Annual Results Report

2024

Algeria

Acknowledgements

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Note:
The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

In 2024, the regional context was marked by increasing insecurity and political fragility, particularly in the Sahel.
UNHCR offered support to contribute with its expertise in the preparation and implementation of Algeria's new asylum law, which is currently under development. In the absence of a formal asylum framework, government-run reception systems and referral mechanisms, UNHCR continued to conduct registration and refugee status determination, issue asylum-seeker and refugee documentation. Although UNHCR-issued documentation offers some protection against refoulement, refugees and asylum-seekers continue to be detained during periodic roundups of irregular migrants. In 2024, UNHCR continued to advocate for the resumption of data-sharing on registered asylum-seekers and refugees; the issuance of government or joint documentation; and the release of detained asylum-seekers and refugees. UNHCR also continued its advocacy and training activities with national authorities.
Apart from Malian refugees, most refugees and asylum-seekers entering Algeria are part of broader mixed movements, with only a small number requiring international protection. Most refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants enter Algeria from Niger. As UNHCR does not have a presence outside of Algiers, it relies on information provided by operations in Sahel countries and partners present in the south. During a visit in December 2024, the Assistant High Commissioner for Operations suggested the establishment of a humanitarian hub in the south, led by the Algerian Red Crescent, which was received positively by the authorities. During the same visit, the authorities also expressed interest in collaborating with UNHCR on implementing the forthcoming asylum law and expanding resources for the humanitarian response to Sahrawi refugees.
Sahrawi refugees continued to face significant challenges in 2024, particularly due to limited opportunities for economic inclusion, which leave them heavily reliant on humanitarian aid. The lack of durable solutions has brought frustration among the community, particularly the youth. Additionally, the camps are situated in a harsh desert environment with extreme heat, minimal rainfall, and sudden floods, such as the one in September 2024, which worsened already difficult living conditions. Alarming trends in nutritional health have emerged, with rising rates of acute malnutrition and anaemia among children under five and women of reproductive age.
2024 marked the first of the two-year (Sahrawi Refugees Response Plan) SRRP, which garnered recognition from all stakeholders, including camp actors, the host government and the Sahrawi people. The plan raised awareness of the situation and streamlined resource the response. Both UNHCR's and overall support for the 28 actors in the camps increased, with around $ 70 million raised, covering 63% of the total 2024 requirements.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

By 2024, refugees enjoy asylum in line with international and regional protection standards.

Indicator		
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Actual (2024)**
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	75.49%	62.90%
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	87.89%	92.25%

Forcibly displaced individuals faced barriers to accessing the territory and asylum procedures, with no safe or fair mechanisms for identification, referral, and registration mechanisms at points of entry. Most refugees and asylum-seekers in mixed movements enter Algeria through the southern border, crossing the Sahara Desert to reach Algiers, often relying on smugglers or traffickers. UNHCR lacks access to the south, where UNHCR's office in Mali estimated that up to 50,000 Malians may have been displaced into Algeria since mid-2023. The difference between the baseline and the actual is due to the fact that asylum seekers miss their appointments for several reasons:
- Long waiting times (3-4 months) increase the chance of forgetting.
- Many are undocumented and lack access to the labor market, limiting their resources and ability to maintain a functional phone number.
- Without documents and with distant appointments, they face a higher risk of deportation.
- Some live far from Algiers and lack the resources to travel to the capital.

In 2024, the primary concern for refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas remained the risk of arrest and deportation. The distinction between migrants and refugees is not consistently understood by all authorities involved. UNHCR estimates that UNHCR-issued documentation helped prevent the arrest or secure the release of approximately 60 refugees and asylum-seekers who have been rounded up alongside migrants. Of note, the refugee card is more effective than the asylum-seeker certificate. UNHCR continues to advocate for Government-issued (or joint UNHCR-Government issued) documentation to asylum-seekers and refugees which would be expected to further enhance protection.

In 2024, 173 individuals, including 23 recognized refugees, were reported to have been deported to the border with Niger, most of whom were nationals from sub-Saharan countries. UNHCR intervened in each reported case of arrest, providing legal assistance, informally engaging with law enforcement, or utilizing diplomatic channels. As a result of these efforts, at least 60 individuals were released from detention following these interventions or by presenting UNHCR-issued documents. Additionally, UNHCR recorded 15,935 possible refoulement cases, including nationals from Mali, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, noting that some of these nationals originate from countries for which UNHCR has non-return advisories, such as Mali, while others originate from countries for which cessation is in place (Côte d'Ivoire or the rejection rate is near 100%, such as Liberia, Guinea, Benin).

In 2024, some progress was made in UNHCR's re-engagement with the Minister of Foreign Affairs' directorate responsible for refugees near Tindouf. A constructive meeting was held in July 2024, during which UNHCR worked to clarify misunderstandings about the scope of its documents. Specifically, it emphasized that while UNHCR's documents reflect the recognition of an individual as a refugee, they do not confer rights, which remain under the exclusive authority of the host State. UNHCR also proposed resuming data-sharing with the Government, subject to confidentiality and privacy obligations. Additionally, UNHCR identified areas where it could support the Government in developing and implementing its national asylum legislation. The Assistant High Commissioner for Operations' visit in December 2024 further reinforced these discussions.

Three in-country training sessions on the international protection of refugees were conducted, benefiting 88 representatives from the police, judiciary, and the legal partner. While Algeria has made no reservations to Article 26 of the 1951 Convention, in practice, the freedom of movement for undocumented urban refugees is restricted due to the requirement to hold valid identity documents in line with Law 08-11 on foreigners (Law No. 08-11 of 25 June 2008 is "Loi relative aux conditions d'entrée, de séjour et de circulation des étrangers en Algérie).

Sahrawi refugees are granted prima facie refugee status on a prima facie basis, meaning they are collectively recognized as refugees without individual assessment. Their status protects them from refoulement. Although in practice Sahrawis move freely within the country, according to legal regulations, Sahrawi refugees must obtain formal authorization to leave the camps and the Tindouf region. This authorization is granted only for valid reasons, such as seeking medical treatment not available in the camps or pursuing education outside the camps.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

By 2024 UNHCR, UN humanitarian agencies, partners and the authority will provide life-saving assistance to everyone concerned.

Indicator		
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Actual (2024)**
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	88.84%	92.29%
2.3 Proportion of people with access to health services		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	88.84%	91.71%

In 2024, UNHCR made significant progress in improving WASH, healthcare, education, and shelter services for Sahrawi refugees and asylum-seekers in Algeria. In the five refugee camps, UNHCR enhanced access to safe and reliable WASH facilities through a collaborative and consultative approach, prioritizing refugee participation in decision-making. Simultaneously, the healthcare system was strengthened across five key pillars: infrastructure, human resources, access to healthcare, health information systems, and nutrition. Key achievements included constructing a new maternity ward and emergency unit, conducting over 195,000 medical consultations, and treating 142 severely malnourished children with no deaths. Mental health services, dialysis for renal patients, and HIV care were also supported, alongside advocacy for refugees' inclusion in Algeria's national health system, which led to fee exemptions for forcibly displaced persons. Increased access to healthcare was driven by awareness-raising sessions, strategic partnerships, and free services in the camps, though challenges like limited medicine availability persisted.

UNHCR continued to seek protection and solutions, mitigating accommodation needs by providing cash assistance to 1,399 refugees for safe shelters and basic needs. This assistance supported 9.6% of the urban refugee population. With most refugees and asylum-seekers living below the poverty line, the most vulnerable groups, such as unaccompanied and separated children, women-at-risk, gender-based violence survivors, female heads of household, persons with disabilities, and others with specific needs, received exceptional assistance to meet their basic needs.

Most refugees in urban areas cannot afford decent housing due to limited livelihood opportunities, high rental costs, and documentation issues. UNHCR's ability to provide services is also limited due to FDSPs UNHCR managed to rehabilitate and equipped an emergency shelter for women at risk and gender-based violence survivors. These efforts collectively aimed to enhance protection, inclusion, and access to essential services for refugees and asylum-seekers in Algeria.

To better support the most vulnerable forcibly displaced persons, UNHCR has revised its cash-based assistance (CBI) targeting approach. Since the implementation of the CBI program for urban displaced

populations, a “blanket targeting” approach was applied, based solely on legal status. Initially, only refugees registered under "Individually Recognized Refugee" category in ProGres were eligible for cash assistance (796 beneficiaries in 2024), while vulnerable asylum seekers received a one-time cash assistance (exceptional cash) through case management (564 beneficiaries in 2024).
However, participatory assessments (2021, 2022, 2023) highlighted that many asylum seekers from different groups, including unaccompanied children, Women single parent, persons with disabilities, ... faced severe hardship in meeting their basic needs. The status-based targeting also excluded nationality groups without access to refugee status determination, such as Syrians, Yemenis, and Palestinians.
To address these gaps, UNHCR’s CBI Multi-Functional Team developed new eligibility criteria, integrating specific needs recorded in ProGres, as well as demographic and socioeconomic indicators. This new approach will be based on a prioritization system using a scorecard to ensure assistance reaches those most in need. The revised approach will take effect in July 2025.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

By 2024, refugees become more self-reliant through an improved socioeconomic inclusion, community mobilization and the promotion of gender equality.

