



World Food Programme

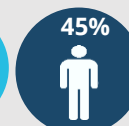
SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP Egypt Country Brief May 2023



## In Numbers

**136,000** people assisted  
in May 2023



**303 mt** of food assistance distributed

**US\$ 2.2 m** cash-based transfers made

**US\$ 38.6 m** (June – November 2023) net funding requirements

## Operational Context

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

Egypt hosts about 300,000 refugees of which over 100,000 are supported by WFP with monthly food assistance. Since the onset of the Sudan crisis in April 2023, Egypt received nearly 200,000 Sudanese people fleeing the crisis and seeking safety beyond their country's borders.

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 2022, 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 latest, 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 55-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. In July 2023, WFP starts a new five-year CSP in line with national priorities linked to the Sustainable Development Goals.



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

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

Population: **104.95 million (CAPMAS, May 2023)**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

## WFP Response to the Sudan Crisis

The armed conflict in Sudan that broke out on 15 April 2023 has resulted in the displacement of more than 364,000 people out of Sudan to neighbouring countries. The conflict has left local populations with close to no access to food and potable water, giving rise to food insecurity and malnutrition. As of May, 200,000 people crossed the border from Sudan to Egypt.

To respond to the emergency and longer-term food and nutrition needs, as of end May, WFP assisted over 131,000 Sudanese people fleeing the crisis.

- As a rapid response to the humanitarian needs, WFP, in coordination with the Government of Egypt and the Egyptian Red Crescent, provided critical food assistance in the form of ready-to-eat food packages to about 86,200 people at the border crossings as of 31 May.
- To address the longer-term needs of vulnerable people seeking refuge in-country, WFP launched an emergency cash assistance programme through its pre-established cash delivery platform, assisting about 7,800 people in Aswan and Cairo as of 31 May. The cash assistance, redeemable across over 140,000 points of sales nationwide, provides people with the autonomy to purchase their most essential needs. The cash platform has also been made available to sister UN agencies and other stakeholders.
- To address nutrition security, WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Population and UNICEF established nutrition counselling services in Aswan, providing counselling to arriving breastfeeding women and their children at the border areas. As of May, over 4,000 Sudanese children and family members received nutrition and health screening and were provided access to psychological counselling support.

As the first donor to support WFP, Japan contributed USD 500,000 to provide food assistance ([press release here](#)). Other concerted efforts to raise needed funds include a joint-UN Refugee Response Plan of which WFP's plan accounts for 80 percent of the total budget. WFP is also contributing to a joint UN proposal to the Central Emergency Response Fund to support cash assistance.

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**Photo caption:** As part of its Sudan Crisis response efforts, WFP provides cash and food assistance to vulnerable children, adults and elderly crossing the borders into Egypt. ©WFP

### Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received
<b>586 m</b>	<b>313 m</b>
2023 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (June – November 2023)
<b>109 m</b>	<b>38.6 m</b>

#### 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.

- Complementing the National School Feeding Programme, WFP provided daily snacks (fortified date bars) to 117,000 community school students across 11 governorates. Additionally, WFP provided cash assistance to over 35,000 families of vulnerable community school children (conditional to 80 percent of their child's attendance) to promote education and increase families' food security in the governorates of Sohag, Sharqeya, Qena, Fayoum and Beni Suef.
- In support of refugee communities, WFP assisted about 100,000 registered vulnerable refugees nationwide with monthly cash assistance to help secure their basic food needs.
- To improve nutrition security, WFP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity provided cash top-ups to some 60,000 pregnant and nursing women, under the national social protection programme 'Takaful and Karama' (Solidarity and Dignity).
- Under the 'First 1,000 Days of Life' nutrition programme, WFP, together with the National Nutrition Institute and Ministry of Health and Population provided nutrition awareness sessions in the governorates of Giza and Qalyubia. The sessions promoted healthy nutrition and dietary practices among 1,000 community members.
- WFP and the Maternal and Child Health department delivered a training to over 100 healthcare service providers on providing quality services to women and children. Training topics included growth monitoring and antenatal care, with trainees- including healthcare workers- from the governorates of Aswan, New Valley, Damietta, Red Sea and Alexandria.
- WFP trained more than 3,900 farmers in Sohag, Asyut, Qena, Luxor and Aswan on best agricultural practices in Egypt to help improve their produce and income.

## Partnerships

- Promoting best practices on climate-smart agriculture and financial inclusion, Egypt's Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, President of Afreximbank, and Governor of Luxor visited WFP and the Ministry's Luxor Center for Knowledge Exchange and Innovation. Efforts on South-South collaboration and how to capitalize on Egypt's development models to support neighboring countries were discussed.
- Egypt's leading financial service provider, Fawry and WFP renewed their partnership agreement for the use of cutting-edge and secure financial service platforms to deliver WFP cash assistance nationwide. Building on WFP and Fawry's long-lasting partnership since 2016, Fawry's services will allow WFP-supported communities and individuals to securely access cash assistance through Short Message Service vouchers or cash cards, redeemable from over 140,000 points of sales across all governorates.