



SAVING  
LIVES  
CHANGING  
LIVES

## WFP Egypt

COUNTRY BRIEF

May 2026



**564,000** people assisted in April 2026  
(60% female)



**538.7 mt** food distributed in March 2026



**USD 1.7M** cash transferred in March 2026



**USD 26.3M** required in the next six months (May – Oct 2026)

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- In April, WFP supported over 564,000 people in Egypt. Nonetheless, operations remain constrained by funding gaps. In March 2026, WFP suspended cash assistance for 100,000 refugees and crisis-affected people due to funding shortfalls, affecting highly vulnerable households with very limited capacity to absorb shocks.
- Currently, WFP is supporting only 150,000 out of the 250,000 targeted vulnerable beneficiaries with a reduced cash value of USD 9.17, covering only 32 percent of the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket. WFP will soon be forced to completely suspend assistance if no further funding is received.

### SITUATION OVERVIEW

- Egypt's economy is facing renewed pressure due to regional escalation and global economic developments leading to supply chain disruptions and price increases. Annual inflation in April 2026 stood at 13.4 percent (up from 11.5 percent pre-conflict), while food inflation increased to 6.9 percent (compared to 3.9 percent pre-conflict), driven by a 47 percent surge in vegetable prices.
- WFP continues to collaborate with the Government of Egypt under WFP's [2023-2028 Country Strategic Plan \(CSP\)](#), which is aligned with Egypt's Vision 2030 to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. 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 initiative to support the poorest villages 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.
- As of April 2026, Egypt hosts over 1.1 million registered refugees, 77 percent of whom are Sudanese. Overall, Egypt is estimated to host over 1.5 million Sudanese affected by the conflict that started in April 2023.

Reporting Period: April 2026

**Photo Caption & Credit:** WFP provides in-school snacks in community and public schools to support their food security. WFP/Egypt

## OPERATIONAL UPDATES

### General Food Assistance

- WFP continues cash-based assistance for 150,000 of the most vulnerable refugees and crisis-affected people, out of a total 250,000 targeted beneficiaries, at a reduced transfer value of EGP 500 (USD 9.17), down from EGP 750 (USD 13.75) due to funding constraints.
- To improve the nutrition status of vulnerable women and children, WFP provides monthly cash assistance to 5,000 pregnant and breastfeeding refugee women (PBW) with children aged 0-24 months, conditional on attendance of health check-ups at WFP-contracted hospitals.
- Following the suspension of assistance for 100,000 refugees in March due to funding shortfalls, WFP conducted a food security assessment to measure the immediate effect of assistance suspension on households. Within just one month of exclusion, 81 percent of affected households were found to be moderately or severely food insecure. These families now lack sufficient food, resorting to emergency coping strategies that erode resilience and carry long term negative consequences.

### Self-Reliance for Refugees and Host Communities

- To foster self-reliance, enhance food security and promote social cohesion, WFP and partners provided vocational training in April to over 2,100 refugees and host community members in Cairo, Alexandria, Damietta, Luxor and online through WFP's "Learn2Earn" platform.
- Results from the most recent evaluation shows that nearly four out of ten beneficiaries were able to secure employment or engage in income-generating activities within six months of completing the training, with an average of 62 percent increase in income, contributing to improved food security and sustainable self-reliance.

### Women & Youth Economic Empowerment

- As part of efforts to build institutional capacity on women's economic empowerment, WFP, the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) and partner NGOs delivered the "She Can" women's economic empowerment programme to nearly 560 rural women in Upper Egypt. Women were trained on micro project management, gender basics, and marketing skills to strengthen their economic resilience and support their food security. The programme targets women beneficiaries of the national social safety net Takaful and Karama, women-headed households, and mothers of community school students.
- WFP, together with MoSS, the Ministry of Labor and local NGOs, works to strengthen youth resilience, address the root causes of food insecurity, and build national capacities. As part of the "Employability to Employment" pathway, 185 young women and men in Assiut, Sohag, and Qena were equipped with market-relevant skills, with a focus on green sectors such as solar energy, post-harvest activities, and sun-drying.

