



World Food Programme

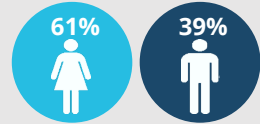
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Algeria Country Brief April 2023



In Numbers

133,672 rations provided



in April 2023

2,228 mt of food assistance distributed under general food assistance (GFA)

2,173 kcal/person/day

US\$ 14 million over six months (May – October 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 South-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 (which is being repeated in 2023) 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, and particularly of fortified foods 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- 2022 was extended to December 2024 with a budget revision. 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**

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

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

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

Operational Updates

- In April, 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 2,173 kcal per person per day.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and anaemia of pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW)**, WFP distributed daily rations of super cereal wheat soy blend (200 g per person per day) and vegetable oil (20 g per person per day) to 802 PBW for 30 days in April.
- For the treatment of MAM in children**, WFP provided 797 children, aged between 6-59 months, each with 100 g of daily rations of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) for 30 days throughout April.
- For the prevention of MAM and anaemia among PBW**, in April, WFP provided cash-based transfers through e-vouchers, covering the March and April cycle for 8,388 PBW and 8395 PBW respectively. The e-voucher had the value of USD 19 per month per woman to purchase fresh food from a pre-selected list of nutritious products at selected retailers in the camps. Additionally, WFP distributed to PBW, Multiple Micronutrient Supplements (MMS), (one tablet per woman per day for 30 days).
- School feeding in the refugee camps continued** and for every school day, WFP distributed nutritious mid-morning snacks composed of porridge (made from gofio¹, dried skimmed milk, vitamin-enriched oil, and sugar) and a 50 g packet of high-energy biscuits to 39,223 children in 86 schools and educational centres. Additionally, over the course of two days in April, WFP and its cooperating partner (CP), conducted deworming campaigns across all schools and special education centres to help overcome malnutrition among school children. This included awareness sessions with the student's parents.

¹ Gofio is a flour made from roasted cereals that is rich in vitamins, proteins, and minerals.

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Photo Caption: WFP Monitoring and Evaluation team conducting the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) at the household level
WFP/Marwa Obeid

- **Under the Asset Creation & Livelihoods activities**, in April, WFP and its partners aimed to ensure local food production through regional and family gardens and livestock activities (camel, sheep and goats' farm).
 - 20 families harvested 546 kg fresh vegetable to diversify their diet **during April**.
 - 5,206 households received 19 tons of fresh vegetable from the regional garden in Laayoun camp. The harvest from the regional garden exceeded the planned one at the beginning of the project. Cucumbers, onions, and watermelon were all sown **in April** and will be harvested in June and July.
 - In the camps of Boujdour and Smara, four gestating sheep females were delivered to vulnerable households. The chicken slaughterhouse has been fully restored, and the Palm Grove plots that will be used to produce fodder have been seeded with alfalfa and sorghum. To expand the production area, more plots were cleared and cleaned.
 - Fish at various growth stages filled all the outdoor ponds of the fish farm project. **During the months of March and April**, the fish farm sold 160 kg of fish both directly in the camps and to retailers.

WFP Country Strategy



Algeria Interim Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – February 2024)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
159 m	84 m
2023 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (May–October 2023)
38 m	14 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 breastfeeding women and girls with assistance for the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition.

Monitoring

In February 2023, WFP enhanced and resumed its monthly joint Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) with UNHCR to comprehensively capture beneficiaries' feedback on the received assistance for food and non-food items. In April, distribution checks through PDM showed that all surveyed households (HH) had received WFP food assistance in the previous month.

The two main feedback points obtained from the surveyed HH are: the need for diversification of the food basket, through more fresh and canned food – 41 percent of respondents, and the need to increase sugar and oil quantities – 70 percent of respondents.

Other survey results showed that women make decisions about whether to use food assistance in 100 percent of the HH surveyed, 63 percent of respondents said they were aware of the WFP Community Feedback Mechanism (Hotline), and none of them showed concern about security and safety related issues.

Challenges

WFP operation continues to face pipeline funding challenges unmatching its increased requirements due to the rising prices of food commodities and shipping. Also, inadequate supply of fortified nutritional foods are a challenge, as being reported from international market. WFP Algeria is expecting a pipeline break in July and a significant one in October, leaving the stockpiles entirely depleted if the funding situation remains unchanged.

Refugee Response Plan for more Advocacy

WFP together with UNHCR, UNICEF and other key humanitarian stakeholders are continuing to work on 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 in the camps near the town of Tindouf, in Algeria.

Donors

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