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 regard 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.

In Numbers

- 0.6 mt of food assistance distributed
- US$2.8 m cash based transfers made
- US$47 m six months (May - October 2020) net funding requirements
- 121,211 people assisted in March 2020

Operational Updates

- At the onset of the COVID-19 emergency, WFP was quick to disseminate related messages in coordination with the Ministry of Education under the national awareness campaign led by the Ministry of Health and Population and the World Health Organization to 5,300 members of WFP-assisted communities in 9 governorates. The campaign messages and posts were installed in Community School tablets, where users were directed to the national campaign websites. The Google Hangout App, Short Message Service, Facebook pages as well as WhatsApp groups were also used to maximize outreach to all community members.

Prior to Government’s decision (issued on the 14 March) to suspend schools due to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- In partnership with PepsiCo, WFP assisted 3,590 students of community school students in Menia, Giza and Assiut with in-school snacks and 3,518 families of these students with conditional cash transfers redeemable for nutritious food items. WFP’s assistance contributes to children’s micronutrient intake, families’ dietary diversity and food security.

- As part of WFP’s Community Hubs Initiative, WFP developed a digital tool for teachers to collect information on ongoing activities. To effectively launch the digital reporting tool, WFP trained 50 teachers in Luxor, Menia and Qena.

- WFP supported 829 women with the provision of micro-loans (of a total amount of EGP 4 million) to help launch their own income generating activities.

- Under WFP’s One Refugee Policy, WFP supported 99,932 refugees of different nationalities through general food assistance. Other support included livelihood trainings for 245 refugees and host communities and nutrition support to 3,187 pregnant and lactating Syrian women.

- To diversify smallholders agriculture-based livelihoods, WFP trained 58 men and 635 women on raising ducks, goats and bee keeping. Further, 1,858 women and 1,007 men received ducks and goats as in-kind microloans to launch or expand previously launched livelihood projects.

Photo Caption: WFP helps raise awareness among communities on the importance of girls’ education and gender equality among assisted community schools. ©WFP/Mahmoud Mohamed

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### Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Result</th>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Result 1:</strong> Everyone has access to food</td>
<td>555 m</td>
<td>101 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic Outcome 1:</strong> Food insecure and most vulnerable children and families in targeted areas of Egypt have access to food all year round.</td>
<td>2020 Requirements (in USD)</td>
<td>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus area:</strong> Root causes of food insecurity, vulnerability and inadequate education</td>
<td>115 m</td>
<td>47 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 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.

#### Highlights

**WFP COVID-19 response**

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP Egypt is communicating and monitoring updates, security measures and operation mitigation measures on a daily basis with other UN agencies operating and the Government of Egypt to ensure a coordinated approach leveraging resources of all stakeholders. As Chair of the People Groups of the United Nations Partnership Development Framework, WFP is coordinating the dialogue between Government and UN agencies to identify and streamline the urgent interventions in support of the most affected groups.

**WFP and AXA Women’s Empowerment Bazaar**

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak in Egypt, in celebration of the international women’s day, WFP organized a women empowerment bazaar at the premises of AXA insurance company where women entrepreneurs of WFP’s livelihood and women empowerment programme showcased their handmade products. The bazaar helped raise awareness on the importance of women economic empowerment and its impact on households and communities. Moreover, the bazaar attracted over 100 visitors and provided an opportunity for women to achieve high sales of their products and earn more income to support their families.

#### Donors

(In alphabetical order) Egypt, European Union, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Mastercard, Netherlands, Norway, PepsiCo, Shell, United States

WFP is maintaining close coordination and dialogue with Government, development partners and donors to identify the most affected groups and accordingly the needed resources to ensure immediate and sufficient assistance to those most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. WFP is actively seeking new partnerships with development funds, private sector and financial institutions to facilitate safe and secure means of implementation of WFP’s Response Plan in support urgent Government needs.

- WFP’s supported 6,470 smallholder farmers (men and women) in Upper Egypt to increase their livestock and agricultural production and returns through land consolidation, management of irrigation water and introduction of new crops and seed varieties.

### Challenges

As a result of the declaration of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent Government of Egypt emergency response actions, WFP is working tirelessly to support the Egyptian Government’s efforts to mitigate negative food security and nutrition impacts on the most vulnerable communities and at risk groups. WFP has developed an emergency response plan to respond to the Government of Egypt’s request for support and will need the generous support of donors to mobilize the required resources to maintain and upscale its immediate response.