Country & Operational Context

According to the 2022 Global Food Security Index, Egypt ranked 77th globally and 13th in the Middle East and North Africa region. Additionally, according to the Global Hunger Index, Egypt sustains 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 over 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.

WFP Response to the Sudan Crisis

The armed conflict in Sudan (that broke out on 15 April 2023) has caused more than 238,000 people to have fled to Egypt seeking safety and security. The conflict has left local populations with close to no access to food and potable water, giving rise to food insecurity and malnutrition.

To respond to the emergency and longer-term food and nutrition needs of displaced populations, until June 2023, WFP has assisted over 171,000 people transitioning from Sudan into Egypt since the start of the crisis, as follows:

- As a rapid response to the humanitarian needs, WFP, in coordination with the Government of Egypt, the Egyptian Red Crescent and other partner NGOs, has provided critical food assistance to about 147,000 people at the border crossings.
- To address the longer-term needs of vulnerable people seeking refuge in-country, WFP provided multi-purpose cash assistance to some 24,000 people in Aswan and Cairo. The cash assistance, redeemable across over 140,000 points of sales nationwide, provides people with the autonomy to purchase their most essential needs. The WFP cash platform has also been made available for the delivery of assistance from sister UN agencies such as UNICEF 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. In June, over 500 Sudanese children and family members received nutrition and health screening and were provided access to psychological counselling support.
- Together, WFP and the Government of Egypt established a humanitarian corridor between Egypt and Sudan providing critical support to thousands of people trapped by conflict. The corridor serves as a passageway for UN agencies, development organizations, and humanitarian partners to deliver assistance across borders. The first cross-border movement took place on 16 June carrying 50 mt of essential WFP food assistance from Egypt to Sudan.

In Numbers

- 154,000 people assisted in June 2023
- 132 mt of food assistance distributed
- US$ 1.65 m cash-based transfers made
- US$ 22 m (July – December 2023) net funding requirements

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WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Result</th>
<th>Total Requirements (in US$)</th>
<th>Total Received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food</td>
<td>431 m</td>
<td>30 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition</td>
<td>2023 Requirements (in US$)</td>
<td>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US$) (July – December 2023)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Result 3: Food systems are sustainable</td>
<td>109 m*</td>
<td>22 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*reflecting CSP 2018-2023 and CSP 2023-2028

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 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 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 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.

Operational Updates

- In support of refugee communities, WFP assisted about 100,000 registered vulnerable refugees from different nationalities nationwide with monthly cash assistance to help secure their basic food needs.

- As part of the national development initiative 'Decent Life,' WFP and the Ministry of Labour trained 140 young people from Aswan, Luxor, Qena, and Sohag on various vocational skills, including e-marketing. The trainings aim to improve youth's employability prospects as a sustainable solution to addressing poverty and food insecurity. This initial cohort is the first of over 1,400 targeted youth who will receive similar trainings to improve their employability prospects.

- To improve the livelihoods of vulnerable rural communities, WFP trained more than 1,400 smallholder farmers in Sohag, Asyut, Qena, Luxor and Aswan on sustainable agricultural practices to increase productivity and consequently household income and food security. In addition, WFP provided in-kind loans of ducks to approximately 850 rural women, of whom 400 received training on their breeding and caretaking.

Highlight

The Governor of the Central Bank of Egypt, H.E Hassan Abdalla, expressed his support for WFP's Country Strategic Plan for 2023-2028 during the June 2023 WFP Executive Board meeting, demonstrating the Government's commitment to WFP's activities in the country for the coming 5 years. Read more here.

Partnerships

- To further promote and expand on best practices, WFP in partnership with the Coca-Cola Foundation, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation launched a two-year programme to establish a farm model using smart irrigation techniques to optimize the use of limited land and natural resources. In addition, the farm model will provide farmers with access to markets through enhanced value chains. It will promote sustainable income generation through environmentally friendly agriculture (press release here).

- WFP and a delegation from the Australian Government, led by Ambassador Axel Wabenhorst, visited WFP's women's economic empowerment programme in Fayoum to acknowledge its achievements and support the efforts of women who have launched their micro-businesses. During the visit, Ambassador Axel commended the success of women entrepreneurs who have benefited from the initiative by improving their income and improving their household's financial security.

Current donors: (In alphabetical order) Canada, Egypt, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Netherlands, Private Sector, United States