



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



WFP Egypt Country Brief June 2021

In Numbers

USD 4 m cash-based transfers made

USD 55 m six month (July – December 2021) net funding requirements

327,300 people assisted
in June 2021



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

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 82nd in the 2021 Sustainable Development Goals Index, moving up one rank 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 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 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.



2019 Human Development Index:
116 out of 189

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

Population: **101.6 million (CAPMAS, February 2021)**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Operational Updates

- As of 29 June 2021, a total of 280,770 COVID-19 cases and 15,096 deaths were confirmed in Egypt (Worldometer Egypt).
- Together with the Ministry of Education (MOE), WFP assisted about 25,610 families of community school children in the governorates of Luxor, Fayoum, Qena, and Bani Suweif with cash assistance redeemable at local retail shops. The assistance aims to the increase food security of vulnerable families and help to protect from the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.
- To economically empower women, WFP in partnership with the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) and non-governmental organizations provided 680 women with micro-loans for the launch or expansion of income-generating activities with a total value of USD 255,000 in ten governorates. WFP is working on expanding its support to more women in need in underprivileged villages in five governorates, whereby women will receive training on enterprise, marketing, and lending. These trainees will then in turn train further women in rural areas.
- Under the auspices of MoSS and in partnership with USAID and the National Nutrition Institute (NNI), WFP launched the fourth round of Training of Trainers programme under the national "First 1,000 Days" nutrition programme targeting community workers from Alexandria, Beheira, Kafr Elsheikh and Matrouh as well as government representatives from MoSS. The training aims 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). The programme also supports the digitalization of the counselling service and monitoring through the use of tablets and digital tools.
- 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 27,000 vulnerable Egyptian children under two years of age registered under the national social protection programme, 'Takaful and Karama'.

Photo Caption: WFP provided a one-day awareness raising session on the "First 1,000 days" to 30 pregnant and nursing Syrian Refugee mothers in Alexandria, Egypt. ©WFP/Egypt

Contact info: Christine Hanna (christine.hanna@wfp.org)

Country Director: Menghestab Haile

Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/egypt

Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)
586 m	185 m
2021 Requirements (in US\$)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (July – December 2021)
117 m	55 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
- Provide crisis assistance to local populations affected by COVID-19

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.

- H.E Minister of Manpower endorsed WFP Egypt’s youth activities into a new national initiative under his patronage called “Strengthening vocational skills of Egyptian Youth.” As part of this initiative, WFP provides training to youth with the aim to boost their skills and employability and qualify them for the needs of the modern-day labour market while increasing their work and livelihood opportunities. Within this initiative, WFP conducted capacity building trainings for 80 local trainers and staff of the Ministry of Manpower across Upper Egypt on ICT and marketing skills. This comes in parallel with the provision of technical equipment to the different vocational centres in seven governorates.
- WFP signed a partnership agreement with the Ministry of Local Development with the aim to support the development of local human resources and the livelihoods of vulnerable families. The core of this partnership is the development of underprivileged villages of “Haya Kareema” (Decent Life) initiative through community mobilization, as well as awareness and capacity building of women, men, youth, children and people with disabilities. A workplan was developed to pilot this initiative in 60 villages in six governorates in Upper Egypt and inception will start together with the ministry teams at local and central levels.

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

UN’s Resident Coordinator in Egypt visits WFP Projects in Upper Egypt

The United Nations Resident Coordinator in Egypt, Elena Panova, along with the World Food Programme’s (WFP) Country Director in Egypt, Menghestab Haile, visited this week the joint Government and WFP programmes in the city of Luxor in Upper Egypt, looking at projects promoting regional cooperation, women’s economic empowerment, rural development, and education. Ms. Panova visited several project sites, including El-Boghdadi village, one of the 174 communities supported under the rural development programme implemented by WFP and the Government of Egypt, El Boghdadi Community School –one of the 120 flagship ‘community hubs’ developed jointly by the Ministry of Education. She also met with mothers benefitting from the ‘First 1,000 Days’ programme implemented by WFP in partnership with the Ministry of Social Solidary under the Takaful and Karama national initiative. According to Ms. Panova, “UN programmes in Upper Egypt [...] managed to transform the livelihoods of many people in areas of economic empowerment and regional cooperation. I am confident that with the support of our stakeholders and partners, the entire UN family will be able to expand these successful interventions further.”

Donors

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

***Subscribe to the monthly WFP Egypt newsletter**
by sending us your email at wfp.egy.info@wfp.org