

6 MONTHS OVERVIEW SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE

The crisis in Sudan has pushed up to **2.5 million people into hunger**, with one-third of the population already experiencing food insecurity prior to the conflict.

EGYPT - A LAND OF HOPE FOR OVER 317,000* PEOPLE WHO ESCAPED THE VIOLENCE IN SUDAN.

**Source: UNHCR-Sep 2023*

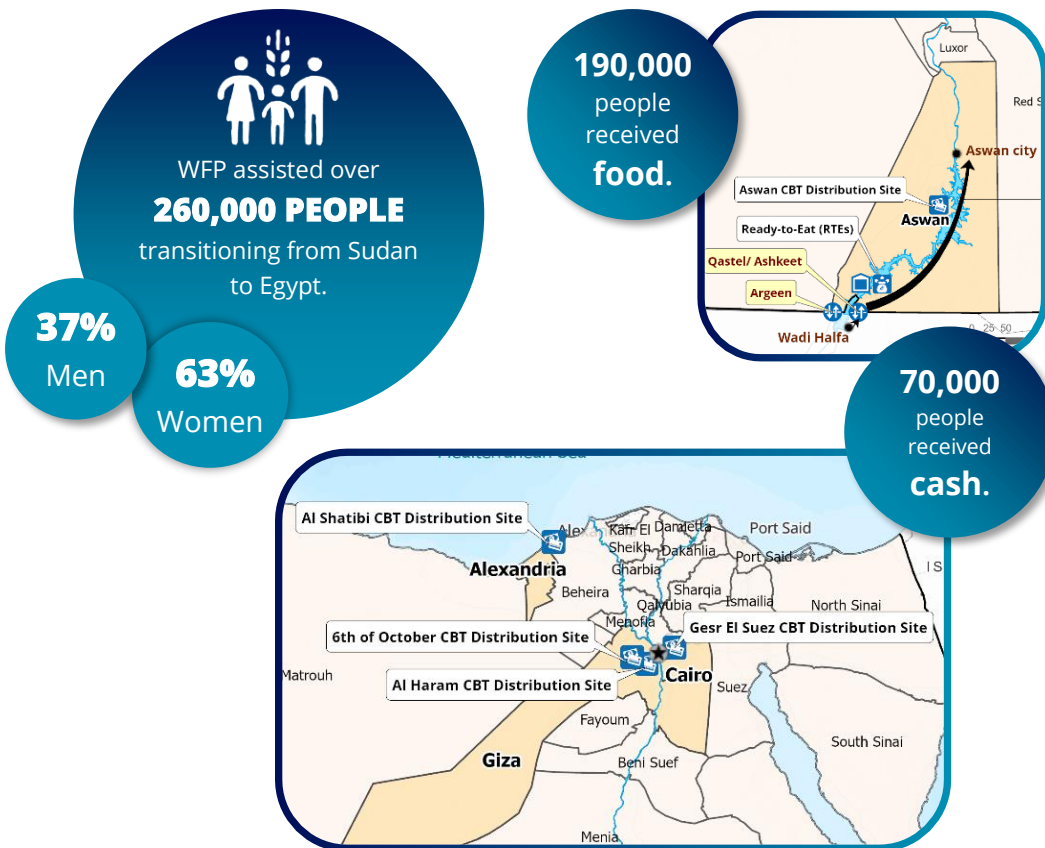
The ongoing conflict has led thousands of Sudanese people to leave everything behind in search of a better future in neighbouring countries like Egypt. Six months into the crisis, WFP in Egypt continues giving hope to vulnerable people crossing the border and finding their way to Alexandria, Aswan, Cairo, and Giza.

WFP is supporting the most vulnerable people by providing food assistance, and helping meet their immediate needs with multi-purpose cash assistance.

HERE IS HOW:



"The children suffered from the heat and the tight space, but we had no choice, we had to run for our lives, and this is the only transport we could afford," says Aiesha, mother of five children, after making it to Aswan.



Over 180 metric tons of food were distributed at two entry points **Qustol** and **Argeen**.



Distribution sites for cash assistance are strategically located in: **Alexandria, Aswan, Cairo, and Giza**. People from Sudan can redeem their critical cash assistance at over **140,000 points of sales** in Egypt.

BUILDING NUTRITIOUS FUTURES

At the onset of the crisis in April 2023, WFP was on ground distributing food assistance to people passing through the borders at the Argeen and Qustol border crossings. The food packages were designed to include various nutritious items, offering a lifeline to those in urgent need.

Long queues of buses awaited processing on the Sudanese side, often forcing families to endure up to two nights at the border with scant provisions. Those who finally reached Egypt typically arrived with limited resources and no clear direction, highlighting the pressing importance of such aid efforts.

By September 2023, over 190,000 people had received food assistance, accounting for over 180 metric tons.



