

# **SUDAN REGIONAL REFUGEE RESPONSE**

**September progress report  
Egypt**

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## At A Glance

# Sudan Situation Regional Response Egypt Overview



**310,000 K**

New Sudanese arrivals\*

\*(Source: MFA as 11 September, since 15 April)



**7,230 k**

Third Country Nationals\*

\*(Source: MFA and IOM)



**35 % Funded**

USD 44 M received of USD 125 M requirements \*

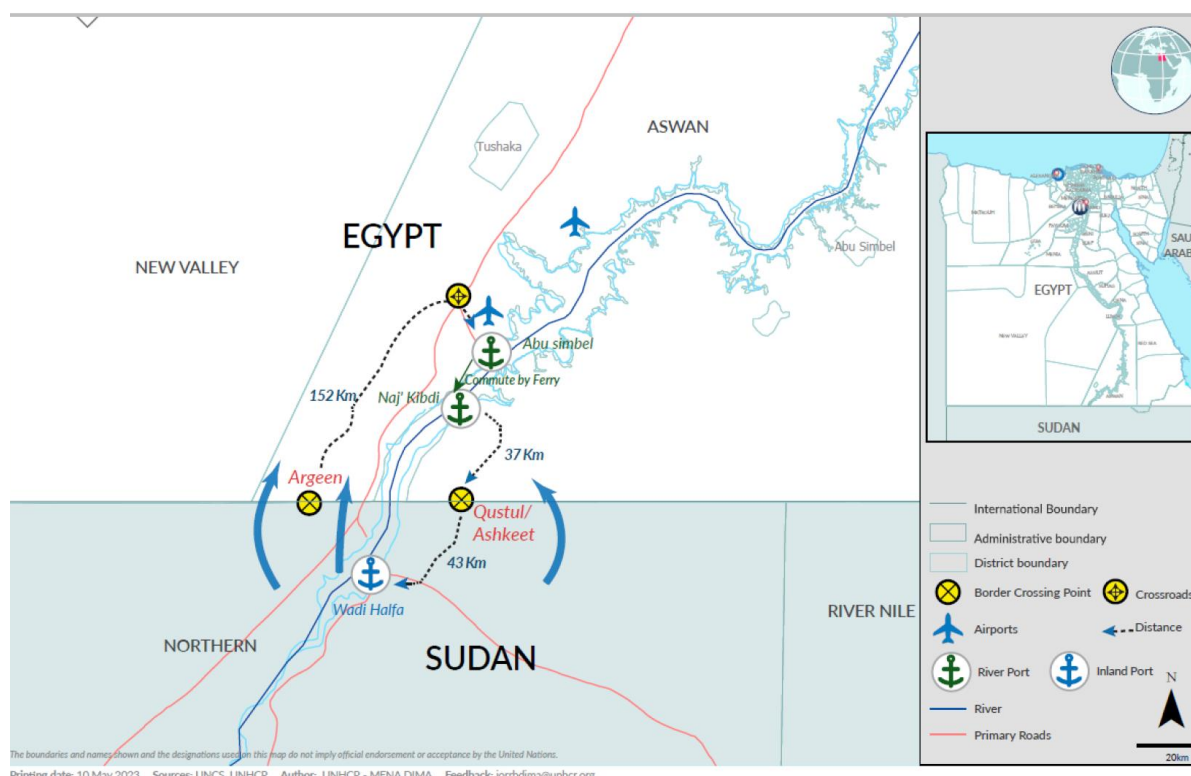
\*(Source: UNHCR Refugee- Funding Tracker)



**27**

Appealing Partners Involved \*

\*(Source: UNHCR Refugee- Funding Tracker)



## Situation Overview

The situation in Sudan remains complex with asylum-seekers moving to Egypt, which has the second highest number of newly arrived asylum seeker among the Sudan neighbouring countries after Chad. As of 11<sup>th</sup> of September, the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) has shared that the total number of people who have fled Sudan to Egypt since 15 April 2023 is 310,000 Sudanese, an increase of 30,000 Sudanese from the July's figures 2023 (280,000), while the number of the Third Country Nationals (TCNs) remains 7,230 as also reported by IOM according to their Displacement Tracking Matrix DTM <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/dtm-sudan-weekly-displacement-snapshot-4?close=true>. In addition to the new arrivals from Sudan, many Sudanese who used to reside in Egypt before the crisis approached UNHCR asking for protection, due to the change in the situation in their home country and their inability to return due to the ongoing instability and violence, adding to the overall population in need by becoming sur-place refugees (under the 1969 OAU Convention and 1951 Refugee Convention both of which Egypt is signatory to).

