



**EGYPT TRANSITIONAL INTERIM
COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN
(2018)**

Duration	January – June 2018
Total cost to WFP	USD 38,847,723
Gender and Age Marker Code	2a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since 2014, Egypt has taken a number of concrete steps towards ensuring social, political and economic stability. A new constitution was ratified in 2014, emphasizing inclusiveness and social justice, and the Government introduced Egypt's Vision 2030, a ten-pillar roadmap to address the country's economic, social and environmental development. A series of economic reforms supported the gradual improvement of the economy, with the real gross domestic product growth reaching 4.3 percent in 2015/16, a significant recovery from its lowest level of about 2.1 percent between 2010/11 and 2013/14.

Although there have been evident improvements in the economy, Egypt continues to face major challenges that include poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition, spatial and social disparity, gender-based inequality, and environmental degradation. The Government implements a large social protection system that provides food subsidies to vulnerable members of the population, including to pregnant and lactating women, school children, people with disabilities and the elderly, though large inclusion and exclusion criteria remain major challenges. Since 2016, the weakened value of the Egyptian Pound has contributed to significant inflation in food prices, which has further contributed to rising food insecurity across the country. Given that Egypt is a mass importer of a number of staple goods, including wheat and corn, national food systems are highly vulnerable to internal and external factors. Adding further strain to existing resources, Egypt has been host to large numbers of refugees from Syria and other neighbouring countries since 2011.

Egypt has achieved many of the Millennium Development Goals, namely halving the proportion of the population living in extreme poverty and hunger, reducing the under-five mortality rate, and halving the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation.¹ Egypt's Vision 2030 articulates clearly the strategy and commitment of the Government towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 and providing inclusive and equitable social protection for all citizens. WFP is now in carrying out extensive consultations with the Government on the alignment of WFP activities within their national plan, focusing on areas where WFP's expertise can strengthen national programmes and fill the gaps in Government coverage and reach. To ensure continuity and stability of support in this period, this transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan has been developed in line with Egypt's Vision 2030. Accordingly, the relevant areas of support which will be focused upon in these six months are:

- Strategic outcome 1: Food insecure and most vulnerable children and families in targeted areas of Egypt have access to adequate food all year round.
- Strategic outcome 2: Food insecure refugees and host communities in Egypt have access to adequate food all year round.

¹ UNDP and Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform. 2015. Egypt's progress towards MDGs.

- Strategic outcome 3: Targeted populations in Egypt have improved nutritional status by 2030.
- Strategic outcome 4: Smallholder farmer and Bedouin communities in the most vulnerable Governorates of Egypt have resilient livelihoods by 2030.
- Strategic outcome 5: The Government of Egypt has enhanced capacity to identify, target and assist vulnerable populations to achieve zero hunger by 2030.

Strategic outcomes have incorporated lessons learned from past and current WFP operations, extensive consultations with the Government, donors and partners, and other stakeholders. The overall focus of this plan is to ensure uninterrupted support to the Government of Egypt in WFP's transition period, and continue strengthening national capacity to tackle the underlying causes of vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition while responding to humanitarian needs. This transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan contributes to Egypt's United Nations Partnership Development Framework, WFP's Strategic Results 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 as well as Sustainable Development Goals 2, 3, 4, 13 and 17.

1. COUNTRY ANALYSIS

1.1. COUNTRY CONTEXT

1. Egypt, Africa's third most populous country, is a lower-middle-income country with a population of 92 million,² of whom more than half are under the age of 24. Egypt's population is rapidly growing with a fertility rate of 3.53 children per woman, and mothers' mean age at first birth at 22.7 years.³ The growing population places a strain on resources and is a serious challenge to sustainable development in Egypt.
2. Since 2011, Egypt's economy has encountered numerous challenges from regional insecurity and local political instability to declining tourism. Poverty⁴ and spatial inequality⁵ are major human development challenges in Egypt, where 28 percent of the population was recorded as living below the national income poverty line in 2015, up from 19 percent in 2005 and 25 percent in 2011.⁶ Fluctuations in currency exchange rate and local macro-economic challenges have had a direct impact on the food and nutrition situation in-country.
3. Bedouin communities in frontier governorates are among the most food insecure populations in Egypt with significantly low food production and scarce water resources. They experience harsh seasonal shortages of food due to recurrent drought and sandstorms, with which they cope by borrowing money, eliminating essential food items from their diet

² CAPMAS. <http://www.capmas.gov.eg>. Accessed March 2017.

³ Central Intelligence Agency (US). The World Fact Book. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/eg.html>. Accessed March 2017.

⁴ World Bank. 2004. A Poverty Reduction Strategy for Egypt.

⁵ Ministry of Investment and International Cooperation 2015. Egypt's Inclusive Economic Development Program for Lagging Regions 2015/16 - 2020/21.

⁶ WFP Egypt CO. 2017. Egypt Food Security Review (draft).

and by consuming lower quantities of food in general. Women, the majority of whom have never attended school, are particularly vulnerable as they are settled in communities with no access to basic education or literacy programmes and have limited income generation opportunities. Grazing activities are overseen by men, who have ownership of the animal herds and receive the resulting income.

4. Malnutrition is a growing public health concern, with high rates of stunting, micronutrient deficiencies, overweight and obesity. Poor hygiene and food consumption habits contribute to the double burden of malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months, reproductive age women and adolescent girls and boys in particular. It is estimated that the economic and social cost of child undernutrition in Egypt in 2009 was EGP 20.3 billion, and without measures to combat it, this cost is expected to increase to EGP 26.8 billion by 2025.⁷ In addition to income poverty, low levels of nutrition awareness and unhealthy eating habits contribute to malnutrition among poor and vulnerable households.
5. The United Nations Gender Inequality Index shows that Egypt falls behind with respect to gender equality, ranking 131st out of 156 countries in 2014. At the national level, there is increasing awareness of the vital need to promote gender equality in Egypt. The National Council for Women recently launched the National Strategy for Women's Empowerment 2030, aligned with global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Egypt's Vision. The strategy highlights some of the key underlying challenges, including the low participation of women in the labour force and high unemployment among women amounting to 24 percent (nearly three times that of men).⁸
6. As of September 2017, 123,000 refugees from Syria were registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in addition to 87,000 refugees and asylum seekers from surrounding countries including Eritrea, South Sudan, Sudan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, and Yemen.⁹ Vulnerability assessments found that 23 percent of Syrian refugees were food insecure while an additional 36 percent were found to be marginally food secure or vulnerable to food insecurity.¹⁰ This, together with the substantial migrant population, places a significant burden on Egypt's public services, including on shelter, education, health and water, particularly for host communities who may themselves be vulnerable to food insecurity and poverty. The Government of Egypt has underlined a holistic and resilience-based approach, ensuring that stakeholders provide support to both vulnerable refugees and host communities alike.

⁷ IDSC. 2013. The Cost of Hunger in Egypt: Implications of child undernutrition on the social and economic development of Egypt.

⁸ World Bank Databank, 2016.

⁹ UNHCR Statistics 2017.

