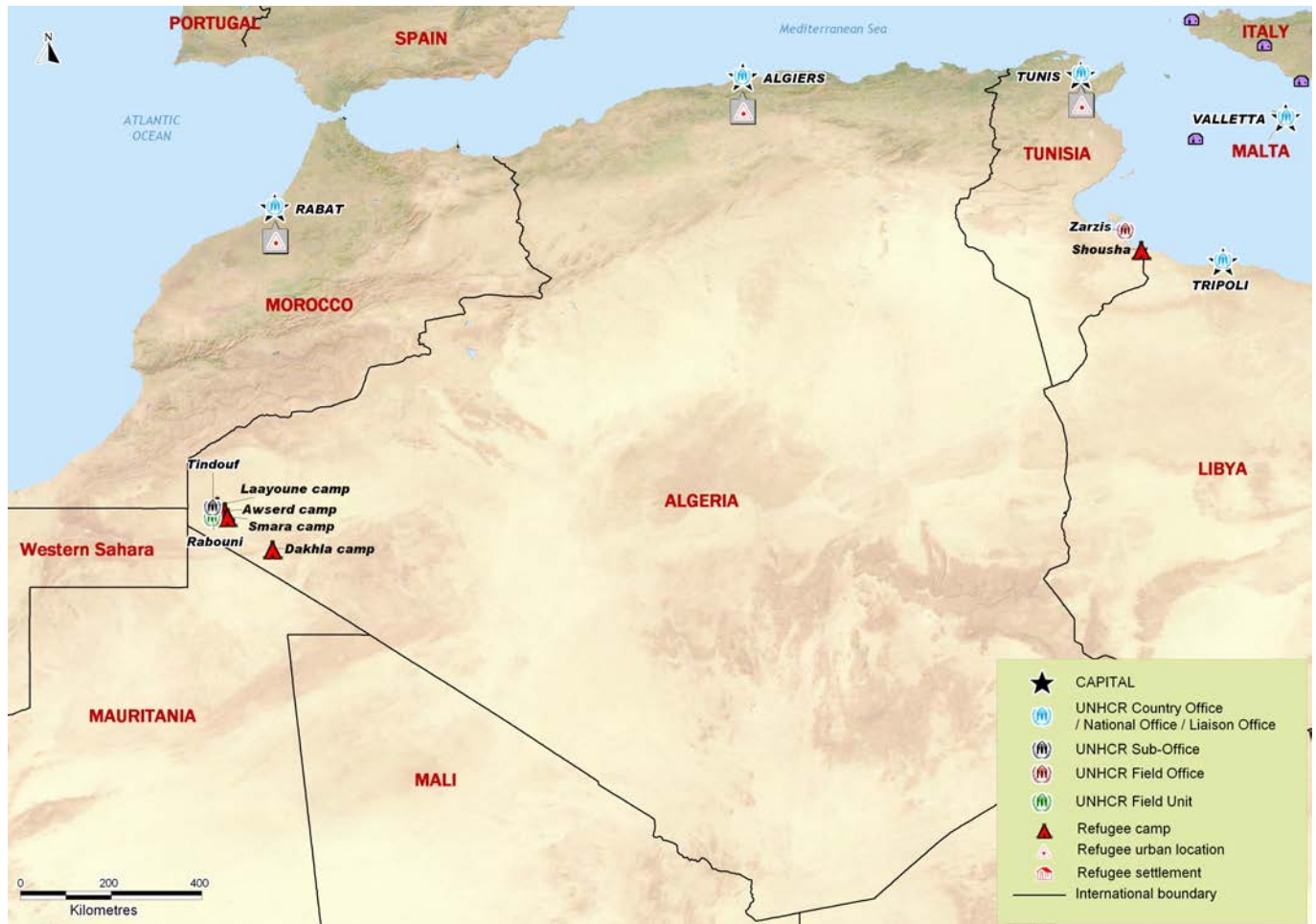


ALGERIA



Working environment

The context

Algeria is a country of transit for mixed-migration movements towards Europe. It is a party to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, and has approached UNHCR for assistance in developing a national asylum system. In mid-2012, UNHCR identified an expert to help support the Government in updating the draft asylum law in accordance with international standards.