The entry procedure requiring all Sudanese nationals, regardless of age or gender, to have a valid passport and visa to enter Egypt, which has been implemented since 10 June 2023, continues affecting the ability of Sudanese with no proper documentation to access asylum in the country. This has led to a further decrease in the number of Sudanese new arrivals in September to 400 per week, compared to 400 per day in July, and 4000 per day in the beginning of the crisis. Important levels of irregular crossings, including smuggling, even children under the age of eighteen put many Sudanese who enter the country irregularly at risk of detention and deportation.

Housing difficulties remain a significant concern with newcomers still living in overcrowded conditions and sharing cramped spaces with multiple families. Rental prices in certain Greater Cairo areas, have also

reportedly increased significantly placing an additional financial strain on newcomers. Many Sudanese displaced persons struggle to meet their basic needs and access to income generating opportunities. Challenges in finding job opportunities, the extreme poverty, which was exacerbated by price increases, devaluation of Egyptian currency, and the very low amount of the cash assistance the vulnerable refugee receive (emergency or regular cash assistance) are severely affecting not only the refugees' access to basic needs, but also their mental health condition.

WFP's serious funding shortfall is impacting more than one third refugees who use to receive cash for food support from the UN's Food Agency will no longer receive this type of support starting from 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2023. The cuts impacting specifically 36,000 individuals of all nationalities include a significant number of Sudanese. Cash assistance at a maximum amount equivalent to USD \$15 is disbursed by WFP through pre-paid cards monthly. UNHCR is working with WFP on a prioritization and communication plan to ensure that the most vulnerable are spared. Although none of those facing the cuts are new arrivals from Sudan, however, further funding shortfall may affect them.

On 4 September 2023, the revised version Egypt Country Sudan Emergency Refugee Response Plan (RRP) covering the period from May to December 2023, was published, as part of the regional response plan.

During August and September, the Inter- Sector Working Groups (ISWG) coordinated by UNHCR and Sectors conducted a multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA), based on secondary-data review, to define the needs of the refugees (including new arrived Sudanese) and other affected populations that should be addressed through the 2024 Egypt Refugee and Resilience Response Plan and in the Regional Response Plans both for Syria and Sudan. It is noted that in 2023, the refugee response partners, in close collaboration with the Government of Egypt (GoE) conducted more than fifty assessments including Inter- Agency and Inter- Sector assessments, involving refugees, asylum seekers, newly arrived Sudanese displaced people from various nationalities, and members from the host communities residing in different Governorates in Egypt. The assessments utilized various methodologies, such as comprehensive participatory assessment, rapid needs assessments, focused group discussions, key informant interviews, data and information shared by the GoE, field missions, studies, surveys, and post distribution monitoring (PDM) exercise. They also covered various thematic areas, such as protection (including child protection, gender-based violence, community-based protection), food security, health, livelihood, basic needs/cash, WASH, education, and nutrition.

## **Highlights and Achievements**

In the month of September, UNHCR Egypt increased overall registration capacity by 580 % compared to pre-crises and 110% compared to the previous month. Some 50 reception and registration staff were newly recruited and onboarded during August and September, a 70 % increase comparing before the crisis. As of end of September 2023, UNHCR has received 93,762 appointments from new arrivals for registration and other services, with 65% of them fully registered (61,159 individuals). Since the start of the crisis in Sudan, UNHCR has also registered 18,162 people who arrived prior to mid-April. 89 % of new arrivals registered are Sudanese, while 4 % are South Sudanese and 3 % Eritrean. In terms of registration trends, both female new arrivals and female heads of household continue to be higher in terms of percentages at 55% and 54%, respectively. The great majority of new arrivals registered originate from Khartoum (88%). Furthermore, 22% of those registered have one or more specific needs—in order of prevalence, individuals who do not possess legal documentation, children at risk, single parents, unaccompanied and separated children, persons living with disabilities, persons with serious medical conditions and individuals with specific legal and physical protection needs. Of the new arrivals registered, 46% report irregular entry. Almost two in three registered refugees live in Giza; one in three, in Cairo; 8% live in Alexandria, and the remaining two per cent in other parts of the country.

Moreover, UNHCR Egypt continues to carry out Refugee Status Determination for Sudanese nationals, including those based on referral for accelerated assessment due to vulnerabilities. Cases have been accelerated for various reasons, including access to residency, resettlement, complementary pathways, such as education pathways, tertiary health care, as well as other protection needs.