Indicator		
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Actual (2024)**
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	0.00%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	95.86%	73.03%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	97.18%	49.10%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	87.89%	92.25%

In the urban context, UNHCR supported a number of refugees on a case-by-case basis to overcome barriers to accessing education. This support included assistance with documentation, registration, and transport fees. As a result, 61 % of the refugees are enrolled in primary education and 46 % in secondary education.

UNHCR conducted a survey within the community to understand their needs, skills, and professional goals, and to identify training tailored to their professional aspirations. The survey revealed a deteriorating sense of safety in the community. Safety and security emerged as primary concerns among refugees and asylum-seekers regarding their legal and physical protection. Despite these challenges, 92% of the refugees and asylum-seekers reported feeling safe walking alone in their neighborhoods.

In Algiers, UNHCR has made significant progress in promoting gender equality among refugees. Efforts have focused on ensuring equal access to education and vocational training for both women and men. Special programs were implemented to support women and girls, addressing specific challenges they face, such as gender-based violence and discrimination. These initiatives aim to empower women, enhance their skills, and improve their socio-economic status, contributing to a more inclusive and equitable community.

In 2024, UNHCR implemented a comprehensive strategy in the Tindouf camps to address community needs, focusing on capacity-building, education, and economic empowerment. Sahrawi women achieved significant representation, exceeding 80% in education and health sectors while also holding leadership roles in various administrative positions. Women’s representation in decision-making roles increased to 41%. In Collaborating with the Netherlands Football Federation (KNVB world coaches), UNHCR launched

a series of initiatives aimed at addressing youth vulnerabilities through sports. Over 3,500 girls and women participated in traditional games and volleyball competitions, fostering resilience and inclusion.

Education access for refugees and asylum-seekers also improved, with free education available in Algeria. In Sahrawi camps, UNHCR ensured one textbook per child for primary and lower secondary students, provided incentives to 1,200 teachers to reduce absenteeism, and maintained a %76.27% enrollment rate. Capacity-building programs trained 192 educators, while school supplies, uniforms, and equipment were provided to 38 schools. This effort is in line with UNHCR sustainable responses and inclusion into national education systems for refugees.

UNHCR also supported the development of context-specific learning materials and recognized outstanding students and teachers, fostering a safer and more effective learning environment. Economic empowerment initiatives advanced refugee self-reliance through skills training, entrepreneurship, and startup grants. A total of 203 women graduated from basic training and empowerment centers. Vocational training led to 49.5% of surveyed graduates securing paid employment. Additionally, 14 youth start-ups were launched, 136 businesses supported, and 425 youth benefited from financial grants and business associations. By the end of the year, 83% of new businesses reported increased profits, enabling refugees to contribute to local economies despite limited market opportunities.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

By 2024, refugees will enjoy their rights in the host country or in a third country in safety and dignity.

Indicator		
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Actual (2024)**
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	1
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	121	317
4.2b Number of people who departed through complementary pathways		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	6	7
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	1

UNHCR actively promoted and facilitated safe and dignified third-country solutions for refugees. In 2024, UNHCR coordinated with IOM and the national authorities to facilitate pre-departure formalities for 317 persons departing to resettlement countries. This is a stark increase compared to the 127 and 121 persons who departed for resettlement in the years 2022 and 2023 respectively, and it is mainly owed to the large number of persons interviewed by USCIS in 2023, approximately 245, resulting in 271 persons departing for the USA in 2024. In parallel, seven refugees and asylum-seekers accessed complementary pathways on family reunification grounds.

To broaden access to third-country admissions through complementary pathways, UNHCR established an internal multi-functional task force, bringing together protection, registration, information management, and external relations. This strengthened the early identification and referral of individuals potentially eligible for complementary pathways and enhanced advocacy efforts with foreign missions in Algiers. As a result of these efforts, the number of refugees departing through complementary pathways has been steadily increasing, reflecting growing opportunities for solutions beyond traditional resettlement.

One refugee voluntarily repatriated in 2024. The office continued to refer to IOM rejected asylum-seekers interested in returning to their country of origin. A project was launched for the legal attribution of residence cards to individuals who are in a regular situation and have legally entered the country. Thirty individuals in

a regular situation were referred to the administrative court to secure administrative procedures for obtaining residence cards. The legal procedures are lengthy and are still in progress. One Syrian refugee managed to obtain a time-bound residency permit that coincides with his work permit.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

The absence of a national asylum and protection framework in Algeria limits access to protection and hinders the identification, reception, and referral of asylum-seekers individuals in need of international protection. Algeria's Office for Refugees and Stateless People (BAPRA), within the MFA, currently has only one part-time staff member. Algeria is making progress in implementing new counter-trafficking legislation and may soon begin work in developing institutional and legislative frameworks building and legislative work related to migration management, regularization of foreign workers, and asylum. UNHCR is committed to ensuring that the transition of registration, refugee status determination, documentation, and other refugee protection activities to the Government does not create a long-term dependency on humanitarian funds.

The lack of protection services in southern Algeria exacerbates conditions for people on the move seeking international protection, forcing many to rely on smugglers and traffickers. Protection services for at-risk children, trafficking survivors, and GBV survivors are only available in Algiers, exposing leaving individuals in southern regions highly vulnerable. This absence of services at key transit points not only increases the risk of exploitation but also limits access safe and regular pathways and pushes them to take dangerous onward journeys.

Strengthening national protection systems through government support and multi-stakeholder collaboration is crucial to providing safe alternatives to irregular migration. While refugees and asylum-seekers in Algeria have access to education and primary health care, they face limited work opportunities and exclusion from national social protection. Resettlement remains the primary solution, though available places are insufficient. UNHCR-issued documents are generally recognized and afford some level of protection from refoulement, but expulsions to Niger continued, and civil society presence has declined. Challenges such as limited livelihoods, inadequate shelter, and barriers to education and healthcare persist, alongside risks of violence and expulsion. Efforts to enhance birth registration and GBV responses continue, but practical, legal and policy barriers hinder progress.

In the Tindouf camps, meaningful impact for refugees is significantly constrained by numerous challenges, including harsh weather conditions that exacerbate already difficult living conditions. Extreme heat, sandstorms, and occasional floods disrupt daily life and strain infrastructure. Environmental challenges, such as water scarcity and poor waste management, exacerbate living conditions. The insufficient water supply and inadequate sanitation not only pose health risks but also strain daily life. Additionally, access to essential services such as healthcare and education remains a critical issue. Healthcare facilities are under-resourced, with shortages of qualified medical personnel, outdated equipment, and insufficient drugs, particularly for chronic diseases. Education infrastructure is similarly strained, with overcrowded classrooms, a lack of qualified teachers, and insufficient teaching materials. These gaps hinder the provision of quality services and long-term improvements.

Economic opportunities are severely limited due to legal restrictions on formal employment and a lack of local market potential. While UNHCR and its partners have promoted self-reliance through vocational training, entrepreneurship, and microloans, the lack of a robust economic ecosystem limits the scalability and sustainability of these initiatives. Addressing these challenges requires sustained investment, innovative solutions, and stronger collaboration among humanitarian actors, refugee leadership, and international partners to create a more enabling environment for refugee self-reliance and well-being.

