



World Food Programme

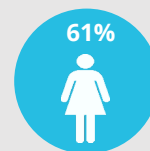
SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Algeria Country Brief January 2024

In Numbers

133,672 rations
provided in January



1,493 mt of food assistance was distributed
in January as General Food Assistance (GFA)

US\$ 15.7 m six months net funding requirements
(February to July 2024)

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 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.

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, particularly fortified 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- 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

- WFP is preparing for its new three-year Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP), which is planned to commence in January 2025.
- In January, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations** constituting a total of 1,528 kcal per person per day which included: 5 kg of fortified wheat flour, 1.5 kg of barley, 1.5 kg of lentils, 1.5 kg of rice, 0.91 kg of vegetable oil, 0.75 kg of sugar. The Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) complemented WFP's dry food ration by 3 kg of wheat flour, 1 kg of pasta and 0.5 kg of white beans
- WFP** provided nutritious gofio porridge (made from gofio¹, dried skimmed milk, vitamin-enriched oil, and sugar), in addition to the 50 g packet of fortified biscuits to **40,196 school children**
- The integrated and sustainable farming project (ISFP)** is gradually entering the harvest season as food products reach maturity.

Nutrition interventions in January

For nutritional supplementation for moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) and anaemia WFP provided:

- 832 Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women (PBW)** with daily rations of 200 g of super cereal wheat soy and 20 g of vegetable oil.
- 811 children aged between 6-59 months**, with daily rations containing 100 g of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF).

For the prevention of Moderate Acute Malnutrition:

- 8,420 PBW** received support for the prevention of micronutrient deficiencies, especially anaemia. Due to technical delays, nutritional value voucher top-ups (US\$ 19 per month per person) were postponed until February. The vouchers are used to purchase fresh food from a list of nutritious products at selected retailers in the camps.

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

**Algeria Interim Country Strategic Plan
(July 2019 – December 2024)**

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
159 m	102 m
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (February to July 2024)
39 m	15.7 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 2024.

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

14,187 children received Lipid-based nutrient supplement medium quantity (LNS MQ).

Nutritional Causal Analysis (NCA)

WFP is finalizing the report writing for the Nutritional Causal Analysis (NCA) study, jointly delivered by UN Agencies and WFP partners.

NCA findings will help identify the root causes of undernutrition and anaemia among the Sahrawi refugee population, which will inform the design and adaptation of nutrition interventions for the most vulnerable groups. The Report will also feed into the design of a five-year multisectoral Nutrition strategy.

Monitoring

WFP is continuing its efforts with local partners to strengthen monitoring processes from Rabouni warehouse in Tindouf to the final distribution points and all the way to households. This is accompanied by physical stock inventory and monthly spot-checks at both Rabouni warehouse and distribution point levels.

Challenges

Due to challenges with received contributions, including delays in 2023 and gaps in early 2024, WFP had to reduce food rations by around 30 percent starting November 2023. The total dry food basket is now 11.17 kg (which represents 70 percent of the standard basket). Significant food commodity shortages are expected for June and July 2024.

In response, WFP is strengthening its advocacy and fund-raising efforts through diversification of the donor base as well as, exploring other funding streams/sources, jointly with other UN agencies present in Tindouf.

European delegation's visit to the camps in Tindouf

In January, WFP Algeria hosted a delegation from the European Commission and E.U. Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), in the refugee camps near Tindouf. The delegation visited the EU-funded food assistance warehouse.



Photo Caption: European delegation visit to WFP's food assistance warehouse. WFP/Abdallah Leguemiri

Technical training for refugee women

A group of women engaged in WFP's integrated and sustainable farming project took part in technical training at Laayoun Regional Garden. The training included: soil preparation, seeding, weed control and plant combination.



Photo Caption: hands-on technical training at the regional garden of Laayoun camp. WFP/François Yet

WFP's Food Security Assessment (FSA)

WFP Algeria is conducting a Food Security Assessment in the five refugee camps to assess the food security situation of the whole camp population. The field data collection and household interviews are completed and the data is being currently analysed for the report to be ready in the second quarter of 2024.



Photo Caption: FSA field data collection. WFP/Kousseila Iberrakene

Donors

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