In addition, since the start of the conflict in Sudan, UNHCR continues to see an increase in Sudanese households who were previously rejected or abandoned/withdrew their claims requesting reopening of their files— a 650% increase compared to pre-crisis. Cases have been reopened based on the prioritization of vulnerabilities including specific needs such as children with disabilities, women at risk and persons with serious medical needs.

On 21 Sept 2023, UNHCR Egypt successfully organized jointly with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) a High-level Workshop and technical discussion on the 2024 Egypt Strategic Refugee Response Planning. The workshop brought successfully, for the first time, the Egyptian line ministries including (Education, Health, Social Solidarity and Interior) and the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS), together with the UN Resident Coordinator, development actors including World Bank Director and technical staff, the UN Country Team including Representatives/Chiefs of missions and technical staff, INGO representatives, and Ambassadors from the European Union, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, and Australia and the United States. In addition to Ambassadors, there were representatives from the diplomatic corps.

## Sectoral Responses



### PROTECTION

Refugees and asylum seekers registered with UNHCR are entitled to a six-month residency based on their asylum status in the country. The centralized approach for issuing and renewing the residency exclusively from Cairo governorate, has not changed in August and September, putting a financial burden (for transportation and accommodation fees) on the refugees residing in other governorates. The Egyptian officials increased the number of immigration officers and extended service hours, however the numbers are growing and there is a backlog on visa processing, estimated to be around thousands. On the other hand, the increase in the registration of new Sudanese arrivals with UNHCR has further increased the waiting period for residence appointments 252% comparing to prior the crisis— at the onset to the crisis it was under 30 days, by end of May it was a 36-day waiting period, then by June it had increased to 47 days, in July, to 58 days, and by the end of in September to 83-day. Barriers to residency permits may result in hampering their ability to access rights; irregular staying in the country, and as a result, putting them at higher risk of detention and eventual deportation.

Onward movement to Libya slightly decreased in September but remains high compared to 2022. The number of arrests of foreign individuals attempting to cross into Libya irregularly decreased to 152 in September, compared to 172 in August. This decrease may have been due to the floods that occurred in eastern Libya a few weeks ago.

On 4 and 5 Sep 2023, the protection sector working group conducted a workshop, involving all the sector members and partners. The objective of the workshop was to jointly review key findings from the sub-sectorial assessments of needs and agree on common response priorities, advocacy and awareness raising for 2024.

For the first time UNHCR provided a training to 20 Egyptian naval officers in Alexandria including those engaged in rescue-at-sea. The three-day training touched upon topics including UNHCR's mandate and principles of international refugee protection including non-refoulement and mixed movements.

### Sub-Sector: Child Protection

The child protection partners collaborated through the Child Protection Sub-Working Group (CPSWG) to address ongoing child protection challenges. As of end of September 2023, 4,923 unaccompanied and separated children are registered with UNHCR Egypt, 682 out of them are Sudanese new arrivals, 72% of Sudanese children are unaccompanied, the remaining 28% are separated children. CPSWG members registered that the trend of migration towards Libya continues according, as well as the increase in irregular entry to Egypt. Significant numbers of detentions and deportations of minors continue to be ongoing and serious protection matters.

During September, Child Protection actors provided a range of services to children at risk in Greater Cairo, Alexandria, Aswan, and at the border areas, which aimed at addressing the needs of children on the move affected by the Sudanese crisis. These services included registration assistance, education grants, housing support and expanding support to community-based and refugee-led organisations in strengthening their role in the child protection system. Further, partners implemented a comprehensive case management approach, providing specialized services, including identification, assessment, care planning, follow-up, and closure to identified children across various regions. During September, a total of 2,747 unaccompanied and separated children, including new arrivals, have benefited from case management services by child protection partners. Awareness raising remained a key priority especially in Aswan, which hosts high number of newly arrival Sudanese. The CPSWG developed common counselling messages to inform of the dangers of crossing the border to Libya and risk of irregular exist from Egypt. Moreover, the Children on the Move Taskforce continues its efforts with relevant Egyptian authorities to address the issue of increased number of detention of children and deportation instances.

In terms of gaps and challenges, children on the move have limited access to education and face child protection concerns such as exploitation and detention, they also suffer from inadequate housing and healthcare access as well issues related to their legal status and psychosocial trauma. Access to public school for newly Sudanese arrival has been reported to be a challenge considering absence of renewed degree from the Government of Egypt- usually renewed on yearly basis- to allow Sudanese children to access public school, with eventual challenge on social cohesion between host communities and refugees. All these gaps demand comprehensive support to protect children's well-being and prospects.

