



World Food Programme

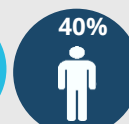
SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Egypt Country Brief May 2025

In Numbers

460,000* people assisted
in May 2025



83 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$ 2.2 m cash-based transfers made

US\$ 23 m (June – November 2025) net funding requirements

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

Country and Operational Context

Egypt faces a complex economic landscape with challenges related to inflation, currency devaluation and the impact of global and regional crises. In response, the Egyptian government continues its structural adjustment plans, including decreasing subsidies to reduce the budgetary burden. In April 2025, inflation registered 13.5 percent, a slight increase from the previous month, but still showing relative stability of the Egyptian economy compared to the same period the previous year.

As of May 2025, Egypt hosts more than 981,000 registered refugees, of which 73 percent are Sudanese fleeing the Sudan crisis that erupted in April 2023, with Egypt hosting over 1.5 million crisis-affected Sudanese.

WFP remains committed to collaborating with the Government of Egypt to address nutrition and food security challenges under the WFP's CSP (2023-2028). This plan aligns with Egypt's Vision 2030 roadmap to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. The CSP aims to enhance social protection and food systems, provide humanitarian assistance to refugees, and improve 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, to support 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 with resilient food systems, including promoting good nutrition and healthy diets.



2022 Human Development Index: **105 out of 193**

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

Population: **105.8 million (CAPMAS, December 2023)**

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Critical Funding Shortfalls

- WFP Egypt faces a critical funding shortfall in the coming months for its ongoing food assistance to vulnerable communities. If no further funding is received, WFP may be forced to suspend vital humanitarian assistance to 235,000 refugees and crisis-affected populations in August 2025.

Operational Updates

Crisis Response

- WFP continued to provide humanitarian support through monthly unconditional cash assistance to around **170,000 vulnerable** refugees, crisis-affected people and asylum seekers. Due to funding shortfalls, since April, WFP has had to stretch resources through a combination of reducing beneficiaries and value of cash assistance distributed.
- WFP supports pregnant and breastfeeding refugee women (PBW) through cash assistance, conditional upon attending health check-ups at WFP-contracted hospitals, reaching up to **10,000** vulnerable refugee women with children aged 0-24 months in May.

Self-Reliance for Refugees, Crisis-Affected Populations and Host Communities

- WFP provided vocational training to over **2,000** refugees, crisis-affected populations and host community members, bringing the total to over **9,250** people since January 2024. As of May 2025, **820** Egyptians and non-Egyptians from these communities have also successfully received their micro-grants under the mentorship and microgrants programme that supports small business growth.

School Feeding

- As part of WFP's technical assistance to the National School Feeding Programme, in May, WFP together with a local NGO, launched a Central Kitchen pilot in Beni Suef, providing fresh, locally sourced meals to **1,600** students in **50** community schools. Each meal, designed by the National Nutrition Institute, meets 20–30 percent of a child's daily nutritional needs. The kitchen created 21 local jobs, uses sustainable packaging and promotes healthy eating.
- WFP provided cash assistance to nearly **38,815** families of community school students, conditional upon their children's school attendance, to protect their livelihoods

Photo caption: WFP-supported students proudly hold their lunch bags during the launch of the Central Kitchen school meals initiative in Beni Suef. ©WFP

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Country Strategic Plan (2023-2028)

Total Requirements (in US\$)	Total Received
439 m	177 m
2025 Requirements (in US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (June – November 2025)
88 m	23 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.
- **Activity 7:** Provide on-demand services to government, humanitarian and development actors.

against economic shocks. About 90,000 students in primary community schools in ten governorates also received in-school fortified snacks. The variation in beneficiary numbers reflects the distinct scope and resource availability for each programme.

Nutrition

- Under the 'First 1,000 Days' national nutrition programme, WFP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) provided

cash top-ups to about 43,900 pregnant and breastfeeding women registered under the national social protection programme, 'Takaful and Karama' ('Solidarity and Dignity').

- The Ministry of Health and Population in collaboration with WFP and other UN and government partners, held a launch event for the "Prevention of Malnutrition and Stunting" national initiative. The event emphasized early childhood nutrition, the long-term effects of stunting, and the need for evidence-based policies to support national nutrition efforts.

Support to Smallholder Farmers

- In May, WFP reached approximately 9,000 smallholder farmers across Egypt through integrated agricultural initiatives, including good farming practices, agro-waste management, post-harvest techniques, and in-kind loans.
- WFP established 3 composting units for 63 farmers and 10 green silage units for 174 farmers, promoting sustainable waste recycling in Upper Egypt.

Women and Youth Empowerment

- WFP, with MoSS and local NGOs, trained 365 rural women in business, gender awareness, and marketing; 267 also received vocational training in tailoring and handicrafts. The programme has now trained nearly 9,500 women in entrepreneurship, with over 1,980 launching their own businesses through microloans. Beneficiaries are primarily women under the 'Takaful and Karama' safety net, household breadwinners, and mothers of community school students.
- In May, WFP held three employment fairs in Qena, Minya, and Fayoum with the Ministry of Labor and partners, connecting graduates of WFP's vocational training with 50 companies offering 486 youth 1,719 jobs.
- As part of labor market policy support, WFP and the Minister of Labor awarded German Chamber-accredited certificates to 20 employment officers trained by WFP in essential labor market competencies to better support youth in finding job opportunities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- WFP surveyed a representative sample of 550 participants of its self-reliance programme for crisis-affected populations to evaluate the outcome of its intervention. Findings showed that 42 percent of participants successfully applied the skills acquired through WFP trainings in income-generating activities. This was higher among female participants (44 percent) compared to males (36 percent), and significantly higher among those running a business (73 percent) than those with salaried employment (49 percent).
- Additionally, 97 percent of WFP livelihoods programme participants found the training effective. The programme also contributed positively to perceptions of social cohesion between Egyptians and non-Egyptians. A majority of refugees (86 percent) and Egyptians (89 percent) believed that refugees were integrated into society, and most participants were open to living and working together.