UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Egypt

Monthly Operational Update

November 2025

37% funded

of the $137.7 million required by UNHCR for the refugee response in Egypt in 2025.

Laila, a Sudanese refugee living in Egypt, crafts crochet garlands and flowers at Threads of Hope, a MADE 51 partner, for the Peace Tree installation. ©UNHCR/ Pedro Costa Gomes

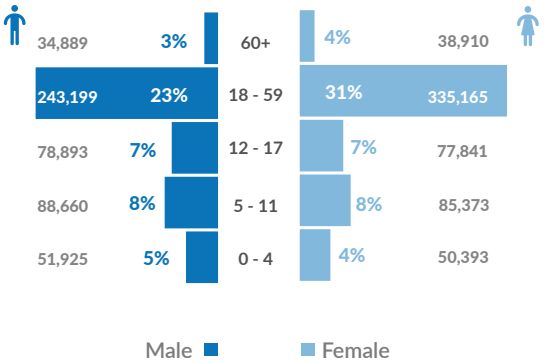
1,085,248
Registered population

434,616
Registered households

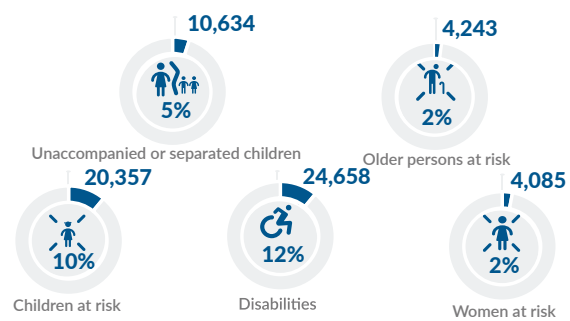
74.4%
Women and children

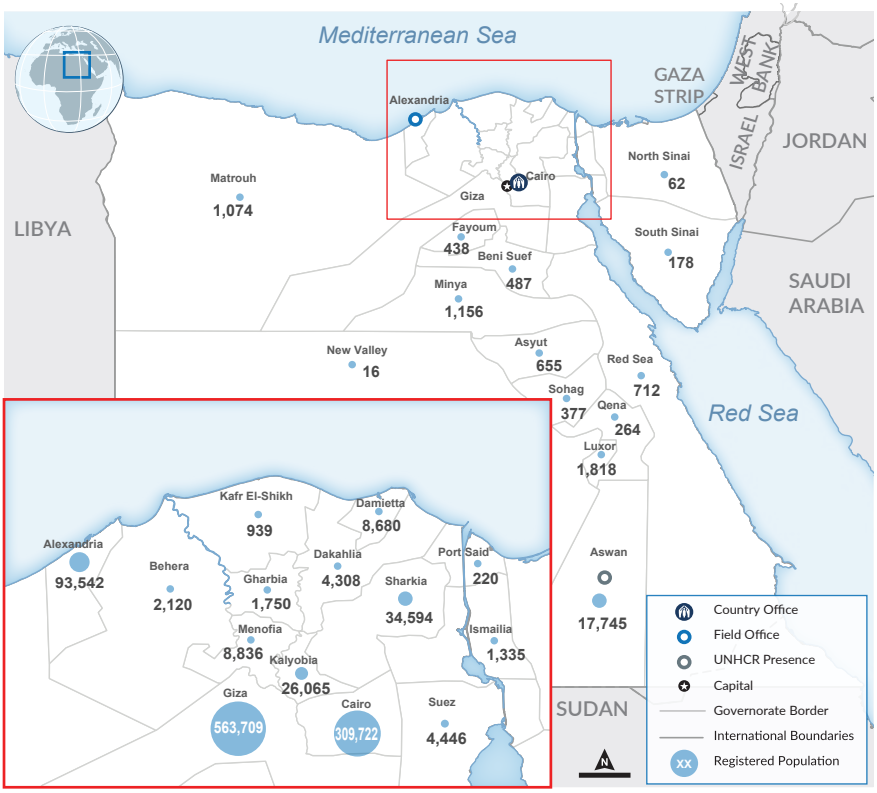
19.15%
Persons with specific needs

Gender and age of registered population



Persons with specific needs





LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- The visit of EU Commissioner for Equality, Preparedness and Crisis Management Hadja Lahbib to Egypt on 27 November showcased strong EU engagement in protection and refugee response, with a tour of the registration center, direct exchanges with refugees – particularly Sudanese women – and high interest in Egypt's role as the largest host of people fleeing the Sudan crisis. Discussions focused on the protection environment, rising vulnerabilities, and socio-economic inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt.

- On 20 November, UNHCR Egypt welcomed H.E. Satu Suikkari-Kleven, Ambassador for UN Peace and Security, H.E. Miia Rainne, Director of the Unit for UN and Global Affairs, and the Finnish Ambassador to Egypt. The visit reaffirmed Finland's commitment to supporting UNHCR's work and advancing global agendas on Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS). Discussions focused on the importance of flexible funding to enable effective planning and emergency response, as well as ways to enhance transparency and visibility of global contributions. UNHCR provided updates on humanitarian challenges and ongoing efforts to strengthen protection and assistance for refugees in Egypt.

- On 3 and 16 November, UNHCR welcomed two senior Swiss leaders to UNHCR Egypt—Patricia Danzi, Director General of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and Federal Councillor Beat Jans, Head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police—whose visits provided an opportunity to discuss the protection environment, the evolving needs of refugees and asylum-seekers arriving from Sudan, and how to deliver impact on the ground. In the context of Federal Councillor Jans's visit, UNHCR gave a TV interview with RTS to highlight the implications of UNHCR's current funding constraints. Switzerland subsequently confirmed its new contribution of CHF 7 million from SDC for the Sudan emergency response, including for Egypt.

