


UNHCR EGYPT

SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE


24 October 2023



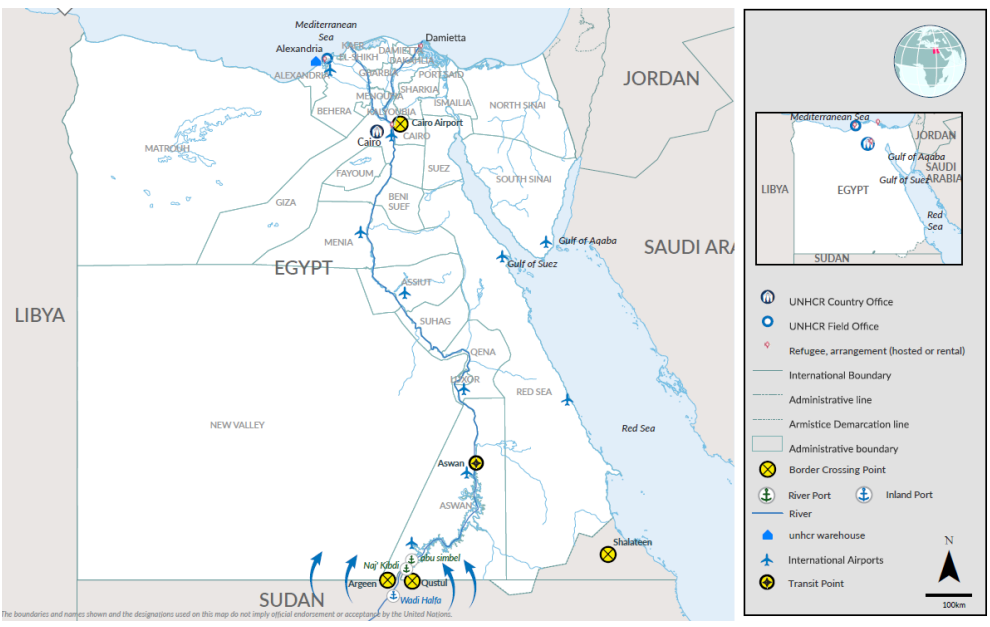
Hanan (58) fled Sudan because she couldn't access the medical treatment essential for managing her kidney disease. She now lives in Egypt, where her health is improving thanks to the treatment she was able to receive. Hanan turned to the UNHCR registration centre in Cairo, where she was registered as an asylum-seeker. ©UNHCR/Jaime Gimenez

 **>330,000**

Sudanese forced to flee to Egypt
Since 15 April according to the latest information provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to UNHCR on 19 October

 **31% funded**

of the \$28.2 million required by UNHCR for the [Sudan emergency response](#) in Egypt.



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS - HIGHLIGHTS

- 330,000 Sudanese and 7,230 individuals of other nationalities, totaling some 337,230 people, have crossed into Egypt since the start of the Sudan crisis, according to the latest figures provided by the Government of Egypt.
- UNHCR Egypt has registered more than 78,000 new arrivals from Sudan, 89% Sudanese.
- In light of the humanitarian situation in Gaza, UNHCR is mobilizing assistance to the Rafah border crossing to support UN efforts through the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC). However, UNHCR continues to provide humanitarian aid to people arriving from Sudan through the southern border. On 20 October, UNHCR delivered 7,200 litres of water to the ERC in Abu Simbel for distribution to new arrivals.

 **Protection** **Gender-based violence**

In September, UNHCR Egypt assisted 244 Sudanese survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). While this number represents a slight decrease compared to the 251 cases reported in August, Sudanese survivors continue to represent the most affected nationality (75% of the total cases). This is a trend that has been consistent since the beginning of the year. GBV survivors continue to report challenges related to self-reliance and inability to cover their basic needs and are subject to repeated incidents and threats. New arrivals also report GBV risks occurring in Sudan and on the journey to Egypt. Most were either subjected to GBV or forced to witness it happening to others during their perilous journeys to Egypt. Psychosocial support has been paramount to GBV survivors, women, and children.

