



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Egypt Country Brief November 2019

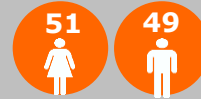
In Numbers

18.1 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$2.5 m cash based transfers made

US\$40.8 m six months net funding requirements (January- June 2020)

122,843 people assisted in November 2019



WFP SAYS NO to GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Operational Context

WFP Egypt's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) , from July 2018 to 30 June 2023, focuses on strengthening national capacity to tackle the underlying causes of vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition while responding to humanitarian needs. Further, 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 32.5 percent in 2018 from 27.8 percent in 2015.

In regards to gender equality, Egypt ranked 134 out of 153 on the 2020 Global Gender Gap Index. According to the World Bank, the rate of youth not in education, employment or training (NEET) was approximately 26.9 percent in 2017. This phenomenon disproportionately affects women, particularly in rural areas where structural biases against women allow fewer girls to attend primary and secondary school compared to boys (2018 OECD).

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.

Operational Updates

- In partnership with Shell Egypt and PepsiCo, WFP assisted 3,719 families of community school students in Matrouh, Menia, Giza and Assiut by providing in-school snacks and conditional cash transfers redeemable for nutritious food items. The food assistance contributes to children's micronutrient intake and helps families increase their dietary diversity and food security.
- In collaboration with Shell Egypt, WFP supported over 220 women in Matrouh through the provision of vocational and entrepreneurial trainings. In addition, as part of a former partnership between the European Union (EU) and WFP, 315 women received microloans using loan capital revolving through NGOs to launch new income-generating projects or to expand on ones previously launched in 2018.
- WFP completed the renovation of 100 community schools in 5 governorates in partnership with UNICEF reaching a total of 670 schools since the start of the partnership in 2019 with funding from the EU.
- As part of WFP's One Refugee Policy, WFP supported 94,663 refugees of different nationalities through general food assistance. Other support included livelihood trainings benefiting 125 refugees and host communities and nutrition support to 3,649 pregnant and lactating Syrian women (PLW).
- WFP's smallholder farmers resilience activities reached a total of 7,000 men and women, helping them increase their production and returns from small agricultural business. Around 1,360 smallholder farmers cultivated their newly consolidated land using new crop varieties that are tolerant to extreme weather changes. Moreover, 543 farmers were trained on water saving techniques and sustainable irrigation management.
- As part of WFP's ongoing in-kind micro-credit scheme, a total of 1,418 women and 1,013 men received livestock as in-kind microloans to launch their own livelihood project. To promote income diversification among farmers, WFP provided trainings on livestock raising and bee keeping, supporting 137 women and men.



2018 Human Development Index: 115 out of 189

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

Population: 98.1 million (CAPMAS, Jan 2019)

Income Level: Lower middle

Photo Caption: As part of the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence, WFP raises awareness among community school students on the importance of education as a way to end early marriage and Gender Based violence. ©WFP

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Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) January-June 2020
458.4 m	91 m	40.8 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

- As part of WFP’s monitoring of assistance for Syrian refugees, WFP carried out 3 focus group discussions, 2 retailer visits and 10 interviews with assisted Syrian refugees. All interviewed beneficiaries

affirmed their continued need of WFP’s monthly food assistance to secure their basic food requirements. Among those interviewed, the majority noted that they were able to cope better in comparison to those not receiving assistance. However, beneficiaries affirmed that increased market prices had consequently reduced the purchasing power of food assistance vouchers. Further, assisted refugee pregnant and lactating women (PLW), expressed the positive effect of making the distribution of their monthly food vouchers conditional to periodical medical checkups as positive incentive for them to commit to the latter.

- WFP monitored the effect of daily in-school snacks at community schools through interviews with 13 teachers and 79 households. Results showed that teachers found the provision of daily date bars to be beneficial, however, they also recommended having school trips, providing school bags and milk alongside the daily date bars to increase attendance among students. For families receiving take-home rations, almost all 79 interviewed households preferred the voucher modality over any other mean of assistance as it allowed them the freedom to select food items of their choice.

Highlights

WFP and the National Bank of Egypt launch partnership for the financial inclusion of vulnerable groups

WFP Egypt launched a new partnership with the National Bank of Egypt (NBE). Through this partnership, WFP and NBE will aim to empower smallholder farmers to adopt modern technology measures, providing them with access to electronic solutions to facilitate their integration in local and international markets; and offering financial solutions to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, generating income for women and youth. Through this partnership WFP aims to economically empower women and youth, contributing to Egypt’s Vision 2030.

WFP and the Netherlands launch new collaboration to support smallholder farmers in Egypt

WFP and the Netherlands signed an agreement for USD 12 million to support about half a million members of smallholder farming communities in Southern Egypt increase their resilience through loss reduction, improved irrigation techniques, use of adaptive crop production techniques, diversification of livelihoods and the strengthening of institutional capacity at community and policy level. The project “Strengthening Climate Resilience and Food Security through Livelihood Enhancement and Rural Innovation” will support over 60 smallholder farming communities in 5 governorates in Southern Egypt over the coming 4 years.

Donors

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