



WFP Egypt Country Brief August 2018

World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES



Operational Context

WFP Egypt's Country Strategic Plan (CSP) started on 1 July 2018 and is expected to end in 30 June 2023. The CSP focuses on strengthening national capacity to tackle the underlying causes of vulnerability to food insecurity and malnutrition while responding to humanitarian needs. WFP supports Egypt's South-South cooperation efforts to foster resilient livelihoods in the region, linking to Egypt's national priorities in agricultural development and food security.

Egypt is ranked 111 out of 188 countries in the 2016 UNDP Human Development Index, up three ranks from 2014. National poverty rates have increased to 27.8 percent in 2015 from 26.3 percent in 2012.

In the poorest areas of the country, 20 percent of children have never attended school, and a further 13 percent are noted to drop out of school early. Women's illiteracy rate stands at 35 percent compared to 18 percent for men.

As a response to food security challenges, the Government implements a social protection system that provides food assistance to vulnerable members of the population.

WFP has been in Egypt since 1968.



Population: **96.7 million**

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

Income Level: **Lower middle**

Chronic malnutrition: **21% of children between 6 and 59 months**

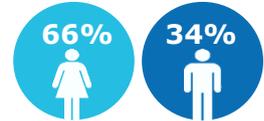
In Numbers

91 mt of food assistance distributed

US\$1.84 m cash-based transfers made

US\$28.5 m six months (September 2018 – February 2019) net funding requirements

139,757 people assisted in August 2018



Operational Updates

- To enhance access to education and combat child labour in Egypt, WFP supported 44,638 children attending community schools with school meals in August. Additionally, 6,996 family members received take-home entitlements. As of July 2018, distribution has been taking place in only 5 governorates (Assuit, Luxor, Aswan, Minya, and Sohag), two of which had no distribution in August due to insufficient stock of commodities. Governorates no longer covered by the EU fund in year 5 depleted their remaining warehouse stock, reaching less beneficiaries.
- In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, WFP rehabilitated 22 community schools, bringing the total to 1,114 community schools since the project started.
- As part of its climate change adaptation programme, WFP trained 1,638 participants (754 women and 884 men) on various activities to help enhance their livelihoods and build community resilience to the effects of extreme weather shocks. These activities include physical asset creation, community empowerment, and provision of technical expertise, contributing to better agricultural practices and skills enhancement. As of August 2018, the cumulative number of smallholder farmers and rural women supported is 36,552.
- Under the First 1,000 Days of Life project, WFP assisted 7,386 Egyptian beneficiaries with conditional cash-based transfers (CBTs).
- WFP supported 77,250 Syrian and Palestinian refugees from Syria, and 3,487 pregnant and nursing mothers (PNM) through monthly CBT in the form of food vouchers. WFP food voucher is valued at EGP 400, equivalent to USD 22.
- As part of the child protection programme, WFP visited four districts to train Child Protection Committees (32 members) and Protection Units (14 social workers). The trainings focused on monitoring the results of the first training conducted in April 2018, and following up on plans. WFP maintained discussions with the ILO to collaborate in the upcoming period, particularly in training labour inspectors.

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- WFP conducted 91 monitoring visits to assisted community schools and 57 assisted households in Giza, Sohag, Minya, and Assuit governorates. The visits showed that schools had lower attendance in the summer due to summer school activities. There were also a few complaints about the delay in distribution of food assistance. Additionally, WFP field monitors conducted focus group discussions with Egyptian mothers participating in WFP's livelihood activities to assess the effect of livelihood trainings, loans, and the income-generating projects on their household. Most mothers interviewed were satisfied with the project and eager to continue their participation. They noted that the loans were pertinent for their start-up projects.

Challenges

- The current local production of rice – a key food commodity for WFP Egypt operations – is estimated to cover 2.5 million metric tonnes (mt) out of the total annual needs of 3.5 million mt. The gap is imported to fulfil the needs of the food subsidy system at a lower cost. The Government recently announced the price range for paddy rice from LE 4,400 to LE 4,700 per mt. The price of rice is expected to rise further due to decreased production of Egyptian rice, which is preferred by the population when compared to other imported types.

School Feeding Management System

- WFP and the Ministry of Education (MoE) are jointly piloting a digital class management system in community schools. The application allows for the collection of information such as attendance, exam records, transfer of students between schools and ministry's staff admin role. A total of 1,900 tablets are being distributed to school teachers in eight governorates. Teachers will be trained on the use of the tablets and access to the Egyptian Knowledge Bank. WFP is working on customising the app to track the distribution of school meals and monthly entitlements.

The Community Hub

- The community hub is now active in one community school in Luxor, where teachers are using the Egyptian Knowledge Bank as a learning tool for children, in alignment with the new national technology-centric education programme. In the community hub, WFP is organizing three activities during September: (i) a nutrition awareness session for parents using WFP's developed digital module, (ii) an awareness session by the Directorate of Health and Population on hygiene and available services at the health centre for children, parents and pregnant and lactating women, and (iii) an info session on the online climate early warning system for farmers.

Donors

Australia, Canada, China, Denmark, Egypt, European Union, Finland, Germany, Japan, Norway, Sweden, United States and private sector donors.

Country Strategic Plan (2018-2023)

Total Requirements (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (October 2018 – March 2019)
454.0 m	57.4 m	28.5 m

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome 1: Food insecure and most vulnerable children and families in targeted areas of Egypt have access to food all year round.

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

Activities:

- Support and complement the Government's social protection programmes to ensure the food and nutritional needs of school children are met.
- Provide livelihood and capacity strengthening activities to urban and rural communities, especially adolescent youth.

Strategic Outcome 2: Food insecure refugees, displaced populations and host communities in Egypt have access to adequate food all year round.

Focus area: *Crisis Response*

Activities:

- Provide food and nutrition assistance and activities that build resilience to refugees, displaced populations, and host communities.

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome 3: Targeted populations in Egypt have improved nutritional status by 2030.

Focus area: *Root causes of the double burden of malnutrition*

Activities:

- Support and complement the Government's programmes to nutritionally vulnerable communities (with focus on pregnant and lactating women and children aged 6-23 months) in targeted areas, and support related activities such as awareness raising.

Strategic Result 4: Food systems are sustainable

Strategic Outcome 4: Vulnerable smallholder farmer and Bedouin communities in targeted Governorates of Egypt have resilient livelihoods by 2030.

Focus area: *Resilience building*

Activities:

- Provide support to vulnerable smallholder farmer and Bedouin communities to improve their resilience through technology transfer, market-access training, diversification of livelihoods, and the creation and rehabilitation of assets.

Strategic Result 5: Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

Strategic Outcome 5: The Government of Egypt has enhanced capacity to target and assist vulnerable populations and share its experience with selected countries to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030.

Focus area: *Root causes of food insecurity and malnutrition*

Activities:

- Provide institutional capacity strengthening to the Government and develop innovative solutions to enhance social protection and resilience building programmes and systems.
- Facilitate regional and international knowledge and technological exchanges between countries to achieve common development goals.