



World Food Programme

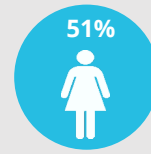
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Algeria Country Brief July 2024



In Numbers

133,672 rations provided in July



1,626 mt of food assistance was distributed in July as General Food Assistance (GFA)

US\$ 157,597 cash-based transfers (CBT) in July 2024.

US\$ 14.4 m six months net funding requirements (August 2024 to January 2025)

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 2024 Food Security Assessment confirmed that over 80 percent of the Sahrawi camp population depend on food assistance among which 7 percent are severely food insecure, 57 percent are moderately food insecure and 15 percent are most 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 8 to 11 percent since 2019, while stunting prevalence rose from 28 to 29 percent. Since 2016 anaemia prevalence among the same group rose from 39 percent (2016) to 50 percent (2019) and increased further to 54 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

- In July, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations** constituting a total of 1,620 kcal per person per day which included: 5 kg of fortified wheat flour, 1.5 kg of barley, 1.5 kg of chickpeas, 1.5 kg of rice, 1 kg of Gofio, 0.91 kg of vegetable oil, 0.75 kg of sugar. The Algerian Red Crescent (CRA) complemented WFP's dry food ration by 3 kg of wheat flour, 0.5 kg of lentils, 1 kg of rice.
- Due to the schools' seasonal break, WFP paused its daily snack assistance to **31,455 school girls and boys** until schools reopen in September.
- WFP's integrated and sustainable farming project (ISFP) saw the end-of-season onion harvest at the regional garden, enabling **4.3 mt** to be distributed to the most vulnerable families in the Laayoun camp.

Nutrition interventions in July

Tackling Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) WFP provided **nutritional supplementation to:**

- 825 Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women (PBW)** with daily food rations of 200 g of wheat soy blend plus (WSB+) with sugar and 20 g of vegetable oil.
- 871 children aged between 6-59 months**, with daily food rations containing 100 g of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF).

For the prevention of MAM and Anaemia:

- 8,420 PBW** received food assistance in the form of micronutrient tablets for the prevention of micronutrient deficiencies, especially anaemia, as well as 1.5kg of WSB+ with sugar to contribute to MAM prevention specifically.
- 8,543 PBW** received individual monthly cash top-ups with a value of US\$ 19 on their electronic nutrition vouchers to purchase fresh food from a pre-selected list of nutritious products at selected retailers in the camps.
- 14,319 children aged between 6-59 months** received daily rations of 50 g lipid-based Nutrient Supplements-medium quantity (LNS MQ).

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Photo Caption: Sahrawi mothers and their children sharing a meal provided through WFP assistance
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Algeria Interim Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – December 2024)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
159 m	113 m
2024 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (August 2024 to January 2025)
39 m	14.4 m

SDG Target 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

SDG Target 2: End 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

- Through community-level **interpersonal social and behaviour change (SBC) promotion, 789 care groups** have been established across the five camps to disseminate nutritional messages. These efforts aim to address key challenges: (i) inadequate exclusive breastfeeding, (ii) sub-optimal complementary feeding practices, and (iii) insufficient maternal dietary diversification.
- In preparation for developing the **Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy**, a 2-day stakeholder consultative and orientation workshop was held with partners to agree on the proposed roadmap, and the structure of the strategic document. Finalization of the strategy is set for November 2024.

Monitoring, Targeting and Assessments

WFP Algeria continued ongoing efforts with local partners to strengthen monitoring processes during last-mile distribution. In July, WFP piloted a new strategy focused on monitoring final distribution points at group-level. On Monitoring, discussions are ongoing to integrate Social and Behavioral Change activity-monitoring within Nutrition monitoring and to enhance the school feeding monitoring before the start of the school year.

Targeting and Identity Management with Partners

In early July, WFP held a targeting and identity management (IDM) workshop with its partners to develop a more evidence-based and well-documented targeting and prioritization mechanism. Based on the results of the Food Security Assessment (2024), the workshop focused on discussions around vulnerability criteria, as a crucial step towards implementing reassurance efforts. The workshop was followed by community consultations and validation, aiming to ensure a people-centred approach to programme design.

Asset Creation and Livelihood mission

In preparation for WFP Algeria’s new Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) for 2025-2027, a WFP resilience mission was conducted in July. The mission aimed to design the Asset Creation and Livelihood (ACL) strategy for the new ICSP by conducting series of consultations with UN Agencies, livelihood sector members and Sahrawi community members to understand best practices, success initiatives, lessons learned, gaps, challenges and opportunities.



Challenges

In the context of limited funding contributions, WFP faced challenges leading to reduced food rations by around 30 percent starting November 2023. Excluding the CRA provisions, the total dry food basket provided by WFP is now around 12 kg (70 percent of the standard basket). The situation is assessed regularly as significant food commodity shortages are expected for GFA starting in November 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 the camps near Tindouf.

Donors

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

Photo Caption: WFP mission overseeing a fodder production site supported by WFP at the Sahrawi camps near Tindouf, Algeria © WFP/Mehsen Khazen