



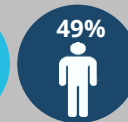
SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Egypt Country Brief September 2019

In Numbers

124,779 people assisted
in September 2019



37.2 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$2.6 million distributed through cash-based transfers (CBT)

US\$45.3 million six months net funding requirements (November 2019–April 2020)

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 of Egypt 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 months**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Operational Updates

- In partnership with Shell and PepsiCo, WFP assisted 4,328 families of community school students in Matrouh, Menia, Giza and Assiut through cash transfers redeemable for nutritious food items, helping families increase their dietary diversity and food security.
- Seven new community schools in Aswan, Minia, Assiut, Matrouh and Giza were transformed into 'Community Hubs' equipped with technology, helping foster an improved learning environment for students, educators and the wider community.
- WFP completed the renovation of 190 community schools in five governorates in a partnership with UNICEF.
- As part of WFP's refugee response, WFP supported 101,790 refugees from different nationalities through food assistance. Other support included livelihood trainings benefiting 230 beneficiaries and nutrition support to 4,100 pregnant and lactating women.
- Together with the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP), WFP celebrated World Breastfeeding Week through a nutrition advocacy event that promoted practices to protect, promote and support breastfeeding in Sohag.
- WFP presented the outcomes of its recent study: Gender Inequality in Food and Nutrition Security in Egypt at the 1st Arab Women's Health Conference. The study provides guidance on evidence-based gender-transformative programming. WFP also presented its various programmes and interventions in support of women's health and wellbeing in Egypt.
- WFP supported 355 sorghum growers with technical guidance on how to minimize losses and facilitated training of 459 women and men on raising ducks, goats and bee keeping to promote diversification of livelihoods of smallholder farmers. WFP also provided microloans to a total of 2,243 men and women to start and maintain their micro-businesses.
- In collaboration with Esri Northeast Africa, WFP organized a training on Geospatial Information Systems and database for members of MOHP and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation for improved data collection and evidence-based planning and policy.
- WFP participated in the first International African Blue Economy Conference organized by Suez University and presented its approach on Blue Economy's potential to deliver growth and jobs.

Photo Caption: Fatma, one of the 13,000 women receiving WFP microloans (among the 52,000 trained women) in support of their own livelihood micro-project. ©WFP/Mohammad Gamal

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Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)
458.4 m	76.4 m
2019 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (November 2019 – April 2020)
98.8 m	45.3 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.

• According to monitoring surveys assessing the effect of access to technology and digitalization of modules in Community Schools, an increased 38 percent of teachers reported being aware of the Egyptian Knowledge Bank (EKB) in 2019 in comparison to 2018. Moreover, usage of the EKB among surveyed teachers doubled in 2019 in comparison to 2018, indicating the positive effect of tablets and access to internet in relation to the use and awareness of the EKB. Among the surveyed teachers, 92 percent of teachers expressed that the tablets had a positive effect on their students' engagement and willingness to attend class.

• The results of an independent assessment of WFP's Livelihood Support Programme showed that 96 percent of the surveyed women reported an increase in knowledge, self-esteem, perception of self-worth and confidence. The assessment involved 677 women through surveys and focus group discussions. The majority of women also affirmed that as a result of the programme they had become financially secure, able to afford educational costs for their children and have witnessed an improvement in their family's food consumption patterns. Of the women who received microloans, 85.5 percent were still running their projects, 50 percent expanded their projects and 80 percent were financing their project expansion from their own project revenue.

• WFP's Food Security Outcome Monitoring Survey, involving 283 WFP-assisted refugees from countries other than Syria, showed remarkable improvements in the food consumption patterns. This included a significant improvement in acceptable Food Consumption Scores, dietary diversity and reduced reliance on Consumption based Coping Strategies.

Highlights

UNESCO/ITU Digital Inclusion Week

WFP presented its Community Hubs Initiative at the Regional Digital Inclusion Week organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Telecommunication Union. Neama, a community school teacher, and Fatma, a student from the same school, spoke to the public of the transformative impact of the initiative on their educational experience as well as their communal and personal lives. The Community Hubs helped promote digital inclusion, digital learning and community development through activities that foster coordination among local stakeholders and the capacity building of more than 4,000 educators.

WFP signs new agreement with the Suez University

WFP signed an agreement with the Suez University, Faculty of Fisheries and Water Resources, for collaboration and the exchange of expertise in the area of aquaculture and agriculture. The agreement aims to link WFP's current smallholders' farmers programme with the technical expertise and activities carried out by the university.

Donors

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