

Egypt

Sudan Emergency Response Update

12 February 2025

Nihad fled violence in Sudan with her elderly mother who suffers from health issues. As her mother's sole guardian, Nihad faced several challenges during their arduous journey to safety. Once in Cairo, Nihad registered with UNHCR and sought appropriate healthcare for her mother. ©UNHCR/Christina Rizk



1.2 million
Sudanese forced to flee to Egypt

from 15 April 2023 to 25 September 2024, according to the Government of Egypt

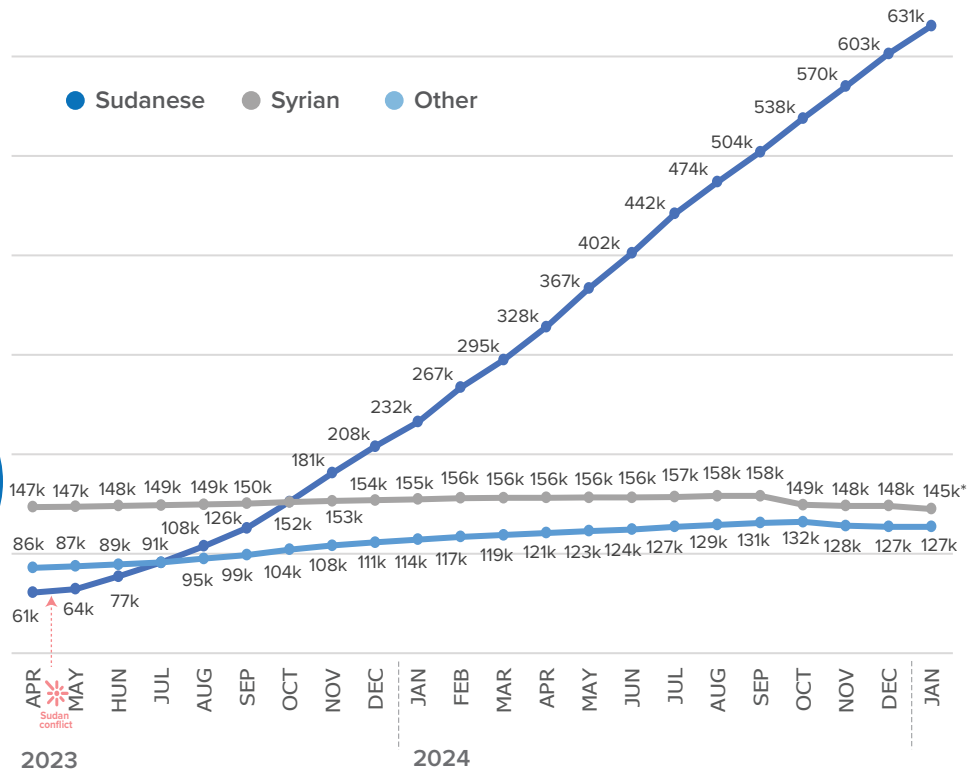
48% funded

of the \$57.7 million required by UNHCR for the Sudan emergency response in Egypt in 2024



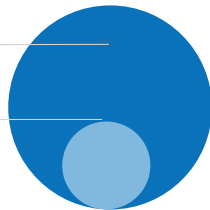
Egypt is the largest host country for Sudanese fleeing conflict

The number of Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers fully registered with UNHCR Egypt increased tenfold between the onset of the Sudan conflict and 11 February 2025.



