Operational Context

WFP Egypt’s Country Strategic Plan (CSP) started on 01 July 2018 and is expected to end on 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. Furthermore, the CSP promotes the exchange of knowledge and best practices on food security and nutrition through South-South Cooperation.

Egypt is ranked 115 of 189 countries in the 2018 United Nations Development Programme Human Development Index, up five ranks from 2014. National poverty rates 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 expected to drop out of school in their early years of education. Women’s illiteracy rate stands at 35 percent compared to 18 percent for men.

As a response to food security challenges, the Government implements an extensive social protection system that assists vulnerable members of the population. WFP’s programmes support these social safety nets through various interventions. WFP has been operating in Egypt since 1968.

Operational Updates

- As part of the National School Feeding Programme, WFP provided fortified date bars to more than 85,580 children in 3,152 community schools. Conditional take-home rations of rice and oil were provided to 389,445 family members of community-school children.
- WFP physically upgraded 110 community schools and initiated work on an additional 8 community schools to benefit a total of 3,550 students.
- Among efforts to combat child labour, WFP, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood, and Qalubiya governorate, conducted a training on ‘Media and Child Protection’ for 45 media personnel in Qalubiya and Cairo. The training addressed the depiction of children through media and the associated risks.
- As part of ongoing education enhancement activities, WFP is producing 520 additional puppet theatres for distribution to public schools. The expansion of puppet theatres as educational materials comes at the request of the Ministry of Education following the success of puppet plays raising awareness on bullying conducted in 50 schools in April.
- Under WFP’s Syrian refugee response, WFP supported 77,845 refugees through food assistance. Other support included livelihood trainings benefiting 175 beneficiaries and nutrition support to 4,061 pregnant and lactating women (PLW). Starting May, WFP extended food assistance to an additional 24,000 refugees from countries other than Syria (read more in the highlights section below).
- WFP provided microloans to 576 mothers of community school children, allowing for income-generating activities and strengthening the capacity of 38 non-governmental organization members and government partners on livelihood support programming.

In Numbers

547,485 people assisted in May 2019
1,354.9 mt of food assistance distributed
US$ 1.97 m cash-based transfers (CBT) made
US$ 29.4 m six months (June–November 2019) net funding requirements
WFP Country Strategy

Egypt Country Strategic Plan (2018–2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Allocated Contributions (in USD)</th>
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<tr>
<td>458.4 m</td>
<td>66.6 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Requirements (in USD)</td>
<td>Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD) (June–November 2019)</td>
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<td>98.8 m</td>
<td>29.4 m</td>
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**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 the resilience of 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 Outcome 4:** Food systems are sustainable

**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 Outcome 5:** Developing countries have strengthened capacities to implement the SDGs

**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.

**Highlights**

- **WFP extends assistance to an additional 24k refugees**
  - As of May 2019, WFP started to implement the “One Refugee Policy” to provide equal access to food assistance to the most vulnerable and food-insecure refugees in Egypt regardless of their nationality. With the support of USAID Food for Peace, WFP Egypt successfully launched the provision of monthly food vouchers for an additional 24,000 registered refugees from countries other than Syria. The vouchers can be redeemed for healthy food items to help secure basic food and nutritional needs.

- **‘Let’s fast right’ – Healthy fasting communication campaign**
  - In collaboration with Carrefour Egypt, WFP launched a communication campaign promoting healthy eating habits and fasting during Ramadan. WFP, together with the Mother and Child Friendly Care Association, and NNI delivered nutrition awareness and counselling sessions, and provided booklets containing tips for healthy fasting at participating hypermarkets. Three cooking shows were held at Carrefour in Cairo Festival City, Mall of Egypt, and Tanta with celebrity chefs Sherif Afifi and Naglaa El Shershaby presenting healthy recipes. The events were livestream on social media along with other social media posts promoting the campaign.

- **WFP new strategic partnership on emigration**
  - Following the signing of the first Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates Affairs, WFP is moving forward with the planning of potential collaboration with the ministry in the areas of emigration, youth employment and resilience building. The strategic partnership aims to improve social and economic opportunities through capacity and development programmes that help combat the root causes of irregular migration.

**Donors**

European Union, Germany, United States, Canada, Private Sector, Japan, Egypt, Norway, Finland

**Monitoring**

- To monitor the effect of the pilot Community Hubs established in Luxor with the Ministry of Education, WFP carried out 2 focus group discussions (FGDs) with 25 community members and 2 FGDs with 6 community school teachers. Results indicated a high level of satisfaction with the Community Hubs services which extended beyond educational purposes. Community members noted the positive effect of awareness-raising sessions that were carried out in the community hubs in protecting them from potential hazards and risks of diseases. Furthermore, participants shared that they were keen to pass on knowledge acquired through these sessions to neighbours and relatives.

FGDs with community school teachers showed that teachers were effectively using the WFP-issued tablets and access the Egyptian Knowledge Bank to prepare lessons. Teachers noted that the WFP’s training sessions increased their awareness on different topics including nutrition, enhancing their capacity to communicate such knowledge with parents and community members. The teachers also shared that the use of technological tools improved students’ imagination, understanding, and engagement inside the classroom.