¹⁰ 2016 Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR), UNHCR-WFP. *The 2016 EVAR is a joint UNHCR/WFP household survey that was coordinated by UNHCR for Syrian refugee households in Egypt. As the survey is conducted at a household level, age and sex disaggregated data is not available.*

1.2. PROGRESS TOWARDS SDG 2

➤ *Progress on SDG 2 targets*

7. To achieve SDG 2, Egypt has made a firm commitment towards tackling the transformative 2030 agenda, demonstrated in the formulation of Egypt's Vision 2030. All ten pillars of Egypt's strategy indirectly address and support SDG 2. Gender mainstreaming and the promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment are a priority of this plan.¹¹

Access to food

8. The Government of Egypt implements a large social protection system that provides, among others, food subsidies. However, this system suffers from large errors of inclusion and exclusion whereby a significant number of non-poor households have access to ration cards while a substantial proportion of the poor do not. In 2015, the Government, with support from the World Bank, introduced a targeted cash transfer programme, Takaful and Karama (solidarity and dignity), which will reach 1.5 million households by the end of 2017. This programme provides cash transfers to the poorest and most vulnerable people, particularly pregnant and lactating women (PLW), families with children under the age of 18, the elderly and persons with disabilities.
9. School meals have become an important element of the national social protection system.¹² School meals are considered as: i) a component of the national social protection system to ensure access to food for all, ii) a means of achieving the national goal of 'education for all by 2030', and iii) a sustainable investment in human capital.
10. A vulnerability assessment review of Syrian refugees in Egypt for 2016¹³ showed that food insecurity was mainly an issue of household capacity to access food, leading refugees to rely on relatively cheaper foods, with low inclusion of animal protein and micronutrients. Food insecurity was found to increase in households with low capacity to generate income, particularly households with fewer than two members able to work, whose head is either temporarily employed, out of the labour force or a woman. The majority (89 percent) of refugees in the region are concentrated among vulnerable host communities in poor urban centres, which is contributing to overcrowding and competition over public infrastructure and services including safe water and sanitation, education, and primary health care, and has resulted in increased the costs of basic needs such as rent, food, and fuel.
11. Vulnerability to food and nutrition insecurity among refugee populations was found to decrease with international assistance, education, and income earning opportunities. The poor retention of refugee girls and boys in schools is a key concern however, with reports showing that up to a third of Syrian refugee children are not enrolled in schools.¹⁴ Furthermore, the influx of refugees has added additional pressure on the local education system, which already faces inadequate infrastructure, resources and capacities to deal with overcrowding.

¹¹ Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform. 2016. Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt's Vision 2030.

¹² Ministry of Education. 2014. Strategic Plan for Pre-University Education 2014 -2030.

¹³2016 EVAR, UNHCR-WFP

¹⁴ <http://www.egyptindependent.com/third-syrian-refugee-kids-not-school-despite-pledges/> April 2016.

End malnutrition

12. Malnutrition is a significant problem in Egypt, manifesting in different forms including undernutrition, micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity. According to the 2014 Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), 21 percent of children under 5 were stunted while 10 percent were severely stunted, with prevalence reaching 37 percent in parts of Upper Egypt. Among refugees from Syria, assessments showed 23 percent of boys and 20 percent of girls under 5 were stunted.¹⁵ Overweight and obesity rates show that 15 percent of children under 5 were either overweight or obese, in addition to 36 percent of girls and 29 percent of boys aged 15-19.¹⁶ Women of reproductive age (15-49 years) were found to be particularly at risk, with 85 percent found to be either overweight or obese. In contrast, while the proportion of girls who were overweight or obese increased with age, boys exhibited the opposite pattern.¹⁷
13. Intestinal worm infections, which contribute to anaemia, malnourishment, and impaired mental and physical development, are prevalent in rural areas in Egypt due to poor sanitation facilities and inadequate hygiene. National school deworming programmes organised by the Ministry of Health and Population and the Ministry of Education provide treatment coverage to over 80 percent of at-risk children and work to raise awareness on proper hygiene and nutrition practices among teachers, children and their families.
14. Micronutrient deficiencies, particularly iron deficiency, present a significant challenge to combatting malnutrition. According to the 2014 DHS, 27 percent of children under 5 suffered from anaemia, most of whom lived in rural areas and frontier governorates, while a quarter of women of reproductive age and 28 percent of lactating women suffered from anaemia.¹⁸ Among girls and boys aged 5-19, 21 percent of girls and 18 percent of boys were found to be anaemic.
15. Breastfeeding rates are declining among Egyptian mothers with only 39 percent of infants exclusively breastfed for their first six months in 2014 compared to 53 percent in 2008. The median duration of exclusive breastfeeding is falling regardless of location, educational status, work status or wealth quintile, with an average of 1.8 months in 2014 compared to 2.6 months in 2008 and 3 months in 2000.¹⁹

Smallholder productivity and incomes

16. Small-scale agriculture is the primary source of income for the majority of households living in rural areas, who comprise 55 percent of the population. Small-scale farmers, of whom only four percent are women,²⁰ face serious constraints to increase their incomes: land fragmentation, lack of opportunities to diversify into more profitable crops, poor water use management, and limited access to finance, extension services and markets. More than

¹⁵ Syria Regional PRRO 200987

¹⁶ Egypt DHS, 2014

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ CAPMAS and UNICEF. 2016. Ibid.

¹⁹ CAPMAS and UNICEF. 2016. Ibid.

²⁰ FAO Regional Conference for the Near East, 33rd Session: Rome, Italy. April 2016.

60 percent of farmers in rural Upper Egypt own less than one *feddan*,²¹ which is barely sufficient to keep an average household above the poverty line. Up to 29 percent of women in rural Upper Egypt were engaged in agricultural work as well, though 56 percent were not paid for their work and were mostly employed by a family member.²² Climate change is a serious challenge to smallholders, particularly as Upper Egypt stands to lose more than 30 percent of its food production by 2060 due to rising temperatures.²³

Sustainable food systems

17. Egypt is a food deficit country, relying on imports to meet a significant portion of the country's needs. In 2016, 60 percent of wheat and corn consumed in the country was imported. In order to reduce the dependence on food imports as well as improve livelihoods of the rural population, the Government plans to increase cultivated land from 19 million *feddan* in 2017 to 23 million *feddan* by 2030. Efforts to achieve this plan include the establishment of groundwater wells, model villages, and the expansion of agricultural, industrial and economic activities.
18. Major challenges to sustainability of food systems include rapid population growth and declining per capita land availability, land use conversion into urban settlements, soil degradation including salinization in the Nile delta lands, sand encroachment and desertification, water scarcity, and climate change. Climate change is expected to cause significant declines in food production over the coming decade: food losses in the supply chain are estimated to reach as much as 50 percent for fruit and vegetables and 30 percent for wheat. This will not only affect farmers, but also vulnerable women involved in raising livestock and postharvest activities.

➤ *Macro-economic environment*

19. The Government has undertaken a series of reform measures including the introduction of a value-added tax, a free-floating currency, and major cuts to fuel subsidies, which have contributed to significant signs of economic recovery with an annual growth rate of 4.3 percent following an annual average of 2 percent since 2011.²⁴ However, the devaluation of the Egyptian Pound (EGP) in 2016 from 8.8 EGP per USD to 18 EGP per USD, fuelled by weak foreign reserves, has contributed to increasing inflationary pressures on food and non-food prices. Inflation in the overall Consumer Price Index reached a historic peak of 33 percent at the beginning of 2017, while inflation in the Food Price Index reached 42 percent.²⁵ The differing impact of these economic reforms on men and women is anticipated to adversely affect women, particularly in the informal sector and subsistence production.²⁶
20. Income poverty is strongly linked to incidence of food insecurity and malnutrition in Egypt, where 15.9 percent of the population were found to have poor access to food.²⁷ Over half

²¹ Feddan is a unit of land area where 1 feddan is equal to 0.420 ha or roughly 1.038 acres

²² Egypt DHS, 2014

²⁴ World Bank. 2015. Promoting Poverty Reduction and Shared Prosperity in Egypt, A Systematic Country Diagnostic.

²⁵ CAPMAS monthly bulletin Consumer Price Index.

²⁶ World Bank, 2017, Egypt Country Overview.

