

# UNHCR EGYPT CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS

February 2025

## Overview

Egypt is among the **top 10 UNHCR Global cash-based interventions (CBI) operations**. Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) is crucial as it empowers vulnerable refugees to meet their diverse basic needs, such as rent, food and healthcare, with dignity and flexibility. Its impact extends beyond immediate relief, reducing protection risks and negative coping mechanisms while contributing positively to the local economy and fostering integration within host communities.

## CBI Programme



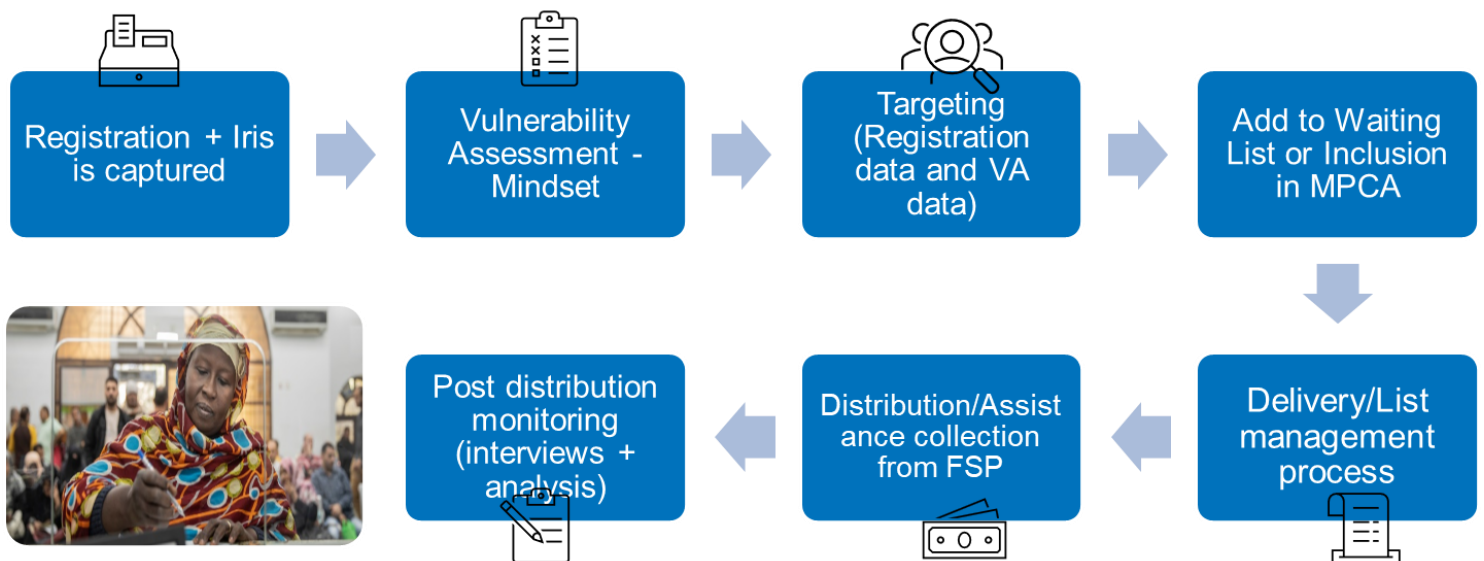
**WHAT?** UNHCR provides multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to the **most vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers**. In addition, **sectoral cash grants** are provided to unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), children enrolled in schools, survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), and livelihood grants.












**WHO?** Extremely vulnerable cases below the national poverty line are eligible for the MPCA program. Eligibility is determined through a **proxy means testing formula that generates a poverty score based on various characteristics such as employment, education, specific needs, family size, among others**.



**HOW?** Cash assistance is provided through Egypt Post Office, which has over 4,000 offices across Egypt. **Over 85% of the beneficiaries collect their assistance via iris biometric authentication**. UNHCR is also working with FAWRY as a supplementary service provider to deliver prepaid cards to beneficiaries unable to access assistance through the Egypt Post Office.



## Key Figures

	2023	2024
	<b>75,917</b> individuals received <b>bimonthly MPCA</b> (20,944 families)	<b>93,077 individuals</b> are on the <b>bimonthly MPCA</b> list (24,335 families)
	<b>47,359</b> individuals received one-off <b>Emergency Cash Assistance</b> (16,445 families)	<b>ECA</b> successfully collected by <b>2,752 unregistered new arrivals in Aswan</b> (893 families) and 32,790 registered new arrivals (12,559 families)
	<b>419</b> individuals from <b>Gaza</b> received one off <b>Emergency Cash Assistance</b> through <b>ERC</b> (222 families)	<b>3,446 individuals (989 households)</b> from <b>Gaza</b> received one off <b>Emergency Cash Assistance</b> through <b>ERC</b>
	<b>59,932</b> individuals received one-off <b>Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance</b> (17,626 families)	<b>220,508</b> individuals received one-off <b>Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance</b> (63,546 families)
	<b>3,132 UASCs</b> received bimonthly cash assistance.	<b>3,345 UASCs</b> are receiving monthly cash assistance.
	<b>2,847 UASCs</b> received one-off cash for <b>Winter</b>	<b>5,417 UASCs</b> received one-off cash for <b>Winter</b>
	<b>760</b> Individuals received <b>Safety and Recovery Package (SRP)</b>	<b>1,657</b> GBV survivors received <b>Safety Package Cash</b>
	<b>625</b> Individuals received Cash for <b>Livelihoods</b>	<b>902</b> individuals received cash for <b>Livelihoods</b> .
	<b>61,257</b> Students received cash for <b>Education</b>	<b>76,118</b> Students received cash for <b>Education</b>

## Funding Needs



**162,127** individuals are eligible and on the **waiting list for MPCA** (54,207 families)



**Average monthly transfer value** per family of four is **EGP 4,500**. This covers around **22% of the SMEB**.

The **Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB)** is a reduced basket containing only the most essential “survival goods” which are often food, WASH and shelter (rent, electricity, cooking gas) and protection (legal residency, communication and transportation). The average SMEB for a family size of four (4) is USD 204.20.

- Due to funding limitations, there are more than 54,000 extremely poor and poor families not receiving cash assistance.

## YEAR END PDM FINDINGS – 2024



**20%** of respondents reported that MPCA enabled them to **cover all or most of their priority needs**.



**99%** of respondents reported the **ability to afford items and/or services** they could not previously afford.



**91%** could **identify at least one local channel for reporting complaints or feedback** on UNHCR cash assistance



**83%** reported they were very satisfied with the cash collection process and **96%** reported **requiring no help** to withdraw or spend the cash.



**89%** of respondents reported **recent increases in the prices** of items/services, mainly food, rent and clothes.



Reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) is **22.4** – reflecting **high food insecurity** among beneficiaries.