### Sub-Sector: Gender Based Violence (GBV)

The GBV sub-working group initiated a monthly thematic community engagement meeting with the community members, which aim to address thematic issues. In September, GBV partners conducted the first session with focus on child marriage and targeted around 48 newly arrived Sudanese. Furthermore, another refresher training was conducted on 21 September, targeting 55 GBV caseworkers from some 18 organizations. UNHCR and UNFPA provided sessions on the Safety and Recovery Package cash assistance program, the Women and Girls Safe Spaces program, and the GBV case management. With the support from the Global GBV AoR, UNFPA hosted an important training opened for all Protection Working Group members in Egypt regarding 'Trauma-informed Stress Reduction' that aims to provide self-care training as part of the duty of care combined with the integration of basic Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) skills for first responders. The training was conducted from 10 – 14 September and attended by 45 participants. Highly positive feedback was provided from the participants, requesting more training opportunities or TOT that can also support other colleagues responding to humanitarian crises.

UNFPA continues to operate 12 Women and Girls Safe Spaces WGSSs, providing integrated GBV and Reproductive Health (RH) services for refugees and vulnerable people. By the end of September, the Women and Girls Safe Spaces WGSSs reached out to 4,200 Sudanese women and girls. More than 2,030 of them have initiated the GBV case management process for case assessments, and over 2,000 have received MHPSS services through group therapy and counselling. Awareness-raising sessions on GBV and RH have reached more than 1,430 women and girls and 20,000 received Dignity Kits.

WHO coordinated an advocacy meeting with head of curative sector and UNFPA to include health facilities in Aswan in the GBV referral pathway and approval was granted. A referral pathway was established between WHO supported healthcare facilities and UNFPA safe spaces to support Sudanese women requesting medical care. The WGSSs are continuously supported to improve the quality of services by procuring needed equipment and facilities to ensure safe and quality GBV services, and by collaborating with Save the Children International (SCI) to enhance the child-friendly space and services in the WGSSs in Aswan. UNFPA is recruiting more caseworkers and psychologists to be based in different WGSSs to address the rapidly increasing caseloads effectively.

### **Sub-Sector: Community-based Protection (CBP)**

The CBP Sub Working Group members have continued to identify and support persons with specific need such as person with disabilities, older persons at risk, women at risk and other vulnerable groups including timely referrals to services for psycho-social support, assistive devices, speech, and rehabilitation therapy and connecting individuals to their communities. Refugee outreach workers from Psycho-Social Services and Training Institute in Cairo PSTIC, provided information sessions to 13,803 new arrivals at UNHCR's main office enabling them to obtain reliable and timely information on services, safety, managing daily life and become empowered to make well-informed decisions crucial for their smooth integration into the country. In addition, 6,509 new arrivals also received psycho-social support. Throughout the month, 48 information sessions conducted by outreach workers for new arrivals were also held at community venues reaching 1446 individuals with lack of secure housing and money to meet basic needs, the need to connect with settled refugee communities in Egypt and access to information on services and assistance identified as key issues among new arrivals.

### **Task Force: Third-Country Nationals (TCNs)**

Since the start of the crisis, IOM Egypt has closely liaised and engaged with several Embassies with regards to their nationals who might have crossed, or about to cross from Sudan into Egypt that require assistance in Sudan to ascertain the assistance that can be provided at this stage. IOM Egypt and Sudan have also worked closely together to update the TCNs database with requests received at the outset of the crisis. In this regard, IOM supported the voluntary humanitarian evacuation of 136 TCNs from May until the end of September from the border area to Cairo and onwards to their country of origins in coordination with respective embassies. Based on the needs of each case, land and/or air transport, food, accommodation, medical checks, and other logistical support was provided. IOM actively continues to liaise with relevant Embassies possible TCN support and is also coordinating with the missions in the country of origin to ensure their reintegration in their home country.

## EDUCATION

Since the start of the crisis, more than 16,000 newly arrived school-age children were identified settling in Greater Cairo, Alexandria, and Aswan and its vicinities respectively. In response to this increasing number, the EWG partners have conducted a couple of assessment visits to Aswan with MoETE's engagement to assess and identify both opportunities and challenges to the continuity of education for these children. The different assessments, capacity and services, and number of children mappings conducted by Education partners covered both public, community-led, and civic society initiatives and interventions mainly targeted Aswan City, Nasr El-Nuba, Daraw, Kom Ombo, and Edfu. These assessments revealed the prevailing need for support to both the public and community-based education systems to accommodate this unprecedented number of entries in such a short timeline while ensuring the continuity of education for all children.

