of the project is around 7 tons. The plan is to sell the fish production to retailers in the camps (with the priority given to retailers enrolled in the WFP cash based transfer project) and to the specialized education centers in the camps. Other plans of distributions are currently being explored.



Photo caption: WFP resilience officer during a field visit to the fish farm project in Nkhaila ©WFP/ Geraldine BAIJOT

WFP Country Director's (CD) visit to the refugee camps

The CD visited some of WFP projects starting with a health centre in Dakhla camp accompanied by the Algerian Red Crescent, then a food distribution in Jraifia barrio followed by distribution sites that will be rehabilitated where a fence and roofs are put in place, among others things. The next day, the CD went to the COVID-19 isolation centers (funded by the UK and Brazil) annexed to the hospital of the Awserd camp as well as the UK-funded cabins built in Rabouni for drivers, who are transporting commodities from the North of Algeria to the five camps, where they can rest and also, in the context of COVID-19, help to prevent the spread of the virus.



Photo caption: WFP's Country Director, Imed KHANFIR, with a refugee boy and girl in a distribution site. ©WFP/ Geraldine BAIJO

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