UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Egypt

Monthly Operational Update

March 2026

1,042,333 individuals

were provided with registration appointments since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023.

Sudanese men and youth joined a session in 6th of October City, exploring their role in preventing violence and promoting safer communities.

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1,099,595
Registered population

441,954
Registered households

74.8%
Women and children

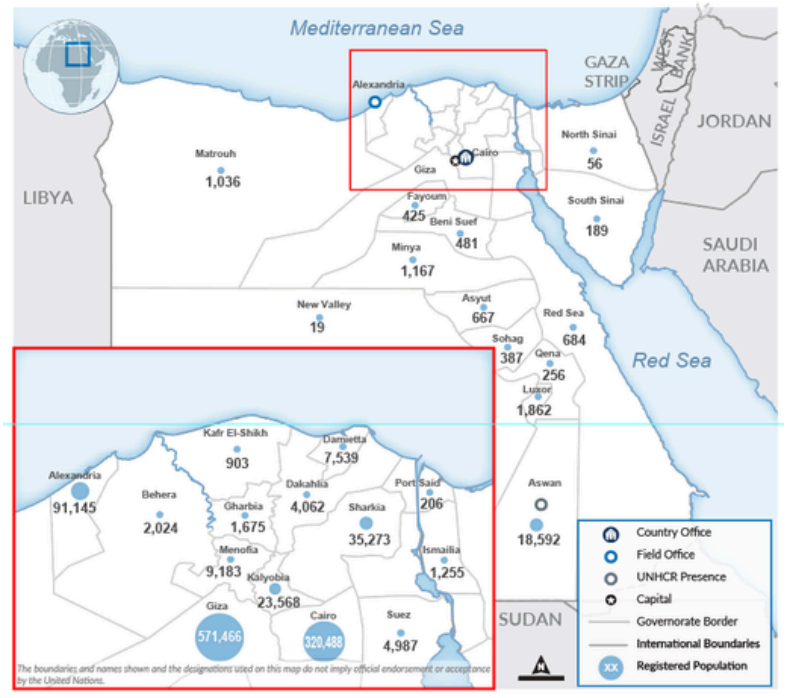
20.36%
Persons with specific needs

Gender and age of registered population

500,416
45.5%

599,179
54.5%

Male				Female
35,033	3%	60+	4%	39,453
241,999	22%	18 - 59	31%	342,128
80,390	7%	12 - 17	7%	79,374
90,505	8%	5 - 11	8%	87,224
52,489	5%	0 - 4	5%	51,000



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- In March, UNHCR Egypt issued its *Year-End Post-Distribution Monitoring Report for 2025*, **assessing the impact of multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) provided to approximately 24,600 refugee and asylum-seeker households**. All respondents indicated that the **cash assistance had improved their living conditions and reduced stress**, with expenditures primarily directed toward **food (88%)** and **rent (84%)**, followed by healthcare and education. At the same time, **80%** of respondents reported significant recent price increases across essential goods. Despite these challenges, satisfaction with the programme was high—**98%** of respondents felt safe receiving and using the assistance, and nearly all beneficiaries reported being well-informed about the programme and aware of available feedback and complaint mechanisms.

- On 4 March, **UNHCR signed a General Cooperation Agreement with AXON Plus to expand access to affordable health care for refugees registered in Egypt**. AXON Plus is a digital platform in Egypt run by AXON Healthtech that supports refugees and asylum-seekers by facilitating access to information, services, and assistance through integrated case management and referral systems. The partnership will enable refugees to obtain cost-effective medical services through the AXON Plus digital health platform, linking them to a wide network of private providers nationwide and helping reduce financial barriers to essential care. UNHCR noted that the initiative comes at a time of increasing health needs and constrained humanitarian funding, particularly for refugees with chronic illnesses or specialized medical conditions. AXON affirmed its commitment to inclusive and sustainable health delivery. This collaboration reflects UNHCR's broader efforts to strengthen resilience and promote inclusion by engaging responsible private-sector partners to complement humanitarian assistance and support the well-being of forcibly displaced communities.

- On 11 March, **representatives from the embassies of France, the European Union, Poland, and Switzerland** visited UNHCR's Reception Centre where they observed how refugees access registration and protection services. The delegation received an overview of UNHCR's processes and witnessed frontline reception activities aimed at ensuring refugees and asylum-seekers receive timely documentation and support.

