



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Egypt Country Brief July 2019

Operational Context

WFP Egypt's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) started on 01 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. Furthermore, the CSP promotes the exchange of knowledge and best practices on food security and nutrition through South-South Cooperation.

Egypt is ranked 115 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 in their early years of education. Women's illiteracy rate stands at 35 percent compared to 18 percent for men.

As a response to food security challenges, the Government implements an extensive social protection system that assists vulnerable members of the population. WFP's programmes support these social safety nets through various interventions. WFP has been operating in Egypt since 1968.



2018 Human Development Index:
115 out of 188

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

Population: **98.1 million (CAPMAS, Jan 2019)**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

In Numbers

107,636 people assisted
in July 2019



38.5 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.9 m cash-based transfers (CBT) made

US\$ 40.3 m six months (August 2019-January 2020) net funding requirements

Operational Updates

- As part of WFP's successful community hub activities, First Aid trainings were provided by the Egyptian Red Crescent for 75 mothers and siblings of community school children. In addition, 125 farmers were trained on water saving techniques and canal lining to better manage limited water resources.
- An awareness campaign on the importance of personal hygiene highlighted how to best maintain hygienic practices through activities including lectures and puppet shows in 12 community hubs in Luxor.
- WFP promoted social cohesion in schools through 50 puppet plays on anti-bullying, reaching 5,000 primary school students. Amid positive feedback, an additional 520 wooden puppet theatres were distributed to public schools in Cairo, Alexandria, Damietta and Obour.
- As part of school rehabilitation work, WFP completed the renovation of 4 public primary schools in Alexandria, benefitting approximately 4,000 Egyptian and Syrian students.
- As part of WFP's refugee response, WFP supported 101,449 Syrian, African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees through food assistance. Other support included livelihood trainings benefiting 60 beneficiaries and nutrition support to 4,347 pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- WFP and the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development are undertaking preparations for the launch of a 1,000 Days awareness and social behavioural change campaign project in Qena governorate.
- WFP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation held 25 trainings for smallholder farmers on cultivation of newly introduced varieties of sorghum, sugarcane and cash crops.
- To promote income diversification among farmers, 391 women and men were trained on raising ducks, goats and bee keeping. As part of WFP's ongoing in-kind micro-credit scheme, a total of 1,179 participants received livestock for livelihood support.

Photo Caption: WFP Egypt supports smallholder farmers through income diversification and enhanced agricultural practices. ©WFP/Mohammad Gamal

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Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
458.4 m	66.7 m
2019 Requirements (in USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (August 2019–January 2020)
98.8 m	40.3 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 the resilience of 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

- To assess the effect of WFP discontinuing its interventions in Lower Egypt (due to lack of funding), WFP conducted a phone survey with 282 community school teachers in 7 governorates. Survey results revealed that attendance rates among non-assisted community schools dropped 10 percent compared to that of assisted schools. Similarly, drop-out rates and cases of child labour reported by teachers increased by an average 10 percent when compared to rates reported in assisted schools. Teachers have attributed this deterioration to challenging economic conditions and the halt of WFP assistance which had previously helped support poor families and incentivise the enrolment of new students.
- According to WFP monitoring of food assistance for PLW refugees, focus group discussions in Alexandria have shown that most participants consider the assistance as an essential contribution to their basic needs. Given the increase in market prices, participants expressed the need to extend assistance to allow for the purchase of cleaning products and infant formula.

Highlights

WFP and European Union partnership ceremony

WFP and the European Union (EU) in Egypt celebrated its partnership, highlighting the success of the 5-year EU-funded project on child labour and education. With the participation of the Minister of Social Solidarity, Minister of Supply and Internal Trade, EU Ambassador, and UN Resident Coordinator, the event highlighted the success stories of the interventions and the potential of upscaling activities. The event attended by 100 participants involved government partners, donors, private sector entities and beneficiaries, featured a high-level panel discussion, beneficiary testimonies, and an awards ceremony for non-governmental partner organizations.

WFP ranked as top international organization supporting community school teachers in Egypt.

Based on an assessment of WFP’s teacher training activities, WFP ranked second, following the Ministry of Education, as an entity contributing to the professional development of community school teachers. A reported 96 percent of the teachers said that they received trainings exclusively from WFP and 51 percent reported having access to the Egyptian Knowledge Bank (EKB) as a result. Teachers expressed their hopes that future trainings would focus on the utilization of the EKB and “Teachers First” training which is currently only provided for public school teachers.

Donors

(In alphabetical order) Canada, Egypt, European Union, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Private Sector, United States