

Egypt

Sudan Emergency Response Update

21 August 2024

Huyam (right) and her mother Khadija (left) approached UNHCR's reception centre in 6th of October City (Greater Cairo) after fleeing violence in Sudan. ©UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

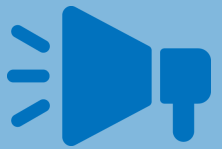


390,000

individuals forced to flee Sudan have been registered by UNHCR Egypt since the onset of the conflict

49% funded

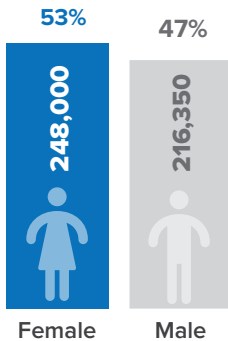
of the \$57.7 million required by UNHCR for the Sudan emergency response in Egypt in 2024



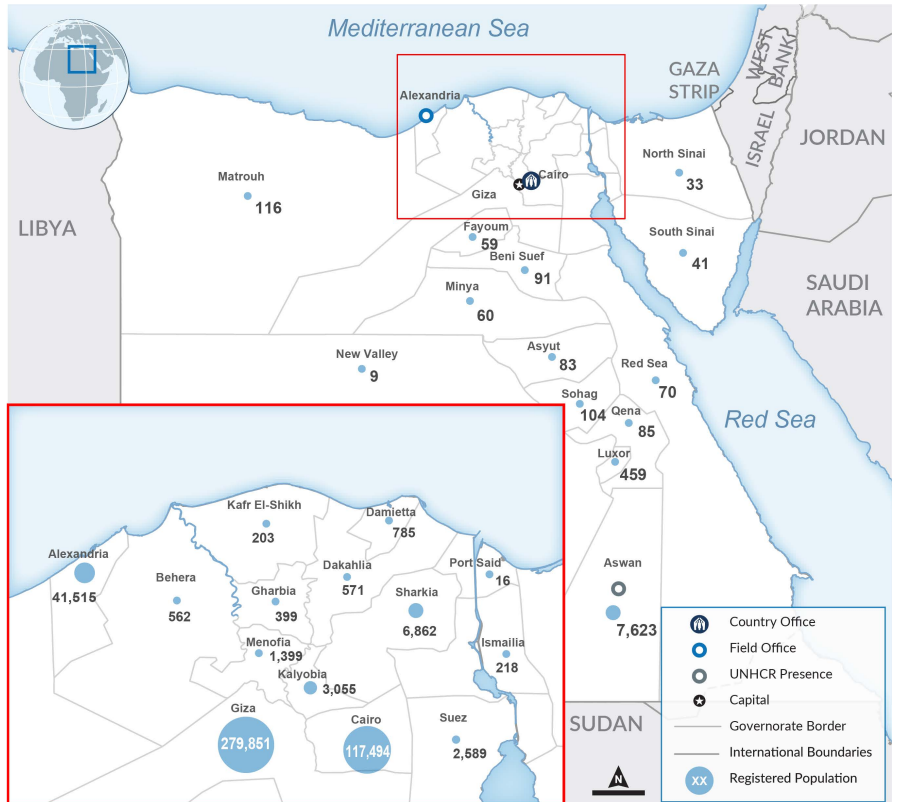
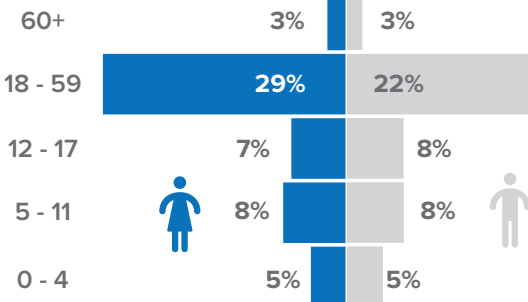
Nine out of ten Sudanese refugees live in Greater Cairo

464,350

Sudanese registered with UNHCR Egypt as of 20 August 2024, including those who arrived before the start of the crisis in April 2023.



Age and gender breakdown



Source: UNHCR registration data / Disclaimer: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on the map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the UN

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- On 12 August, UNHCR Egypt launched its online registration appointment [tool](#) for Sudanese individuals to expedite their access to appointments and to reduce the pressures on UNHCR's main registration centre in Greater Cairo. During the past week, UNHCR conducted information sessions on how to use the tool with partners, refugee-led organizations, and refugee community leaders in Cairo and Aswan with plans for more sessions this week in Alexandria.
- A strong sandstorm combined with heavy rains and winds affected southern Egypt the second week of August, preventing the UNHCR team from traveling on three days to the border points with Sudan to conduct their usual visits. In addition to the difficulties in traveling on the road, bad weather conditions have also caused the ferry service on Lake Nasser to be suspended. Although both Qustol and Argeen crossings largely continued their operations, the number of Sudanese entering Egypt slightly decreased due to the difficulties of traveling to the border under harsh weather, which also affected Northern Sudan.
- On 11 August, Egyptian Foreign Minister, Badr Abdelatty, [met](#) with Sudan's Transitional Sovereignty Council Chairman, Abdul Fatah Al-Burhan, during his visit to attend Rwandan President Paul Kagame's inauguration. Abdelatty reaffirmed Egypt's unwavering support for Sudan's unity, territorial integrity, and non-interference in its internal affairs. He also emphasized Egypt's commitment to meeting Sudan's humanitarian and relief needs. The discussion focused on efforts to restore peace and stability in Sudan, with Abdelatty highlighting Egypt's active role in helping Sudan navigate its current crisis. Al-Burhan expressed gratitude for Egypt's continued support of Sudan's national institutions and care for Sudanese citizens in Egypt.
- A [podcast](#) featuring an interview with UNHCR's Representative to Egypt and the League of Arab States, Hanan Hamdan, was published in August as part of the 'Voices of Impact' series, developed by the UN Information Centre (UNIC) in Cairo.

