

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

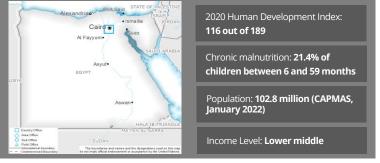
# WFP Egypt Country Brief April 2022

## **Operational Context**

According to the 2021 Global Hunger Index, Egypt sustains a moderate level of hunger. Affordability, food quality and food safety remain pressing challenges. Malnutrition is another public health concern. Through the National Strategic Plan for Pre-University Education (2014-2030) and the revamping of the National School Feeding Programme, the Government aims to achieve full coverage and increase the nutritional value of school meals. In 2021 Egypt achieved progress towards gender equality, with improvements in educational attainment. However, large disparities remain in women's political and economic empowerment. Nonetheless, based on the 2020 Human Development Report, Egypt ranked 116 out of 189 countries. National economic and financial reforms helped maintain positive socio-economic development. More so, Egypt's Vision 2030 has guided progress in the design, delivery and scope of social protection programmes.

Through a 54-year partnership with the Government and its 2018-2023 Country Strategic Plan (CSP), WFP maintains a holistic development approach that caters to the immediate needs of vulnerable groups through food and nutrition assistance (cash-based transfers), while contributing to their empowerment through capacity strengthening trainings, awareness raising on various topics, improved livelihoods, financial inclusion and education, and enhanced agricultural practices. WFP's CSP interventions complement national Development initiatives such as 'Decent Life', '*Takaful & Karama*', among many others.

As host of the 27<sup>th</sup> United Nations Climate Change Conference, Egypt aims to showcase its advances in environmental protection and climate change, to which WFP contributes to through its rural development programme.



**Photo Caption:** For Basmala & Youssef, the WFP date bars help provide nutrition and a great start to their school day. ©WFP/Omnia Elzahar

Contact info: Christine Hanna (christine.hanna@wfp.org) Country Director: Praveen Agrawal Further information: <u>www.wfp.org/countries/egypt</u>

# **In Numbers**

دراع القوة

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وتوف

49 mt of food assistance distributed

USD 2.9 m cash-based transfers made

**USD 35.5 m** six-month (May 2022 – October 2022) net funding requirements

**270,000 people assisted** in April 2022



# **Operational Updates**

- In support of the National School Feeding Programme, WFP provided cash assistance to about 27,000 families of community school children in the poorest villages in Luxor, Qena, Fayoum and Beni Suef, to help increase families' food security. Community school students also received daily in-schools snacks in the form of fortified date bars to improve their nutrition.
- The Ministry of Social Solidarity (MOSS), *Takaful* Foundation, and WFP continued to deliver trainings on micro-enterprise management, lending, and e-marketing for over 1,400 women from villages in Beni Suef, Minya, Luxor and Fayoum under the 'Decent Life' national programme. Of those trained, about 120 women in Luxor received micro-loans to launch their micro-business. In collaboration with the Directorate of Social Solidarity in Luxor, WFP also trained 95 local community members to monitor and evaluate the impact of trainings and microloans among over 700 assisted families.
- WFP continued to support Takaful Foundation and partner non-governmental organizations in managing previously provided revolving loan capital of about USD 83,500 to benefit 250 women in launching or expanding their businesses in the governorate of Minya.
- Under the national youth development initiative 'Your skill is your profession', the Ministry of Manpower (MOM), WFP and private sector partners continued to implement the joint youth vocational training programme in the governorates of Matrouh, Qena, Sohag, Luxor and Beni Suef, offering 30 vocational trainings in seven areas of expertise with the enrolment of about 500 trainees. In parallel, WFP trained MOM staff from the National Information Labour Market Observatory on statistical and data visualization tools for labour market analysis.
- WFP continued to assist about 100,000 refugees through monthly cash assistance to help secure basic food needs.
- Under the 'First 1,000 Days' nutrition programme, WFP and MOSS provided cash top-ups to about 30,000 pregnant and lactating women under the national social protection programme 'Takaful and Karama' (Solidarity and Dignity).
- In partnership with MOSS and the National Nutrition Institute, WFP continued its training-of-trainers programme under the "First 1,000 Days" nutrition programme for community workers in the governorates of Fayoum and Monofeya. The training develops the counselling and digital monitoring capacity of MOSS's community workers to increase the nutrition and health awareness of assisted vulnerable mothers in rural areas.

# WFP Country Strategy

Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)	
Allocated Contributions (in USD)	
240 m	
Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (May 2022 – October 2022)	
35.5 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.

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- In partnership with MOSS, the Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MOETE) and WFP, the 'Waei' ('awareness' in Arabic) national initiative was launched in WFP-supported community schools in Luxor, Qena, Beni Suef and Fayoum in March 2022 to raise awareness on 12 different topics including early marriage and economic inclusion. In April, MOETE and WFP conducted a training of trainers for 28 Education Supervisors, who delivered the trainings to more than 600 teachers and education supervisors in the four governorates. The trained educators are now conducting awareness sessions within the community schools, aiming to reach more than 50,000 women, men, and youth.
- Together, WFP, the Ministries of Agriculture and Land Reclamation (MALR), and Water Resources and Irrigation (MWRI), converted four tertiary mud canals into pipelines serving farming villages in Sohag and Luxor, saving water and enhancing irrigation for over 100 acres, and benefitting about 80 smallholder farmers and their families. Additionally, eight shredding units were provided to eight Community Development Associations that will enable the recycling of 2 tons of crop residues from each acre of farmland for the production of animal fodder.

# Challenges

Egypt imports 80 percent of its wheat needs from Ukraine and Russia. Impacted by the war in Ukraine, Egypt is expected to witness continued economic impacts and increase in prices, especially of food items, limiting the poorest and most vulnerable populations' accessibility to food. WFP is cooperating with the Government and donor community to best support vulnerable populations and mitigate the impact of such economic repercussions on food security.

# **Highlights**

# WFP Goodwill Ambassador Hend Sabry visits climate change adaptation projects in Egypt

During a two-day visit Arab film star, Hend Sabry visited villages in Luxor and Aswan, witnessing the impact of the Government of Egypt and WFP's joint rural development programme on adaptation to climate change. This visit comes ahead of the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), which will be hosted by the Government of Egypt, to help advocate and raise awareness on the programme's results against the impacts of climate change. The programme has helped build the resilience of 80,000 smallholder farming communities against the impact of climate change through enhanced agriculture techniques and improved agricultural infrastructure for irrigation and electricity supply. This helped farmers' incomes by 30 percent, allowing them to meet their most basic needs including food, healthcare, housing, and education for their children. <u>Read more here</u>.

### 'Coming Together' Iftar

In the spirit of unity and the holy month of Ramadan, WFP hosted a 'Coming Together' Iftar, bringing together donors, partners, and families supported by WFP's programme to engage and share testimonies and stories of change made possible thanks to the support provided through the programme. The Iftar allowed for an opportunity to highlight the sustainable impact of development support on ground while also advocating for the increasing needs to support more vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

# Donors

(In alphabetical order) Egypt, Germany, Italy, Mastercard, Netherlands, Norway, Shell, United States