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. Through the Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023), WFP's programmes support these social safety nets through various interventions. WFP has been operating in Egypt since 1968.

Photo Caption: Ambassador of the Netherlands to Egypt visiting the joint Government and WFP rural development project funded by the Netherlands in Luxor. ©WFP/Egypt

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Operational Updates

- As of 30 September 2021, a total of 304,524 COVID-19 cases and 17,331 deaths were confirmed in Egypt (Worldometer Egypt).
- WFP and the Ministry of Education and Technical Education continued to provide assistance to about 27,000 families of community school children in 5 governorates with cash assistance (USD 11 per child) redeemable at local retail shops. The assistance aims to increase food security of vulnerable families negatively affected by the pandemic.
- In collaboration with the Ministries of Social Solidarity (MOSS) and Local Development, WFP delivered training of trainers (TOT) on micro-enterprises management, lending, and digital marketing to about 40 local officials who cascaded the training to over 2,200 trainees from villages under the ‘Decent Life’ national programme (in Minya, Assiut and Luxor). In partnership with the Matrouh Governorate, Directorate of Agriculture and Union of Agricultural councils, the TOT was also delivered to over 20 officials who are cascading the training at village-level, promoting women’s financial inclusion and reaching 40 women thus far.
- To economically empower vulnerable women, WFP in partnership with MOSS and non-governmental organizations provided 240 women with revolving micro-loans for the launch or expansion of income-generating activities with a total value of USD 108,200 in 5 governorates. Additionally, to help strengthen national capacities, WFP trained loan employees of the ‘Takaful (solidarity) Association’ in Minya on lending procedures and the management of financial and accounting systems.
- As part of the partnership between WFP and the National Council for Women, WFP and UNWOMEN conducted a joint capacity strengthening training on the management of gender-based violence (GBV) reports for about 70 frontline lawyers of the National Council for Women’s complaints office. Staff were trained on Customer Services basics and how to professionally handle inbound and outbound calls and how to deal with face-to-face branch visitors.
- WFP provided food assistance through cash (USD 25 each) to about 100,000 registered refugees from different nationalities to help secure their basic food needs.
- As part of the ‘First 1,000 Days’ programme, WFP in collaboration with MOSS provided cash top ups (USD 13 per woman) to about 23,000 pregnant and lactating women registered under the national social protection programme, ‘Takaful and Karama’ (Solidarity and Dignity).

In Numbers

- USD 3.7 m cash-based transfers made
- USD 63 m six month (October 2021 – March 2022) net funding requirements
- 330,200 people assisted in September 2021

Note: number of refugees assisted and cash-based transfer value are estimates as assistance is ongoing at time of publication.
The Government of Egypt has enhanced capacity to develop innovative solutions to enhance social protection and resilience building programmes and systems. Following the successful launch of the hospitality training programme in July 2021, the Ministry of Manpower, WFP and the Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa launched the second round of the training programme, supporting youth from Upper Egypt. Within the framework of the national youth development initiative ‘Your skill is your profession’, the 6-week training is focused on food and beverage, culinary work and housekeeping, with theoretical trainings carried out at the Ministry’s vocational centre followed by practical trainings at the Hilton Luxor Resort & Spa. It is worth noting that trained youth have either gained employment opportunities or have been placed on rosters for potential hiring.