



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Egypt Country Brief September 2018



Operational Context

WFP Egypt's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) started on 1 July 2018 and is expected to end on 30 June 2023. The CSP focuses on strengthening national capacity to tackle the underlying causes of vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition while responding to humanitarian needs. WFP supports Egypt's South-South cooperation efforts to foster resilient livelihoods in the region, and this links to Egypt's national priorities in agricultural development and food security.

Egypt is ranked 111 out of 188 countries in the 2016 UNDP Human Development Index, up three ranks from 2014. National poverty rates have increased to 27.8 percent in 2015 from 26.3 percent in 2012.

In the poorest areas of the country, 20 percent of children have never attended school, and a further 13 percent are noted to drop out of school early. Women's illiteracy rate stands at 35 percent compared to 18 percent for men.

As a response to food security challenges, the Government implements a social protection system that provides food assistance to vulnerable members of the population.

WFP has been in Egypt since 1968.



Population: **96.7 million**

2016 Human Development Index:
111 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **21% of children
between 6 and 59 months**

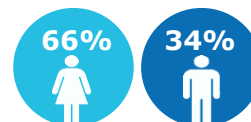
In Numbers

432.7 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$0.4 m cash-based transfers made

US\$29.9 m six months (October 2018 – March 2019) net funding requirements

263,251 people assisted
in September 2018



Operational Updates

- To enhance access to education and combat child labour in Egypt, WFP supported 41,793 children attending community schools with school meals in September. Additionally, 133,364 family members received take-home entitlements. As of August, distribution has been taking place in only 5 governorates (Assuit, Luxor, Aswan, Minya, and Sohag).
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, WFP rehabilitated 30 community schools, bringing the total to 1,144 community schools since the project started.
- As part of its smallholder and Bedouin support programme, WFP trained 1,504 participants (517 women and 987 men) on various activities to help enhance their livelihoods and build community resilience to the effects of extreme weather shocks. These activities include physical asset creation, community empowerment, and provision of technical expertise, contributing to better agricultural practices and skills enhancement. As of September, the cumulative number of smallholder farmers and rural women supported is 38,026.
- Under the "First 1,000 Days of Life" project, WFP assisted 7,428 Egyptian beneficiaries with conditional cash-based transfers (CBTs).
- WFP supported 77,213 Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria, and 3,453 pregnant and nursing mothers through monthly CBTs in the form of food vouchers. WFP food voucher is valued at EGP 400, equivalent to USD 22.
- WFP conducted several orientation sessions for the targeted directorates with the objective to kick off the teachers' training programme at the field level and to identify the profile of the participants that will attend the training in October. WFP also conducted training of trainers (ToT) for 15 security officers at the Ministry of Education (MoE) on emergency preparedness.

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- WFP monitored activities relating to the Climate Change project in Assuit where a focus group discussion (FGD) took place with farmers benefiting from activities such as in-kind loans, water irrigation, and agricultural production. The beneficiaries mostly discussed the positive impact of the projects' activities on their lives. FGD participants benefiting from irrigation systems stated that the irrigation channels established by WFP facilitated access to clean water and helped them better manage their irrigation channels. They noted that the irrigation channels had a direct impact on their safety and security, and improved interpersonal relationships in the community, going as far to say that it has "saved their lives". Moreover, the beneficiaries have acknowledged the increase in their productivity after they adopted new techniques using the seeds provided by the project. On another hand, the beneficiaries stated that they are facing a challenge in maintaining the irrigation channels clean, as some of the neighbours, who do not have lands and do not need these channels, throw their wastes in it, which requires an action from Water User Association, the project team and the farmers themselves.
- WFP conducted three FGDs with refugees from Syria who are receiving food assistance. The FGDs showed that participants were highly satisfied with the assistance they receive, but they requested an increase in voucher value given the increasing cost of living in Egypt. The majority of participants noted that they prefer to receive the assistance in the form of vouchers – the existing modality – rather than cash.

Teachers' Training

- Coordination meetings were held between WFP staff and the assigned coordinators on the directorate of education level in Damietta, Cairo and Alexandria. The implementation of the teachers' training will start on 7 October in Alexandria and Damietta. In Alexandria, 27 workshops for 650 teachers will be implemented for two months. In Damietta, the trainings will start on the same date for consecutive weeks and is targeting 100 teachers. The workshop will run for four days covering the following topics: positive discipline, nutrition awareness, which will be moderated by senior public-school teachers, and emergency preparedness which will be delivered by MoE security officers. In Cairo, the training is planned to start by mid-October. The emergency preparedness training manual is finalised and approved by the Security unit in MOE and will be submitted to the Professional Academy for Teachers in October 2018 for accreditation.

Donors

Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, European Union, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, United States and private sector donors.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2018 – March 2019)
454.0 m	60.4 m	29.9 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure and most vulnerable children and families in targeted areas of Egypt have access to food all year round.

Focus area: Root causes of food insecurity, vulnerability and inadequate education

Activities:

- Support and complement the Government's social protection programmes to ensure the food and nutritional needs of school children are met.
- Provide livelihood and capacity strengthening activities to urban and rural communities, especially adolescent youth.

Strategic Outcome 2: Food insecure refugees, displaced populations and host communities in Egypt have access to adequate food all year round.

Focus area: Crisis Response

Activities:

- Provide food and nutrition assistance and activities that build resilience to refugees, displaced populations, and host communities.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations in Egypt have improved nutritional status by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes of the double burden of malnutrition

Activities:

- Support and complement the Government's programmes to nutritionally vulnerable communities (with focus on pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months) in targeted areas, and support related activities such as awareness raising.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 4: Vulnerable smallholder farmer and Bedouin communities in targeted Governorates of Egypt have resilient livelihoods by 2030.

Focus area: Resilience building

Activities:

- Provide support to vulnerable smallholder farmer and Bedouin communities to improve their resilience through technology transfer, market-access training, diversification of livelihoods, and the creation and rehabilitation of assets.

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government of Egypt has enhanced capacity to target and assist vulnerable populations and share its experience with selected countries to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030.

Focus area: Root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition

Activities:

- Provide institutional capacity strengthening to the Government and develop innovative solutions to enhance social protection and resilience building programmes and systems.
- Facilitate regional and international knowledge and technological exchanges between countries to achieve common development goals.