In line with UNHCR's commitment to sustainable responses to forced displacement, which uphold the principles of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), renewed efforts are needed to advocate with development partners and peace actors for solutions in the country of origin. The GCR serves as the foundation for a more predictable and equitable international response to forced displacement, recognizing that it is not solely a humanitarian issue but also a development challenge.
Refugees have been living in Tindouf since 1975. While efforts to integrate refugees into national systems—particularly education—are crucial for sustainable responses and inclusion in national services, limited economic inclusion hampers refugees' ability to become more self-reliant. This also affects UNHCR's shift away from financing refugees to remain in camps.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

In 2024, UNHCR Algeria formed 17 partnership agreements with 13 partners, including five national and eight international organizations. Of these, three partners were involved in urban programmes, eight international partners focused on supporting Sahrawi refugees in the five camps near Tindouf, and two national partners worked across both urban initiatives and Sahrawi refugee camp programs. Additionally, UNHCR Algeria carried out a partner selection process to establish partnerships for the multi-year strategy spanning 2025 to 2027.
Moreover, the inter-agency 2024-2025 Sahrawi Refuge Response Plan (SRRP) has gathered the efforts of 28 partners, appealing for $214 million to meet the critical needs of Sahrawi refugees. To ensure comprehensive humanitarian coverage, the SRRP adopted an updated planning figure of refugees in camps. This adjustment, introduced in 2024, reflected a more inclusive approach to identifying and supporting the most vulnerable refugees while strengthening partnerships and collaboration among stakeholders.
In 2024, UNHCR spearheaded the coordination of humanitarian efforts among UN agencies and NGOs in the Sahrawi refugee camps through the Refugee Coordination Model. Throughout the year, UNHCR and its partners held eight inter-agency/inter-sector working group meetings. These meetings focused on eight key sectors: protection, education, health, nutrition, shelter and energy, non-food items, water sanitation and hygiene (WASH), food security, and livelihoods and economic inclusion. The inter-sectoral and sector-specific meetings played a crucial role in shaping the refugee response plan, fostering effective coordination among partners, and facilitating information sharing and knowledge management across all sectors.

Additionally, four Sahrawi Refugee Partners Platform meetings were held in Algiers during 2024. These meetings brought together UN agencies, embassies in Algiers, donors based in Algiers, Sahrawi representatives, and the Algerian Government, further strengthening collaboration and support for the refugee response efforts.
UNHCR also participated in UN Network on Migration meetings, engaging proactively in discussions on strengthening State capacity to protect vulnerable individuals, including refugees and asylum-seekers. It initiated a sub-Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, bringing together UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, and UNODC to enhance coordination and support for trafficking victims. UNHCR worked closely with IOM to ensure the effective implementation of UNHCR-IOM cross-referral mechanisms and offered a training opportunity for IOM staff on identifying individuals in need of international protection within the context of mixed movements.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

By 2024, asylum-seekers are able to enter Algeria and access asylum in a safer manner and obtain joint registration procedures and joint or government issued documentation.

By 2024, the Sahrawi Central Statistics and Documentation Centre (SCSD) will be upgraded to an optimal standard of personnel, facilities, types of equipment and software to issue birth certificates, ID cards, driving licenses and travel documents for Sahrawi refugees.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	83.75%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	97.39%	73.00%	95.80%
1.3 Proportion of people with legally recognized identity documents or credentials			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	74.62%	100.00%	61.59%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,165
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	14,586

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR disseminated digital and printed materials widely to refugees and asylum-seekers in urban areas providing clear and accessible information on the asylum process, including registration and refugee status determination (RSD) procedures. This effort aimed to enhance awareness among asylum-seekers, particularly those who might face barriers to accessing in-person services., indeed the materials played a key role improving access by reaching individuals for example in remote areas, this ensured that more asylum seekers have access to information about how to exercise their right to seek protection.
To complement remote pre-registration modalities, the office also implemented a simplified in-person reception system. Individuals who present themselves directly at the office meet a dedicated staff member who conducts a counseling session during which clear and detailed explanations are provided about the asylum process, ensuring that individuals fully understand the steps involved. Furthermore, asylum applications can now be submitted more easily at the office, ensuring that individuals who face barriers

such as those without access to technology or in vulnerable situations are not left out; this approach enhances inclusivity by providing an accessible alternative for those who require in-person support.
In 2024, UNHCR received 5,105 new asylum applications from individuals of various nationalities. A total of 3,165 new refugees and asylum-seekers were individually registered, marking a significant effort to ensure their access to protection mechanisms. UNHCR provided new or renewed documentation to all registered individuals, demonstrating a commitment to safeguarding their legal status and rights.
As of 2024, neither UNHCR nor the host country has conducted formal refugee registration in the Saharawi refugee camps near Tindouf. Many Sahrawi refugees possess personal documentation issued by the Sahrawi Identification Center, which operates with support from UNHCR. The centres' services have been significantly enhanced through the development of a protective environment, improved institutional capacity, and optimized operations. With UNHCR's assistance, staff members have undergone capacity-building training, and 33 staff have received incentives to improve the quality of services provided. These services include the issuance, renewal, and replacement of ID cards and passports, as well as the collection of official documentation, which grants refugees the freedom of movement both within and outside the camps. To further improve efficiency, technology modernization initiatives have been implemented, enhancing security, upgrading software, and digitizing records. These advancements are expected to greatly enhance the centres' ability to handle daily service requests and streamline its operations.
According to Article 61 of the Algerian Civil Code, a child born in Algeria must be registered with the civil status office in the place of birth within five days (12 days in the south). Generally, there are no administrative barriers to child registration. Parents must present an ID document, and UNHCR documentation (refugee card or asylum-seeker certificate) is usually accepted. If the child is not registered within the prescribed timelines, late birth registration is possible. UNHCR provides legal assistance through its contracted lawyers. In 2024, UNHCR referred 32 children of concern to its contracted legal partner for late birth registration and obtaining birth certificates.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

By 2024, asylum-seekers have access to fair and efficient RSD processes and national asylum capacities are strengthened

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	315.00	180.00	559.00
2.2 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal representation			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	5.00%	100.00%
2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, with a view to increasing efficiency and safeguarding integrity of the asylum system, UNHCR used refugee status determination (RSD) strategically and continued to adapt and review its case processing modalities based on emerging trends and the overall protection environment. From January to December 2024, UNHCR made 563 first instance RSD decisions, of which 234 were recognition decisions. All asylum-seekers notified of the first-instance rejection of their claim had access to an effective appeal mechanism and UNHCR endorsed 207 appeal decisions during the reporting period. UNHCR processed cases under differentiated modalities based on the protection needs identified. The operation designed and implemented new simplified procedures for Sudanese non-Arabs from Darfur and further simplified existing procedures for Malians and claims from other nationalities deemed manifestly unfounded. In July 2024, a concrete pilot project was implemented on Manifestly Unfounded Claims processing such cases with accelerated procedures: By the end of 2024, 433 individuals were processed under this project, of whom 144 individuals were interviewed immediately after registration, while 289 individuals (63%) did not appear for their registration and interviews. All (100%) of the claims of those interviewed were rejected on first instance (131 claims or 90.9%) or upon appeal (40 claims or 27%), while 11 cases were referred to regular RSD procedures. The waiting period between registration and first instance interview for cases undergoing simplified or accelerated procedures was under six months. For cases with compelling and urgent protection needs, the operation prioritized their case processing and was able to finalize them with the average time of three months. A backlog reduction plan was designed and implemented during the reporting period. As a result, at the end of 2024, the backlog of pending interviews was 2,868 cases compared to 3,312 at the end of 2022, despite the significant number of new registrations in 2023.

The operation continued to advance toward a fair and transparent RSD procedure, aiming for a full implementation of the Procedural Standards for Refugee Status Determination under UNHCR's Mandate. These efforts included enhanced provisions related to child-friendly procedures, with the launch of a project related to support persons for unaccompanied and separated children during RSD, through which three unaccompanied children were assisted in 2024. Communication on asylum procedures was made clearer and more easily accessible on the Algeria information HELP site, leaflets and specific counselling lines on RSD procedures. Asylum-seekers could obtain regular information on the status of their case through the hotline and mailbox.
Efforts to advocate for a national asylum system continue. In mid-2024, UNHCR shared a two one-pagers document with the MFA DGACCNE on data-sharing and transitioning to a national asylum system. UNHCR also proposed the establishment of a regular forum for discussing refugee issues with the MFA. In the same vein, UNHCR trained law enforcement officials on inclusion and exclusion criteria, including during a Training of Trainer for judges for juveniles and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, providing a better understanding of the refugee definition and related protection needs of refugees.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

By 2024 the legislative framework and public policies in Algeria are strengthened to enable access to protection services for persons of concern and discrimination against persons of concern has decreased thought the improvement of public attitude.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Target (2024)**	**Actual (2024)**
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol			
None	Not yet aligned	Progressing toward alignment	Not yet aligned
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Not yet aligned	Progressing toward alignment	Progressing toward alignment

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Algeria is a signatory to several international instruments and conventions, including the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugee, its 1967 Protocol, the 1969 Organization of African Union Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, and the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons. However, it is not a party to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. While under Algerian law men and women have the equal right to convey their nationality to their children, significant gender inequalities remain in the Family and Penal Code (inheritance in the Family Code and provisions on femicide in the Penal Code). The nationality law could also be interpreted to bar persons with disabilities from naturalization. It contains no pathways to ensure the right to acquire nationality for children born in the country who would otherwise be stateless. There are no dedicated provisions for the naturalization of stateless persons, or procedures to identify stateless persons.

