In Numbers

- **US$ 4.08 m** cash-based transfers made
- **US$ 51.7 m** six month (June – November 2021) net funding requirements
- **361,800 people assisted** in April 2021

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

Operational Updates

- As of 30 April 2021, a total of 227,552 COVID-19 cases and 13,339 deaths were confirmed in Egypt (Worldometers Egypt).
- Together with the Ministry of Education (MOE), WFP assisted about 33,500 families of community school children across seven governorates with cash redeemable at local retail shops. The assistance aims to protect the food security of vulnerable families from the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.
- WFP and MOE also jointly developed awareness-raising material such as posters to promote the various national educational portals available for primary school children to enhance online and distance learning. These efforts contribute to the Ministry’s vision to promote digital learning, particularly in time of COVID-19.
- To economically empower women, WFP, in partnership with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), provided 500 women with micro-loans for the launch or expansion of income-generating activities at a total value of US$ 191,400 (EGP 3 million) in ten governorates.
- WFP, in collaboration with Egypt's National Council for Women (NCW), conducted training of trainers for NCW staff and local NGOs on women enterprise, marketing, gender and micro-finance in the governorates of Bani Suef and Assiut. The trainers are now carrying forth these trainings to women in the poorest villages identified through the national initiative, “Decent Life”. In April, a total of 320 women in the two governorates were trained.
- WFP provided food assistance through cash-based transfers to about 117,300 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 transfers to about 24,000 vulnerable Egyptian children under two years of age registered under the national social protection programme, ‘Takaful and Karama’.

Operational Context

WFP Egypt’s 2018-2023 Country Strategic Plan (CSP) 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. Egypt is also ranked 60 out of 113 countries for the 2020 Global Food Security Index, down 5 ranks compared to 2019 (2020 EU). 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 129 out of 153 on the 2021 Global Gender Gap Index. According to the United Nations International Labor Organization, the rate of youth not in education, employment or training (NEET) was approximately 27.2 percent in 2019. This phenomenon disproportionately affects women, particularly in rural areas where the NEET rate is 39.7 percent for women compared to 19.4 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.

Photo Caption: WFP provides refugees with unrestricted cash assistance, helping secure their most basic food and non-food needs in times of crisis. ©WFP/Egypt

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## Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Outcome</th>
<th>Total Requirement (in US$)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</td>
<td>586 m</td>
<td>180 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition</td>
<td>117 m</td>
<td>51.7 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Strategic Outcome 1: Everyone has access to food

**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: 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 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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## Challenges

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent plans and actions by the Government of Egypt, WFP has developed an emergency response plan to respond to the Government's request for support. WFP is actively seeking the generous support of donors to mobilize required resources to maintain and upscale its response.

## Highlights

**Egypt's Ministry of Manpower and WFP launch new cooperation agreement to promote youth development and employment**

Egypt's Minister of Manpower, H.E. Mohamed Saafan, and WFP Egypt Country Director, signed a new cooperation agreement to expand WFP's support to the Ministry's labour force development initiatives. This partnership will promote youths' skills development, women empowerment & enhanced linkages between individuals and employment markets (including the private sector).

Building on the Ministry's programmes and systems, this agreement will accelerate efforts towards skills development, vocational trainings and professional certifications, as well as spearhead joint efforts to advance the Ministry's Information Technology systems for data analysis and mapping.

**Director General of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development visits WFP programmes in Luxor and launches new agreement for South-South Cooperation**

Building on the successful completion of the first phase of WFP and the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development's (AOAD's) joint project towards developing vulnerable and Bedouin communities in South Sinai, AOAD Director General, Prof. Ibrahim El Dukheri, and WFP Egypt Country Director, Menghestab Haile, inked a joint agreement on South-South Cooperation. Through the “Luxor Centre for Knowledge Sharing & Innovation,” WFP and AOAD will expand their partnership with a focus on innovation, knowledge sharing, and best practices based on Egypt's institutional capacity, technical expertise and political commitment to support Arab and African initiatives. Joint efforts will be geared towards further addressing climate change, environmental issues, natural resource management, and resilience building through improved livelihoods, access and integration in local markets.

On the occasion, Prof. Ibrahim El Dukheri and AOAD Head of the Arab Regional Office, Dr. Kamel El-Sayed, also visited the Government and WFP’s joint rural development programme in Luxor where communities have built their resilience through use of solar energy, canal lining and land consolidation.

## 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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