²⁷ CAPMAS, Ibid.

of the income-poor population live in rural Upper Egypt where poverty rates reach as high as 66 percent. Women are particularly vulnerable, where only 23 percent were engaged in the labour force in 2016.²⁸

➤ *Key cross-sectorial linkages*

21. Providing quality universal education in Egypt is a major challenge, with Egypt ranked 116th of 140 countries in the 2015 Global Competitiveness Report for the quality of primary education. Egypt has however, made significant progress towards achieving universal primary education including closing the gender gap. For the 2014-2015 school year, the primary completion rates ranged from 97 (richest quintile) to 87 percent (poorest), with 93 percent completion for girls. Geographical and gender disparities in drop-out rates persist however, particularly at the preparatory and secondary levels, with girls more likely to drop out than boys, and both girls and boys in remote rural areas more likely to never have been enrolled for school or to drop out of school compared to girls and boys in urban areas. Attendance rates dropped to 73 percent for the poorest, with overall attendance rates for girls (79 percent) slightly less than boys (81 percent).²⁹ Child labour and early marriage are common reasons for dropouts, with one in six women aged 18-22 marrying below the age of 18.³⁰
22. The 2015 Global Gender Gap Index ranks Egypt 136th of 145 countries,³¹ whereby gender inequalities and discriminatory social norms continue to impede social and economic development in Egypt. The Government recognizes the importance of women as powerful agents of change, and has set women's social, political, and economic empowerment as a top priority and has developed a national strategy for women's empowerment that aims to protect women from all forms of violence, including reducing harassment, combatting early marriage, and ensuring all women have access to safe and dignified livelihoods.³²

1.3. HUNGER GAPS AND CHALLENGES

23. The Egyptian Government is taking consistent and concrete steps to reform the economy to drive inclusive economic growth, while providing safety nets for the neediest and most vulnerable groups to survive the tough transition measures. A structured and comprehensive food security strategy that covers all aspects including availability, access, utilization, and stability is still needed. Policies and actions targeting food loss, food safety, market stabilization, sustainable use of water, and other significant food security concerns are often fragmented and divided among different government sectors. WFP will assist the Government in addressing these issues through the provision of technical support, creation of strategic partnerships, and sustainable support to vulnerable Egyptians, throughout this six-month plan and WFP's longer term strategy.
24. A preliminary review of the existing national roadmap to achieve food and nutrition security has been conducted under the leadership of the Ministry of Social Solidarity. Initial

²⁸ World Bank, 2017, Egypt Country Overview.

²⁹ UNICEF Statistics 2016

³⁰ Egypt's DHS 2014.

³¹ World Economic Forum. 2015. The Global Gender Gap Report.

³² National Strategy for women empowerment

findings identified gaps and challenges to be addressed to achieve the targets of SDG 2, including:

- high vulnerability of the poor to global food price fluctuations due to dependence on food imports;
- limited institutional capacity for the design and effective implementation of policies and programmes;
- lack of sustained nutrition interventions and advocacy to enhance awareness on food and nutrition security issues;
- water shortages and limited access to climate-smart agricultural technologies and practices, information, and markets of smallholder farmers and Bedouins;
- inadequate involvement of the private sector in the food security and nutrition sectors;
- gender gaps, including discrimination against girls.

1.4. KEY COUNTRY PRIORITIES

➤ *Government Priorities*

25. Egypt's Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS) serves as the overarching planning framework for development programmes in the country. The SDS outlines Egypt's development priorities and the achievement of the SDGs in ten strategic pillars. Three of these pillars, namely economic development, social justice, and health, contain programmatic areas that are directly relevant to food security and nutrition outcomes.
 - The economic development pillar aims at increasing gross domestic product per capita to help Egypt become a high-middle income country, reducing poverty and contributing to food and nutrition security.
 - The social justice pillar aims to provide social protection to the most vulnerable by i) raising the efficiency and scope of the social protection system, ii) reducing societal, gender and generational gaps, and iii) achieving a balanced geographical distribution of services.
 - The health pillar has nutrition targets, specifically to reduce stunting, wasting and anaemia prevalence rates from baselines of 21, 8 and 27 percent to 10, 2 and 15 percent, respectively.
26. The Strategic Plan for Pre-University Education (2014-2030) aims to achieve a full coverage national school meals programme and to increase the nutritional value of school meals to meet 50 percent of student's nutritional requirements.
27. The agriculture sector SDS 2030³³ focuses on increasing local food production, raising incomes of food producers, improving dietary diversity and nutrition, and ensuring sustainability of food production systems. It aspires to achieve a more sustainable use of natural resources, increased land and water productivity, and an increased production of strategic food crops (wheat, maize, sugar, meat and fish) to reduce reliance on imports.

³³ Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation. 2009. Sustainable Agricultural Development Strategy towards 2030.

28. The National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction³⁴ highlights the Government priorities in managing climate change. The strategy aims to enhance the ability of communities in dealing with risks and disasters caused by climate change and its impact on various sectors, as well as working to reduce the incidence of climate change-related disasters.

➤ *United Nations and other partners*

29. The United Nations Country Team in Egypt has defined strategic priorities for the United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF) 2018-2022, in partnership with the Government of Egypt. The new cooperative framework will allow for a more integrated approach to development, mainstreaming gender and women's empowerment and highlighting the role of the Joint Government and United Nations Steering Committee as a vital body of high-level oversight and support.

30. Four United Nations outcome areas were identified, the first of which is equitable economic development with particular focus on value chain development and improving the access of youth and women to livelihood opportunities. The second focus area is social justice, particularly related to expanding access to early childhood development, reducing malnutrition and improving outcomes in education in terms of timely school completion. The third area is comprised of sustainable development, supporting the development and implementation of national and sectoral climate change adaptation plans, tools and programmes, and strengthening national capacities for disaster risk reduction. The final focus is on women's empowerment, namely promoting formal and informal education for girls and women, and strengthening the capacity of women to engage in productive economic activity, including in agriculture and the informal economy.

2. STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS FOR WFP

2.1. WFP'S EXPERIENCE AND LESSONS LEARNED

31. The 2013-2017 Country Programme focused on institutional capacity development in the areas of food and nutrition security and in enhancing resilience of vulnerable groups. Within the Programme, WFP worked to provide school meals for vulnerable children, improve livelihoods of smallholder farmers and Bedouin communities, and combat malnutrition. WFP adopted and took the first steps towards implementing the 'Gender Mainstreaming Action Plan 2015-2017' and the 'Preliminary Gender Map of Egypt Country Office.'

32. In addition to the Country Programme, WFP has been supporting food insecure Syrian refugees in Egypt since 2012 as part of the Regional Emergency Operation (EMOP) and the Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). WFP assistance provides a vital source of food and nutrition among the targeted refugee populations, as evidenced by the

³⁴ IDSC. 2011. Egypt's National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.

correlation between reductions in assistance in late 2015 (due to funding shortfalls) and the significant increase in the percentage of refugee households classified as food insecure during the same period.

33. In June 2016, a mid-term evaluation of the Country Programme concluded that from its design, the Programme has been relevant to the needs of food insecure people and made the following key recommendations: i) strengthen technical assistance to the Government in the areas of food and nutritional security; ii) give greater attention to nutrition-sensitive interventions with a focus on capacity strengthening with partners, fortification, training and curricula development to implement nutrition activities; iii) extend the duration and scale-up of climate change programming to cover all Upper Egypt governorates; and iv) develop and pilot an integrative community-focused programme to promote synergies between activities and partners.

2.2. OPPORTUNITIES FOR WFP

34. Through analysis of Egypt's SDS, a number of areas of opportunity have been identified where WFP could contribute significantly to achieving national goals by working to:

- Complement and strengthen the Government's social protection system with a longer-term objective of building resilience and self-reliance of food insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations;
- Provide humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees in Egypt and the host communities they reside in;
- Strengthen capacity and access of smallholder farmers and Bedouin communities to climate-smart agricultural technologies and practices, information, markets and institutional services for improved resilience and adaptive capacity; and;
- Strengthen institutional capacity at different levels to translate policy into action and to enhance systems and mechanisms to identify, target and assist food insecure and nutritionally vulnerable populations, as part of a wider accountability to affected populations.

