

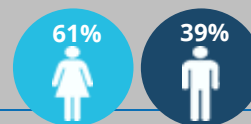


SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Algeria Country Brief November 2021

In Numbers



133,672 rations distributed
in November 2021

817 kcal/person/day provided through the general food basket

US\$ 6.7 m six months (December 2021– May 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.



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

Anemia 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 November, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations that included 2 kg of rice, 2 kg of barley, 750 g sugar, 920 g of fortified vegetable oil. Beneficiaries received around 820 kcal per person per day.
- 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 757 women. In addition, around 8,309 PLW received fresh food vouchers to have a more nutritious diet and to prevent MAM and anaemia.
- WFP continued the distribution of 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, 582 children aged between 6-59 months received daily rations of specialised nutritious food (PlumpySup) throughout November, while MAM prevention activities reached 13,754 boys and girls aged 6-59 months, who also received specialized nutritious food (Nutributter) in health centres.
- School feeding continued in the refugee camps. WFP distributed every school day nutritious gofio porridge made from gofio, dried skimmed milk, vitamin-enriched oil and sugar to 39,864 children. WFP will continue to distribute a daily 50g packet of high energy biscuits.
- As WFP Algeria is planning to shift its cash-based transfers from paper to e-vouchers, a mission from RBC is currently in Tindouf to train the team, local partners and the Boujdour camp retailers on the use of SCOPE platform, WFP's beneficiary information and transfer management platform. The initiative will start in Boujdour camp and will be launched officially on 5 December.
- WFP Algeria is facing critical wheat flour shortages. A solution is being discussed with the host government to tackle this issue.

Contact info: Abderezak Bouhaceine (abderezak.bouhaceine@wfp.org)
Country Director: Imed Khanfir
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/Algeria

Photo caption: distribution of the mid-morning snack
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Interim Country Strategic Plan (mid-2019-mid-2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)		Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
64 m		53 m
2021 Requirements (in US\$)	2022 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (December 2021 –May 2022)
21 m	13 m	6.7 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

- UNHCR and Triangle Generation Humanitaire (TGH) maintained their decision for the Weather Haven Base to remain open and keep the normal working hours while respecting strict COVID-19 prevention measures.
- WFP’s field monitoring visits continued in November 2021, with the prevention measures in place to avoid the spread of the COVID-19.
- In coordination with UNHCR, WFP continues to assess the COVID-19 situation in the camps. The COVID-19 situation is worsening, as of mid-November, seven active cases were recorded in the refugee camps.
- The COVID-19 crisis with its many health, social and economic implications continue 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.
- The COVID-19 vaccination campaign continues in the refugee camps, reaching more than 10,000 refugees so far.

External WFP audit

A three-person team of auditors from the French “court des comptes” was in Algeria during the second week of November to conduct an external audit of WFP operations in Algiers and Tindouf. The auditors also met with key donors, partners and cooperating partners.

Orange the world: End violence against women now!

WFP Algeria observed the international campaign of 16 days of activism against gender-based violence that kicked off on 25 November, the International Day for the elimination of violence against Women, and runs until 10 December, Human Rights Day. Awareness sessions on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and gender-based violence were provided jointly with UNHCR and UNICEF, for NGOs and local associations working in the refugee camps.



Joint education workshop

WFP Algeria joined its sister agencies UNICEF and UNHCR in a workshop to present the five-year education strategy in the refugee camps. This strategy revolves around the three axes: i) strengthen access to safe quality learning, ii) improve learning, including in early years, and iii) reinforce monitoring and evaluation. Through the school feeding programme, which represents around 45% of the education sector’s budget, WFP aims at maintaining children in schools while also preventing malnutrition through the provision of nutritious snacks.



Donors

Andorra, Brazil, ECHO, Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, UK, USA, Choithrams and Mastercard

Photo caption: WFP’s deputy country director, Sofiane Essayem, taking part in the opening session of the education workshop ©WFP/ Abderezak Bouhaceine