UNHCR, in agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, delivered three training sessions to Algerian law enforcement, police, and gendarmerie; 88 participants were trained in international refugee law and statelessness-related topics. In addition, UNHCR sponsored the training of four officials in total from the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the National Council of Human Rights (CNDH) respectively at the workshop of the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) in Sanremo, Italy, on the topic of Protection in Mixed Movements. Additionally, an official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was sponsored to participate in the Arabic Statelessness Course offered by the IIHL in Sanremo.

At the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, Algeria announced plans to introduce a national asylum legislation. The Government has indicated that this law would be followed by the establishment of a dedicated Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons. UNHCR continues to engage with the Government in relation to the anticipated adoption and implementation of national asylum legislation to ensure alignment with international standards and to maximize the protection of refugees and asylum-seekers. As an example, UNHCR provided two one-page documents to the MFA directorate responsible for the law, outlining data-sharing resumption and support for the transition to Government-led refugee protection. The Government of Algeria was also represented at an event convened by the League of Arab States at which the "Arab Declaration on Belonging and Legal Identity" was launched, and an action plan for its implementation was discussed among member states and relevant UN agencies and international and regional organizations.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

GBV risks are prevented and mitigated by GBV mainstreaming, community empowerment and engagement, and persons at risk or GBV survivors have timely access to quality response resources to develop resiliency.

Persons at risk or GBV survivors have access to support to build resiliency and GBV risks are prevented and mitigated through GBV mainstreaming and community empowerment and engagement.

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	**Actual (2024)**
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,318

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In the Sahrawi refugee camps near Tindouf, reports indicate a low prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV), although reliable data are scarce. GBV occurs in all communities, but there are considerable obstacles to reporting these incidents. For instance, Unmarried Sahrawi women with children, in particular, experience significant societal stigma and marginalization due to prevailing conservative norms. To address the challenges of underreporting, efforts are focused on tackling misconceptions, cultural barriers, and clarifying on GBV, as well as how to access available support services through MTEM (the technical mechanism of women empowerment) a sahrawi community group of 18 Sahrawi women has carried out awareness-raising and sensitization initiatives, reaching 693 Sahrawi refugees in total. Furthermore, 465 women and girls actively participated in the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign across the five camps. This campaign played a vital role in raising awareness and fostering social behavior change to combat GBV. .
UNHCR continues to enhance GBV prevention and response efforts in the Sahrawi refugee camps by providing ongoing technical and financial support to MTEM, enabling them to offer social and legal counseling to refugee women. To improve the effectiveness of their work, essential resources such as laptops, data projectors, tablets, and mobile banners were provided. These tools will help deliver more impactful awareness campaigns, streamline data collection, and ensure timely interventions, thereby strengthening support services for GBV survivors and boosting overall community engagement.
Additionally, the MTEM group completed nine training courses aimed at enhancing their capacity to assist refugees affected by GBV across the five camps
In 2024, significant advancements were achieved in tackling gender-based violence (GBV) within refugee and asylum-seeking populations in urban settings. Enhanced prevention, identification, and response mechanisms enabled nearly 160 at-risk individuals and survivors to receive comprehensive support, which included psychosocial, legal, and medical aid, as well as financial assistance and access to safe housing solutions. The UNHCR played a central role in coordinating efforts between internal teams and external partners, ensuring a more integrated and impactful approach. One of the major achievements was the establishment of an emergency shelter for GBV survivors. In collaboration with the Diocese of Algiers, a secure space was renovated, furnished, and equipped to provide immediate and tailored support.
Additionally, the development and implementation of standardized operating procedures (SOPs) for GBV case management and shelter operations enhanced coordination and responsiveness to reported cases. An updated referral mechanism and tracking system were also introduced to ensure rigorous case monitoring.
In terms of awareness-raising and prevention, campaigns and workshops reached nearly 200 people, fostering a better understanding of GBV and promoting protective behaviors. The 16 Days of Activism campaign alone sensitized approximately 60 individuals. Moreover, targeted training sessions were provided to partners and community actors on GBV case management and gender equality, strengthening their capacity to respond effectively. These achievements were made possible through close collaboration with implementing partners, community volunteers, and the refugee association. The involvement of community leaders in mapping shelter solutions further expanded the available options for survivors.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Child protection mechanisms are strengthened, and risks of violence, exploitation and abuse of children are prevented and addressed, while bolstering their participation in child protection programs.

Risk of violence, exploitation and abuse of children are prevented, identified and addressed, and inclusion in the national child protection services is strengthened .

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Target (2024)**	**Actual (2024)**
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	57.62%	80.00%	14.03%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8.57%	50.00%	5.72%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	30.00%	40.00%	18.13%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	**Actual (2024)**
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	318

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, progress was made towards the inclusion of refugee and asylum-seeking children at risk, particularly unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), into Algeria's national child protection system. A significant milestone was achieved with the placement of two UASCs in national child protection centers, marking a first step towards their integration into the national system. Additionally, 135 Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) and Best Interest Determinations (BIDs) were conducted, benefiting 120 children (73 boys and 47 girls), representing 14 % of the registered children at risk in the operation (962). Furthermore, 70 UASCs (27 girls and 43 boys) were supported with emergency shelter under alternative care arrangements which represents 18% of the total number of UASC active in the operation (386).
UNHCR played a key role in strengthening child protection services in Algiers, ensuring essential support for children at heightened risk through the Best Interest Procedure (BIP), case management, and psychosocial support. UNHCR also engaged with national stakeholders to advocate for the inclusion of UASCs into the national child protection system, which led to the placement of two children in national child protection centers. Additionally, UNHCR contributed to capacity-building efforts by delivering a specialized training for juvenile judges, reaching 29 magistrates responsible for child protection at the national level. This training aimed to enhance their understanding of international child protection standards and improve the legal framework for UASCs.
National stakeholders, including child protection authorities and the judiciary, played a crucial role in advancing the inclusion of refugee and asylum-seeking children into the national protection system. In 2024, their collaboration resulted in the placement of two unaccompanied children in national child protection centers, marking a significant step toward integrating UASCs into the system. Additionally, judicial authorities engaged with UNHCR to strengthen legal and institutional frameworks, with 29 magistrates responsible for child protection receiving specialized training on international child protection standards. This capacity-building initiative aimed to enhance the legal protection and support available to

UASCs within the national system.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

By 2024, access to justice is improved, with expanded access for women, youth, and the most vulnerable refugees, ensuring that Persons with Specific Needs have access to all social services and programmes.

Persons of concern enjoy freedom of movement and have effective access to legal remedies and appeal processes and persons of concern with specific needs are protected through specialized assistance services.

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	**Actual (2024)**
06.1.1 Number of people who received legal assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	106

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR intervened in cases of arrest and detention through the provision of legal assistance, direct engagement with law enforcement, and formal diplomatic communication with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to facilitate the release of refugees and asylum-seekers and prevent their expulsion. Some individuals were also released upon presenting UNHCR documentation. Among the 566 individuals arrested and detained, at least 60 were released through UNHCR intervention or recognition of UNHCR documentation. An unspecified number of refugees and asylum-seekers reported having avoided arrest after showing their refugee and a/s documentation. Public officials' knowledge of international refugee law remains limited, highlighting the ongoing need for capacity-building among magistrates and law enforcement. To address this, UNHCR implemented 3 capacity-building training sessions, including a Training of Trainers, engaging 88 magistrates, juvenile judges and the national police, and gendarmerie officers. Additionally, UNHCR supported 5 government officials from the Ministries of Interior, Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Council of Human Rights (CNDH) to participate in a course facilitated by the International Institute of Humanitarian Law in Sanremo, Italy, to strengthen their understanding of protection in mixed movements. Additionally, an official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was sponsored to participate in the Arabic Statelessness Course offered by the IIHL in Sanremo. UNHCR also advocated with the authorities for strengthening the asylum capacity and transitioning to joint documentation.