35. Under this transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) WFP will continue to support the Government priority to address gender and geographic disparities, while ensuring that vulnerable groups such as the elderly, persons with disabilities and children are covered by social safety nets.

2.3. STRATEGIC CHANGES

36. This six-month transitional ICSP will serve to support a smooth transition of WFP Egypt's current food security and nutrition interventions towards a more cohesive and coordinated focus, which is well established within the development priorities of the Government of Egypt, particularly through their Vision 2030 and the SDS pillars. The results of the Government's ongoing National SDG review will further inform WFP's work over the coming years and this transitional ICSP serves to support this integration process. Moreover, WFP has committed to integrating gender equality and women's empowerment

into all of its programme activities, to ensure that the different food security and nutrition needs of women, men, girls and boys are addressed.

37. A joint comprehensive review of SDG 2 is currently underway with the Government, and will provide a focused analysis on the current food security and nutrition situation in Egypt which will guide future interventions, and consolidate efforts towards ending hunger in Egypt. The results of this review will support WFP's longer-term strategy in the country.
38. WFP will use the transitional ICSP period to align with the Government, exploring new modalities and possibilities for collaboration, as well as further familiarise staff and cooperating partners on WFP's new programmatic framework, its intentions, and related tools and systems.

3. WFP STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

3.1. DIRECTION, FOCUS AND INTENDED IMPACTS

39. This transitional ICSP, is aligned with Egypt's UNPDF (2018-2022) and the SDS 2030 and contributes specifically to WFP's Strategic Results 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8, and SDGs 2, 3, 4, 13 and 17.
40. In accordance with WFP's Strategic Plan (2017-2021), Gender Policy (2015-2020) and corporate Gender Action Plan, gender will be integrated throughout development, implementation and monitoring of the transitional ICSP to ensure gender-transformative programmes and policies. WFP will thus ensure, *inter alia*, the sex- and age-disaggregation of all person-related data; the embedding of gender analysis in all assessment, research, technical assistance, knowledge, information management and related work; the mainstreaming of gender into programmes, policy and capacity-strengthening initiatives; and the engagement of women, men, girls and boys (and their organizations and institutions) in a manner that is empowering, fosters equitable outcomes and advances gender equality.

3.2. STRATEGIC OUTCOMES, FOCUS AREAS, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND KEY ACTIVITIES

3.2.1. STRATEGIC OUTCOME 1: FOOD INSECURE AND MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN TARGETED AREAS OF EGYPT HAVE ACCESS TO ADEQUATE FOOD ALL YEAR ROUND.

➤ *Outcome description*

41. The Government is committed to a universal-access school meals programme that provides a nutritious meal to all students throughout the school year. Building on its experience, WFP will complement the national school meals programme by targeting schools in areas with high drop-out rates, and where negative coping strategies to food insecurity are adopted, with a focus on ensuring access to education for vulnerable girls. Health and nutrition of school children will continue to be of priority, with complementary interventions planned to improve the nutritional content of the school meal and improve

the health and nutrition of school children and their families through the upgrading of school facilities and nutrition awareness efforts. Technical support will be provided to key Government partners to improve the national school meals programme.

42. This outcome is aligned with the third objective of the SDS Social Justice pillar, “providing protection for the neediest and most vulnerable groups”, and is an objective of the strategic plan for Pre-University Education 2014 - 2030. It contributes to WFP’s Strategic Results 1, 2 and 5 as well as SDG 4.

➤ ***Focus area***

43. The focus of this outcome is on addressing root causes of food insecurity, vulnerability and low education indicators in targeted communities through the implementation of school meals and support to related activities.

➤ ***Expected outputs***

44. Outputs towards achieving this outcome are:

- School children receive nutritious snacks every day they attend school (Tier 1, output category A, SR1, SR2, SDG4);
- Targeted school children and their family members receive monthly take-home entitlements conditional on 80 percent school attendance to meet their basic food needs and increase school enrolment (Tier 1, output category A, SR1, SDG4);
- School children benefit from upgraded schools including improved water and sanitation facilities (Tier 2, output category L, SR1, SR 2, SDG4);
- School children benefit from a universal-access school meals programme in order to meet their basic food needs (Tier 3, output category C, SR1, SR5, SDG4).

➤ ***Key activities***

45. *Activity 1: Complement the Government’s school meals programme by providing nutritious in-school snacks, take-home entitlements and support to related activities.*

46. Working in coordination with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Ministry of Education and other stakeholders including local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), WFP will provide food assistance in the form of nutritious snacks to school children every day they attend school. Take-home entitlements are provided to targeted school children, the majority of whom are girls, and their families on a monthly basis, conditional on 80 percent school attendance, with an aim to ease household food-demands and curb child labour and early marriage.

47. Complementary to food assistance, nutrition awareness activities will include providing training to teachers and parents as well as developing child-friendly nutrition information materials. WFP will similarly support the physical upgrade of targeted schools’ facilities to provide a safe and healthy learning environment. WFP-supported schools, particularly community schools, are based in remote, inaccessible areas with poor infrastructure, often

having inadequate access to clean water or sanitation facilities. Emphasis will thus be placed on ensuring adequate water supply and sanitation services, supporting the improvement of the learning environment. This will contribute to the creation of a conducive learning environment to support boys and girls attending and remaining in schools and help to prevent the incidence of intestinal worms that contribute to malnutrition among school children in rural areas.

48. WFP will assist the Ministry of Social Solidarity to develop an integrated implementation strategy, a more effective supply chain, monitoring and reporting systems, impact evaluation framework, and mechanisms for coordination and engagement of civil society for the national school meals programme.

3.2.2. STRATEGIC OUTCOME 2: FOOD INSECURE REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES IN EGYPT HAVE ACCESS TO ADEQUATE FOOD ALL YEAR ROUND.

➤ Outcome description

49. WFP will coordinate with humanitarian stakeholders to provide assistance to vulnerable refugees from Syria to enable them to meet their basic food needs, focusing on providing general food assistance (GFA) to refugees from Syria and school meals to refugee and host community school children. Due to the protracted nature of the displacement of Syrian refugees and based on feasibility assessments, WFP has initiated livelihood, asset rehabilitation, knowledge and skills development activities that promote self-reliance, both for refugees and vulnerable members of host communities, especially women, who are impacted by the sharing of limited resources.
50. In this transitional ICSP, strategic outcome 2 is aligned with Egypt's commitment to the 1951 Refugee Convention and to its 1967 Protocols, the 1969 Organization of African Union Convention on Refugees, and the commitment to 'ensuring that no one will be left behind' as laid out by the SDGs and as reaffirmed in Egypt's National Voluntary Review Report on SDGs (2016). It contributes to WFP Strategic Results 1 and 2 as well as SDG 4.

➤ Focus area

51. The primary focus of this outcome is crisis response as it ensures the basic food needs of the most vulnerable and food-insecure refugees and members of host communities are met.

➤ Expected outputs

52. The outcome will be delivered through the following outputs:
 - Targeted refugees receive cash-based transfers in order to meet their basic food needs (Tier 1, output category A, SR1);
 - Targeted refugee and host community school children receive nutritious snacks every day they attend school (Tier 1, output category A, SR1, SR2, SDG4);
 - Targeted refugees and host communities receive CBT for participation in vocational and skills training activities in order to meet their basic food needs while improving their knowledge and skills for long-term self-reliance (Tier 1, output category A and C, SR1).

➤ *Key activities*

53. *Activity 2: Provide food assistance to refugees and host communities.*

WFP will work with the Government, UNHCR and other stakeholders to ensure that the basic food needs of refugees from Syria are met. Targeting and vulnerability analysis is carried out jointly with UNHCR through the Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees (EVAR). WFP will provide unconditional food assistance in the form of value vouchers which are topped-up monthly and enable beneficiaries to purchase diversified food items, further benefiting local food producers. Additional transfers will be provided to PLW in refugee and host communities to support the specific nutritional needs of vulnerable women and their children.