Meanwhile, UNHCR registers asylum claims and conducts refugee status determination (RSD) under its mandate. By the end of August 2012, UNHCR had registered nearly 120 refugees and more than 1,300 asylum-seekers living in urban areas, mostly nationals of sub-Saharan African countries. There are also more than 4,000 Palestinians in Algeria who are well integrated and have not approached UNHCR.

Since the eruption of violence in Mali in early 2012, a significant number of Malians have sought safety in Algeria, according to Government sources. Most are being hosted by

Planning figures for Algeria

TYPE OF POPULATION	ORIGIN	JAN 2013		DEC 2013	
		TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR
Refugees	DRC	40	40	40	40
	Palestinian	4,030	20	4,030	30
	Western Sahara ¹	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
	Various	80	80	80	80
Asylum-seekers	Cameroon	600	600	850	850
	Mali	1,500	40	1,500	90
	Syrian Arab Republic	10,000	60	15,000	400
	Various	810	810	620	620
Total		107,060	91,650	112,120	92,110

¹According to the Government of Algeria, there are an estimated 165,000 Sahrawi refugees in the Tindouf camps.

families along the border. There are also reports that thousands of Syrians have arrived in Algeria by air. Both the Malians and Syrians are being assisted by the *Croissant-Rouge algérien*, which currently has the necessary resources to address both refugee situations.

Four camps and one settlement in the south-western province of Tindouf continue to host refugees from *Western Sahara*. The Algerian Government estimates their number at 165,000. Pending registration, this UNHCR programme is based on a planning figure of some 90,000 vulnerable refugees in the camps.

● *The needs*

The lack of legal status and residence are difficulties which urban refugees and asylum-seekers continue to face in Algeria. These challenges result in limited access to economic, social and civil rights and the risk of detention and expulsion.

In the absence of a political solution to the *Western Sahara* issue, Sahrawi refugees remain dependent on international assistance. Income-generation and livelihood activities are difficult to implement in the desert, reinforcing the refugees' reliance on international aid.

Main objectives and targets for 2013

URBAN REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

Fair protection processes and documentation

- Reception conditions are improved.
 - ☞ UNHCR increases its capacity to register asylum-seekers and determine their claims by 20 per cent.
- Civil-registration and civil-status documentation capacity is strengthened.
 - ☞ The recognition of UNHCR documentation by national law enforcement structures is improved, resulting in improved responses on behalf of detained people of concern.

Favourable protection environment

- Access to legal assistance and legal remedies is improved.
 - ☞ No refugees are deported for reasons of illegal entry or stay in the country.
 - ☞ Legal interventions are made in all cases of arbitrary detention.
- Laws and policies relevant to protection are developed and strengthened.
 - ☞ UNHCR assists the national authorities in the drafting, adoption and subsequent implementation of an asylum law consistent with international standards.

Basic needs and essential services

- Shelter and infrastructure are established, improved and maintained.
 - ☞ All vulnerable refugees have access to adequate shelter.
 - ☞ Some 128 vulnerable refugees receive basic food and non-food items.

Durable solutions

- The potential for resettlement is realized.
 - ☞ Some 30 extremely vulnerable refugees are submitted for resettlement.

SAHRAWI REFUGEES

Basic needs and essential services

- The supply of potable water is increased or maintained.
 - ☞ An average of 20 litres of water per person per day is distributed to refugees.
- The nutritional well-being of the population of concern is improved.
 - ☞ The global acute malnutrition rate is reduced to 5 per cent or under for children 6-59 months old.
 - ☞ Anaemia among pregnant and lactating women and children below five years of age is reduced by 20 per cent.
- The population has optimal access to education.
 - ☞ All children in the population of concern aged 6-11 are enrolled in primary school.
 - ☞ Some 90 per cent of school-age children have school materials and text books.
 - ☞ One school is rehabilitated.
- The health of the population is improved.
 - ☞ Some 50 per cent of essential laboratory services are provided.
- The population has enough access to fuel supplies.
 - ☞ An eight-month ration of cooking gas is provided to refugees.
- Food security is improved.
 - ☞ Some 650 metric tons (MT) of fresh foods for Ramadan are provided, as well as some 68 MT of dried yeast and some 150 MT of green tea.
- The population lives in satisfactory conditions of sanitation and hygiene.
 - ☞ Some 45,000 litres of bleach are provided.
 - ☞ Domestic waste is collected.