UNHCR has bolstered the legal and judicial system within the Sahrawi refugee camps near Tindouf by offering both technical and financial support. During the reporting period, incentives were provided to 296 judicial staff members. Furthermore, UNHCR facilitated the training of 115 judicial personnel, including 17 judges and prosecutors, 21 protection center staff, 40 imams, 20 lawyers, and 17 clerks. The training program encompassed a range of topics such as judicial reconciliation, legal defenses, lawyer immunity, criminal court procedures, formal protocols in the Code of Criminal Procedure, and an overview of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In addition, UNHCR continued its support for the Sahrawi National Commission of Human Rights, "CONASADAH," by providing further training to its lawyers. These lawyers play a vital role in promoting human rights by delivering lectures on children's rights and raising general legal awareness within the community.
In the Sahrawi refugee camps near Tindouf, no refugees were subjected to arrest or detention in

connection with immigration control or their legal status.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

By 2024, refugees from Western Sahara participate more extensively and meaningfully in the various stages of the Operation Management Cycle by ensuring equal participation in community consultation, increasing gender representation in the existing community structures, and supporting the PSNs

PoC participate more extensively and meaningfully in the various stages of the OMC

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Target (2024)**	**Actual (2024)**
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Extensive	Extensive	Extensive
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	81.93%	100.00%	100.00%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	77.00%	100.00%	73.82%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	**Actual (2024)**
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	709
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,966
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	129,343

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR maintained its engagement in the Sahrawi refugee camps in 2024 by applying an Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) approach, involving 560 participants (51% female) in various community-based structures and consultations. These consultations identified the strengths and needs of the Sahrawi refugees, amplified their voices in decision-making, and ensured their inclusion throughout the program cycle. Additionally, UNHCR supported a tailored capacity-building strategy to address community needs and monitor engagement across different demographic groups.

Sahrawi women's representation has consistently exceeded 80% across multiple sectors, particularly in education and health, where they constitute 87.07% and 81% of personnel, respectively. Women have also gained leadership and management roles, accounting for 24% of the General Secretariat, 60% of camp governors, 47% of district delegates, and 100% of mayors. In collaboration with the Netherlands Football Federation (KNVB world coaches), UNHCR has implemented various initiatives to mitigate emerging risks among youth, including rising incidents of drug trafficking and theft reported since the previous year. These initiatives feature Football sports coaching sessions tailored for 23 Sahrawi coaches, including persons with disabilities, who participated in week-long KNVB World Coaches training workshops. These sessions focused on life skills, football rules, community tolerance, self-resilience, social inclusion, and overall well-being, aiming for long-term positive outcomes.
Under the KNVB program, 120 students (10% female) benefited from sports activities. Additionally, the Sahrawi department of youth and sport organized sports programs where 3,477 girls and women from the five camps participated in traditional games and volleyball competitions over the past year.

UNHCR in Algiers promoted meaningful engagement of the forcibly displaced people through community-based structures and thematic consultations with 9968 refugees and asylum-seekers. Consultations supported refugees and asylum-seekers to express themselves and participate in decision-making during the program cycle. Communication took place through two-way channels with UNHCR that reached 996 persons. Urban refugees' and asylum-seekers' priorities were collected during participatory assessments (PAs), community leaders and outreach volunteers' consultations, feedback from communication channels, and other surveys. In 2024, UNHCR conducted PAs for 149 urban refugees and asylum-seekers, out of whom 51% were female and SOGIESC mixed, to discuss priorities and main concerns from 12 different groups. Separate consultations were conducted with persons with disabilities. Community engagement activities promoting female participation in leadership structures were either directly implemented or mainstreamed into the work of partners implementing activities. The community volunteer program in its constant efforts for inclusion and women empowerment have seen appointed two female OV's dedicated to gender-based violence and women empowerment and inclusion. The extent of participation of displaced and stateless people across program phases supported through the invitation of community leaders and members men and women to the multiyear strategy meetings consultation, and the number of the forcibly displaced who accessed feedback and response mechanisms reached 1600 individuals.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

By 2024, Sahrawi refugees have enhanced access to sustainable, safe, and affordable household cooking fuel and are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs.

Persons of concern with heightened risk can meet their basic needs

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3.88%	8.00%	92.99%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.37%	15.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,399

08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	174,999
08.3.1 Number of people supported with improved cooking options	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	118,800

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, in Algiers, a total of 699 households, comprising 1,399 individuals, 587 females and 812 males, received at least one type of cash assistance, enabling them to meet essential needs such as food, rent payments, transportation, hygiene products, and other urgent needs. This support was provided through the Cash-Based Interventions (CBI) Program, designed to assist the most vulnerable urban refugees.
Among these households, 424 received cash assistance specifically dedicated to housing, alleviating their rental burden and ensuring access to dignified living conditions.
Furthermore, 188 women and girls of reproductive age received additional support for the acquisition of hygiene kits, ensuring their access to essential products and contributing to the preservation of their health and dignity. Among the beneficiaries, 564 asylum seekers received emergency cash assistance, granted as a one-time payment based on an assessment of their specific needs. This included persons with disabilities, unaccompanied children, women single-parent, elderly individuals living alone, and other vulnerable groups, as well as large, income-deprived families facing socio-economic hardship. This support ensured an adequate response to their urgent needs.
Additionally, 40 individuals received an education cash grant under the DAFI Program. This financial support aims to ease their daily expenses related to transportation, food, and the payment of mobile and internet packages, enabling them to pursue their studies under better conditions.
In the context of Tindouf refugee camps, UNHCR distributed 393,386 gas cylinders to 28,092 refugee households at a rate of 1 gas cylinder per household per month, covering the five refugee camps, namely Layoune, Awserd, Smara, Boujdour and Dakhla.
UNHCR provides LPG (Liquified Petroleum Gas) which is in line with SDG 7 indicator on clean fuels and technology and significantly contributed to households' access to clean cooking fuels and technology.
To complement WFP's monthly food distribution, UNHCR provided 61,798 MT of dried yeast annually (5,618 MT per month) to 28,092 refugee households at a rate of 200 g per household per month, covering 11 months of the years. In addition to UNHCR's contribution, the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) covered the month of September with 5,618 MT. The distribution of yeast is essential in meeting refugee households' +basic needs and contributing to food security.
As part of its emergency preparedness and response efforts, and in line with ongoing risk analysis and monitoring, UNHCR procured essential core relief items (CRIs) to replenish and bolster existing emergency stocks. These items included 1,012 kitchen sets, 5,040 blankets, 5,040 sleeping mats, 2,000 jerrycans (10 liters), 2,040 buckets, and 1,049 fire-retardant plastic tarps. This procurement aimed to enhance the capacity to respond effectively to potential emergencies.

9. Outcome Area: Sustainable Housing and Settlements

Persons of concern have increased access to settlement infrastructure and women at risk and UASC have access to safe shelter

Promote environmentally friendly shelters and safe and sustainable access to energy.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Target (2024)**	**Actual (2024)**
9.1 Proportion of people living in habitable and affordable housing			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	25.35%	12.00%	38.61%
9.2 Proportion of people that have energy to ensure lighting			

Refugees and Asylum-seekers	92.00%	58.00%	92.65%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator Population Type	Actual (2024)
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	650

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In the context of Tindouf refugee camps, UNHCR procured 1,005 units of tent material kits while the distribution is yet to be conducted as not all materials were received in time.
Following the floods that hit Dakhla refugee camp in Tindouf in September 2024, UNHCR, in collaboration with its partners, launched an emergency response including distribution of shelter, core relief items (CRIs), and food commodities to support the affected families and houses. This initiative aimed to address the urgent needs of affected families who lost their homes and belongings.
Prior the response, an Inter-Agency rapid assessment exercise was conducted in Dakhla camp covering the most affected locations (Dairas), namely Jraifia and Um-Draigua. The goal of the assessment was to identify the most affected families and assess their needs to provide adequate support and help rebuild their damaged houses.
In contribution to the Inter-Agency emergency response, UNHCR provided essential construction materials to 244 affected households to support them in reconstructing their damaged houses. The construction material included 132,800 bricks, 3,320 zinc sheets, and 699 iron pillar bases. Additionally, other agencies such as Spanish Red Cross (SRC), Algerian Red Crescent (ARC) and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) provided extra construction materials to the affected families. As part of the emergency preparedness and response actions, and based on the emergency risk analysis and monitoring, UNHCR procured core relief items (CRIs) to replenish and support the existing emergency stock managed by the refugee community with the financial support of partners, particularly the Spanish Red Cross (SRC). UNHCR provided emergency shelter and CRIs including 300 emergency family tents (fire retardant).

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

All PoCs will have full and free access to primary, secondary and tertiary health care (including reproductive health/STIs/HIV, mental health and palliative care), through advocacy for a more effective inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in the national health system.

Persons of concern have access to public health services (including primary, secondary, and tertiary care; HIV and reproductive health; and Nutrition).