54. School meals, including the piloting of hot meals, will similarly be provided to public schools in areas where refugee communities reside. The provision of school meals will help to encourage enrolment, improve attendance and foster social cohesion in primary public schools hosting refugee children. Complementary education support will also be carried out, including teacher training activities on the topics of hygiene and nutrition, social integration, positive discipline and emergency preparedness.

55. *Activity 3: Provide support to refugees and host communities to improve their resilience and livelihoods.*

Based on a feasibility assessment, inclusive of gender and protection considerations, refugees and members of host communities will receive conditional assistance through CBT for participation in relevant vocational training activities that enable self-reliance, income generation, asset rehabilitation and long-term resilience. Business start-up grants will be provided to select training participants based on successful completion of training and specific focus will be given to tailoring the programme to targeting, and promoting women and women's associations for professional training and productive activities. Syrian refugees and host communities will also be engaged in asset rehabilitation activities in order to ease the burden on community assets and support the livelihoods of food insecure families.

3.2.3. STRATEGIC OUTCOME 3: TARGETED POPULATIONS IN EGYPT HAVE IMPROVED NUTRITIONAL STATUS BY 2030.

➤ *Outcome description*

56. WFP will support the Government's nutrition objectives of reducing stunting, wasting and anaemia prevalence rates by providing nutrition-sensitive support to PLW and children aged 6-23 months, in addition to working on social behaviour change.

57. In this transitional ICSP, strategic outcome 3 is aligned with the SDS health pillar, "improvement of the health of citizens within a framework of justice and equity", and contributes to WFP Strategic Results 2 and SDG 3.

➤ **Focus area**

58. This outcome focuses on combating the root causes of the double burden of malnutrition, with a focus on prevention efforts.

➤ **Expected outputs**

59. The outcome will be achieved through the following outputs:

- PLW receive CBT in order to meet their basic nutritional needs and receive essential maternal and child health services (Tier 1, output category A, SR2, SDG3);
- Targeted populations benefit from social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) in order to reinforce positive behavioural change for better nutrition. (Tier 2, output category C, E, SR2).

➤ **Key activities**

60. *Activity 4: Provide cash-based transfers to pregnant and lactating women, children aged 6-23 months in targeted areas, and support related activities.*

In coordination with Ministry of Health and Population, WFP will provide food assistance through CBT to PLW and children aged 6-23 months in the poorest and most vulnerable targeted areas. Assistance will be provided conditional on regular visits to healthcare facilities for antenatal and postnatal care, attendance at nutrition awareness sessions, and child immunisation and growth monitoring. Though most attendees are represented by female caregivers, fathers are encouraged to participate through community messaging, and engagement with male healthcare practitioners, and key religious, community and political figures. Beneficiaries and target locations will be identified through a vulnerability assessment and in consultation with the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Ministry of Health and Population and in collaboration with other stakeholders, notably the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization.

61. A comprehensive SBCC package will be developed, including the provision of nutrition awareness sessions and materials. Awareness sessions will target men, women and adolescent girls and boys on healthy eating habits and practices, with particular focus on the double burden of malnutrition, maternal nutrition, infant and young child feeding practices including breastfeeding, hygiene, and sanitation.

62. WFP will provide technical assistance to enhance capacities of the Government and other stakeholders to design and implement gender-transformative, nutrition-sensitive programmes including the development of robust monitoring and reporting systems.

3.2.4. STRATEGIC OUTCOME 4: SMALLHOLDER FARMER AND BEDOUIN COMMUNITIES IN THE MOST VULNERABLE GOVERNORATES OF EGYPT HAVE RESILIENT LIVELIHOODS BY 2030.

➤ Outcome description

63. This outcome will target smallholder farmers and Bedouin communities in Upper Egypt and frontier Governorates, which are particularly vulnerable to socioeconomic shocks and climate change. The overall focus is on community empowerment through household and community level asset rehabilitation, technology transfer, and capacity or skills development to improve livelihoods and build resilience of communities, particularly vulnerable women.

64. In this transitional ICSP, strategic outcome 4 is aligned with the SDS Environment pillar and Egypt's Strategy for Sustainable Agricultural Development 2030 and the National Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction and contributes to WFP Strategic Results 3 and 4 and SDG 13.

➤ Focus areas

65. The focus area of strategic outcome 4 is on resilience building and livelihood support through creation or rehabilitation of assets, technology transfer and diversification of incomes.

➤ Expected outputs

66. The outcome will be delivered through the following outputs:

- Bedouin communities receive food transfers to create or rehabilitate assets in order to improve their livelihoods (Tier 1, output category A and D, SR 4, SDG13);
- Smallholder farmers benefit from climate-smart agriculture technologies and techniques to improve their resilience to climate change (Tier 2, output category C, SR 4, SDG13);
- Vulnerable smallholders' and Bedouin communities benefit from livelihood diversification activities in order to improve their incomes and food security (Tier 2, output category C, SR3, and SDG 13).

➤ Key activities

67. *Activity 5: Provide support to vulnerable communities of smallholders and Bedouins to improve their resilience and livelihoods.*

68. In collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, WFP will support the introduction and dissemination of climate-smart agriculture technologies and practices such as heat- and salinity-tolerant and water-saving crop varieties and improved irrigation methods and agronomic practices. The introduction of affordable post-harvest technologies, veterinary services and equipment, agro-processing, and low-cost agricultural machineries will also be provided as support to smallholders.

69. In smallholder and Bedouin communities, WFP will support the creation or rehabilitation of assets, such as the maintenance of water sources and irrigation infrastructure and the creation of alternative livelihood options for vulnerable communities. Emphasis will be placed on involving women household members to participate in livelihood trainings, particularly for activities such as post-harvest processing, livestock rearing and handicrafts. Livelihood diversification efforts for smallholders will include the introduction of high value crops including fruit and medicinal and aromatic plants. Activities will be designed in a gender-transformative manner and promote gender-balanced control and access to productive resources.

3.2.5. STRATEGIC OUTCOME 5: THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT HAS ENHANCED CAPACITY TO IDENTIFY, TARGET AND ASSIST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS TO ACHIEVE ZERO HUNGER BY 2030.

➤ Outcome description

70. The Government of Egypt identifies human and institutional capacity limitations as critical challenges to successfully implementing the SDS. The focus of this outcome is thus on:

- Improving institutional capacities to collect, manage and analyse data (including geospatial data and age-gender analysis);
- Supporting evidence-based policy analysis and decision-making at all levels so that food insecure populations are targeted, assisted and empowered.

71. In this transitional ICSP, strategic outcome 5 is aligned with the SDS Transparency and Efficiency of Government Institutions pillar and contributes to WFP Strategic Result 5.

➤ Focus areas

72. The focus of strategic outcome 5 is on addressing root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition by strengthening institutional capacities.

➤ Expected outputs

73. The outcome will be delivered through the following outputs:

- Food insecure communities across Egypt benefit from improved targeting and delivery of Government assistance in order to protect access to basic food and nutrition needs (Tier 3, output category C, SR5);

➤ Key activities

74. *Activity 6: Provide technical assistance to the Government to improve implementation of social protection, food security and nutrition programmes.*

WFP will provide technical assistance to the Government, including developing a gender-sensitive evidence base for decision making, strengthening the capacity of Government stakeholders and supporting the development of relevant strategies and policies on food security and nutrition. Planned support includes working with the Ministry of Social Solidarity to improve efficiency of social protection programmes, working with partners

such as the Information and Decision Support Centre to develop a national early warning, multi-stakeholder emergency response system for socioeconomic and natural shocks, and engaging with the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics to enhance its capacity for food security and nutrition monitoring and information systems.