- Between 3-4 November, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, Ruvendrini Menikdiwela, completed a two-day mission to Egypt aimed at strengthening collaboration on refugee protection and humanitarian response. The visit included meetings with senior government officials, refugee communities, peacebuilding institutions, and donors. Discussions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) focused on Egypt's refugee hosting policies, protection challenges, and preparations for Egypt's upcoming pledge at the Global Refugee Forum (GRF). The delegation also met with the Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding (CCCPA) to explore opportunities for cooperation. Engagements continued with UNHCR's partners and refugee representatives, as well as a donor roundtable with key embassies. The mission concluded with media interviews highlighting humanitarian needs and the importance of sustained international support.

Protection

Registration

In November 2025, UNHCR Egypt registered around 20,100 new refugees and asylum-seekers, 86% of whom were Sudanese nationals. Smaller numbers include other nationalities (13%) and Syrians (1%).

Since the outbreak of conflict in Sudan in April 2023, UNHCR Egypt has provided registration appointments to 999,236 individuals who fled the country. Of these, 788,365 people (79%) have been fully registered to receive protection and assistance.

As of 30 November, the total registered population is 1,085,248 individuals, including those who arrived in Egypt before the conflict, with the following breakdown: 822,337 Sudanese (76%), 143,715 of other nationalities (13%), and Syrians 119,196 (11%). Women make up 56% of the registered population.

Community-Based Protection (CBP)

In November, 20,581 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 6,410 individuals, out of whom 83 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment and another 210 fast-tracked for further urgent assistance. Additionally, UNHCR provided counseling to 301 refugees, including 195 who received in-person counseling, while the rest were assisted through remote sessions.

Red Noses International voulenteered to celebrate the International Day of the Child with refugee children at UNHCR›s reception center ©UNHCR/ Radwa Adawy.

On 26 November, UNHCR, in coordination with the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) unit organized a Focus Group Discussion (FGD) session with 20 families who resided in 6 October City. The session aimed to gain a clearer understanding of the challenges residents face, including overall living conditions and security issues.

On 25 November, UNHCR conducted a coordination meeting with KheirWaBaraka, an Egyptian community-based organization. Both UNHCR and KheirWaBaraka presented their activities and agreed to provide refugees with rehabilitation and information and awareness sessions.
On 16 and 20 November, UNHCR collaborated with Red Noses International to deliver three shows at multiple UNHCR facilities, including multi-purpose community centers (MPCCs). 90 refugee participants attended the shows, including refugees with disabilities from diverse nationalities. Between 11-13 November, UNHCR, in collaboration with Red Noses International, organized five shows involving professional clown artists for around 150 refugee children and adults from different nationalities in UNHCR's facilities. The event brought joy and laughter to those in attendance.

On 9 November, UNHCR, in collaboration with TdH, supported the British Council in hosting an event celebrating refugee teachers as part of the English for Empowerment program, alongside UNICEF and Sudan's English Language Development Association (ELDA). Around 60 teachers from diverse nationalities participated in panel discussions and practical workshops on creating safe learning environments and improving English language teaching. The event also provided a platform for teachers to share experiences and challenges, informing future initiatives.

On 8 November, UNHCR partnered with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities and the Ministry of Youth and Sports to host a marathon under the theme "Combating Violence Against Persons with Disabilities." The event brought together around 500 people with disabilities and their caregivers, including refugee children. The program featured inclusive activities and an exhibition showcasing initiatives that promote empowerment, including "We Hear You with Our Eyes," a refugee-led project by individuals with communication disabilities, which presented their handmade products.

On 6 November, UNHCR, in collaboration with TdH, organized a meeting with members of the Community Empowerment Management Committee at the Nasr City community center. The meeting brought together RLO representatives to share updates and discuss plans for strengthening community engagement and support.

Legal and Physical Protection (LPP)

In November, 1792 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 286 refugees.

Prevention and Response to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

On 17 November, UNHCR hosted its annual VAWG Case Management Workshop, bringing together 30 caseworkers from partner organizations. The workshop focused on strengthening coordination and harmonizing survivor-centered approaches. Sessions included a team-building activity facilitated by Red Noses International.

Child Protection

On 20 November, on World Children's Day, UNHCR and its partner organized recreational activities for children. Red Noses International performed a show for around 40 children. Additionally, a new comic book on child protection risks was introduced. The comic also provides guidance for children and caregivers on available support services.

On 5 November, UNHCR delivered an educational session for 6th Grade students, defining refugees and highlighting the challenges they face. The students engaged actively, asking insightful questions and exploring ways to support refugee communities.

Infoline

In November, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline responded to 26,265 inquiries. Additionally, 3,286 individuals fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through the Infoline. Since the crisis began, a total of 607,789 people have successfully been scheduled with appointments using this system.

Education

On 24 November, UNHCR, under its joint program with Vodafone Egypt Foundation, facilitated a series of life-skills activities for students at the Instant Network Schools in Cairo. The activities concluded with a celebration recognizing the students' achievements, where certificates were awarded and outstanding participants received special acknowledgment.

Capacity-building

Between 23-27 November, UNHCR conducted a mission to Alexandria and the North Coast to support implementing partners. Two training sessions were delivered to staff discussing case planning and community-based child protection. The mission also included outreach sessions to discuss activities moving forward.

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, Italy, Japan, MENA, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, UK, and the USA.

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