



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Algeria Country Brief July 2022



In Numbers



133,672 rations distributed
in July 2022

492 mt of food assistance distributed

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

US\$ 11.9 million six-month (August 2022– January 2023) 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. WFP Algeria Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) for 2019-2021 was extended to February 2023. The ICSP continues to focus on helping meet the basic food and nutrition needs of the refugees in camps and improve their nutrition status.



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

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

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

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

Operational Updates

- In July, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations that included 0.5 kg of barley, 1 kg of lentils, 1 kg of Gofio, 0.46 kg of vegetable oil, 0.5 kg of sugar and 0.22 of high energy biscuits (representing 22 percent of the standard ration of 16.67 Kg). Beneficiaries received about 513 kcal per person per day during this month. Due to funding shortfalls, WFP has reduced its food assistance since the first quarter of 2022, which decreased the beneficiaries' calorie intake.
- 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 783 women.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) of children, the distribution of specialised nutritious food (PlumpySup) has been suspended since June due to a production issue from the supplier. MAM prevention activities reached 13,857 boys and girls aged 6-59 months. They also received specialized nutritious food (Nutributter) in health centres.
- Although school feeding in the refugee camps has been suspended since June until September due to the summer holidays, WFP distributed four packs of high energy biscuits for children who were enrolled in the school feeding programme and attended summer programmes in northern Algeria and Europe (The ration per child consisted of two packs for the departure and two packs for the return trip).



Photo caption (above): WFP resilience consultant explaining the Waterboxx to current and potential donors

Photo caption (below): WFP staff distributing highly energy biscuits in summer programmes. ©WFP/Abderezak Bouhaceine

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Interim Country Strategic Plan (July-2019-February-2023)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (in US\$)
89 m	68 m
2022 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (August 2022 – January 2023)
32 m	11.9 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

- WFP’s field monitoring visits continued in July 2022.
- In coordination with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), WFP continues to assess the COVID-19 situation in the camps. The COVID-19 situation is stable, but few active cases were recorded in the refugee camps.
- The needs in the refugee camps continue to outpace levels of funding, widening the resourcing gap.

Global Food Crisis Impact

- WFP is increasingly challenged by the rising prices of food commodities and shipping, as well as the lack of food in the local and international markets.
- Sahrawi refugees living in a context of weak health system and poor water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) situation, have been struggling with the COVID-19 consequences, now compounded by the increasing food costs induced by the impact of the global food crisis.

A day event in remembrance of Peter Hoff

WFP, the Algerian Forests Department, the Embassy of the Netherlands and the Dutch Groasis company hosted a one-day event in memory of Pieter Hoff - who passed away in April 2022 - and his dream of reforestation of mother Earth. Peter Hoff is the founder of the [Groasis company](#) manufacturing the Waterboxx used in WFP’s livelihood projects. Groasis© Waterboxx units are devices designed to help in growing trees in dry areas. This was followed by another half-day event in which WFP and Groasis presented the use of this innovative technique in WFP H2Optimal projects implemented in the refugee camps to a group of donors.



Photo caption: Wout, the son of Peter Hoff, planting a tree in Algiers in memory of his father using the Waterboxx innovative technique. ©WFP/ Abderezak Bouhaceine

“Cooking something nice with little!”

“Min chay naadel chi zein” (cooking something nice with little) is a TV show funded by WFP and among the most popular in the camps with the charismatic cook “Haha” who uses all WFP dry commodities distributed in camps to cook nutritious and healthy meals. In July, one of its sessions was dedicated to the Cash-based transfers (CBT) programme targeting pregnant and lactating women (PLW). It presented the use of the e-voucher to buy nutritious foods and aimed to raise awareness on the need to diversify food sources as well as the importance of medical check-ups for PLW and new-borns. The TV show is very appreciated by the communities and has a real impact on their culinary habits and diversification of dishes.



Photo caption: the chef “Haha” in her kitchen studio. ©WFP/ Abderezak Bouhaceine

Donors

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