Access to quality, safe, and inclusive education, both formal and non-formal, still requires and is planned to be addressed by several partners through building the capacity and enhancing the quality of learning across all educational settings. Accordingly, and in response to the challenging socio-economic situation that most Sudanese families are facing, Education Cash Grants are being provided to alleviate some of the financial burden and limit the disruption of learning for newly arriving Sudanese children. Up to date, 3082 Girls and 3,030 boys in primary, lower, and higher secondary education have been assessed and will receive education grants to enrol in schools, in addition to 410 newly arrived migrant Sudanese students in community schools in Greater Cairo and Giza in September. More children, including pre-primary students, and their families, will be assessed throughout the next two months to receive the Education grants, simultaneously, Education partners are engaged in high-level advocacies with MoETE is also ongoing to increase enrolment and strengthen the capacity of the public system to receive and support the education of displaced children. For higher education Sudanese students applying for the DAFI scholarship, will be shortlisted as per DAFI global criteria, to enter the DAFI selection interviewing phase.

Moreover, G12 students who are preparing to sit for the formal final exams will be provided catch-up and revision classes following a hybrid modality, in person and virtually via the Learning Passport Platform. The design and content of these classes are informed by findings of conducted surveys and FGDs with students and teachers. In Aswan, 15 public schools are being supported and capacitated across different levels in terms of infrastructure, learning materials, and Digital equipment. Moreover, Children's safe spaces, Community-based learning spaces, and playgrounds are being established to provide all children of both newly arriving and host communities with safe, enabling, and cohesive spaces to learn, develop, and most importantly overcome and heal from all the struggles and traumas they were subjected to through their journey.

Finally, with the projected increase of new arrivals until the end of the year and considering the already identified number of new Refugee Community Schools (RCSs) in Greater Cairo, Alexandria, and Aswan, strengthening the coordination of the Education partners remains crucial to a comprehensive and effective response to the Sudan crisis. Accordingly, extensive efforts are currently being exerted to finalize and run the EWG MIS platform where all the data of the operationalizing Refugee Community Schools, refugee-hosting public schools, Youth Canters, and Public Health Units in refugee residing neighbourhoods will be available. The MIS platform will contribute to mapping out the provided and ongoing support provided by the Education partners, the capacity and quality of learning, safety, and protection in RCSs to inform the designing and planning of correspondent response



## FOOD SECURITY

Many Sudanese forcibly displaced persons continue to struggle to meet their basic needs and access income-generating opportunities. Against the backdrop of inflation and nationwide economic instability, assistance and support are required to avoid building tensions between Sudanese and Egyptian communities as well as amongst the Sudanese community. Moreover, there is an increasing demand for the inclusion of more Sudanese children in educational systems. As of 29 September 2023, WFP has assisted over 260,000 people transitioning from Sudan into Egypt with food assistance in Aswan and cash assistance in Alexandria, Aswan, Cairo, and Giza. Of these, about 190,000 received food assistance, and over 70,000 received cash assistance. WFP is also carrying out mobile distributions of cash to enroll vulnerable Sudanese people who are unable to access assistance distribution sites.

The cash assistance platform has been made available to other UN agencies (UNICEF, and other agencies) to enable them to quickly respond to other humanitarian needs. An equivalent transfer value is being provided to both Sudanese people as well refugees previously assisted under WFP's ongoing programme to minimize potential tensions between assisted communities. In September 2023, WFP established a new partnership with UNFPA to provide emergency cash assistance to women and girls under UNFPA's gender-based



violence programme through WFP’s cash delivery platform. The humanitarian corridor established by WFP and the Government of Egypt between Aswan (Egypt) and Wadi Halfa (Sudan) in June 2023 remains operational for cross-border delivery of assistance for UN Agencies, development Organizations, and humanitarian partners to address the urgent needs of people affected by the ongoing conflict.

