



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Egypt Country Brief January 2023



In Numbers

166,658 people assisted

in January 2023



211 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.3 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 22 m (February - July 2023) net funding requirements

Operational Context

According to the 2022 Global Food Security Index, Egypt ranked 77th globally and 13th in the Middle East and North Africa region with a moderate level of food security

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 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 2021 Human Development Report, Egypt ranked 97 out of 191 countries. 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, while contributing to their empowerment through capacity strengthening, awareness raising on various topics, improved livelihoods, financial inclusion, access to education, and enhanced agricultural, climate-adaptive practices. WFP's CSP interventions complement national development initiatives such as 'Decent Life', 'Solidarity and Dignity', among many others.

As host of the 27th United Nations Climate Change Conference, Egypt showcased implementation models in environmental protection and climate action with a focus on the African continent. WFP contributes to the climate agenda through the promotion of adaptive agricultural practices, resilience building of vulnerable communities, and capacity strengthening.



2021 Human Development Index: **97** out of 191

Stunting: **13%** of children between 1 and 59 months

Population: **103.9 million** (CAPMAS, September 2022)

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Stunting: **13%** of children between 1 and 59 months

Operational Updates

- Complementing the National School Feeding Programme, WFP provided daily in-school snacks (fortified date-bars) to 117,000 community school students across 11 governorates. Additionally, WFP provided cash assistance to about 35,000 families of community school children to increase families' food security in the governorates of Sohag, Sharqeya, Qena, Fayoum and Bani Suef.
- Building on the current experience of WFP in youth employment, WFP, the Ministry of Manpower and private sector companies (specialised in the field of solar energy) discussed approaches to match technical and soft skills needs in the field of renewable energy with employment opportunities in Egypt's labour market. As a result, major companies operating in this sector agreed to provide on-site trainings for youth in vulnerable areas.
- WFP assisted about 100,000 registered vulnerable refugees nationwide with monthly cash assistance (up to Egyptian pound 459/~US\$ 15) to help secure their basic food needs.
- Under the national 'First 1,000 Days' nutrition programme, WFP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity provided cash top-ups to about 26,000 pregnant and lactating women, under the national social protection programme 'Takaful and Karama' (Solidarity and Dignity), to help secure their nutritional needs.
- WFP together with the National Nutrition Institute, and the Ministry of Social Solidarity, conducted a Training of Trainers for about 40 newly appointed community workers as part of the national 'First 1,000 Days' nutrition programme. Topics covered the use of digital monitoring tools and how to raise awareness and promote best practices on maternal and child health and nutrition. More than 2,300 community workers across 27 governorates have been trained over the past two years.

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Photo Caption: WFP supports community school children and their families to have access to adequate food all year through cash assistance for food and nutrition, and access to enhanced education. ©WFP

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received
586 m	311 m
2023 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (February – July 2023)
110 m	22 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.

- WFP trained over 760 rural women on animal husbandry in the governorates of Sohag, Asyut and Qena. Additionally, operating in alignment with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, WFP provided these women with in-kind loans through partner community development associations, trained on loan management systems.
- About 400 entrepreneurs, mostly women, were trained by WFP and onboarded to the 'Ayadi Misr' digital market platform to provide them with online access for their locally produced handicrafts. The Ayadi Misr initiative, led by the Ministry of Local Development and supported by WFP, was also featured at the national exhibition "Beit Al Arab" for locally crafted products in Cairo.

Challenges

With the conflict in Ukraine, global economic crisis, and the recent third currency devaluation of the Egyptian Pound, Egypt continues to witness negative economic impacts and increases in prices, limiting access to food for the most vulnerable populations. Given this increasing vulnerability and consequent funding needs, WFP seeks donors' support to mobilize resources to maintain and expand food and nutrition assistance. WFP requires approximately US\$ 7 million to sustain food assistance for more than 160,000 Egyptian and non-Egyptian beneficiaries through June 2023.

Highlights

During 22-26 January, WFP welcomed a delegation from the United States Agency for International Development involving members of the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, and the Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance to its refugees and migrants' assistance programme in Cairo and Alexandria.

The visit highlighted refugees' challenges in Egypt and the essential contribution of USAID-funded food assistance on the food security status of vulnerable refugees. In addition to directly engaging with refugee beneficiaries, and community leaders, the delegation also visited a 'Fawry' outlet - a service provider of e-payments and digital finance solutions in Egypt. WFP presented to the delegation an overview of the monthly cash assistance redemption process from the service provider to the beneficiary.

Donors

(In alphabetical order) Egypt, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, United States