



World Food Programme

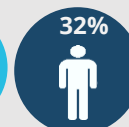
SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Egypt Country Brief January 2024

In Numbers

443,000* people assisted
in January 2024



178 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 3.1 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 10 m (February – July 2024) net funding requirements

**Figures are estimates based on available data at time of publication.*

Country and Operational Context

According to the 2023 Global Hunger Index, Egypt suffers from moderate levels of food insecurity, ranking 57th out of 121 countries.

On the humanitarian front, Egypt hosts about 501,000 refugees of which over 65,000 are supported by WFP with monthly food and cash assistance. Since the onset of the Sudan crisis in April 2023, Egypt received over 400,000 Sudanese people fleeing the crisis and seeking safety beyond their country's borders.

Expanding on the achievements of the Country Strategic Plan (CSP) for 2018-2023, WFP is continuing to support the Government in addressing nutrition and food security challenges under the new CSP (2023-2028), aligned with Egypt's Vision 2030 roadmap to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. The CSP focuses on strengthening of social protection and food systems, the provision of humanitarian assistance to refugees, and improving the self-reliance and income-generating capacity of smallholder farmers and people most at risk of being left behind.

WFP is operating in synergy with the "Decent Life" Presidential development initiative which aims to support 5,000 of the poorest village communities through a local, integrated development approach. WFP works to enhance the livelihoods, and resilience of the most vulnerable, fostering links between shock-responsive social protection and more resilient food systems, including through the promotion of good nutrition and healthy diets.

To accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 2 and 17, WFP contributes to strengthening the capacity of national systems and institutions by improving evidence-based systems that inform an in-depth understanding of the settings and impacts of interventions, associated programmes and targeting and delivery mechanisms.



2021: Human Development Index: 97 out of 191

Stunting: 13% of children between 1 and 59 months

Income Level: Lower middle

Population: 105.8 million (CAPMAS, December 23)

WFP Crisis Response Efforts

The Palestine Crisis

The dire crisis in Gaza has left its entire population in urgent need of food, shelter, and security. WFP's Egypt Office has been facilitating the regional corporate response providing critical food aid through the borders as well as logistical support to the humanitarian response efforts led by the Government of Egypt and the Egyptian Red Crescent Society.

The Sudan Crisis

As of end-January 2024, the armed conflict in Sudan, which broke out on 15 April 2023, has forced more than 400,000 people to flee Sudan to Egypt seeking safety and security (source: [UNHCR](#)). In support of these incoming families, WFP continues its emergency response efforts which have to date supported 335,362 people with critical food and cash assistance. WFP's cash assistance platform is also made available to facilitate the delivery of assistance from UN sister agencies like UNICEF, IOM and UNFPA to reach more people in need.

Egypt Operational Updates

- Given the challenges of ongoing global economic and geo-political crises which have resulted in a decrease in funding for WFP's humanitarian operations, WFP has had to reduce its cash assistance reach from 100,000 to 65,000 of the most vulnerable refugees starting September 2023.
- In parallel, WFP has launched an appeal system for the potential re-inclusion of assessed vulnerable cases pending the availability of funding. In January, WFP **continued its cash assistance to help secure the basic food needs of 65,000 of the most vulnerable refugees.**
- In January 2024, WFP launched its **vocational training programme for Egyptians and non-Egyptians** across diverse areas of expertise, **to promote the self-reliance of refugees and their host communities.** To promote gender equality, under the "WAEI" (Arabic for aware) national awareness programme, WFP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity and the Ministry of Local Development trained some 5 local staff from Aswan, Luxor and Qena on topics including child marriage, female genital mutilation and family planning. The staff will deliver awareness raising campaigns within their local communities.

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Photo caption: WFP provides nutritional daily in-school snacks in the form of date bars, helping secure 25 percent of their daily nutritional needs. ©WFP

Country Strategic Plan (2023-2028)	
Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received
431.3 m	93 m
2024 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (February – July 2024)
97.4 m	10 m

SDG Target 2.1: Access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Crisis-affected populations in Egypt, including refugees, meet their essential food and nutrition needs and have enhanced self-reliance all year round.