### Sub-Sector: Nutrition

Mobile screening units that were set up in Aswan at border areas observed a decrease in the number of identified Sudanese with nutrition related deceases due to the general decrease in the number of Sudanese crossing the borders for Sudan to Egypt. However, the mobility of the Sudanese population from Aswan to other governorates, such as Great Cairo and Alexandria rendered the need to expand service provision into other localities. Through various assessments, the sector members observed that the poor quality of food, due to the inability to affords the healthy meals, weaken the immune system, leaving refugees at risk of succumbing to other diseases. Refugees, especially the new arrivals, have limited access to a variety of foods and rely heavily on food and cash assistance. Refugees’ children are particularly vulnerable to malnutrition and undernutrition. High percentage of malnutrition cases, and children either being underweight or eating unhealthy food have been identified among Sudanese newcomers. Improve the government capacity for early detection, screening and responding to all forms of malnutrition, wasting, and anemia cases are among the main identified needs.

UNICEF supports the Ministry of Health in improving the District Health Information System (DHIS) platform, registering Sudanese children and mothers who benefit from the Nutrition services in the Primary Health Care Facilities. The data is being collected on the platform and UNICEF is in the phase of reviewing and improving the data collection and the reporting on the indicators. Sector members, including UNICEF, WFP, UNHCR, the Egyptian Red Crescent and partners are working closely with the Government of Egypt, to ensure that Sudanese displaced families receive nutrition support, mainly children under five and pregnant or nursing women. UNICEF provided financial support to the ministry of Health and Population MOHP to train 60 health care workers in 20 Primary Health Care units in Create Caro (Cairo, and Giza) where the Sudanese refugees resides in high concentrations, to screen Sudanese refugee children attending these PHC units for early detection of malnutrition. As part of the assistance at the borders and transition points, WFP, in partnership with the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population, UNICEF, and other UN Agencies, will continue supporting the screening, referral, and management of acute malnutrition among children 0-59 months and pregnant and nursing women. UNICEF supported setting up a nutrition referral clinic in Aswan for children detected with malnutrition, 723 children were screened during September.



## HEALTH

With the decrease of the number of Sudanese persons entering Egypt from Sudan, the medical needs at the border crossings are manageable. Sudanese new arrivals established a small community in Aswan, while the majority are moving up north to find residence in and around Cairo, and smaller number have found their way to Alexandria. Karkar bus-station outside of Aswan which previously was an important site for health service delivery is now much less frequented. Important health needs continue to be treatment for various chronic conditions as well as hospital treatment for emergencies. The Egyptian Government and the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP) continue to carry a large part of the health sector response, ensuring access to its health facilities for all newly arrived Sudanese at par with Egyptian citizens. The Health sector partners support the MOHP with training of staff and donations of medical equipment, consumables, and medication to manage the increased workload as well as offer services complementing the ones that the MOHP provides.

Egyptian Red Crescent, supported by UNHCR, WHO, UNICEF and IOM, provides medical services at the borders. It also has mobile clinics in Aswan providing primary health care services.

WHO is actively implementing the secondary and tertiary healthcare program in Aswan governorate, utilizing a contractual modality with the ten largest government hospitals in Aswan and Abu Simbel. Through WHO's financial support, a total of 405 patients have received healthcare services, with ten patients undergoing over 90 hemodialysis sessions. The program's support has also extended to a pilot initiative in Cairo through a partnership with a university hospital. Additionally, WHO has established a mobile clinic for NCDs and MHPSS in a neighborhood with a significant population of Sudanese new arrivals.

UNHCR, in Aswan as well as in greater Cairo and the North Coast, through implementing partners Caritas, Save the Children and Refuge-Egypt provide consultations for noncommunicable diseases, reproductive health, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and Tuberculosis (TB) as well as payments for hospital admissions. UNFPA is working to establish women friendly clinics at several sites in Aswan. UNICEF is conducting trainings on Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses and Midwifery in governmental health care facilities. IOM donated medical supplies to Aswan hospitals and is supporting the new arrivals from Sudan who have not been registered with UNHCR as asylum seekers with various medical services. IOM continues to conduct sessions on health, MHPSS, stress management and group therapy for newly arrivals in Aswan, Cairo, and Alexandria.



### Basic Needs/Cash-based interventions (CBI)

Partners are closely collaborating through the Cash Working Group (CWG) to increase outreach methodologies, avoid duplication, harmonize tools, and transfer modalities. Accordingly, two task forces have been created through the CWG: the first one is to work on developing common indicators and a joint Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) tool, while the second is to measure and update the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB). The Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) task force had a meeting in September and has come up with seven common indicators to be reported on by partners on the Sudan crisis. Guidelines for data sharing and protection have been developed by the CWG and an orientation on the Refugee Assistance Information System RAIS will be provided to partners to upload their data and avoid duplication of assistance to same households.

