Country name: Algeria

Agenda item(s): Fighting against child poverty,

education during emergencies

UNICEF-JUNIOR COMITTEE (MIDDLE SCHOOL)

Algeria is located in Maghreb region of North Africa. It is the latest country in Africa. Algeria is bordered to Tunisia, Libya, Niger, Mali, Morocco, and to the north by the Mediterran sea. Algeria covers an area of 2,381,741 square kilometers, making it the world's tenth nation by area. It is the 32nd most crowded area in the world. Algeria mostly speaks Arabic and Berber. However aside from that as a side language they speak french. Algerians are mostly muslim. Algeria has a population of 45,258,000. Their money is Algerian Dinar. They don’t have a good education system. Only 10-15 million Algerians currently go to school.

Most of the healthcare is free for most of the Algerians. However, in Algeria infant mortality rate is 32% in addition, 10% of the children are not vaccinated. Which is a reason for child poverty. Not being vaccinated can go into health problems and that can lead to family spending too much money on hospitals. In Algeria that isn’t the entire case because Algeria has a free healthcare for MOST of the Algerians. The reason I said most was sometimes these vaccines can cost a lot on money. For example, the Covid-19 vaccine. Algeria may find itself at a disadvantage compared to Morocco and Egypt, which have made greater progress countering the pandemic. The longer Algeria’s economic change is delayed, the more likely it is that the country will have to resort to external financing. If the country’s economic crisis becomes more acute, the president would likely reshuffle the cabinet to shift blame. And this can resort to (especially child) poverty. And another reason that causes child poverty is parents’ low income/salary in their jobs. Mainly parents are a big role in the child’s care. And In 2019, the average monthly net salary in Algeria's public sector amounted to 58,354 Algerian dinars (around 420 U.S. dollars). Which is very low. Furthermore, there aren’t that many job options in Algeria as well. Additionally in 2020 12.83 percent of Algerian citizens were unemployed. So, parents’ bad salary has a lot to do with this. About child education: one of the main reasons for lack of child education in in Algeria (and most of the other places) is poverty. So, all of the reasons that counts to child poverty also counts to here. People also do not think about natural disasters, while building schools. Algeria is prone to earthquakes, floods, drought, landslides, locust infestation and tsunamis. Between 2015 and 2017, Algeria was affected by floods in south-west areas, mainly arid Tandouf, which hosts five Sahrawi Refugee camps. And schools around mountains/huge hills are affected the most by these because mostly landslides happen in Algeria. Additionally, aside from natural disasters, education of kids is affected by quarantines. A great example of this can be the Covid-19 quarantine. Aside from Algeria, people and schools are mostly affected by this because people (mostly kids) cannot go to schools, and this turns in to them not being well educated.

Even if it seems that all hope is lost there is still a bunch more options. According to the National Statistics Office, Algeria has experienced significant reductions in poverty levels, falling to **5.5% in 2011** from 14.1% in 1995. According to the Central intelligence agency the population below the poverty line in Algeria as of 2011 is estimated to be 5.5%, and rates of extreme poverty sit at 0.5%. One of the big solutions to child poverty is building more hospitals. And having more doctors/ nurses there. And with hospitals some childcare services including orphanages since sometimes parents are not able to take care of their children. And about child education, schools should be in more safe and better places. And schools should be paying about supplies and other useful things for students in these kinds of situations. For example: paying for computers, pencils, desks, with boards and stuff like that. And last but certainly not least, we need to start collecting donations. Even if there are some websites for donation, these are not enough. Including Algeria and other poor countries, people should hang out more build boards, make more advertisements in different applications and do much more. That way we can get out of this bad situation.

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