

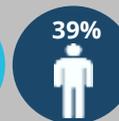


SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Algeria Country Brief September 2021

In Numbers

133,672 rations distributed
in September 2021



1,927 mt of food assistance distributed

1,808 kcal/person/day provided through the general food basket

US\$ 5 m six month (October 2021– March 2022) net funding requirement.

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 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. A mere 12 percent of the Sahrawi population is food secure.

A nutrition survey conducted in 2019 indicated a deterioration of women's and children's nutritional status compared to 2018. Global acute malnutrition (GAM) among children aged 6-59 months increased from 4.7 percent in 2016 to 7.6 percent. The anaemia prevalence among children aged 6-59 months was 50.1 percent, and 52.2 percent among women of reproductive age.

WFP currently represents the main regular and reliable source of food for the Sahrawi refugees in Algeria. Upon the request of the Algerian Government, WFP has been present in the country since 1986.



Anaemia prevalence: **50%** among children 6-59 months

Global acute malnutrition: **> 7%** of children between 06-59 months

Anaemia prevalence: **52%** for women 15-49 years

Chronic malnutrition: **28%** of children between 6-59 months

Operational Updates

- In September, WFP distributed 133,672 food rations that included 6 kg of wheat flour, 2 kg of lentils, 1.25 kg barley, 2 kg of rice, 0.5 kg of pasta, 750 g sugar, 1 kg of dates and 920 g of fortified vegetable oil. About 1,808 kcal per person per day were received by beneficiaries during the month of September.
- For the treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and anaemia of pregnant and lactating women (PLW), WFP distributed daily rations of super cereal wheat soy blend, sugar and vegetable oil to 722 women. In addition, around 8,423 PLW received fresh food vouchers to provide a more nutritious diet and to prevent MAM and anaemia.
- WFP distributed Multiple Micronutrient Tablets (1 tablet per woman per day) to 8,243 pregnant and lactating women.
- For the treatment of moderate & acute malnutrition (MAM) in children, 548 children aged between 6-59 months received daily rations of specialised nutritious food (PlumpySup) throughout September, while MAM prevention activities reached 13,712 boys and girls aged 6-59 months, who also received specialized nutritious food (Nutributter) in health centres.
- School year 2020/21 was closed in June. The school feeding activity will resume in the next school year starting on 3 October 2021.
- Due to the disruption in the wheat flour market across Algeria, WFP encountered challenges to source locally the monthly ration of wheat flour in September. Thanks to partners, WFP managed to secure a ration of 6 kg per beneficiary as opposed to 8 kg initially planned.

Interim Country Strategic Plan (mid-2019-mid-2022)

Total Requirements (in US\$)		Total Received (in US\$)
59 m		50 m
2021 Requirements (in US\$)	2022 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (October 2021 – March 2022)
20 m	21.3 m	5 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 lactating women and girls with assistance for the treatment and prevention of moderate acute malnutrition.

H2Optimal Phase II (Waterboxx project)

As part of the second phase of the H2Optimal resilience project funded by the Netherlands, sensitization and training sessions were organized during the months of August and September in order to allow families to start using the Waterboxx with the beginning of the agricultural season. WFP team and its partner Oxfam are currently preparing the plantation for the new agricultural season. This second and on-going phase is executed jointly with UNICEF, focusing on sensitization on optimization techniques of water and climate change. Waterboxx is a planting technology that preserves 90 percent water and helps plants grow faster.

First harvest of the fish farm

During the end of August and beginning of September, WFP marked the first harvest of the fish farm located in Nkhaila of a quantity of 1.4 tons. Eighty percent of this quantity will be sold for distribution in hospitals and the remaining 20 percent will be distributed directly by WFP's partner TGH in the special needs centers.

Howard Buffet Foundation: USD 2 million contribution for the Integrated & Sustainable Farming Project in the Refugee Camps in Tindouf

WFP received the confirmation of USD 2 million contribution from the Howard Buffet Foundation for WFP's resilience activities. This contribution will be allocated to the implementation of the integrated and sustainable farming project in the camps in Tindouf. This project aims at creating synergies between the different resilience activities in the camps (hydroponics, H2O and fish farm).

External audit confirmed for WFP Algeria Country Office

WFP Algeria Country Office will receive an External audit in November 2021. The Country Office is currently preparing the visit.

Donors

[Andorra](#), [Brazil](#), [ECHO](#), [Germany](#), [Italy](#), [France](#), [Netherlands](#), [Saudi Arabia](#), [Spain](#), [Switzerland](#), [UK](#), [USA](#), [Choithrams](#) and [Mastercard](#)

The situation in the camps

- According to the local authorities, on 3 September, there was a total number of 14 COVID-19 positive cases in the last 72 hours, reaching a total of 74 active cases.
- During the month of September, WFP continued to limit movements to the camps to essential movements only to prevent the spread of the virus and limit the risk of contagion. Remote monitoring is still ongoing.
- UNHCR and Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) have decided to open Weather Heaven Base and return to normal working hours while observing strict COVID-19 prevention measures.
- The COVID-19 crisis with its many health, social and economic implications continues to pose a threat to the Sahrawi refugees who find themselves in a difficult context with a weak health system and challenging water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) situation.