### School Feeding Programme

- To complement the National School Feeding Programme, WFP distributed fortified in-school snacks to over 361,000 students in public primary schools hosting refugees in Giza and Aswan and in community schools in 10 Upper Egypt governorates.
- To improve the food security and resilience of vulnerable rural communities, and to encourage school attendance, 4,000 families of community school students in Assiut also received monthly EGP 620 (USD 11.83) assistance, conditional on their child's school attendance.
- Supporting the Ministry of Education and Technical Education's vision for fresh school meals, 1,600 community school students in Beni Suef received daily fresh snacks made by mothers at a central kitchen operated by a partner NGO. Additionally, WFP tested the introduction of the fresh snacks to two public primary schools in Beni Suef, serving 1,500 students. Teachers have reported improved student attendance and classroom attention, attributing these improvements to the meal provision. This testing is part of WFP's broader

capacity strengthening support to the Ministry's plans to provide fresh meals to about six million students starting next academic year.

## Nutrition-Sensitive and Specific Interventions

- Under the 'First 1,000 Days' nutrition programme, WFP and MoSS provided cash top-ups to 30,000 PBW with children aged 0-24 months registered under 'Takaful and Karama to encourage regular visits to healthcare centres' and support improved nutrition.
- WFP, the National Nutrition Institute, and MoSS trained 380 MoSS community workers in Assiut and Beheira on the 'First 1,000 Days' programme to strengthen their capacity to counsel thousands of PBW, mothers, and the community using digital transformation tools.
- WFP supported the Ministry of Health's school health units to strengthen school-based nutrition surveillance by training 391 nurses across six governorates to improve screening quality, data use, early identification of malnutrition risks, and referral pathways for children.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- WFP's 2026 outcome monitoring of refugee and migrant pregnant and breastfeeding women receiving cash assistance revealed an improvement in their adequate diet compared to 2025. However, dietary practices among young children remain limited due to persistent vulnerabilities and gaps in awareness of appropriate feeding practices. The proportion of children aged 6-23 months achieving a Minimum Acceptable Diet (MAD) increased from 3.4 percent in 2025 to 6 percent in 2026, while the proportion of women achieving the Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD) improved from 33 percent to 41 percent. Inadequate meal frequency and insufficient milk intake, particularly among non-breastfed children, continue to constrain progress in MAD. Furthermore, diets remain dominated by staple foods and dairy products, with low consumption of animal-source proteins, eggs, vitamin A-rich foods, and fruits.

- Nearly 48 percent of beneficiary refugee women were found to have exclusively breastfed their children during the first six months, reflecting a slight improvement compared to 43 percent in December 2025, which could be attributed to WFP's awareness initiatives. Food and infant-related expenses remained among the main spending priorities for WFP assistance.
- These results underscore the need to continue WFP's cash assistance programme, alongside strengthened awareness raising on optimal infant and young child feeding practices to address persisting gaps and improve diet quality among children and women.

## Impact of Funding Cuts: A Story of Loss and Strength.

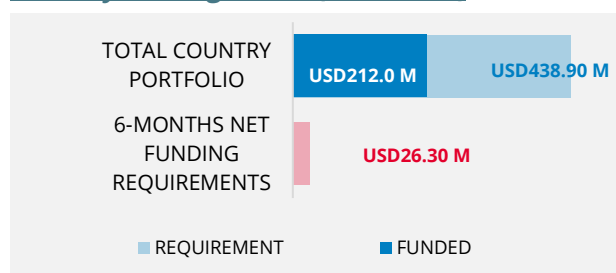


Hanem fled Sudan with her husband and young daughter, Logine, seeking safety in Egypt. She now relies on WFP's food assistance to feed herself and her household. Watch Hanem share what WFP's

assistance means for her family and what is at risk when funding falls short: [One mother. One daughter. One story of loss and strength.](#)

## FUNDING OVERVIEW

### Country Strategic Plan (2023-2028)



### Donors (in alphabetical order):

Egypt, European Union, Germany, Republic of Korea, Spain, United States, and other multilateral donors.

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