Focus area: Crisis Response

- **Activity 1:** Provide food assistance, nutrition, and livelihood support to refugees and other crisis-affected populations.

SDG Target 2.4: Sustainable food systems

Strategic Outcome 2: Targeted groups in Egypt benefit from more resilient, sustainable, and climate-adaptive livelihoods and food systems by 2028.

Focus area: Resilience building

- **Activity 2:** Support women, men, and youth in targeted areas to access livelihood opportunities, increase incomes, and improve their food and nutrition security.
- **Activity 3:** Provide diverse support to smallholders, targeted groups, and relevant institutions or partners engaged in nutrition-sensitive and environmentally friendly value chains.

SDG Target 17.9: Capacity Strengthening

Strategic Outcome 3: The Government of Egypt has enhanced capacity, programmes and systems ensuring populations in vulnerable situations benefit from improved access to and quality of food, nutrition, health, and education services by 2028.

Focus area: Root causes of food insecurity, vulnerability, and inadequate education

- **Activity 4:** Provide assistance to the national school feeding programme, including through comprehensive sustainable school-based interventions and transfers to support students, teachers, and households in vulnerable situations.
- **Activity 5:** Provide technical assistance and support to Egypt’s nutrition-sensitive social protection system, especially for pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under 2, through direct assistance and social and behaviour change communication.
- **Activity 6:** Provide technical expertise, innovative solutions, and targeted capacity strengthening to the Government for food and nutrition security interventions, as well as foster opportunities for South–South and triangular cooperation.

- **WFP and the Ministry of Education and Technical Education continued to complement the National School Feeding Programme through the provision of nutritional daily in-school snacks** (fortified date bars). Around 99,000 community school students across nine governorates, to help secure their essential nutritional needs. WFP also provided conditional cash assistance to about 43,000 families of community school children to increase vulnerable families’ food security.

- Under the ‘First 1,000 Days’ nutrition programme, WFP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity provided **cash assistance to about 42,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women**.
- In support of the National Flour Fortification Programme, aiming to improve nutrition among Egypt’s staple bread, WFP in partnership with the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade continued its **training programme**, orienting about **210 central and local ministry staff on various technical aspects of the fortification process**.
- To strengthen the capacities of local institutions, WFP and the Ministry of Health and Population implemented **training on health screenings for school children** for about 70 School-Age Health Care management teams in Assiut. The trainings also taught healthcare teams to promote awareness among parents on nutritional practices to promote better dietary habits among schools, children, families, and the wider communities.
- Similarly, to raise awareness of malnutrition and good dietary practices among pregnant and breastfeeding women within targeted communities, WFP, the National Nutrition Institute, and the Ministry of Social Solidarity **trained about 180 newly appointed community workers in Qena on counselling and awareness-raising initiatives**.
- WFP in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation delivered **field training sessions, workshops, and various activities on enhanced agricultural practices, benefitting close to 1,500 farmers** in five of Egypt’s poorest governorates (Luxor, Aswan, Qena, Assiut, and Sohag).
- WFP’s early warning weather systems supported about 900 farmers to take proactive measures in protecting their crops against climate shocks. WFP also provided **in-kind animal loans to about 900 rural community members** and renovated 6 veterinary units to promote alternative sources of income to agriculture.
- Additionally, WFP worked with close to 700 farmers to increase land availability through the consolidation of small land plots and improved water-use management with the establishment of about 30 water user associations.

Partnerships

WFP and the European Union launched a new partnership in support of WFP’s self-reliance programme for refugees, crisis-affected populations, and host communities. Through this partnership WFP aims to foster resilience and social cohesion among both communities, by supporting sustainable livelihood opportunities through vocational trainings.

Challenges

Given increasing vulnerabilities among assisted communities and emergency needs in response to neighbouring crises, WFP seeks donors’ support to mobilize resources to maintain and expand food and nutrition assistance to people most in need. WFP requires about USD 10 million to sustain assistance for about 900,000 vulnerable people in Egypt through July 2024.