3.3. TRANSITION AND EXIT STRATEGIES

75. This transitional ICSP integrates activities more firmly into the development priorities of Egypt, and will allow WFP to further enhance its partnerships with the Government of Egypt, United Nations sister agencies and NGO development partners, international governments and other stakeholders, while developing a full CSP.
76. The transitional ICSP allows WFP to further align its multi-year strategy with national priorities and SDS targets, including advancing gender equality. As the Government is a key partner and involved in the development of these activities, WFP has factored institutional and implementation systems capacity-strengthening are priorities of each strategic outcome to ensure skills and tools to implement WFP-supported initiatives are available within the various Government entities involved, to allow gradual hand over of implementation responsibilities. Overall efforts will ensure sustainability and full national ownership of WFP-supported activities.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Beneficiary Analysis

77. Strategic outcome 1 will benefit 610,000 school children with school meals, including 120,000 community school children (54,300 boys and 65,700 girls) and 490,000 public school children (221,000 boys and 269,000 girls). School meals are also provided to public schools under strategic outcome 2, benefitting 250,500 children (Syrian and Egyptian) in areas that host Syrian refugees. Among these, 32,500 children (15,200 boys and 17,300 girls) will benefit from the pilot of hot meals through CBT. Children attending community schools will additionally receive take-home entitlements in the form of in-kind food transfers or CBT, benefitting 120,000 children and 480,000 of their family members (254,400 men /boys and 225,600 women /girls).
78. Through strategic outcome 2, WFP will provide GFA for 45,000 Syrian refugees who are without alternative means of access to food, with a monthly value voucher of USD 24.2³⁵ per person. Additional top ups will be provided to 10,000 PLW, refugee and host community members, to ensure the nutritional needs of vulnerable refugee mothers and their infants are met. WFP will take into account the unique needs of infants, girls, boys, women and men, and those in conditions of poor health in delivering the food assistance. CBT will also be provided to 9,000 Syrians and host community members, including 4,000 women, for their participation in vocational trainings, where 2,230 people will receive additional grants and microcredit support to start businesses. Asset rehabilitation activities

³⁵ Subject to revision for exchange rate amendments.

will benefit a further 9,040 beneficiaries (5,760 women and 3,280 men) with CBT for their assistance to rebuild and rehabilitate community assets.

79. Strategic outcome 3 will support a total of 15,000 PLW and their children through conditional CBT in the form of value vouchers with a monthly value of USD 6 per person. By removing the financial barriers of accessing food, WFP will enable PLW to access nutritious foods from local retailers as a preventive measure against malnutrition for PLW, their infants and young children.

80. Through strategic outcome 4, 8,000 Bedouins, including 4,000 women, in frontier governorates will receive food for their participation in asset rehabilitation and vocational skills training activities.

TABLE 1. BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY (FOOD)				
Strategic Outcome / Activity		Beneficiaries Numbers		
		Men/ Boys	Women/ Girls	Total
Strategic Outcome 1 - Activity 1				
<i>In-school Snacks</i>	Public School Children	221 000	269 000	490 000
	Community School Children	54 300	65 700	120 000
	<i>Subtotal</i>	275 300	334 700	610 000
Take Home Entitlements (family members only) – in-kind		173 800	210 200	384 000
<i>SO1 - Activity 1 total</i>		449 100	544 900	994 000
Strategic Outcome 2 - Activity 2				
School meals for refugees and host communities		120 700	129 800	250 500
<i>SO2 - Activity 2 total</i>		120 700	129 800	250 500
Strategic Outcome 4 - Activity 5				
Asset rehabilitation and livelihood support activities		4 000	4 000	8 000
<i>SO4 - Activity 5 total</i>		4 000	4 000	8 000
Grand total (Food)		573 800	678 700	1 252 500
TABLE 2. BENEFICIARIES BY ACTIVITY (CBT)				
Activity		Beneficiary Group		
		Men/ Boys	Women/ Girls	Total

Strategic Outcome 1 - Activity 1				
Take Home Ration Entitlements (family members only) - CBT		43 200	52 800	96 000
<i>SO1 - Activity 1 total</i>		43 200	52 800	96 000
Strategic Outcome 2 - Activity 2*				
General Food Assistance (GFA)	Syrian refugees	21 500	23 500	45 000
Education Support (Hot Meals)	Syrian refugees and host communities	15 200	17 300	32 500
Nutrition Support - PLW	Syrian refugees and host communities	-	10 000	10 000
<i>SO2 - Activity 2 total</i>		36 244	47 781	84 025
Strategic Outcome 2 - Activity 3*				
FFT - Vocational Training	Syrian refugees and host communities	5 000	4 000	9 000
Asset Rehabilitation	Syrian refugees and host communities	3 280	5 760	9 040
Conditional Microcredit/ Grants	Syrian refugees and host communities	1 105	1 125	2 230
<i>SO2 - Activity 3 total</i>		8 280	9 760	18 040
Strategic Outcome 3 - Activity 4				
CBT for PLW and children age 6 -23 months		-	15 000	15 000
<i>SO3 - Activity 4 total</i>		-	15 000	15 000
Grand total (CBT)		86 474	124 341	210 815
OVERALL TOTAL (FOOD and CBT)		641 909	782 366	1 424 275

*Beneficiaries benefiting from more than one form of assistance have been counted only once in activity and overall totals.

4.2. Transfers

Food and Cash-Based Transfers

81. WFP procures food from local producers or manufacturers in accordance with its commitment to support local economic development. This includes in-school snacks, high-energy biscuits fortified with iron and vitamin A, provided for in school meals activities as well as the rice and fortified vegetable oil which are included in the in-kind food basket for school meals' monthly entitlements. Under strategic outcome 4, food assistance is provided in the form of fortified vegetable oil and wheat flour, delivered on a quarterly basis to Bedouin communities as an incentive for participation in asset-rehabilitation and individual capacity strengthening activities.
82. CBT has become the preferred modality for activities, however, given its flexibility to allow beneficiaries to access a diversified food basket and given the resilience of Egyptian markets. For take home entitlements under strategic outcome 1, value vouchers (10 USD per family per month) are used in lieu of in-kind assistance, and further act as cash injections into the local economy and markets. Value vouchers under strategic outcome 1 are redeemed at small retailer shops in rural areas, selected based on retailer assessments and taking into account shop capacity, geographic coverage, availability of food items and beneficiary preferences.
83. CBT assistance to refugees and host communities under strategic outcome 2 is provided in the form of value vouchers, though redemption is through large scale supermarket chains given the urban context of refugee activities. Similarly, value vouchers are provided under strategic outcome 3 targeting PLW, though the redemption process is entirely different whereby WFP works with the Government to top-up existing subsidy cards, relying on existing national infrastructure that includes an extensive retailer network across the country. The modality utilized under this activity thus works to ensure greater ownership and sustainability of the project and eases future handover efforts to the Government.
84. Periodic adjustments will be made to transfer modalities to maintain purchasing power of beneficiaries given the recent devaluation in the Egyptian currency as well as to align with Government programmes. The applicability of providing cash in lieu of value vouchers will be assessed, as will the applicability of using CBT in lieu of food transfers for resilience activities under strategic outcome 4. In-kind food assistance will remain an option for emergency situations.

