



HIGHLIGHTS ALGIERS AND TINDOUF

90,000

Most vulnerable Sahrawi refugees assisted by UNHCR in camps near Tindouf, Algeria

32,100

School-aged Sahrawi children enrolled in schools in Tindouf camps

6,009

Persons registered with UNHCR in Algiers, of which 234 recognized refugees

220

Refugees and asylum seekers with specific needs receiving targeted assistance in Algiers

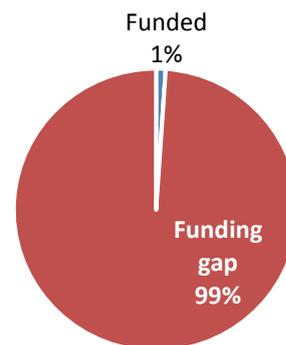
Population of concern

A total of 96,009 people of concern to UNHCR

| Country of origin | Total |
|---|---------------|
| Syria | 5,386 |
| Palestinian Territories | 43 |
| Yemen | 145 |
| Mali | 65 |
| Others | 370 |
| Total registered in Algiers | 6,009 |
| Vulnerable Sahrawi refugees in Tindouf camps | 90,000 |

Funding Received

USD 390,188



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 42 national staff
- 18 international staff
- 2 National UNVs

Offices:

- 1 Representation in Algiers and 1 Sub-Office in Tindouf

Implementing Partners:

Algeria Red Crescent (ARC) | Association des Femmes Algériennes pour le Développement (AFAD) | Association d'Information et de Communication pour la Solidarité (INFOCOM) | Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli (CISP) | Danish Refugee Council (DRC) | Enfants Réfugiés du Monde (ERM) | Infocom Jeunes | Movement for Peace, Disarmament & Liberty (MPDL) | Réseau algérien pour la défense des droits de l'enfant (NADA) | OXFAM-Solidarité Belgique (OXFAM) | Solidaridad Internacional – Andalucía (SI-A) | Triangle Génération Humanitaire (TGH) | Universidad Autonoma de Madrid (UAM)



WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works closely with the Algerian Government through the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons (BAPRA), within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and with 13 partners in Algeria (2 in Algiers and 11 in Tindouf), including Algeria Red Crescent in both Algiers and Tindouf.
- In **Algiers**, UNHCR participates actively in the United Nations Country Team. In **Tindouf**, UNHCR leads inter-agency efforts to support the Sahrawi refugee programme in Tindouf, in close coordination with WFP for food assistance and with UNICEF for health, education and activities for children. UNHCR leads the Inter-Agency Working Group and Inter-Sector Working Group, monthly sector coordination meetings for the Protection, Livelihoods and WASH sectors, as well as Health, in coordination with the Sahrawi refugee community. UNHCR works closely with the Sahrawi leadership in the five refugee camps, and engages community participation in the majority of activities implemented.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

Pending the establishment of an effective national asylum system in Algeria, UNHCR undertakes a range of protection and assistance activities through its Offices in Algiers and Tindouf. UNHCR also provides training for partners, local authorities, and government officials.

- In **Algiers**, UNHCR conducts registration for asylum-seekers as well as refugee status determination and intervenes in cases of detention. UNHCR also provides targeted assistance for the refugees and asylum-seekers with specific protection needs.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR assists some 90,000 vulnerable Sahrawi refugees located in five refugee camps, through participatory approaches to encourage engagement and self-management, in particular for youth. UNHCR conducts outreach activities and regular home visits to identify persons with specific needs and adapt its assistance. This includes specific assistance for some 3,000 persons living with disabilities. UNHCR also offers training opportunities for officials from the Sahrawi legal institutions, social workers and partner staff to reinforce local capacities, for instance with regard to judicial procedures.

Education

- In **Algiers**, UNHCR actively supports the enrolment of refugee children in public schools, where access to education is free. UNHCR provides transport, school supplies and a daily meal.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR provides financial incentives to 1,719 education staff and offers material, equipment, and training opportunities. School-aged children studying locally are enrolled in primary and intermediate schools in Tindouf camps. UNHCR also supports 75 university students in Algiers through the DAFI scholarship programme.