Favourable protection environment

- Administrative institutions and practices are developed or strengthened.
 - ☞ All arrested refugees have access to fair and timely trials.

Logistics and operational support

- Logistics and supply are optimized to serve operational needs.
 - ☞ A fleet of 32 water tankers, 12 delivery trucks, 14 ambulances and 25 light vehicles is maintained.

UNHCR's presence in 2013

□ Number of offices	2
□ Total staff	60
International	13
National	42
JPOs	1
UNVs	4

Strategy and activities

In urban situations, UNHCR will continue to implement its comprehensive strategy to enhance the asylum space in the country. In collaboration with partners, the Office will work to ensure protection-sensitive management of broader migratory movements within the framework of the 10-Point Plan of Action. Pending transfer to national asylum structures, UNHCR will continue to conduct registration and RSD under its mandate. Following adoption of the national asylum law, UNHCR will enhance its capacity-building initiatives to assist the Government in reinforcing asylum procedures.

In line with the shift in focus of the Sahrawi refugee programme from humanitarian aid to development-oriented activities, UNHCR will continue to invest in critical sectors such as water, nutrition, health and education. The Office will strengthen protection monitoring and interventions through field offices that have been established in the camps, which allow for regular home visits and improved identification of humanitarian needs. UNHCR will also continue to conduct human rights awareness campaigns in the camps and training sessions for law enforcement structures.

• Constraints

The main constraints in the urban context are the absence of regional and national migration strategies, the lack of legal and administrative asylum frameworks, and non-recognition of the status granted to refugees.

New security measures for UN and NGO staff in Tindouf have restricted movement to the Sahrawi refugee camps.

The withdrawal of Spanish NGOs in July 2012 has affected the delivery of humanitarian assistance. Moreover, bilateral support for the refugees has been reduced due to the global financial situation which has directly affected some European countries.

Organization and implementation

• Coordination

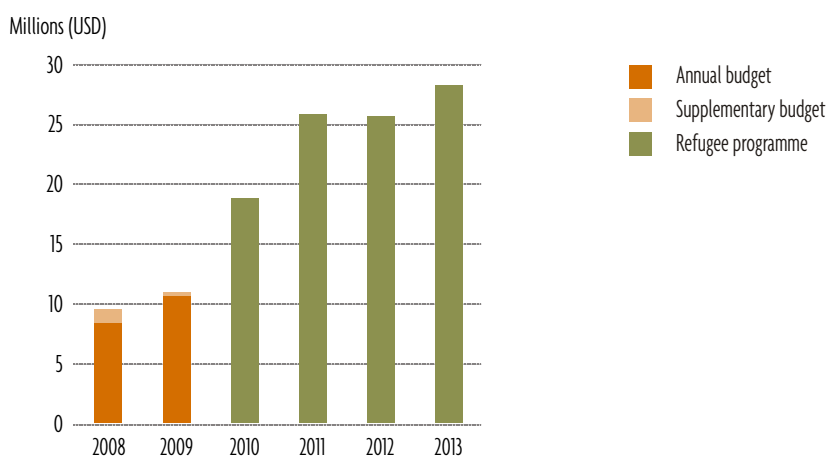
UNHCR will reinforce partnerships with IOM and NGOs to improve monitoring capacity and the understanding of migratory patterns affecting Algeria. UNHCR has partnership agreements with local NGOs and is part of a project with the *Consiglio Italiano per i Rifugiati (CIR)* on mixed migration. Additional national civil-society partners will be identified, even as UNHCR seeks more Government involvement in asylum issues.

UNHCR has a strong network of partners to implement programmes in the Sahrawi refugee camps. To enhance coordination with implementing and operational partners, UNHCR has established an operational base in the compound of Weather Haven in Rabouni, as well as a physical presence in the camps.