Strategic Outcome - Activity	SO1 - Activity 1		SO2- Activity 2	SO4 - Activity 5
	In-school snacks	Take home entitlements	In-school snacks	Asset rehabilitation and livelihood support activities
Cereal - Rice		66.67		
Cereal - Wheat Flour				222.22
Mixed & Blended Food	80		80	
Oil & Fats		6.13		20
Total g/person/day	80	72.8	80	242.22
% kcal per day	360	288	360	977

Strategic Outcome - Activity	SO1 - Activity 1	SO2 - Activity 2			SO2- Activity 3			SO3 - Activity 4
	Take home entitlements	GFA	School meals	Nutrition - PLW	FFT	Asset rehabilitation	Conditional Microcredit /Grant Schemes	PLW
CBT (USD)	0.33	0.81	0.33	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.73
Total USD/person/day	0.33	0.81	0.33	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.73

	Jan-Jun 2018 (USD)
SO1 - Activity 1	1 200 000
SO2 - Activity 2	9 286 000
SO2 - Activity 3	2 943 204
SO3 - Activity 4	1 980 000
Grand Total	15 409 204

Capacity Strengthening of Key Government Partners

85. The focus of this transitional ICSP is on strengthening capacity at the national, local and individual levels, which will be carried out under the five strategic outcome areas. Strategic outcome 5 is further solely dedicated to capacity strengthening of cooperating partners in Egypt and strengthening evidence, systems and policies.

4.3. Supply Chain

86. Fluctuations in prices of food commodities and the lack of landside transport, storage and handling (LTSH) are the major supply chain challenges faced in Egypt. WFP will mitigate these risks in the supply chain primarily through increasingly shifting modalities from food to CBT. WFP carries out extensive retail assessments in target areas and periodic follow-ups and review thereafter allow for further improvements in the supply chain, allowing for adaptation to changing conditions on the ground.
87. WFP will support the Government in establishing and implementing an efficient national food commodity supply chain. A supply chain assessment has been conducted with the Government and initial food safety and food handling trainings are ongoing. Subsequent capacity strengthening training is expected to be rolled out following consultations with the Government.

4.4. Country Office Capacity and Profile

88. WFP undertook a staffing and structure review in 2016, where key recommendations included right-sizing the country office, revising the organogram and improving job descriptions to streamline workflows and enhance staff capacity. These are currently being implemented, and with this WFP Egypt will have the necessary office capacity and profile to effectively implement the transitional –ICSP and subsequent country strategic plan (CSP).

4.5. Partnerships

89. WFP works with a variety of partners, including the Government, United Nations sister agencies, national and international non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and private sector partners. WFP has well-established partnerships and collaboration agreements with several government entities at the national and governorate levels for all activities under the transitional ICSP. WFP works with local NGOs for its school meals, nutrition-related and food assistance-for-assets activities, where NGOs serve as the key link to reaching beneficiaries and delivering assistance.
90. In the area of gender, the National Strategy for Women’s Empowerment aims to protect women from all forms of violence, including reducing harassment, combatting early marriage and circumcision, as well as engaging in policy work to improve personal status laws. WFP has an opportunity to further engage with the Government of Egypt and other stakeholders to collaborate for gender transformative programming.
91. In line with WFP’s corporate partnership strategy and the “Delivering as One” approach promoted by the United Nations, WFP will strengthen its partnerships with Rome-based agencies as well as other United Nations agencies and will explore opportunities to further collaborate specifically with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, UNHCR, the International Organization for Migration UNICEF, WHO, the United

Nations Population Fund UN-Women, and others based upon comparative advantages and complementarities to achieve synergies and impacts at scale.

5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT AND EVALUATION

5.1. Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements

92. The transitional ICSP will enable WFP Egypt to update its current monitoring and evaluation system, testing new tools, indicators, systems, and collecting new baselines when needed. This will ensure that WFP has the required capabilities and capacities to effectively monitor the implementation of the transitional ICSP and subsequent CSP.
93. WFP will conduct joint monitoring activities with Government officials to collect outcome, output, and process data indicators. This will ensure Government engagement and sustainability of WFP interventions. Under the school meals activity, WFP field based monitors conduct quarterly joint post distribution monitoring (PDM) visits with representatives from the Ministry of Education in order to measure the effect of WFP assistance on schoolchildren and their families. The implementation of joint monitoring emphasizes WFP's commitment to transparency with government counterparts.
94. Quarterly gender-responsive outcome, output and process monitoring reports will be disaggregated by sex, age and nationality whenever possible, and shared with the relevant stakeholders from the Government, cooperating partners, donors, and other United Nations agencies.
95. The country office tool for managing programme operations effectively (COMET) and the monitoring e-data collection and analysis tools will be used to track performance indicators, and for planning and management purposes. Data at the field level will be collected electronically through monitoring questionnaires, joint assessments, and surveys with data submission and analysis in real time.
96. A beneficiary feedback hotline is in place to capture feedback from both refugees and school meals beneficiaries, with efforts underway toward the establishment of an advanced unified beneficiary feedback management system to serve all beneficiaries of WFP assistance. In this way, WFP works to ensure all beneficiaries have access to information and can report any problems directly to the programme, prioritizing the protection needs of vulnerable women, men, refugees and children in an efficient and effective manner.

5.2. Risk Management

Programmatic and Institutional

97. The major programmatic risk relates to ensuring sufficient funding to sustain programme activities beyond the period of the transitional ICSP. Funding shortfalls will be mitigated by continuously working with current donors, seeking to broaden the funding base with

non-traditional donors such as the private sector and foundations, and strengthening joint fundraising with other United Nations agencies. In the event of a funding shortfall, WFP would hone targeting to reach those most vulnerable by governorate, and through household vulnerability data. In the case of refugee support, voucher value would be reduced, followed by a reduction in the caseload, again based on vulnerability.

Contextual

98. Egypt is affected by the influx of refugees and migrants caused by political instability and conflicts in the wider region. It is not clear whether the situation will improve or remain, and hence whether or not the number of refugees will decrease or increase. WFP will mitigate this uncertainty by maintaining capacity and flexibility to respond to any change in the number of refugees in the country.
99. The aforementioned devaluation of the Egyptian currency and the subsequent fluctuations in commodity prices affects both the number of food insecure people and WFP's ability to procure needed food commodities. WFP will increasingly shift modality to CBT to mitigate this, while continuously monitoring food prices and vulnerability indicators to ensure effective targeting and purchasing power of beneficiaries.

6. RESOURCES FOR RESULTS

6.1. Country Portfolio Budget

COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN INDICATIVE ANNUAL BUDGET REQUIREMENT (USD)		
	Year 1 2018	Total
Strategic Outcome 1	14 968 588	14 968 588
Strategic Outcome 2	17 742 692	17 742 692
Strategic Outcome 3	2 407 905	2 407 905
Strategic Outcome 4	997 687	997 687
Strategic Outcome 5	2 730 851	2 730 851
TOTAL	38 847 723	38 847 723

Resourcing Outlook

100. The resourcing outlook for this transitional ICSP is based on experience in implementing the current Country Programme and the regional EMOP and PRRO. The forecast for the transitional ICSP is realistic and builds upon the long-term support WFP Egypt has received from the Government and donors over many years. The funding for the current Country Programme comes from diverse sources including the private sector,

foundations, trust funds and the European Union. The European Union currently provides the major funding for strategic outcome 1, which will extend to the end of this transitional ICSP, while a funding pipeline for strategic outcome 2 (support to refugees) historically has no greater than a three-month outlook (given its humanitarian/relief focus), with support from Germany, USAID, and other humanitarian funding pots. WFP Egypt, in accordance with WFP's Gender Policy, will commit and spend 13 percent of project funds to gender equality activities.

