



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Egypt Country Brief December 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, in alignment to Egypt's national priorities in agricultural development and food security.

Egypt is ranked 115 out of 189 countries in the 2018 United Nations Development Programme Human Development Index, up five ranks from 2014. National poverty rates 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 expected to drop out of school early. The 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's programmes support these social safety nets through a number of interventions. WFP has been operating in Egypt since 1968.



Population: **94.79 million**

2018 Human Development Index:
115 out of 188

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **21.4% of children between 6 and 59 months**

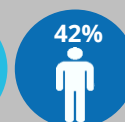
In Numbers

246.73 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 1.88 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 22.0 m six months (February - July 2019) net funding requirements

489,145 people assisted
in DECEMBER 2018



Operational Updates

- WFP's school feeding programme provided fortified date bars to 58,369 marginalised children in 2,306 rural community schools in eight governorates. Take-home entitlements were provided to 186,050 family members of children with school attendance of 80 percent or more.
- In preparation for the next phase of the "First 1,000 Days of Life" Programme, WFP is working closely with relevant partners to lead the development of a comprehensive plan for nutrition counselling support within the scope of a social and behavioural change strategy and related nutrition counselling and awareness-raising interventions.
- WFP and the Ministry of Education developed the first Interactive Key Performance Indicator platform, providing dynamic and interactive analysis through 11 dashboards on key indicators aligned with the Ministry's priorities for decision-making and monitoring.
- Through its livelihood activities, WFP supported 305 mothers of community school children through micro-loans. Assessments have shown that WFP trainings on decision making, finance, marketing, and gender roles, helped financially empower assisted women.
- In support of the national system for Child Protection, WFP trained 92 members of the Child Protection Committees and Protection Units on child labour case management. WFP provided 100 tablets to labour inspectors to facilitate data collection, referral of identified cases to the child protection committee, and linking departments of the Ministry of Manpower at district, governorate and central levels.
- Within the community hubs initiative, over 100 farmers actively engaged in a climate change session held at the community hub school in Armant, Al Tod and AlGharbi Kamoula. Other sessions on safe poultry farming involved over 100 women. WFP also held consultation meetings with stakeholders to discuss key areas of collaboration between the relevant directorate and the community hub.

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Photo: WFP provides nutrition support to pregnant and lactating women and their children in Assiut. ©WFP/Mohammad Gamal

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (February – July 2019)
453.9 m	46.3 m	22.0 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.

Monitoring

- Within WFP's Climate Change Adaptation project, a one-day monitoring & evaluation training was conducted in Luxor. Following the training, three focus group discussions with smallholder farmers and beneficiaries (10 females and 25 males) of in-kind micro-loans were conducted in Luxor and Aswan.
- Findings show that beneficiaries are satisfied with the project, stating that they are now more aware and prepared for climatic shocks and that the provided community assets improved their household's livelihood. Additionally, the seeds provided through the project enhanced productivity by almost 60 percent and crops quality improved significantly.
- Recommendations made by beneficiaries included the use of an electronic dashboard as a central information display tool in the village, the establishment of a village veterinary clinic, the diversification of in-kind loans, and the provision of equipment to increase productivity and livelihood.

Challenges

- Financing the first year of WFP's Country Strategic Plan has been challenging. Since November 2018, WFP's school feeding operation was reduced from 120,000 children in 16 governorates to 72,962 children in 8 governorates. WFP is actively pursuing funding opportunities with various donors for support to community schools and for the "First 1,000 Days of Life" nutrition programme. Additionally, limited resources are available to support government efforts in reviving the national fortification programme.

WFP Egypt's 50th Anniversary

- Operating in Egypt since 1968, the WFP Country Office and the Government jointly celebrated WFP's 50th Anniversary in Egypt on 16 December 2018. WFP's achievements over the past 50 years are being celebrated through a one-year campaign, ending in September 2019.

South-South Cooperation Agreement

- On the occasion of WFP's 50th anniversary in Egypt, the Egyptian Government and WFP signed an agreement to benefit neighbouring and African countries through the exchange of knowledge and expertise. The South-South Cooperation agreement allows for WFP and the Government to share and expand on development expertise.

HerStory Zero Hunger Edit-a-thon

- Supporting the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign, WFP and UN Women held the HerStory Zero Hunger Edit-a-thon at the Bibliotheca Alexandria. A total of 216 youth from Alexandria, in addition to refugees from Syria and Sudan, developed and edited articles on the Arabic Wikipedia on gender, food security and nutrition.

Donors

European Union, Germany, United States, Canada, Private Sector, Japan, Egypt, Norway, Finland