



# Highlights

Linked to National School Feeding Programme, WFP conducted field missions to assess the storage conditions in all public schools that WFP supports. WFP staff participated in the assessments, acting as focal points in nine governorates, providing technical support to government partner teams. The results of the assessment were shared with key government stakeholders. To be ready to deliver upon resumption of school meals activity, WFP has put contractual mechanisms in place that allow for maximum operational flexibility.

## WFP Egypt Country Brief

### WFP Assistance

Egypt, Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) January - June 2018	Total Requirements (in USD)	6-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*
	38.8 m	10 m

\*March - June 2018



WFP Egypt's Transitional Interim Country Strategic Plan (TICSP) started in 1 January 2018 and is a six-month project. The TICSP is designed to provide smooth transition of WFP's current food security and nutrition interventions towards a more cohesive and coordinated focus, which is well established within the development priorities of the Government of Egypt. WFP integrates gender equality and women's empowerment into its programme activities to ensure that the different food security and nutrition needs of women, men, girls and boys are addressed.

The new project will continue the same activities as the Country Programme, and the new structure will present a clearer line of sight between WFP activities and results. The TICSP will subsequently be replaced by the CSP.

WFP operations in Egypt aim to save lives and protect livelihoods, enhance access to education and combat child labour through food assistance. WFP activities also aim to build sustainable and durable resilience of vulnerable groups.

WFP provides food assistance in the form of locally produced school meals in public and community schools in 16 governorates. Conditional incentives are provided in the form of monthly take-home entitlements of rice and fortified vegetable oil or cash-based transfers (CBTs) to the (most) vulnerable families of children whose school attendance reaches 80 percent or more.

As part of enhancing access of children to school and creating a conducive learning and teaching environment, WFP, in coordination with the Ministry of Education and Directorates of Education, supports the physical

upgrading of community schools. Since the project started in 2014, 655 schools have been rehabilitated.

WFP provides training to teachers to improve their capacities and enhance their roles in creating an attractive learning environment which helps reduce drop-out rates. As of February 2018, 7,698 teachers (6,850 females, 848 males) were trained on class management, active learning, child protection and nutrition.

WFP's Food Assistance for Assets supports vulnerable communities through the provision of training on agriculture, literacy, wealth, and nutrition, as well as handicraft production, hygiene, and veterinary care. WFP specifically targets women through the implementation of 'Get Ahead for Women in Enterprise' training to help design, implement and manage income-generating activities. As of February 2018, 37,201 women were trained on income-generating activities and facilitated the access of 2,870 mothers to revolving micro-loans in Assiut, Aswan, Sohag, Luxor, Sharqia and Beni Suef governorates.

Through its climate change activities, WFP aims to enhance livelihoods and build community resilience to the effects of extreme weather shocks. Activities include physical asset creation, community empowerment, and skills enhancement.

WFP also supports Syrian refugees and Palestinian refugees from Syria through monthly CBT entitlements in the form of food vouchers. In February, WFP supported up to 78,331 targeted vulnerable refugees out of the total 126,688 refugees currently officially registered by UNHCR.

## In Numbers

**572,854** school meals beneficiaries in February 2018.

**78,331** refugees from Syria were assisted in February 2018.

**Syrian Refugees Assisted**



Main Photo

Credit: WFP Egypt  
Caption: Primary school children in a rural community school who receive nutritious in-school meals and conditional incentives to enhance their education.



February 2018

## Operational Updates

### Nutrition

WFP launched the 'First 1,000 Days in the Life of a Child' project in Sohag, Assiut, and Qena governorates. The intervention is planned to reach 40,000 pregnant and nursing mothers (PNW) with the aim of improving their nutritional status and raising their awareness.

In February 2018, WFP provided 4,565 registered PNW with conditional cash transfers to access nutritious and healthy food baskets. WFP successfully provided capacity strengthening trainings for 3,100 health care providers, namely physicians, nurses and community health workers from the Ministry of Health and Population and Ministry of Social Solidarity to enhance their skills. WFP continued awareness raising activities focusing on improving health and nutrition behaviors at the household level through the promotion of essential nutrition and hygiene actions, particularly maternal, infant, and young child nutrition.

### Child Labour

To enhance children's access to education, WFP collaborated with the Ministry of Manpower on training labour inspectors to combat child labour. By February 2018, WFP trained 132 labour inspectors, 33 representatives from the Ministry of Manpower, 70 NGO staff members, and held seminars attended by 2,600 community members across 16 governorates on the social safety networks, legislations of child protection and referral system for children at risk.

WFP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood to facilitate coordination on child policy, activate the role of Child Protection Committees, and endorse community awareness across 16 governorates in Egypt. Simultaneously, WFP provided technical expertise to support the enforcement of the legislation and implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) on child labour.

### Capacity Strengthening

In partnership with the Government of Egypt, WFP conducted an assessment of the National School Feeding Supply Chain to identify gaps and inefficiencies and recommend options to optimize the supply chain in terms of cost and safety. The Supply Chain Assessment for National Governments (SCAN) method was used for the assessment, which included areas of sourcing, distribution strategy, inventory management, and quality control. The assessment results suggested a number of capacity strengthening trainings, which WFP was requested to support in. Additionally, WFP led a training of trainers on safe in-school food handling and storage for the supervisors at the directorate level in 27 governorates. Key Government stakeholders participated in the training of trainers over five weeks in five different governorates training 220 trainers, who will subsequently be training 52,300 school staff.

## Story Worth Telling

Somaya Abdel Alim is one of 36,000 women who received livelihood training by WFP Egypt. Women are taught the skills of time and project management to enable them to start up their own projects. "I started planning for my own project, making liquid soap, and can't wait to start it so I can provide an income for my family which will help with my daughter's tuition," says Somaya. WFP implements livelihood trainings to teach mothers the skills to rely on themselves and start their own income generating projects that helps them provide for their families so they don't have to rely on sending their children to the labour market.

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## Country Background & Strategy



Egypt is ranked 111 out of 188 countries in the 2016 UNDP Human Development Index, up three ranks from 2014. Although there are evident improvements in its economy, Egypt continues to face major challenges that include poverty, food insecurity, malnutrition, social disparity, and gender-based inequality. National poverty rates have increased to 27.8 percent of the population in 2015 unable to meet minimum food needs compared to 26.3 percent in 2012. Monetary poverty is highest in Rural Upper Egypt at 57 percent and as low as 10 percent in Urban Lower Egypt.

In the poorest areas of the country, 20 percent of children have never attended school, a further 13 percent are noted to drop out of school early. Stunting rates (moderate and severe) among children under five years old decreased to 21.4 percent in 2014 compared from 28.9 percent in 2008. Women's illiteracy rate stands at 35 percent compared to 18 percent for men. Egypt is ranked 135 out of 155 countries in 2015 compared to 131 in the 2014 UNDP Gender Inequality Index.

As a response to food security challenges in Egypt, the Government implements a large social protection system that provides food subsidies to vulnerable members of the population, including Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW), school children, people with disabilities and the elderly.

WFP has been in Egypt since 1968.

Income Level: **Middle**

Population: **96.5 million**

Stunting rates among children under 5: **21.4%**

2015 Human Development Index: **111 out of 188**

## Donors

**Country Programme:** Canada, Egypt, European Union, Germany, Norway, United States and private sector donors

**PRRO 200987:** Australia, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, and United States

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