



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

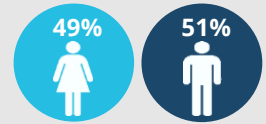


WFP Algeria Country Brief February 2025

In Numbers

133,672 rations

provided in February.



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

US\$ 161,534 cash-based transfers (CBT) in February 2025

US\$ 9.9 m six months net funding requirements (March to August 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 June 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 February, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations** constituting a total of **1,557 Kcal per person** per day, providing 74 percent of the recommended daily caloric target to meet basic nutritional needs under emergencies. Rations included: 5 kg of fortified wheat flour, 1.5 kg of barley, 1 kg of chickpeas, 1.5 kg of rice, 1 kg of lentils, 0.91 kg of vegetable oil, 0.75 kg of sugar. The food rations represent a reduction of 30 percent of the standard food basket due to funding shortfalls.
- **In February, WFP provided daily mid-morning snacks to 27,348 students** across 44 primary, intermediate and boarding schools in the five camps. Each snack provided 437 Kcal per child and included a serving of nutritious porridge made from gofio*, dried skimmed milk, vitamin-enriched oil, and sugar and 50 g of fortified biscuits.

Nutrition interventions in February

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

- **864 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.
- **872 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.

To support the prevention of MAM and Anaemia:

- **8,406 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.
- **14,483 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 – June 2025)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
180 m	129 m
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (March to August 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 February, WFP Algeria focused on the regular monitoring of food distribution processes. Throughout the month, the team monitored **23 primary distribution sites** in the camps, met with 33 refugee groups and visited 50 households. They also assessed 28 shops, 10 health centres, and 20 schools and conducted one visit to the regional warehouse for food storage. In the same month, CISP, WFP's Third-Party Monitor (TPM) partner visited 113 distribution sites, met with 318 groups of people and visited 279 vulnerable households. Findings from these monitoring activities will help inform future operations.

Livelihood Community Consultations

In February, WFP and UNHCR jointly conducted a community consultation in the refugee camps to assess the opportunities and challenges related to assets creation for livelihoods. The findings from these consultations will contribute to the development of a livelihood support plan.

WFP's reassurance plan

WFP Algeria continues to introduce efficiencies and effectiveness in its operations. From 24 to 27 February, WFP organised a training session for cooperating partners on the use of the Partner Connect platform, aimed at strengthening accountability and transparency in food assistance management. The platform enables daily, weekly, and monthly reporting of the food distributions to beneficiaries. A total of 25 participants completed the training.



Photo caption: WFP staff and partners attending the Partner Connect workshop. © WFP Algeria

ECHO visit to the refugee camps

From 11 to 12 February, a representative from the EU's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) visited the Tindouf refugee camps and WFP's warehouses overseeing a GFA distribution session, as well as nutrition and cash transfer activities. Additionally, the Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) group was engaged, where female change agents conveyed key nutrition messages to beneficiaries.



Photo caption: The ECHO representative observing the distribution of food assistance to refugees. © WFP Algeria

Challenges

Due to limited funding, WFP maintained the reduced food rations by around a 30 percent reduction from the standard food ration, resulting in a total dry food basket of approximately 12 kg (70 percent of the standard basket).

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

Donors

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