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	95.87%	100.00%	97.38%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	97.83%	100.00%	98.42%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator Population Type	Actual (2024)
10.1.1 Number of individual consultations in UNHCR supported health care services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	175,249
10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,762

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR and its health partners continued supporting the healthcare system in the Sahrawi refugee camps by strengthening its five pillars: Infrastructure, Access to Healthcare, Human Resources, Health Information System (HIS) and Nutrition.
Infrastructure: a new maternity ward and emergency unit were constructed in Awserd camp, improving access to reproductive health services and emergency care for around 40,000 refugees. The camps' central hospital was also renovated, allowing to resume medical activities and reducing referrals to Tindouf hospital. Human Resources: UNHCR provided incentive payments to 48 Sahrawi doctors, 29 clinical officers and around 400 community health workers. It also covered running costs for the paramedical school in Smara camp, where 90 students were enrolled, and 30 graduated in 2024 (21 nurses and 9 midwives). Access to Healthcare: Approximately 195,300 medical consultations were conducted across the five camps. 4,317 pregnant women benefited from reproductive health care and safe delivery, and four new ambulances were provided. UNHCR supported a medical shelter at Algiers which received 104 Saharawi refugees needing oncology care and supported daily transportation for 74 renal patients requiring dialysis in Tindouf hospital (7,900 sessions total, free). MHPSS included +1500 individual sessions, psycho-pedagogical support for 144 pupils in schools, 135 community awareness sessions, and 27 group sessions for parents and teachers.
Health Information System (HIS): UNHCR supported data collection and analysis, provided continuous training, and paid incentives to HIS team.
Nutrition: UNHCR, WFP, and UNICEF elaborated a multisectoral nutrition strategy (2025–2030) to address malnutrition causes identified in a 2023–2024 causality study. UNHCR established a nutrition stabilization center and provided nutrition supplies to treat severe malnutrition cases. 142 severely malnourished children were treated, with no reported deaths. In urban context, 4,074 medical referrals were facilitated, mostly in public facilities (85%). 115 pregnant women received prenatal care and safe deliveries, while 108 medical emergencies were addressed with civil protection support. To promote inclusion of forcibly displaced persons in Algeria's national health system, the Ministry of Health exempted FDSP from fees for public healthcare imposed on foreigners in 2023. Renal patients were integrated into public healthcare, with 15 enrolled in urban dialysis programs and 74 refugees in Tindouf camps, in parallel, UNHCR funded two dialysis stations at CHU Mustapha. Collaboration with civil society also succeeded, with four associations supporting 213 refugees, particularly those with chronic illnesses. Through the UN HIV Fund, UNHCR, UNAIDS, and the Algerian Ministry of Health organized 02 workshops to develop a national guide for HIV treatment adherence. In 2024, 58 HIV patients received regular medical care. UNHCR also conducted training on chronic disease management and a mental health PM+ training (problem management +).

11. Outcome Area: Education

By 2024, enhanced learning environments and quality education will be available in the Sahrawi camps for primary, intermediate, secondary, vocational training, university, and continuous learning and maintaining scholarships in the host country and abroad.

Inclusion and retention of refugees and asylum-seekers in the Algerian national education system is strengthened.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
11.1 Proportion of young people enrolled in tertiary and higher education			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	13%	8%	32%
11.2 Proportion of children and young people enrolled in the national education system			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	78%	76%	75%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	42,349

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR Algeria made significant strides toward improving access to education for refugee and asylum-seeking children in urban settings. By addressing key barriers such as language differences, and challenges in adapting to the local education system, UNHCR worked closely with implementing partners to facilitate school enrollment and integration.

The UNHCR's efforts focused on ensuring refugees and asylum-seekers were integrated into both primary and secondary education. Key initiatives included providing transportation support for vulnerable students, distributing school supplies to the most at-risk families, and organizing sensitization campaigns for schools to create more inclusive environments. These actions benefited over 1,700 children and led to greater inclusivity, including for children with disabilities, who were supported in accessing specialized institutions and receiving necessary accommodations.

A significant new initiative in 2024 was the introduction of literacy courses for refugees, which had never been offered before. This initiative, made possible through close follow-up with the implementing partner responsible for education, ensured that refugees now have access to literacy training. This new opportunity provides essential skills for refugees, particularly older youth, allowing them to better integrate into the host society and improving their future prospects.

Additionally, UNHCR strengthened its commitment to higher education for refugee students in Algeria. Through capacity-building initiatives and scholarship programs, such as the DAFI scholarship, 42 refugee students gained access to higher education, providing them with new academic and professional opportunities. This support has empowered these students to pursue a more stable future and to integrate better into the host society. In the Sahrawi camps, UNHCR and education stakeholders continued their efforts to enhance students' retention and improve the quality of education within a safe learning environment. Notable progress was made through the timely provision of textbooks to primary and lower secondary students, achieving the goal of one book per child.

To reduce absenteeism and bolster the education system, quarterly incentives were offered to approximately 1,200 teachers and educational staff. Consequently, the Sahrawi education department reported that the enrollment rate for primary and secondary education remained stable at approximately 90%. However, the actual enrollment rate stands at 76.27%. UNHCR continued to prioritize capacity-building initiatives, with 192 teachers, inspectors, and school directors participating in two specialized training courses focused on innovative teaching methods. The provision of teaching materials to the two training centers in the camps further ensured the smooth execution of these courses. In addition, school supplies and equipment maintenance were guaranteed for 38 schools, and 4,000 school uniforms for students, along with 250 teacher uniforms, were distributed.

Through its partner AFAD, UNHCR also sustained its support for the June 9 printing center, supplying consumables to produce additional learning materials specifically tailored to the Sahrawi context, including manuals on civic education, history, and geography. Moreover, UNHCR facilitated the recognition and rewarding of outstanding students and teachers at the conclusion of the school year.

12. Outcome Area: Clean Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Sahrawi refugees living in the five camps in Tindouf can access safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Target (2024)**	**Actual (2024)**
12.1 Proportion of people using at least basic drinking water services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100%	100.00%	100%
12.2 Proportion of people with access to a safe household toilet			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	99%	98.00%	85%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	**Actual (2024)**
12.1.1 Number of people supported with access to water and/or sanitation services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	173,600

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR, in partnership with six NGOs, continued to improve WASH services, ensuring access to safe facilities for Sahrawi refugees across the five camps. UNHCR led the sector coordination through a consultative approach that emphasized refugee participation in decision-making. Eight multi-stakeholder coordination meetings and over ten bilateral sessions were conducted to address challenges and enhance collaboration. WASH sector needs were updated, and projects were aligned with the multi-year strategy and the Sahrawi Refugee Response Plan.
Key achievements included the installation of a new reverse osmosis plant with a capacity of 70 m³/hour, increasing total capacity to 138 m³/hour. This upgrade enhanced water distribution in Smara and Boujdour camps and reduced maintenance costs. Two 240 m³ reservoirs were constructed in Smara, boosting storage and distribution. UNHCR also paid salaries and incentives for WASH staff and covered the procurement of spare parts and equipment for 19 boreholes, 3 reverse osmosis plants, 3 pumping stations, 27 reservoirs, 28 tanker trucks, and the water networks.
In response to challenges identified during the May 2023 hydrogeological mission, a field mission in Layoune camp in early 2024 addressed high sand content, declining borehole productivity, and pump failures. Interventions included air-lifting to remove sand and securely lowering pumps with sleeve extensions. These efforts increased the cumulative flow rate from 17.4 l/s in 2023 to 23.7 l/s, nearly double the pre-2023 rate of 12 l/s. Other donor and partner contributions enabled water network extensions in Boujdour and Smara camps, reducing reliance on water trucks, while Algeria's provision of groundwater at no charge ensured a consistent year-round water supply.
In 2024, a total of 1,547,837 m³ of water was produced and distributed across the five camps: 358,940 m³ in Layoune, 361,772 m³ in Smara, 167,727 m³ in Boujdour, 294,233 m³ in Ausserd, and 367,337 m³ in Dakhla. By year-end, 65% of water was distributed via networks, with the remainder transported by trucks. Dakhla achieved 81% network reliance, while Boujdour relied on trucks for 58%.

For hygiene, UNHCR supported local production of 7,000 soaps daily and 8,660 liters of bleach monthly. Soap was distributed to 173,600 refugees and 125 facilities, while bleach was used for chlorination and disinfection. Hygiene kits were provided to 48,400 women and girls.
Waste management systems were enhanced, with 17 UNHCR-funded garbage trucks collecting 261 m³ of waste daily. In addition, UNHCR continued supporting the plastic recycling project, which processed over

10,000 kg of plastic waste monthly, achieved 70% self-sufficiency, employed seven refugees full-time, and indirectly benefited over 20 other refugees through waste collection and sales.
These efforts, in collaboration with stakeholders, significantly improved WASH services, promoting better health and living conditions for Sahrawi refugees.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

By 2024 refugees and asylum seekers living in urban area have expanded access to job market.