Health and Nutrition

- Refugees registered in **Algiers** enjoy the same access to basic healthcare as Algerian nationals. Where necessary and possible, UNHCR supports medical treatment not covered by the national scheme, for instance specific medication and laboratory tests.
- In **Tindouf**, in the five regional hospitals in the camps, UNHCR covers some 75% of the medical costs as well as incentives for 20 Sahrawi refugee doctors; UNHCR also covers the running costs of the Saharawi midwife and nursing school (64 students in the 2016/2017 school year) and offer capacity building activities on the integrated management of childhood illnesses, psychosocial support and non-communicable diseases. To treat those in need of specialized care not available in the camps, UNHCR supports 8 medical commissions of specialists coming from abroad to the camps annually and is backing the Sahrawi referral system to send patients elsewhere in Algeria – notably by maintaining the ambulance fleet and renting a recovery house in Algiers. UNHCR supports the Saharawi Health Information System and implements, jointly with WFP, a nutrition survey in each camp every two years.
- UNHCR supports the supplementary feeding program for malnourished children and pregnant or lactating women, jointly with WFP and the Algerian Red Crescent. UNHCR also conducts awareness and prevention campaign on issues such as anaemia, chronic malnutrition and mental health.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- In **Tindouf** UNHCR, through its partner SI-A, is actively engaged in enhancing the water management system through the maintenance and repair of the existing water facilities (boreholes, treatment stations, pumping stations, reservoirs and water distribution network and water truck fleet, as well as the drilling of new boreholes) to continue providing at least 18 litres of drinkable water per person per day.
- UNHCR, through partner MPDL, continues to support the waste management system in Sahrawi camps through the procurement of garbage collection trucks, necessary equipment and payment of incentives for workers.
- UNHCR, through its partner TGH, distributes hygiene kits for women and girls, and supports the local production of soap to cover the needs of public institutions as well as 50% of the camp population need. Bleach also is produced locally for the five camps, notably for treat water.

Shelter and NFIs

- In **Algiers**, UNHCR provides shelter, a monthly food basket and basic items to vulnerable urban refugee families. Some 220 refugees, including unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, are provided with shelter or receive cash to pay their rent each month.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR provides shelter materials for refugee families among the most vulnerable with 3,000 traditional tents distributed in 2016. UNHCR also distributes construction material to build houses and is supporting an innovative shelter project led by a young Sahrawi engineer building houses out of plastic bottles filled with sand.

Access to Energy

- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR refills gas cylinders for 28,000 Sahrawi families every month. Cooking stoves and new gas cylinders are also provided on an annual basis.

Logistics

- UNHCR maintains the large fleet of trucks required to provide assistance to Sahrawi refugees and organizes the delivery of assistance from Oran harbor to **Tindouf**.

Community Empowerment

- In **Algiers**, Focus Group Discussions are conducted with at least one fourth of the refugee population in order to better assess refugees' needs and enhance community-based protection.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR encourages the refugee community's involvement in the humanitarian assistance programme, with a particular focus on women and the youth. UNHCR supports three women's centres, youth centres, a library, and cultural activities and workshops on the rights of Sahrawi women and the preservation of Sahrawi cultural heritage.

Self-Reliance

- In **Algiers**, UNHCR supports refugees to achieve self-reliance - for instance, through vocational trainings.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR supports a soap factory, three bakeries and six vocational training centres. The centres provide 2-year courses on electricity, carpentry, sewing and computers, with over 288 youth refugees enrolled. Through partners, UNHCR is providing grants for projects to over 100 Sahrawi youth. UNHCR livelihoods strategy is focusing notably on developing knowledge and skills of youth through vocational, technical and business development training and awareness. UNHCR is also exploring value chain analysis and marketing opportunities to ensure long term sustainability in several areas, notably camel milk and handcrafted products.

Durable Solutions

- For the urban refugee caseload in **Algiers**, UNHCR supports voluntary return. UNHCR uses resettlement as a protection tool for vulnerable cases: in 2016, 16 individuals were resettled, and one so far in 2017.

UNHCR is grateful for the generous contributions of donors who have given unearmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR this year as well as to the [European Union](#) who has directly contributed to the operation in 2017.