**Operational Context**

WFP Egypt’s Country Strategic Plan (CSP), from July 2018 to 30 June 2023, focuses on strengthening national capacities to tackle 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 and Triangular Cooperation.

Egypt is ranked 116 out of 189 countries in the 2019 Human Development Index (HDI) and ranks 83rd in the 2020 Sustainable Development Goals Index, moving up 9 ranks from the previous year. Moreover, Egypt is ranked 55 out of 113 countries for the 2019 Global Food Security Index, up 6 ranks compared to 2018 (2019 EIU). Moreover, national poverty rates declined to 29.7 percent in 2019/2020 compared to 32.5 percent in 2017/2018. In regard to gender equality, Egypt ranks 134 out of 153 on the United Nations International Labor Organization, the rate of youth not in education, employment or training (NEET) was approximately 7.3% in 2020 compared to 3.9% in 2019. This phenomenon disproportionately affects women, particularly in rural areas where the NEET rate is 9.7% for women compared to 2.4% 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.

**In Numbers**

- **US$ 3.74 m** cash-based transfers made
- **US$ 43.5 m** six months (April – September 2021) net funding requirements
- **375,800 people assisted**

Note: cash-based transfer value and number of people assisted are estimates as assistance is ongoing at time of publication.

**Operational Updates**

- As of 28 February 2021, a total of 182,424 COVID-19 cases and 10,688 deaths were confirmed in Egypt (Egypt’s Ministry of Health and Population).
- Together with the Ministry of Education (MOE), WFP assisted about 33,000 families of community school children across 6 governorates with cash assistance redeemable at local retail shops. The assistance aims to protect the food security of vulnerable families from socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.
- In partnership with MOE, WFP provided technological upgrades (tablets, projection screens, Wi-Fi connection) to seven community schools in Matrouh after having received necessary infrastructural renovations. The Ministry and WFP aim to extend technological upgrades to 450 community schools in line with national plans to expand digital learning.
- To economically empower women, WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS) and non-governmental organizations provided 500 women with revolving micro-loans for income-generating activities with a total value of EGP 3 million.
- WFP provided food assistance through cash-based transfers to about 117,700 registered refugees (from nine different countries) to help secure their basic food needs.
- As part of the ‘First 1,000 days’ national nutrition programme and WFP’s COVID-19 emergency response, WFP in collaboration with MOSS, provided cash top-ups to about 25,000 vulnerable Egyptian households with children under two years of age registered under the national social protection programme, ‘Takaful and Karama’.
- As of February 2021, over 1,500 smallholder farmers in Southern Egypt engaged in community mobilisation activities and benefited from trainings on improved agricultural and sustainable irrigation.
- Under the auspices of MOSS and in partnership with the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, WFP launched a radio and short message service (SMS) awareness campaign under the national “First 1,000 Days” nutrition programme. The ongoing campaign targets 30,000 pregnant and lactating women with a weekly awareness message on health and nutrition for the first 1,000 days of a child’s life. In parallel, a radio campaign was launched to promote awareness-raising on the importance of this developmental window.
**WFP Country Strategy**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirement (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>586 m</td>
<td>173 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021 Requirements (in USD)</td>
<td>Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (April – September 2021)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117 m</td>
<td>43.5 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.
- Provide crisis assistance to local populations affected by COVID-19.

**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 Outcome 4:** Food systems are sustainable

**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 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.

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**Monitoring**

Qualitative monitoring results of WFP's women's livelihoods programme in the governorate of Matrouh showed that over 100 women have gained confidence and the skills to launch their own micro-businesses as a result of the provided trainings on entrepreneurship and business management. Moreover, a group of trainees have launched an NGO to support the marketing and sales of products produced by these micro-businesses. This marks a notable shift in the perceived economic role of women in the assisted Bedouin community. Additionally, monitoring of the impact of cash-assistance received by community school students' families in Matrouh evidenced an improvement in vulnerable families' ability to secure their basic food and non-food needs and consequently an increase in sales of small local retailers.

**Highlights**

Four of Egypt's Ministries and WFP prepare for expansions of joint programmes under phase II of the 'Decent Life' Presidential initiative

Building on this success of the joint rural development programme by the Government and WFP across 63 villages in Upper Egypt, the Ministries of International Cooperation, Local Development, Agriculture and Land Reclamation, and Social Solidarity discussed an action plan for the expansion of the programme under the second phase of the 'Decent Life' Presidential Initiative. While contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the expansion aims to develop the most vulnerable villages by supporting investment in human capital, resilience against impacts of climate change, and achieving socio-economic empowerment of women and girls. A specialised committee will be formed to identify new villages for the project expansion and will include representatives from the relevant ministries and WFP.

The Ministry of Social Solidarity, WFP and USAID launch community workers training programme

Under the auspices of MOSS and in partnership with USAID and the National Nutrition Institute (NNI), WFP launched a Training of Trainers programme under the national “First 1,000 Days” nutrition programme. The trainings delivered by NNI aim to develop the counselling and monitoring capacity of MOSS's community workers to increase the nutrition and health awareness of assisted pregnant and lactating women (of children under 2) through the use of tablets and digital tools. The training will be delivered to over 3,000 community workers over the next 3 months.

Stories of empowered women: WFP partners with Gemini Africa on Hekayti Podcast

In partnership with Gemini Africa's recently-launched Hekayti podcast, success stories from MOSS and WFP's joint women livelihoods programme successful entrepreneurs were aired. The theme-based podcasts focus on real-life stories of women empowerment, including that of Fatma from Luxor and Mariam from Fayoum. Aired episodes can be access on the Hekayti website here.

**Donors**

(In alphabetical order) Egypt, Germany, Italy, Mastercard, Netherlands, Norway, PepsiCo, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, Shell, United States

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**WFP Egypt Country Brief**

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