Protection

Registration

As of 20 August 2024, UNHCR Egypt had provided registration appointments to 716,500 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of those, UNHCR has now registered 390,400 individuals for assistance and protection, just over half (54%). Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (95%), followed by South Sudanese (2%), and Eritrean (2%). Over half - 54% - are female and the great majority originate from Khartoum (86%). A fifth of those provided with registration appointments have one or more specific needs, including lack of legal documentation, children at risk of not attending school, people with disabilities, or serious medical conditions.

Prevention and response to gender-based violence

In Aswan, UNHCR's partner CARE held two five-day psychodrama workshops aimed at helping GBV survivors express and process their emotions through dramatic enactment. The workshop provided a safe space for participants to confront their trauma by engaging in role plays, where they creatively altered scenes to explore different outcomes and coping strategies. 40 Sudanese women attended the workshops, which took place from 5 to 15 August.

Infoline

Over the past two weeks, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline handled some 21,460 inquiries (a 6% increase compared to the previous fortnight). Of those, 5,700 new registration appointments were allocated to 14,150 individuals who had fled Sudan. The proportion of callers from Greater Cairo was 88%, Aswan 5%, and Alexandria 4%. Since the start of the conflict to date, 485,900 new arrivals from Sudan, comprising 181,050 households, have received appointments via Infoline.



A group of refugee youth celebrate after playing a football match during the World Refugee Day event hosted by UNHCR and Terre des Hommes in Greater Cairo in late June. ©UNHCR/ Karim Hany

Community-based protection

Over the last two weeks, some 12,700 refugees and asylum-seekers attended information sessions at the UNHCR registration centre in Greater Cairo and were provided with details on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. This represents a 37% increase compared to the previous two weeks. During the same period, UNHCR partner Terre des Homme (TdH) provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 5,850 new arrivals, from which 94 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment. Outreach community volunteers also provided information sessions to more than 2,700 individuals, mainly Sudanese new arrivals, at UNHCR's reception centre in Alexandria throughout July.

In efforts to mainstream disability inclusion, UNHCR provided a training on 7 August attended by 15 frontline staff working with partner CARE in Cairo. The training covered topics like disability inclusion definitions, the intersection of displacement and disability, commitments to persons with disabilities as outlined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the twin-track approach to inclusion, which promotes equal opportunities for people with disabilities and their full participation in society.

On 8 August, UNHCR and TdH organized two recreational events in Greater Cairo to watch the Paris 2024 Olympic Games and to cheer on the Refugee Olympic Team. The events were attended by 38 refugees and Egyptians.

Legal and physical protection

During the reporting period, 505 individuals received legal counselling through UNHCR and legal partners, meaning a 20% increase compared to the previous fortnight. Additionally, 107 cases were referred to UNHCR legal partners, the Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR), and United Lawyers (UL) for legal aid, related to early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation.

 **Education**

On 13 August, UNHCR and UNICEF co-chaired an Education Working Group (EWG) workshop to discuss alternatives to ensure refugee and migrant children continue their learning despite the current challenges. Challenges to their education include the closure of community learning centres (CLCs) and residency issues for refugee children enrolling in public schools, which will likely increase the number of out-of-school children in Egypt. The EWG members agreed on enhancing advocacy messages, strengthening communication with CLCs, and mapping available spaces for refugee and migrant children.

UNHCR and its partner Catholic Relief Services registered 9,023 children to receive UNHCR standard education cash grants in July, reaching a total of 10,332 in 2024. 62% of these children are Sudanese. Moreover, to raise parents' awareness of the importance of their children's education, UNHCR provided advising sessions to 60 parents with the focus of guiding participants on the different types of schools and the relevant schools' registration process, reaching a total of 361 students so far this year.

In July, UNHCR delivered awareness-raising sessions to 289 secondary education refugee students. They received information on the admission process to Egyptian universities, and the application process to the DAFI scholarship programme. Additionally, UNHCR supported 317 DAFI scholars with monthly allowances.

 **Cash assistance**

As of 17 August, the total number of newly arrived Sudanese households assessed by UNHCR to receive Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) since the beginning of the crisis is 33,600. Of them, 6,724 households (30,380 individuals) have received the MPCA, representing 34% of the total 20,000 assisted households. During the last two weeks, 52 families were assessed for emergency cash assistance (ECA) in Aswan. Since the start of the crisis, a total of 20,935 registered and unregistered households (57,074 individuals) have been identified as eligible for one-off ECA, out of whom 16,938 families (48,839 individuals) have successfully received their assistance.



Sudanese women pose after participating in a psychodrama workshop held by UNHCR's partner CARE in Aswan on 9 August 2024. ©UNHCR/Nehal Kamar

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, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Spain.

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