 **Community-based protection**

Refugee outreach workers at UNHCR's Refugee Reception Center in 06 October City (Greater Cairo) office provided information sessions to more than 13,800 newly arrived refugees from Sudan on services and assistance and more than 6,500 individuals also received psycho-social support in September. Positive feedback from new arrivals waiting in the premises' backyard was received appreciating the timely information about services, safety, managing daily life, and tips to make well-informed decisions crucial for their smooth integration into the country.

Homelessness continues to be one of the main concerns for refugees in Egypt. Most of the Sudanese new arrivals who approached UNHCR Egypt last week highlighted concerns related to homelessness or precarious homeless situations. This is due to the inability of many people to cope with the rising rental costs in Greater Cairo. Additionally, people mentioned the difficulty finding employment or other means of income-generation support which limits their ability to pay for rent.

 **Infoline**

UNHCR's Infoline call centre continues to receive high demand from people who have fled Sudan. Since the start of the conflict, 47,470 new arrivals have received appointments with UNHCR through its Infoline. Over the last week, 8,217 total inquiries were handled by the Infoline, out of which 1,724 new registration appointments were given to 3,889 people who had fled Sudan. The average number of calls per day has increased by 86% compared to pre-crisis levels. This increase is due to the merging of the Cairo and Alexandria lines and the hiring of additional agents.



Carolina, a 10-year-old Sudanese, fled violence in Khartoum after the onset of the conflict in April 2023. She arrived in Cairo with her brother, where she reunited with her mother. The family was registered with UNHCR Egypt in October 2023. ©UNHCR/Jaime Gimenez

Registration

As of 20 October, UNHCR Egypt had provided pre-registration appointments to 113,279 newly arrived people from Sudan (54,786 households), of whom 78,660 individuals (38,330 households), i.e., 70%, have already been registered. The majority are Sudanese nationals (89%), while the other main nationalities registered are South Sudanese (5%), and Eritrean (4%). The great majority of new arrivals registered still originate from Khartoum (88%), and 22% of those registered have one or more specific needs, among which 71% is on grounds of lacking legal documentation.

Health

UNHCR partner Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) provided medical services to more than 4,000 people fleeing Sudan in September. In total, as of the beginning of October, ERC had provided medical services to 27,094 Sudanese since the onset of the crisis. The services were provided at Argeen and Qustol border crossings and included treatment for ailments related to the journey to Egypt (dehydration, heat stroke, insect bites, infection) and unattended chronic diseases (diabetes, heart failure). In severe cases, the ERC team stabilized patients and referred them for care in hospitals in Abu Simbel or Aswan. Moreover, 147 persons have been referred to a hospital, the majority during the initial weeks of the intervention when larger numbers of people were crossing and when there were longer waiting times on the Egypt side of the border.



Core relief items

Items distributed by UNHCR Egypt to forcibly displaced people from Sudan:



680,200
Bottles of water



150,000
hygiene kits



80,000
Sanitary items

On 20 October, UNHCR delivered a water truck to Abu Simbel with a total quantity of 7,200 litres of mineral water. The 12,000 bottles will be distributed by partner Egyptian Red Crescent at the border crossings between Egypt and Sudan.

Furthermore, UNHCR has installed three Rubb halls at the border crossings between Egypt and Sudan, and a fourth in the registration centre in Cairo. The Rubb halls have facilitated the scale-up of the response and provided shaded rest areas for asylum-seekers. In addition, UNHCR has delivered 1,000 blankets, 50 mattresses, 1,000 floor mats, nine commercial fridges, 15 family tents, 10 tablets, four freezers, four logistic trolleys, 10 laptops, 20 smartphones, 30 fire extinguishers, 250 waiting benches, one sound system, one multi-function printer, one office fridge, 40 fans, 50 office chairs, and 20 tables to UNHCR's partner, the Egyptian Red Crescent.

Financial information

UNHCR is grateful for the crucial and generous contributions from its donors, who have provided both earmarked and unearmarked funding to support its operations in Egypt, including in response to the Sudan situation.



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UNHCR Egypt is also grateful for the crucial support of private donors, including those from Australia, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the USA.

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CONTACT: UNHCR External Relations and Public Information Unit – arecapi@unhcr.org

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