955%
Sudanese Increase

211%
Overall Increase



*Syrian and Other nationalities refugee numbers dropped since October 2024 as UNHCR resumed inactivating cases of those who did not renew their documents. This process had been paused earlier due to the registration upscaling measures due to the Sudan response. Additionally, following recent political developments in Syria, there has been a significant increase in asylum closure requests from Syrian refugees in Egypt since December 2024.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- On 6 February, the UNHCR Representative to Egypt and the League of Arab States, Hanan Hamdan, [met](#) with Ambassador Seif Kandil, the newly appointed Director General of the Cairo International Center for Peace (CCCPA). They discussed strategic collaboration in preparation for the upcoming Fifth Edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, scheduled for the last two weeks of October this year. Discussions also covered expanding support for the Arab Women Mediator Network of the League of Arab States (LAS) and the implementation of Egypt's pledges to the Global Refugee Forum in 2023.
- After completing a specialized training course in Egypt, two refugees from Sudan and South Sudan [travelled](#) to Italy on 16 January to work in the shipbuilding sector with support from UNHCR. They were the first refugees welcomed by Italy under the innovative "Labor Corridors for Refugees" programme, which aims to match refugees' skills and potential with the specific labour needs of Italian companies.
- In January 2025, UNHCR continued to observe an increasing trend of unaccompanied children fleeing Sudan to join their siblings or other family members in Egypt. Children who approached the UNHCR Reception Centre in Greater Cairo stated that their parents sent them alone to Egypt to join their siblings or other relatives already established in Egypt, either due to fear of the ongoing conflict in Sudan or to pursue their education. In total, UNHCR recorded a 10% increase in unaccompanied and separated children in January, as compared to December 2024. Additionally, Sudanese children engaged in labour in Egypt continue to be reported to UNHCR, with some living at their place of work, often in unsafe or unsanitary conditions.

Protection

Registration

As of 11 February 2025, UNHCR Egypt provided registration appointments to 883,200 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of those, UNHCR has now registered 579,700 individuals for assistance and protection (66%). Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (96%), followed by Eritreans (2%), and South Sudanese (2%). The great majority originate from Khartoum (83%). Over half (55%) are female and 41% are children.

Community-Based Protection

Over the last two weeks, some 10,300 refugees and asylum-seekers, including new arrivals from Sudan, attended information sessions on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints at the UNHCR Reception Centre in Greater Cairo. During the same period, UNHCR partner Terre des Homme (TdH) provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 5,630 individuals, out of whom 70 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment and another 376 fast-tracked for further urgent assistance.

Child Protection

On 28 January, UNHCR led a training session for 18 Egyptian Border Officials from the Ministry of Defense on responding to child protection challenges in humanitarian emergencies. Additionally, UNHCR provided an overview of its child protection activities in Egypt, in collaboration with its partners. The officers were particularly interested in the current child protection system, care arrangement options, and UNHCR's cooperation with the Egyptian National Council for Childhood and Motherhood.

Infoline

In the past fortnight, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline handled 24,155 inquiries and booked registration appointments for an average of 510 people daily fleeing the Sudan conflict. Since the crisis began, a total of 597,100 individuals have scheduled appointments through the system.



Fayrouz, Malktash, and Lahae, three refugees from Sudan, attended the graduation ceremony of a community empowerment project organized by UNHCR and TdH in Cairo. ©UNHCR/Karim Hany

Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence

On 30 January, UNHCR conducted a training session on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response for 16 members of four refugee-led organizations in Greater Cairo. The session covered services available to GBV survivors among refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt, referral mechanisms, and the identification and definition of GBV.

Legal and Physical Protection

Over the last two weeks, some 960 individuals received legal counselling through UNHCR and legal partners for legal aid, related to early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation. Of them, 760 were Sudanese.

Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion

On 5 and 6 February, five Sudanese artists took part in art workshops as part of “The Colors of the Nile and Tiber” event, organized by Artoday and the Italian Institute in Cairo. Since 2022, UNHCR has collaborated with Artoday to support refugee artists in Egypt, helping them showcase their work and participate in local and international exhibitions. This partnership also provides opportunities for artists to engage in workshops that enhance their skills and visibility.



Cash Assistance

On 1 February, UNHCR resumed conducting vulnerability assessments through its new partner Mindset in Cairo. Until 8 February, UNHCR partner Mindset conducted vulnerability assessments for 1,019 Sudanese individuals in Cairo.

Since the Sudan crisis began in April 2023, UNHCR has assessed the vulnerability of 176,381 Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers, including both new arrivals and those already in Egypt before the crisis. In January and February 2025, over 48,738 Sudanese individuals received Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA). Additionally, 112,335 highly vulnerable Sudanese remain on the MPCA waiting list.

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, including the response to the Sudan situation.



UNHCR Egypt is also grateful for the crucial support of private donors, including those from Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the UK.

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