As of 30 September 2023, UNHCR assisted 47,723 individuals registered and unregistered who were identified as eligible with emergency one-off cash assistance through the Egypt Post Office (EPO). UNHCR has also launched an expedited vulnerability assessment process to newly arrived registered Sudanese for their inclusion in the regular bimonthly Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) program. Catholic Relief Service has identified and delivered emergency cash assistance to 2,907 families (8,809 individuals) in Cairo and Aswan. The Egyptian Red Crescent with support from ICRC has delivered emergency cash assistance to 835 families in Cairo through FAWRY plus (authorized banking agent) and are yet to start assessments in Aswan. St. Andrews has also delivered emergency cash assistance to 600 families that have approached their hubs. Finally, Save the Children have provided 28 female headed households along with two unaccompanied children in Cairo with emergency cash assistance. The total number of assisted Sudanese since the beginning of the crisis is 57,081 individuals registered and unregistered, residing in Cairo, Alexandria, Damietta, and Aswan have received emergency cash assistance by partners to meet their most urgent basic needs.



## CORE RELIEF ITEMS (CRIS)

UNHCR delivered 40,000 water bottles to the Egyptian Red Crescent ERC in Aswan to meet the water needs of people arriving from Sudan. The provision of water at the border remains critical for newly arrived refugees and asylum-seekers as well as truck drivers waiting in the no man's land to deliver important supplies to Sudan. Since the beginning of the crisis, UNHCR delivered a total of 634,000 bottles of water to mitigate risks associated with dehydration and prolonged sun exposure.



## LIVELIHOODS & RESILIENCE (AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC INCLUSION)

Access to livelihoods opportunities remain of the main challenges which the Sudanese refugees face. The chronic economic challenges, high percentage record of inflation, foreign currency shortage and recurrent devaluations which Egypt country experiencing, have led to price increases, and made life more difficult for many Sudanese refugees, especially the newly arrived and host community members alike. The working group members works to promote livelihoods and economic inclusion for refugees, advocate for their right to work and support them in becoming more resilient and achieve self-reliance. Through orientation sessions, outreach activities, distribution of flyers, sector members and partners disseminate information to the new arrived Sudanese about the livelihood opportunities and explain about the sectors livelihood projects/activities.

They also provide small startup business cash grants, and vocational trainings. In August and September, the sector members finalized a mapping of livelihood services and program provided by the sector members and partner. The mapping helped in articulating and understanding the current livelihood activities and aimed to harmonize and coordinate the livelihood interventions, avoid the duplication and overlapping. Moreover, sector members, such as Plan international, Egyptian Red Crescent, Catholic Relief services, Caritas, Refuge Egypt conducted various socio-economic assessments of Sudan refugees to inform and improve the programming with the goal of promoting self-reliance, they will work on in-depth analysis of these assessments and use the results for better planning of the intervention in 2024. In addition, as of end of September 140 Sudanese from the newcomers benefited from livelihood support activities provided by UNHCR partners (Caritas and Refuge Egypt), these include vocational and employability skills training, job placement facilitation and entrepreneurship support.



## WASH

Joint missions' assessments, data from the Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP), UNHCR records, and data from the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) are the main source of information for the WASH sector. The lack of drinking water and water sources, deficiencies in some sanitation facilities, significant demand for the improvement of cleaning services, need for waste management, The WASH sector is actively addressing the refugees' needs by providing ongoing support to border regions, the Karkar bus station, Aswan health facilities, and collaborating with various service providers dedicated to assisting refugees in Aswan. lack of access to hygiene, dignity, and baby kits are key identified concerns in the refugees condensed residency areas and especially at the Sudan/ Egypt border area.

In August and September, WASH sector working group members, and in collaboration between UNICEF and WHO finalized WASH needs assessment for some hospitals and started procuring items (such as hygiene and infection control). The sector members are also continue working closely with Aswan Water Company to

improve the WASH facilities in five primary healthcare units and four hospitals In Aswan. Moreover, the WASH facilities in Aswan train station were rehabilitated. UNICEF successfully revitalized six out of twelve toilets in train station in Aswan, to enhance sanitary conditions for the refugees, ultimately contribute to the overall health improvement of the local population. UNICEF also distributed 20,000 hygiene items through the family clubs catering to Sudanese beneficiaries to empowers individuals to adhere to essential hygiene standards, reinforcing their overall well-being. In addition, WHO and UNICEF, initiated the distribution of water quality assessment kits to the Aswan Health Directorate, to improve quality of care through water, sanitation, and hygiene in health care facilities.