- On 11 March, **UNHCR and Egypt's National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) signed a Memorandum of Understanding** in Cairo to strengthen cooperation in protecting refugee and asylum-seeker children. The agreement aims to improve coordination, expand access to national child protection services, and establish clearer referral pathways for children at risk of violence, neglect or exploitation. It also includes support for capacity-building and the enhancement of case-management systems, as well as greater use of NCCM's specialized services, such as the Child Helpline (16000). The UNHCR Representative and NCCM President welcomed the partnership, noting its importance in ensuring timely and equitable protection for vulnerable children.

Protection

Registration

As of 31 March 2026, the active population of refugees and asylum-seekers registered in Egypt is now 1,099,595 individuals, including those who arrived in Egypt before the conflict, with the following breakdown: 845,957 Sudanese (77%), 150,258 of other nationalities (14%), and Syrians 103,380 (9%). Women and girls make up 54.5% of the registered population.

In March 2026, UNHCR Egypt registered around 9,400 new refugees and asylum-seekers, 80% of whom were Sudanese nationals. Smaller numbers include other nationalities (19%) and Syrians (1%).

Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, UNHCR Egypt has provided registration appointments to more than 1,042,300 individuals who fled the country. Of these, over 834,400 people (79%) have been fully registered to receive protection and assistance.

Since the fall of the former Government of Syria, Syrians have approached UNHCR to request the closure of their asylum cases which is a prerequisite before leaving Egypt to return to Syria. Between 8 December 2024 and 29 March 2026, 16,244 closure requests involving around 39,084 individuals were submitted, including on-the-spot closures.

Community-Based Protection

In March, 12,512 refugees and asylum-seekers, including new arrivals from Sudan, received information on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints from outreach community workers at UNHCR's Reception Centre in 6th of October City, Greater Cairo. In addition, over the same period, UNHCR's partner Terre des hommes (Tdh) provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 2,687 individuals, out of whom 144 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment and another 89 fast-tracked for further urgent assistance. Additionally, UNHCR provided counselling to 325 refugees, including 190 who received in-person counselling, while the rest were assisted through remote sessions.

Legal and Physical Protection (LPP)

In March, 848 individuals received legal counselling sessions through UNHCR and partners, concerning early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation. Additionally, UNHCR provided LPP case management for 165 refugees.

Prevention and Response to Violence Against Women and Girls

On 29 and 30 March, UNHCR held candle-making and product-marketing workshops at Women-Friendly Spaces, both of which saw strong participation from women entrepreneurs and learners developing new vocational skills. Participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to strengthen their income-generation prospects and underscored the need for greater visibility and marketing avenues to support the promotion of their products.

On 16 March and 1 March, UNHCR's partner delivered a series of empowerment sessions. The activities focused on strengthening women's confidence, decision-making abilities, and financial literacy, including practical skills such as budgeting and savings. Participants highlighted the benefits of peer learning and expressed high satisfaction with the training sessions, noting the continued benefit in supporting women's economic and social empowerment, as well as their interest in additional vocational opportunities and community spaces to showcase their products.

Infoline

In March, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline responded to 9,889 inquiries. Additionally, 861 individuals fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through the Infoline. Since the crisis began, a total of 614,011 people have successfully been scheduled with appointments using this system. It enables refugees to access service information, receive counselling, and book registration appointments in seven languages.

Refugee Women from Sudan living in Egypt, weave discs made of banana leaves at ByHand, a MADE 51 partner, for the Peace Tree installation. ©UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

Education

UNHCR and partners continued supporting refugee learners through education information sessions and vocational training. During March, multiple rounds of advising sessions were delivered to refugee students—primarily Sudanese—providing guidance to families on school enrolment procedures, required documentation, and available education pathways in Egypt. In parallel, the first round of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) was launched, offering skills-based training for out of school adolescents, including a Makeup and Nails course for teenage girls. Overall, these interventions aim to help refugee students access appropriate education options and strengthen their future learning and livelihood opportunities.

In March, UNHCR continued disseminating scholarship opportunities to refugees and asylum seekers through social media and community outreach, including master's programme scholarships and opportunities at the German Hotel School in El Gouna.

Communication with Communities

On 16 March, UNHCR hosted a live social-media session on integrity and complaint mechanisms, taking real-time questions from refugees and strengthening two-way communication with the community. The one-hour session has reached over 93,000 views to date.

Funding information

UNHCR is grateful for the crucial and generous contributions from its donors, who provide both earmarked and unearmarked funding to support its operations in Egypt in 2025, including for the Sudan and Syria responses.

UNHCR Egypt is also grateful for the crucial support of private donors from Australia, Canada, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Spain, and the USA.

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