Refugees have access to decent self-employment in the country of asylum.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	**Baseline**	**Target (2024)**	**Actual (2024)**
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1%	2 %	8%
13.2. Proportion of people who self-report positive changes in their income compared to previous year			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	8%	8%	2%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	**Actual (2024)**
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,140

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR and its partners have enhanced refugee self-reliance through skills training, entrepreneurship, and self-sustaining businesses, aligning with the Global Compact on Refugees' objectives. The 7th edition of the entrepreneurship course, with an 87% completion rate, equipped participants with essential business skills. Additionally, in 2024, 203 women graduated from empowerment centers with training in administration, IT, languages, and sewing, with most camp administrators being graduates from these centers. Vocational training programs expanded across four centres offering 12 market-oriented specialties equipping 91 young refugees with essential skills. Nearly 50% of graduates are now employed, with over 36% working in their trained fields, showcasing a significant improvement in youth employability and economic inclusion. Sectors such as domestic electricity and air conditioning reported employment rates exceeding 57% highlighting the effectiveness of aligning training with market needs Despite legal restrictions on formal employment, around 300 baccalaureate graduates annually can open postal accounts to receive scholarships, presenting an opportunity to advocate for expanded financial inclusion.
Access to finance remained a priority. In 2024, 164 female-headed households received microloans, prioritizing those supporting at least five family members. These women received financial management and sustainable development training, ensuring their businesses aligned with market needs and strengthened women's economic participation. Women's leadership also progressed, with representation in decision-making roles rising from 26% to 41%, while participation in health and education reached 81.07% and 87%, respectively, reflecting a shift toward gender-inclusive economic development.
Youth empowerment was a key focus. UNHCR and its partners supported 136 businesses, launched 14

start-ups, and provided 22 financial grants. Commercial exhibitions expanded networking opportunities, and marketing while five business associations and a second savings and loan association benefited 425 youth through advanced business training and coaching. By December 2024, all new businesses were operational, with 83.15% reporting increased monthly profits and 58.43% expanding. These investments enabled refugees to contribute to host economies as entrepreneurs and consumers despite the limited local market opportunities.
In Algiers, a project to facilitate the obtention of work permits for refugees, involving the economic inclusion partner, was initiated in 2024. Support is in progress for 38 Syrian refugees.
In 2024, a total of 62 refugees and asylum seekers, 47 women and 15 men, benefited from tailored training programs in various fields such as sewing, jewellery-making, mural painting, plumbing, and electrical work. Among them, 18 beneficiaries - 12 women and 6 men - received professional equipment kits along with a soft skills training package designed to strengthen their entrepreneurial capacities. This additional support aimed to enhance their ability to effectively manage their small businesses and improve their economic prospects.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

By 2024, resettlement opportunities are increased, and persons of concern have the option of settling in a third country through complementary pathways

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	171	350	165

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
15.1.1 Country issues machine-readable travel documents	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	No

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR used resettlement strategically as a durable solution and a protection tool, including for refugees with emergency and urgent, compelling protection needs. In 2024, UNHCR submitted 165 individuals (67 cases) for resettlement to third countries, of whom 105 persons were submitted to Canada, 57 to the USA, 2 to Norway, and 1 to France. Thus, the allocated quotas by USA and Canada were met, while urgent protection also through the unallocated global quota was enabled. Almost half of the cases (49%) were submitted under emergency or urgent priority. Refugees with heightened protection needs as well as at legal and physical protection risks were prioritized, including LGBTIQ+, women-at-risk, and survivors of violence and/or torture, based on a proactive identification mechanism of resettlement needs. UNHCR continued to manage refugees' expectations through counselling and providing transparent information on identification, procedures, and limitations regarding resettlement. Refugees in the resettlement pipeline were able to obtain information on the development of their cases in person on reception days, via email, or telephone. UNHCR continued to liaise with the relevant resettlement-country authorities and embassies on post-submission case processing.
UNHCR also coordinated with IOM and the Algerian authorities to facilitate pre-departure formalities for

resettlement cases, and 317 persons departed in 2024 to resettlement countries.
UNHCR facilitated 7 departures through complementary pathways. A proactive approach to early identification of individuals potentially eligible for family reunification and targeted information-sharing with education pathways candidates has been maintained. These efforts were supported by an internal multi-functional task force, which strengthened coordination across different units to expand access to third-country admissions through complementary pathways. The number of people departing through complementary pathways has been steadily increasing over years, reflecting growing opportunities for solutions beyond traditional resettlement.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

By 2024, the strategy aims to increase opportunities for local integration and provide persons of concern with increased opportunities to settle in the host country

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
16.1.1.Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Partially
16.2.1 Number of people supported by UNHCR to acquire nationality, permanent residency status or to access naturalization procedures	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	30

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Despite limited prospects for local integration in Algeria, efforts have been made to support the regularization of residence for vulnerable individuals. Modest progress has been achieved in issuing residence cards to those entering through regular channels and complying with national laws. However, due to the broader operational context, local integration was deprioritized midway through the multi-year strategy. While these incremental efforts reflect a commitment to addressing integration challenges within the existing legal framework, continued advocacy and support are essential to streamline processes and expand opportunities for legal residence and integration.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

UNHCR in Algiers promoted meaningful engagement of forcibly displaced people through community-based structures and thematic consultations with 996 refugees and asylum-seekers. These consultations enabled them to express themselves and participate in decision-making during the programme cycle. Communication occurred through various two-way channels. Urban refugees' and asylum-seekers' priorities were collected during participatory assessments (PAs), community leaders and outreach volunteers' consultations, feedback from communication channels, and other surveys.

In 2024, UNHCR conducted PAs with 149 urban refugees and asylum-seekers (51% female and SOGIESC mixed) to discuss priorities and main concerns from 12 different groups. Community engagement activities promoting female participation in leadership structures were either directly implemented or integrated into partners' activities. The community volunteer program in its constant efforts for inclusion and women empowerment have seen appointed two female OVs dedicated to gender-based violence and women empowerment and inclusion. The extent of participation of displaced and stateless people across program phases supported through the invitation of community leaders and members men and women to the multiyear strategy meetings consultation, and the proportion of the forcibly displaced who accessed feedback and response mechanisms reached 1600 individuals.

The Participatory Assessment and Age, Gender, and Diversity (PA/AGD) exercise conducted in October 2024 in the Tindouf refugee camps aimed to ensure the voices of all community members, regardless of age, gender, or diversity, were heard and integrated into humanitarian programming. The exercise involved 60 focus group discussions (FGDs) with over 560 participants, including children, adolescents, adults, and the elderly, as well as key informants and sector specialists. The FGDs focused on three main themes: Health/Nutrition, Education, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene). The process was designed to enhance accountability to affected populations (AAP) by promoting meaningful inclusion, feedback, and transparency, ensuring that community priorities and needs were documented and addressed in planning processes.

The findings revealed significant challenges across all sectors. In Health/Nutrition, refugees faced limited access to medical services, inadequate infrastructure, and shortages of essential medications and healthcare professionals. Education challenges included overcrowded schools, insufficient teaching materials, and a lack of qualified teachers, particularly in critical subjects like French and English. WASH issues highlighted insufficient water supply, poor waste management, and inadequate hygiene facilities, particularly in schools and public institutions. The community proposed actionable recommendations, such as improving healthcare accessibility, rehabilitating schools, increasing water distribution, and enhancing waste management systems.