## Cross-Cutting Response



### Accountability to Affected Population (AAP)

Community- Based Protection sub working group provided a training on AAP – Age, Gender, and Diversity (AGD) to the working group members on 14 Sep 2023. The purpose of this training was to provide participants with an introduction to UNHCR’s AAP Framework and Policy on Age Gender and Diversity approach. UNHCR Egypt Help website, is one of the primary tools to provide useful information to refugees in the country, and currently available in the six major languages used by refugees in Egypt (Arabic, English, Somali, Amharic, Oromo, and Tigrinya).



### Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

















PSEA Taskforce: The Sudan Situation PSEA Network members continue to focus on carrying out effective coordination of PSEA prevention, risk mitigation and response in line with the Refugee Response Plan in Egypt within all actors involved in the response. PSEA Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material workshop was held so that partners can create IEC materials specific for the Sudan Situation aiming to raise the awareness on PSEA protocols during the emergency response. The network members are currently in the process of designing IEC materials. The Network further finalized its TORs and is working to finalize its workplan and to that end is planning for the rapid risk assessments to be carried out in Cairo and in Alexandria. Linkages between the Child Protection and GBV Sub Working Group are being enhanced and the GBV SWG provided a referral pathway training for partners during the PSEA Network meeting so that members can ensure an effective referral system as required.

## Partnership & Coordination

The current coordination structure in Egypt remains the same since the beginning of Sudan crisis in mid-April:

- The Sudan Situation Update Inter-Agency forum, chaired by UNHCR Representative, the main strategic body, involves Heads of UN Agencies, National and International organizations, and donors and it oversees the Inter- Sector Working Groups (ISWG), provides strategic guidance to technical level, develops common advocacy, among others. They meet every month.
- The Inter-Sector Working Groups (ISWG), chaired by UNHCR Inter-Agency Coordination team, involves sector working group leads and co-leads focal points, ensures coordination between sectors and cross-cutting groups, ensure coherence, avoid gaps and duplications between sectors, etc; coordinates appeal process; manages monitoring and evaluation processes, and meet bi- weekly.
- The Sectors Working Groups, chaired by UN Agencies, involve UN agencies, National and international organizations operational in this sector, coordinate sector specific appeal preparation and responses; establishes sector standards; ensures coherence, avoids gaps and duplications within the sector and

meet Monthly or bi-weekly as required. UNHCR leads the protection sector working group and co lead, the Child Protection, Gender Based Violence and Community Based Protection sub-working groups. UNHCR also co-lead the Health, Education, Basic needs/cash and Livelihood and Economic Inclusion sectors working groups.

<b>27</b>  Partners involved	<b>08</b>  UN Agencies	<b>11</b>  International NGOs	<b>8</b>  National NGOs	<b>XX</b>  IFRC&RC	<b>XX</b>  Faith-based Organizations	<b>XX</b>  Academia	<b>XX</b>  Regional organizations	<b>XX</b>  Development actors
	<b>XX</b>  Other Intergovernmental Organizations	<b>XX</b>  Refugee-led organizations Sport and cultural organizations	<b>XX</b>  Private sector	<b>XX</b>  Media		<b>XX</b>  Parliaments <sup>1</sup>	<b>XX</b>  International and regional financial institutions	<b>XX</b>  Cities/local authorities <sup>1</sup>

Notes: This list only includes appealing organizations under the RRP, many of which collaborate with implementing partners to carry out RRP activities. Implementing partners can also be highlighted in this section if they are different from operational partners.

**Funding Update:**

Although the received fund was slightly increased in Septembers to 44 M comparing to July (30 M), however, the fund requirement was also increased from 114 M in July to 125 M in September, and Egypt response capacity remains underfunded with only 35% received fund. Egypt RRP partners reiterate the message on the importance of flexible funding, which allows partners to prioritize the most pressing needs across the country. Further information on funding levels of the response is available on the Refugee Funding Tracker [Microsoft Power BI](#) which tracks interagency funding for the response.

**Sudan RRP 2023 Donors in Egypt:** United States of America | CERF | France | Private Donors | Canada | European Union| Norway | Australia| Switzerland | Sweden | Japan | Netherlands | Germany | Ireland | Gabon| Denmark | United Kingdom | New Zealand | United Arab Emirates | Republic of Korea | Luxembourg | Spain and allocation of unearmarked/ broadly earmarked.

<sup>1</sup> Parliaments, Cities/Local authorities are in this section to highlight to what extent we are working together with government entities but the latter should not submit a budget request, in accordance with RRP guidelines.