At the Qustol border WFP hands out ready-to-eat food packages to new arrivals. (April 2023)



In three minutes, WFP signs up refugees from Sudan for cash assistance at a reception set up in Cairo. (June 2023)

EMPOWERING PEOPLE WITH CASH ASSISTANCE

FINANCIAL RESILIENCE DURING EMERGENCIES:

In May 2023, WFP launched an emergency cash assistance programme, building on its existing operational cash platform for refugee assistance, offering crucial assistance to the vulnerable people fleeing the Sudan crisis, who are at high risk of food insecurity and malnutrition.

WFP's digital cash delivery platform enables beneficiaries to enrol and receive their cash assistance within three minutes. This platform has been made available to partners including UNICEF and UNFPA for the delivery of their humanitarian responses, and discussions are ongoing with more partners interested to utilize WFP's platform.

WFP will continue providing cash assistance to empower vulnerable Sudanese arriving to Egypt, offering them a means to secure their basic needs.

ESTABLISHING A HUMANITARIAN CORRIDOR – REACHING THE PLACES MOST IN NEED

On 16 June 2023, WFP, in collaboration with the Egyptian Government, established a humanitarian corridor linking Aswan in Upper Egypt to Wadi Halfa in Sudan, to facilitate the transfer of essential food aid. The humanitarian corridor, led by WFP, served as a channel for various organizations and UN agencies to provide aid to those in need.



Through the humanitarian corridor, WFP delivered 50 metric tons of fortified emergency food from Egypt to Sudan to support those affected by the crisis.

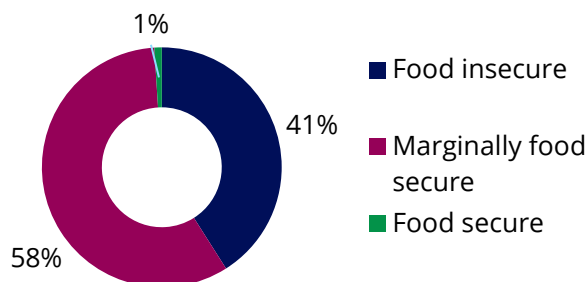


The humanitarian corridor serves as a passageway for UN agencies, and humanitarian partners to deliver assistance across the Sudan-Egypt borders.

KEY FINDINGS:

WFP conducted a baseline and targeting validation assessment through key informant interviews and focus group discussions (FGDs) with over 300 Sudanese households arriving in Egypt. Below are the key findings.

- WFP's baseline assessment data targeting and its validation report for all assisted locations (Cairo, Alexandria, and Aswan) show that 41 percent of Sudanese new arrivals to Egypt are food insecure.



- About 93 percent of Sudanese new arrivals had to resort to negative coping strategies to buy food, with one-third spending over 65 percent of their

expenditures on food only, putting them at high risk of being unable to meet other essential needs.

- Sudanese arrivals highlighted that the cost of living in Cairo is notably higher than in Aswan and Alexandria. As a result, they are compelled to rely on less preferred and cheap food options to manage their expenses.
- Insights from the FGDs indicate that many participants are receiving support from friends and relatives who had previously established themselves in Egypt prior to the conflict.
- On average, households have a monthly expenditure of approximately 17,495 Egyptian pounds (EGP), equivalent to EGP 4,950 per capita. Around 20 percent of this amount is funded through credit, indicating a significant dependency on debt among households.

WHERE DO WE STAND TODAY?

- While it is difficult to estimate the magnitude and flow of the displacement of Sudanese into Egypt, the daily border crossings to Egypt average 3,000 people per week.
- Sudanese people arriving in Egypt continue to deal with concerns related to establishing a life in their destination city, securing shelter, and ensuring a better future for their children.
- The demand for ongoing assistance remains high as more vulnerable Sudanese people rely on humanitarian assistance to survive in Egypt, a country that experienced a new annual inflation record of nearly 40 percent in August.
- Despite Egypt witnessing a three-time devaluation of its currency against the USD. WFP has maintained a fixed monthly EGP value disbursed per individual, to stretch available resources.

Currently, WFP's funds to assist affected Sudanese people in Egypt are secured until February 2024.

- The original value of the fixed cash assistance in EGP now equates to about 60 percent of the initial USD transfer value. This has limited the assistance's purchasing power and affected people's ability to secure their essential needs given increasing market prices.
- The demand for assistance continues to rise, making securing additional funds crucial to support the most vulnerable individuals who are at risk of sinking deeper into poverty and food insecurity.
- WFP and partners are in discussion to develop a strategy for the implementation of livelihood programmes to support refugees and host communities in the long run by building self-reliance.

Through coordinated efforts with humanitarian organizations, such as the Egyptian Red Crescent, UNHCR, and UNICEF, WFP and partners have been able to facilitate a swift response to multiple humanitarian needs arising from the conflict in Sudan.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS:

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