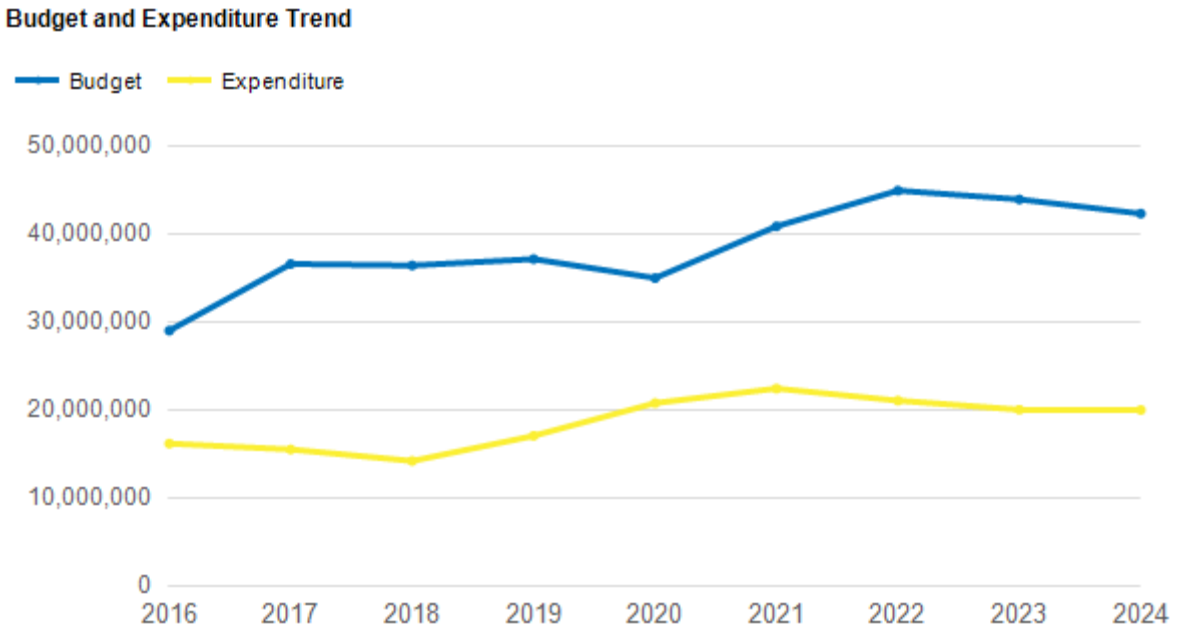
Section 3: Resources

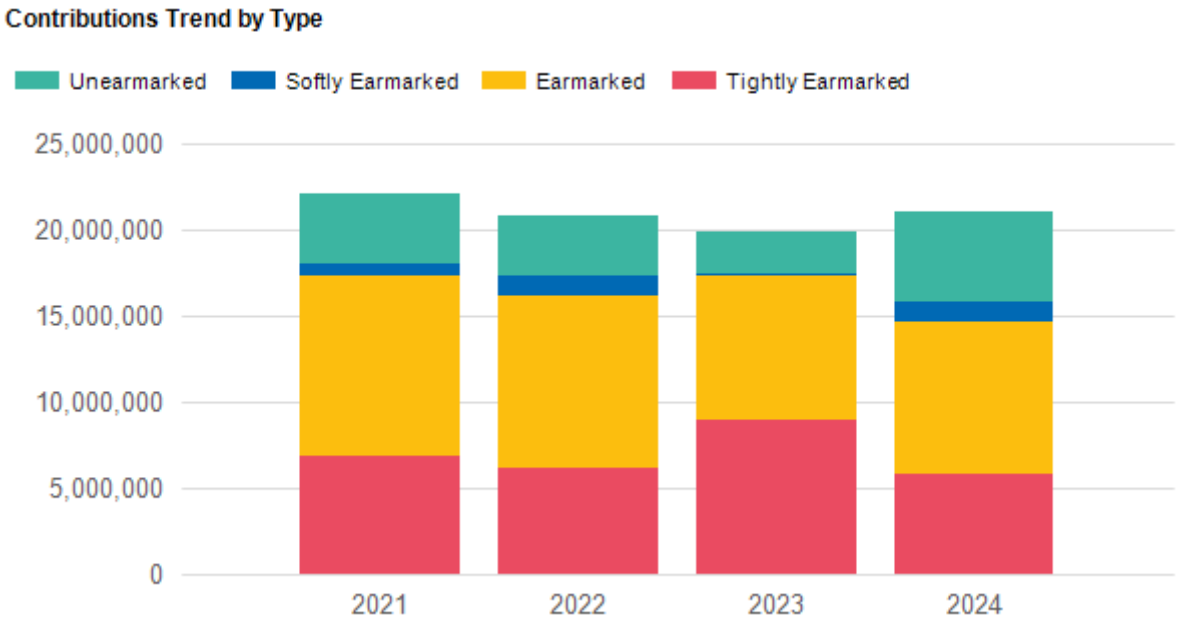
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	4,583,910	3,545,573	77.35%	3,015,195	85.04%
IA2: Assist	27,935,698	13,071,539	46.79%	13,071,539	100.00%
IA3: Empower	9,025,000	3,492,365	38.70%	3,492,365	100.00%
IA4: Solve	702,996	378,269	53.81%	378,269	100.00%
All Impact Areas		835,375			
Total	**42,247,604**	**21,323,121**	**50.47%**	**19,957,368**	**93.59%**

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	912,576	791,936	86.78%	791,936	100.00%
OA2: Status	565,985	517,456	91.43%	517,456	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	580,576	481,282	82.90%	481,282	100.00%
OA4: GBV	701,774	421,880	60.12%	421,880	100.00%
OA5: Children	368,871	478,338	129.68%	236,913	49.53%
OA6: Justice	2,524,773	1,224,520	48.50%	1,224,520	100.00%
OA7: Community	986,774	402,518	40.79%	402,518	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	4,508,796	2,917,174	64.70%	2,628,221	90.09%
OA9: Housing	2,304,037	1,200,522	52.11%	1,200,522	100.00%
OA10: Health	7,142,114	2,722,965	38.13%	2,722,965	100.00%
OA11: Education	4,671,774	1,309,596	28.03%	1,309,596	100.00%
OA12: WASH	10,693,637	4,323,649	40.43%	4,323,649	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	2,295,806	1,121,457	48.85%	1,121,457	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	626,282	331,981	53.01%	331,981	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	76,714	46,288	60.34%	46,288	100.00%
EA18: Support	2,900,796	1,877,797	64.73%	1,877,797	100.00%
EA20: External	386,318	318,386	82.42%	318,386	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		835,375			
Total	**42,247,604**	**21,323,121**	**50.47%**	**19,957,368**	**93.59%**





3.2. Resources Overview

UNHCR Algeria faces persistent underfunding, having secured only 47% of its $ 42.25 million financial requirements for 2024. This shortfall has severely constrained the operation's ability to address the needs of displaced populations across critical sectors, including protection, health and nutrition, WASH, livelihoods, shelter, energy, non−food items, education, and food security. Fluctuating funding has further deepened vulnerabilities within affected populations and disrupted long-term planning for sustainable responses.
To address these challenges, UNHCR Algeria adopted a strategic and participatory approach to resource allocation. This involved prioritizing the most urgent needs through a Multi-Functional Team (MFT) and engaging partners and refugee leadership in decision-making processes. Despite limited resources,

UNHCR remained committed to delivering lifesaving assistance and protection solutions. The operation relies on a robust needs assessment process, drawing on data from nutrition surveys, joint assessments (JAM), participatory assessments (PA-AGD), baseline data reviews, and multisectoral monitoring reports. This evidence-based approach ensures that available resources are directed toward the most critical areas. Nevertheless, despite these efforts, significant funding gaps persist across all sectors, leaving many urgent needs unmet. This underscores the critical need for increased financial support from the international community, donors, and other stakeholders.

Without additional funding, UNHCR risks being unable to provide essential services, potentially worsening the vulnerabilities and living conditions of displaced populations. Strengthened support is essential to ensuring a comprehensive and sustainable humanitarian response for refugees in Algeria. However, all evidence points to an increased likelihood of funding cuts, which will increase the need to find smarter, more efficient solutions. UNHCR’s intentions in this regard are outlined in the strategic reorientation section of this document.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

UNHCR plans to enhance the efficiency of its registration and status determination processes while simultaneously focusing on transitioning these responsibilities to the host Government, in alignment with international standards once national asylum legislation if introduced. This will include maximising RSD efficiencies through reinforced simplified modalities and refocusing efforts and resources towards capacity development of government counterparts at both policy and technical level, as well as institution-building training.
Currently, UNHCR has no presence in the south, and the Government has not permitted involvement with displaced populations. However, during the AHC-O's mission there was some receptivity to the idea of UNHCR joining the establishment of a humanitarian hub in the south, led by the Algerian Red Crescent. The hub would focus on the provision of healthcare and basic assistance. Meanwhile,
UNHCR aims to continue strengthening its collaboration with partners, such as IOM and Algerian Red Crescent, which has a presence throughout the country and provides health and basic item support to FDPs in the south, and key ministries through the participation in the interministerial committee and support to the forcibly displaced and stateless persons in the south. IOM accesses the south through missions, and UNHCR is reinforcing its cross-referral SOP with IOM to strengthen the identification of FDSPs in need of protection outside Algiers.

The Sahrawi Refugee Response Plan (SRRP) has demonstrated its value as a framework for improving coordination, fundraising, and humanitarian response efforts. By consolidating the needs of Sahrawi refugees into a single, comprehensive document, the SRRP provided a clear and unified framework for all stakeholders, improving alignment and minimizing duplication of efforts. This approach has fostered stronger collaboration among UN agencies, NGOs, and stakeholders, ensuring a more coordinated and efficient response. The SRRP also strengthened fundraising efforts by presenting donors with a coherent and evidence-based case that highlighted critical gaps and priorities. The success of the SRRP underscores the importance of a consolidated needs assessment in driving effective humanitarian action, fostering accountability, and ensuring that resources are allocated where they are most needed. This model can serve as a best practice, demonstrating the value of unified planning and strategic coordination.

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