6.2. Resource Mobilization Strategy

101. WFP Egypt is developing a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy to ensure continuity of support throughout this interim period, and into the future CSP. This strategy will strategically identify and cultivate new sources of support, to reach a broader range of partners, explore a wider range of funding mechanisms, and maximize effectiveness of each funding support that it receives. Funding opportunities of interest include the Government of Egypt, the private sector and other traditional donors such as the European Union, the United States, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Japan. WFP Egypt will develop relationships with emerging donors to the country, such as the Republic of Korea and China and will investigate opportunities for pooled funds and thematic funding pots, e.g. the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, as well as continue to seek synergies with multilateral entities and development banks, such as World Bank. Any funding shortfalls in all areas will be mitigated through increased targeting, and an emphasis will be placed on leveraging good relations with the Government of Egypt to lobby donor counterparts for funding support.
102. As a lower-middle income country, Egypt hosts many large private sector companies whose corporate social responsibility strategies are compatible with SDG 2 and 17, and aligned with Egypt's Vision 2030. Egypt has been very successful in the past in engaging with the private sector to mobilize resources, particularly in the implementation of school meals activities where WFP had the support of over a dozen private sector partners. WFP is investing resources in strengthening private sector resource mobilization efforts that will play a vital role in the implementation of school meals.
103. WFP Egypt is committed to strategic resourcing that provides visibility and transparency of funding. This will introduce quarterly briefing meetings to engage with the donor community and complement regular reporting mechanisms. This will further emphasize regular communication on results achieved and constraints to ensure increased accountability and transparency.

ANNEX II INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN

Table 1: CPB Budget –Cost Breakdown by Year

Cost Categories	Year 1	Total
	2018	
Transfer Value	31 045 365	31 045 365
Transfer Costs	1 703 265	1 703 265
Implementation Costs	1 859 982	1 859 982
Adjusted DSC	1 697 670	1 697 670
WFP Direct Costs	36 306 283	36 306 283
ISC	2 541 440	2 541 440
TOTAL	38 847 723	38 847 723

Table 2: CPB Budget –Cost Breakdown by Strategic Outcome

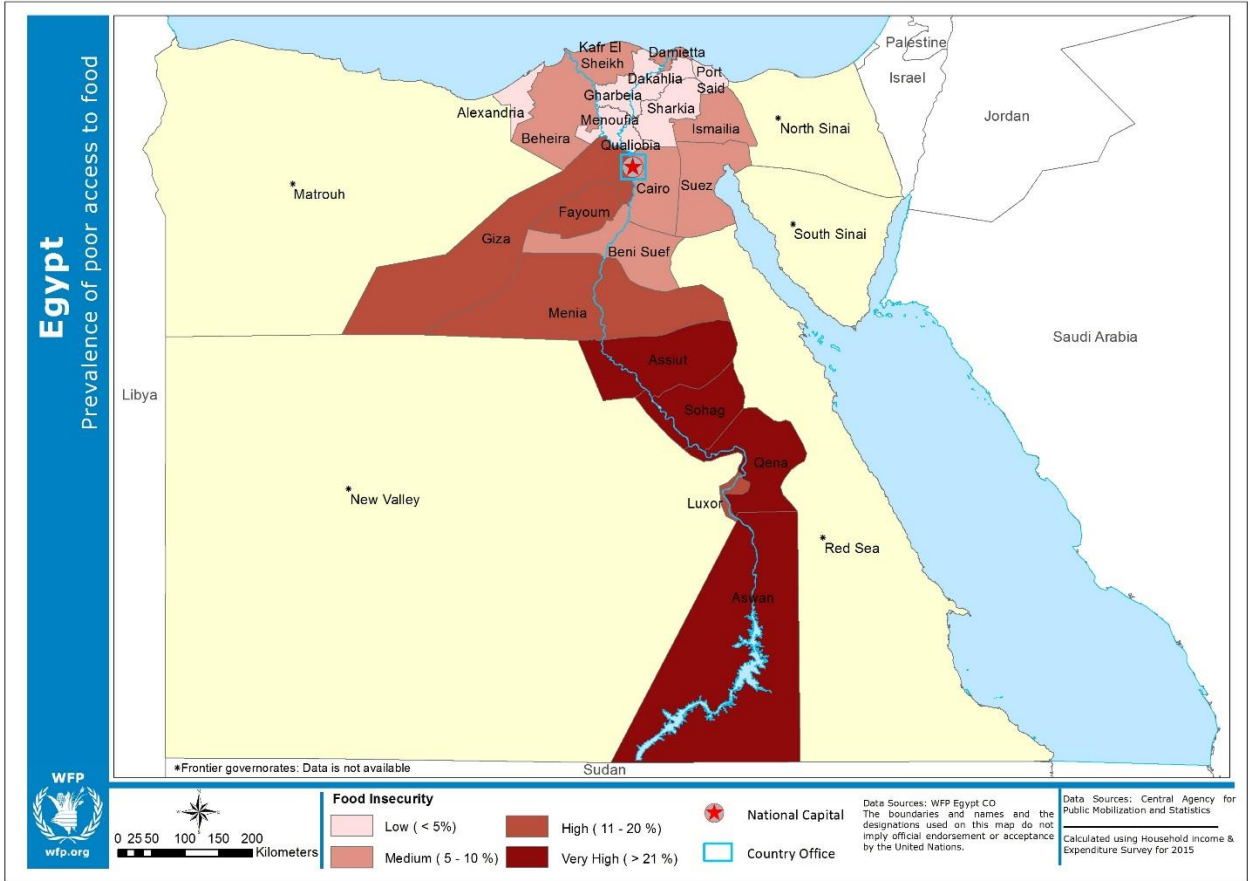
WFP Strategic Results / SDG Targets	SR 1, SDG 2.1	SR 1, SDG 2.1	SR 2, SDG 2.2	SR 3, SDG 2.3	SR 5, SDG 17.9	Total
WFP Strategic Outcomes	Strategic Outcome 1	Strategic Outcome 2	Strategic Outcome 3	Strategic Outcome 4	Strategic Outcome 5	
Transfer	11 822 551	15 508 450	2 122 511	862 262	2 432 857	32 748 631
Implementation	1 512 647	298 138	22 641	26 557	-	1 859 982
Adjusted DSC (%)	654 137	775 367	105 227	43 600	119 340	1 697 670
Sub-total	13 989 334	16 581 955	2 250 378	932 418	2 552 197	36 306 283
ISC (7%)	979 253	1 160 737	157 526	65 269	178 654	2 541 440
TOTAL	14 968 588	17 742 692	2 407 905	997 687	2 730 851	38 847 723

Table 3: CPB Budget –Cost Breakdown by Activity

Activity #	Act.1	Act.2	Act.3	Act.4	Act.5	Act.6	USD
Value							
Transfer	10 600 340	12 234 287	2 943 204	1 980 000	854 678	2 432 857	31 045 365
Transfer Costs	1 222 211	270 239	60 721	142 511	7 584	-	1 703 265
TOTAL Transfer	11 822 551	12 504 525	3 003 925	2 122 511	862 262	2 432 857	32 748 631
Implementation Costs	1 512 647	272 391	25 747	22 641	26 557	-	1 859 982
Impl. % vs Total Transfer	13%	2%	1%	1%	3%	0%	6%
Adjusted DSC	654 137	626 751	148 616	105 227	43 600	119 340	1 697 670
Adj.DSC % vs Total Tr.+Impl.							91%
WFP Direct Costs	13 989 334	13 403 667	3 178 288	2 250 378	932 418	2 552 197	36 306 283
ISC	979 253	938 257	222 480	157 526	65 269	178 654	2 541 440
TOTAL	14 968 588	14 341 924	3 400 768	2 407 905	997 687	2 730 851	38 847 723

ANNEX III

FOOD INSECURITY IN EGYPT



ANNEX IV: ACRONYMS

CBT	Cash-based transfers
COMET	Country office tool for managing programme operations effectively
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DSC	Direct support costs
EGP	Egyptian Pound
EMOP	Emergency Operation
EVAR	Egypt Vulnerability Assessment for Refugees
GFA	general food assistance
ICSP	interim country strategic plan
HIECS	National Household Income, Expenditure and Consumption Survey
LTSH	Landside transport, storage and handling
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PLW	Pregnant and lactating women
PRRO	Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation
SBCC	social and behaviour change communication
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDS	Sustainable Development Strategies
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNPDF	United Nations Partnership Development Framework
UN-Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women