



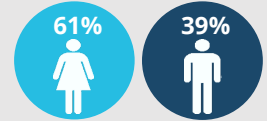
World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES



## WFP Algeria Country Brief March 2023

## In Numbers



**133,672 rations distributed**  
in March 2023

**2,228 mt** of food assistance distributed

**2,165 kcal/person/day** provided through the general food basket

**US\$ 16.1 million** six-month (April 2023– September 2023) net funding requirements

### 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.

Findings of the 2022 Nutrition Survey showed an increase of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence among children aged 06-59 months from 7.6 to 10.7 percent since 2019, while stunting prevalence rose from 28.2 to 28.8 percent. Since 2016 anaemia prevalence among the same group rose from 39 percent (2016) to 50 percent (2019) and increased further to 54.2 percent (2022).

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 December 2024 as part of the Budget Revision approved by the Executive Director in March 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: **54.2%** among children 6-59 months

Global acute malnutrition: **10.7%** of children between 6-59 months

Anaemia prevalence: **53.5%** for women 15-49 years

Chronic malnutrition: **28.8%** of children between 6-59 months

### Operational Updates

- In March, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations that included: 8 kg of wheat flour, 2 kg of barley, 2 kg of lentils, 2 kg of rice, 1 kg of gofio, 0.92 kg of vegetable oil, 0.75 kg of sugar – total of 2,165 kcal per person per day.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and anaemia of pregnant and lactating women and girls (PLWG), WFP distributed the daily rations of super cereal wheat soy blend with sugar (200 g per person per day) and vegetable oil (20 g per person per day) to 811 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in children, 799 children aged between 6-59 months received daily rations of specialised nutritious food (Plumpy Sup) throughout March.
- As part of its nutrition prevention programme, WFP distributed the Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS) (1 tablet per woman per day) targeting 8,389 PLW
- School feeding in the refugee camps continued and WFP distributed nutritious gofio porridge (made from gofio, dried skimmed milk, vitamin-enriched oil, and sugar) plus the 50g packet of high energy biscuits to 39,223 children every school day. Gofio is a flour made from roasted grains that is rich in vitamins, proteins, and minerals.
- In March, WFP in partnership with its Cooperating Partner has rehabilitated 17 food distribution points (FDPs) in Smara, Boudjdour and Laayoun Camps. The rehabilitation work focused mainly on damaged FDPs, and on reinforcing security and access to the FDPs.
- As part of the "Assets Creation and Livelihood" (ACL) activity, WFP in collaboration with its partner, installed a new generator at the Fish Farm project to solve power cut issues and ensure the well-functioning of the farm's equipment. Furthermore, a connection of a part of the fish farm's pond water to another site has been established, leading to the creation of a wetland with a microclimate suitable for the plantation of trees and reeds,.

Contact info: Souha Guenoun (souha.guenoun@wfp.org)  
Deputy Country Director and OIC: Sofiane Essayem (sofiane.essayem@wfp.org)  
Further information: [www.wfp.org/countries/Algeria](http://www.wfp.org/countries/Algeria)

Photo caption: WFP conducting the Post-Distribution Monitoring in the refugee camps ©WFP/Ayoub Boudjella

## WFP Country Strategy

### Interim Country Strategic Plan (July-2019-February-2024)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (in US\$)
<b>159 m</b>	<b>84 m</b>
2023 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (April 2023 – September 2023)
<b>38 m</b>	<b>16.1 m</b>

#### 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 started conducting the joint monthly post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to collect the GFA output data at the household level since February 2023. The exercise is being conducted jointly with the UNHCR monitoring team by the end of each month. The quantity and quality of food assistance received by households, and beneficiaries' feedback on the food distribution process are the main information at the output level. This information is collected during the household's interviews per month, in addition to the regular on-site visits and focus group discussions conducted with beneficiaries to capture their satisfaction on the ongoing assistance.
- WFP operation continues to face pipeline funding challenges unmatching its increased requirements due to the rising prices of food commodities and shipping, as well as the lack of food in international markets especially for nutrition products.

## EU Humanitarian Aid senior Visit to the Refugee Camps

In March, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP welcomed, in the refugee camps near Tindouf, Mr Andreas Papaconstantinou, Director of the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), Neighbourhood and Middle East, at the European Commission".

M. Papaconstantinou visited the EU funded food assistance warehouse and a food distribution point where he was able to meet with and listen to beneficiaries' feedback on the food assistance.



WFP, UNHCR and ECHO visit to a clinic in the refugee camps@WFP/Adila Rebib

## ECHO Nutrition Expert's Visit to the Camps

The ECHO Nutrition Expert also visited the refugees' camps in March, to view closely WFP's nutrition activities. The nutrition expert, accompanied by WFP and UNHCR, visited the food distribution warehouse and had a focus group discussion with some women refugees to discuss the WFP nutrition cash based transfer (CBT) modality. A visit to the "Integrated and Sustainable Farming" project was part of the programme as well, where a harvest of the garden produce took place.

## Refugee Response Plan for more Advocacy

WFP together with UNHCR and UNICEF and other key humanitarian stakeholders are moving forward with the finalization of the Refugee Response Plan (RRP), which will be used as a plan for two years until the end of 2024. The RRP outlines the comprehensive response and activities to support the humanitarian efforts to protect and assist Sahrawi refugees near the town of Tindouf, in Algeria.

**Donors** Andorra, Buffet Foundation, Brazil, Bulgaria, ECHO, Germany, Italy, France, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, UK, USA.