Financial information

The comprehensive budget for the operation in Algeria in 2013 amounts to USD 28.2 million, as compared to USD 25.6 million in 2012. The increase of USD 2.6 million is mainly for investments in critical sectors in the Sahrawi camps that will allow the progress made thus far to be sustained.

UNHCR's budget in Algeria 2008 – 2013





Sahrawi refugee children at school in Smara camp.

UNHCR/P. MATEU

Consequences of a funding shortfall

Urban refugees and asylum-seekers

- Health services would be limited to recognized refugees, while asylum-seekers would receive only life-saving/very urgent medical assistance.
- Some 50 vulnerable refugees would not have access to adequate shelter.
- Near 60 per cent of refugees would not receive non-food items.

Sahrawi refugees

- The aging fleet of potable water trucks for Sahrawi refugee camps would not be entirely renewed, making it difficult to meet the standard of 20 litres of water per person per day.
- Lack of training and financial incentives for health-care personnel would result in qualified staff seeking gainful employment outside the camps.
- Primary schools in camps would continue to lack basic furniture and stationary. Five primary schools would not be rehabilitated, reducing the availability of safe learning environments.

2013 UNHCR's budget in Algeria (USD)

BUDGET BREAKDOWN	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	TOTAL
Favourable protection environment		
Law and policy	41,100	41,100
Administrative institutions and practice	619,774	619,774
Access to legal assistance and remedies	99,283	99,283
Subtotal	760,157	760,157
Fair protection processes and documentation		
Refugee status determination	113,514	113,514
Subtotal	113,514	113,514
Security from violence and exploitation		
Prevention and response to SGBV	632,642	632,642
Freedom of movement and reduction of detention risks	276,041	276,041
Protection of children	78,194	78,194
Subtotal	986,877	986,877

PARTNERS

Implementing partners

NGOs

Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli
 Consiglio Italiano per i Rifugiati
 Enfants Réfugiés du Monde - Pays de la Loire
 Movimiento por la Paz
 Solidaridad Internacional Andalucía
 Triangle Génération Humanitaire
 MUNDUBAT

Others

Association des Femmes Algériennes pour le Développement
 Association Nationale d'Information et de Communication en Milieu de Jeunes
 CARITAS
 Croissant-Rouge algérien
 Spanish Red Cross
 Ligue Algérienne pour la Défense des Droits de l'Homme,
 Réseau Algérien pour la Protection des Droits de l'Enfant

Operational partners

Government agencies

Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Bureau Algérien pour les réfugiés et les apatrides (BAPRA)

Others

Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID)
 European Union
 UNDP
 WFP
 WHO

BUDGET BREAKDOWN	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	TOTAL
Basic needs and essential services		
Health	1,693,655	1,693,655
Reproductive health and HIV services	94,860	94,860
Nutrition	791,442	791,442
Food security	2,770,956	2,770,956
Water	4,362,057	4,362,057
Sanitation and hygiene	2,125,707	2,125,707
Shelter and infrastructure	1,726,700	1,726,700
Access to energy	1,388,281	1,388,281
Basic domestic items	1,222,224	1,222,224
Services for people with specific needs	907,424	907,424
Education	3,422,590	3,422,590
Subtotal	20,505,896	20,505,896
Community empowerment and self-reliance		
Self-reliance and livelihoods	1,136,707	1,136,707
Subtotal	1,136,707	1,136,707
Durable solutions		
Voluntary return	130,201	130,201
Resettlement	175,854	175,854
Subtotal	306,055	306,055
Leadership, coordination and partnerships		
Coordination and partnerships	236,455	236,455
Donor relations and resource mobilization	288,316	288,316
Subtotal	524,771	524,771
Logistics and operations support		
Logistics and supply	2,291,108	2,291,108
Operations management, coordination and support	1,543,571	1,543,571
Subtotal	3,834,679	3,834,679
Total	28,168,656	28,168,656
2012 Revised budget (as of 30 June 2012)	25,620,357	25,620,357