



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Algeria Country Brief January 2025



In Numbers

133,672 rations

provided in January.



1,492 mt of food assistance was distributed, in January as General Food Assistance (GFA)

US\$ 161,990 cash-based transfers (CBT) in January 2024

US\$ 9.9 m six months net funding requirements (February to July 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. 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 a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) prevalence among children aged 6-59 months, of 11 percent since 2019, while stunting prevalence stood at 29 percent. Anaemia prevalence has increased over the years and was 54 percent in 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 February 2025 with a budget revision for operational adjustments. 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 January, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations** constituting a total of 1,499 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, 0.91 kg of vegetable oil, 0.75 kg of sugar. The Algerian Red Crescent (CRA) complemented WFP's dry food ration with 1 kg of rice and 0.5 kg of lentils.
- **In January, WFP provided daily mid-morning snacks to 27,348 students** across 44 primary, intermediate and boarding schools in the five camps. Each snack included a serving of nutritious porridge—made from gofio*, dried skimmed milk, vitamin-enriched oil, and sugar. The snacks were complemented by an additional distribution of fortified biscuits to the primary school children.

Nutrition interventions in January

To tackle **Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM)**, WFP provided **nutritional supplementation** to:

- **851 Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women (PBW)**, providing daily rations of 200 g of wheat soy blend plus (WSB+) with added sugar and 20 g of vegetable oil.
- **861 children aged between 6-59 months** with daily food rations of 100 g of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) to support their nutritional needs.

For the prevention of MAM and Anaemia:

- **8,467 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.
- **14,422 children** aged between 6-59 months received daily rations of 50 g lipid-based Nutrient Supplements-medium quantity (LNS MQ).

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

Algeria Interim Country Strategic Plan (July 2019 – February 2025)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
167 m	129 m
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (February to July 2025)
35.1 m	9.9 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: 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.

Monitoring

In January, WFP Algeria finalized the preliminary data cleaning and processing of the Post Distribution Monitoring data (PDM). The preliminary results indicated a stabilization in food security indicators for households receiving General Food Assistance. However, according to the Food Consumption Score (FCS), one out of three households reported inadequate food consumption, highlighting persistent food security challenges. As for Livelihood activities, the results showed an improvement in food security indicators; however, these improvements remain seasonal and directly linked to the harvest season. The PDM findings were presented during the Food Sector Meeting.

Challenges

Due to limited funding, WFP maintained reduced food by around 30 percent. Excluding the CRA provisions, the total dry food basket provided by WFP is now around 11 kg (70 percent of the standard basket).

WFP is strengthening advocacy and fundraising 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.

Fatimetu's garden

Fatimetu Salem’s vibrant garden in the refugee camps in Algeria embodies hope and perseverance. As a committed midwife and a beneficiary of WFP’s integrated and sustainable agriculture project, she tends to her garden each morning and evening before and after her shifts at the health centre.

Her garden, adorned with two striking palm trees, is her refuge. Last season, Fatimetu harvested an impressive 200 kg of fresh vegetables from her garden as a result of her dedication and hard work. Her energetic spirit, driven character and warm personality bring life to the camp, with crops thriving under her care.

Unfortunately, the integrated and sustainable agriculture project is facing a serious funding challenge.



Donors (In alphabetical order)

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

Photo Caption: A midwife refugee maintaining her vegetable garden supported by WFP’s integrated and sustainable agriculture project © WFP Algeria