



*Sahrawi refugee women in traditional dress. UNHCR*

## HIGHLIGHTS ALGIERS AND TINDOUF

**6,783**

Persons of concern registered with UNHCR Algiers; 6,211 are Syrians

**177**

Refugees of whom 18 were accepted for resettlement by the United States

**100%**

School-aged children (30,979) in Tindouf are enrolled in primary education

**18 litres**

Potable water available per person per day in Sahrawi refugee camps

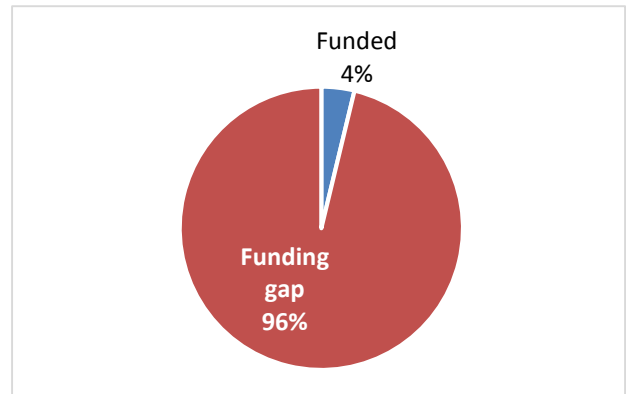
### Population of concern

A total of **96,783** people of concern  
By country of origin

| Country                     | Total PoCs |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Syria                       | 6,211      |
| Palestinian Territories     | 98         |
| Mali                        | 84         |
| Others                      | 390        |
| Total PoCs registered       | 6,783      |
| Vulnerable Sahrawi refugees | 90,000     |

### Funding Received

USD 1.09 million



### UNHCR Presence

#### Staff:

- 41 national staff
- 13 international staff
- 2 National UNVs

#### Offices:

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



*Tents provided by UNHCR in support of refugees affected by heavy rains and flooding in October 2015, Awserd and Laayoune camps. UNHCR/M.Re*

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

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- UNHCR works closely with the Algerian Government through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including the Office for Refugees and Stateless Persons (Bureau Algérien Pour les Réfugiés et les Apatrides – BAPRA). UNHCR works with 11 partners in Algeria.
- UNHCR Algeria is a member of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT). To support the Sahrawi refugee programme in **Tindouf**, UNHCR works in close coordination with the World Food Programme (WFP) for food assistance and with the UN Children Agency (UNICEF) on health, education and activities for children. UNHCR in Tindouf is the lead humanitarian agency for inter-agency efforts, and also leads monthly sectoral coordination meetings in the Health and WASH sectors.

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

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### Protection

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Pending the establishment of an effective national asylum system in Algeria, UNHCR undertakes a range of protection and assistance activities through its Offices in Algiers and Tindouf.

- In **Algiers**, UNHCR is registering asylum-seekers, determining refugee status, intervening in cases of detention and providing targeted assistance to the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers including survivors of violence or unaccompanied minors.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR is assisting 90,000 vulnerable Sahrawi refugees who are living in five refugee camps, through participatory approaches to encourage engagement and self-management, in particular for youth. Assistance includes various sectors such as protection, education, water & sanitation, health, food & nutrition, and shelter. UNHCR is conducting outreach activities and regular home visits to identify persons with specific needs and adapt its assistance; 3,000 persons living with disabilities are receiving specific attention. UNHCR is also offering training opportunities to officials from the Sahrawi legal institutions, social workers and partner staff to reinforce local capacities, for instance with regard to judicial procedures.

### Education

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- In **Algiers**, UNHCR, through its partners, actively supports the enrolment of refugee children in public schools.
- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR is supporting the school system as a whole, by providing financial incentives to some 1,700 school teachers and offering material, equipment, and training opportunities. As part of the public infrastructure rehabilitation phase of the flood response, UNHCR will rehabilitate 10 primary schools (50 classrooms).

### Health and Nutrition

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- Refugees registered in **Algiers** have access to healthcare. Where necessary and possible, UNHCR supports medical treatment not covered by the national scheme, for instance specific medication and laboratory tests.
- UNHCR is supporting 60 per cent of the costs associated with medical materials and consumables in the refugee camps near **Tindouf** and is supporting some 20 doctors from the Sahrawi community working in five regional hospitals. UNHCR is supporting the Sahrawi referral system by maintaining an ambulance fleet, and renting a “case sociale” in Algiers for patients referred from the camps to Algiers. Jointly with WFP and the Algerian Red Crescent (ARC), UNHCR is providing supplementary feeding for malnourished children and pregnant or lactating women, and implementing a joint program of prevention against anemia and chronic malnutrition. UNHCR is also improving access to mental and psychosocial support.

### Water and Sanitation

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- In **Tindouf**, UNHCR is enhancing the Sahrawi water management system to provide 18 litres of drinkable water per person per day. UNHCR distributes hygiene kits for women and girls and supporting the local production of soap and bleach for the five camps.

## Shelter and NFIs

UNHCR is providing shelter and essential basic items to the most vulnerable refugees.

- In **Algiers**, UNHCR is providing shelter, a monthly food basket and some NFIs to urban refugee families on the basis of vulnerability assessments. Around 150 refugees and a small number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers have been provided shelter or received cash to pay their rent.
- In **Tindouf**, as part of the emergency shelter response after the October 2015 flooding, UNHCR provided 4,205 emergency family tents and much needed shelter relief items to vulnerable families in the five camps: 10,350 fleece blankets, 2,000 jerry cans, 1,834 kitchen sets, 319 plastic rolls, and 1,319 plastic sheets. The next phase of UNHCR's emergency shelter response will be the provision of shelter materials for 2,000 vulnerable families to rehabilitate their houses; and the direct rehabilitation of 200 family houses and 10 primary schools (50 classrooms).

## Access to Energy

- Gas distribution: In **Tindouf**, UNHCR is refilling gas cylinders for 27,000 Sahrawi families every month. UNHCR contributes gas for eight of the 12 months, with the other four months covered through other sources. UNHCR annually provides cooking stoves; the last distribution took place in December 2015.

## Logistics

- Through its partner Triangle, UNHCR is maintaining the large fleet of trucks required to provide assistance to Sahrawi refugees. UNHCR's partner ARC ensures the delivery of assistance from Oran port to **Tindouf** for the Sahrawi refugees, including taking care of customs clearance procedures.

## Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR supports community empowerment and helping refugees to achieve self-reliance in Algeria. In **Tindouf**, UNHCR supports three women's centres. Sahrawi women are well represented in all sectoral departments, including in executive positions (25%). UNHCR is also supporting youth centres, a library, and cultural activities and workshops on the rights of Sahrawi women and the preservation of Sahrawi cultural heritage.
- UNHCR supports three vocational training centres, through incentives for the teachers and staff, raw materials, as well as tools and equipment. The centres provide 2-year courses in electricity, carpentry, sewing and computers. 400 youth refugees are benefiting in the current school year. UNHCR supports three bakeries in the camps, which were re-launched by UNHCR. All are operational as of December 2015.

## Durable Solutions

- Based on its mandate, UNHCR constantly seeks durable solutions for refugees in Algeria, either by supporting their voluntary return, or, for those who can neither go back home nor stay in Algeria, assisting with resettlement to a third country. In 2016, UNHCR plans to resettle around 20 individuals in third countries.

UNHCR appreciates contributions of donors, who have provided un-earmarked and broadly earmarked contributions to UNHCR, as well as the following donors who have directly contributed to the operation:

- Private Donors
- Switzerland

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