UNHCR EGYPT
SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE
07 November 2023

Rauth arrived in Egypt after leaving Sudan in 2022. Her children, Carolina and Hanin, stayed in Khartoum with their grandmother. However, after the onset of the conflict in April 2023, the two children fled to Cairo, where they reunited with their mother and their younger sibling. The situation in Sudan prevented them from returning home, so they turned to UNHCR in search of international protection. ©UNHCR/Jaime Gimenez

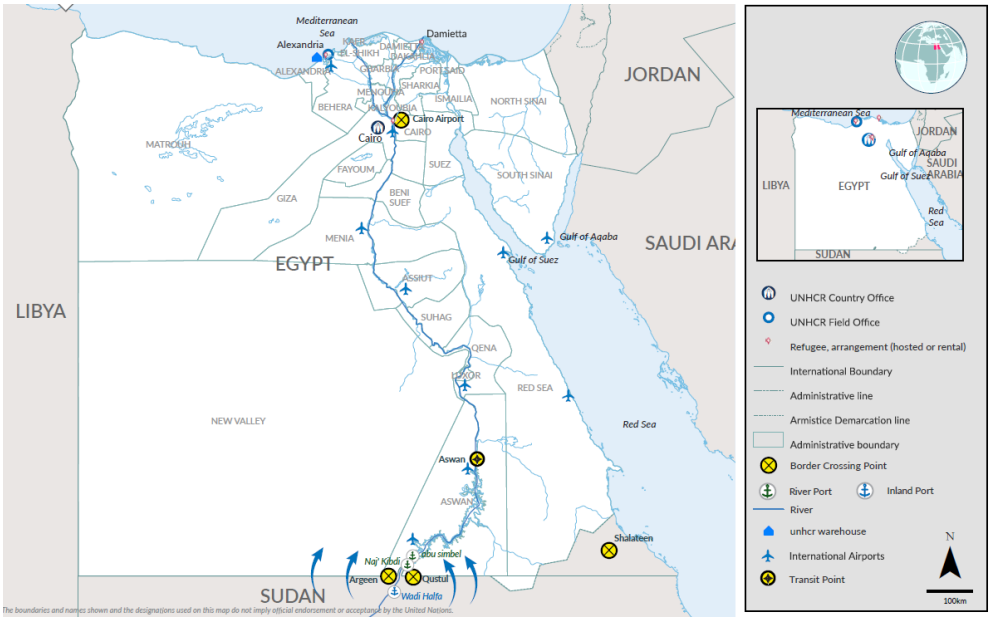
>330,000

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

38% funded

of the $28.2 million required by UNHCR for the Sudan emergency response in Egypt.



LATEST DEVELOPMENTS - HIGHLIGHTS

- 330,000 Sudanese and 8,374 individuals of other nationalities, totaling some 338,374 people, have crossed into Egypt since the start of the Sudan crisis, according to the Government of Egypt. The number of daily entries from Sudan slightly decreased in October to an average of some 338, compared to some 353 in September.
- UNHCR Egypt has so far registered some 90,000 new arrivals from Sudan, 89 per cent Sudanese.
- Amid the increasingly dire humanitarian situation in Gaza, UNHCR continues to mobilize assistance to support UN efforts through the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC). Nonetheless, UNHCR is also providing humanitarian aid to people arriving from Sudan. On 25 and 26 October, UNHCR delivered 104,400 water bottles to the ERC for distribution at the border crossings between Egypt and Sudan.
- Three 'Co-working Spaces' providing high-speed Internet and IT equipment for refugee freelancers who work in the digital economy were inaugurated in Cairo by UNHCR partner Terre des Hommes.

Protection

Community-based protection

Last week, refugee outreach workers at UNHCR's Refugee Reception Center in 6 October City (Greater Cairo) office provided information to more than 3,735 refugees and asylum-seekers on services and assistance. In addition, more than 2,130 individuals also received psycho-social support last week from UNHCR partners.

UNHCR's partner Terre des Hommes (TdH) inaugurated three 'Co-working Spaces' inside the Community Learning Centers in three areas of Cairo. Co-working spaces provide access to high-speed Internet connection and digital devices for refugee freelancers who work in the digital economy. An initial estimate of 225 refugees, including Sudanese, and 75 Egyptians will benefit from these spaces.

Infoline

9,227 inquiries were handled by UNHCR's Infoline last week and registration appointments were given to 4,653 people who have fled Sudan. This brings the overall number of people who received registration appointments through the system to 56,273. Following the merging of the Cairo and Alexandria lines and the hiring of additional agents, the average number of calls per day has increased by 142% compared to pre-crisis levels.

Registration

As of 3 November, UNHCR Egypt had provided pre-registration appointments to 129,427 newly arrived people from Sudan (61,941 households), of whom 89,395 individuals (43,636 households), i.e., 69%, have already been registered. This means that 38% of the 338,000 forcibly displaced people who have arrived from Sudan since mid-April, according to the Government of Egypt, have already approached UNHCR. Most of the registered population 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 73% is on grounds of lacking legal documentation.

Abdallah (79) is a retired Sudanese engineer who fled violence in Khartoum with his daughter Sherin and his grandson Siraj. In August 2023, they approached UNHCR's Reception Centre in Cairo, where they were registered as asylum-seekers. ©UNHCR/Jaime Gimenez. Read more about their story.

Cash assistance

In addition to the some 42,000 vulnerable newly arrived Sudanese who have already been supported with emergency cash assistance, UNHCR Egypt also provides cash support to unaccompanied and separated children (UASC). In September and October, UNHCR supported a total of 3,200 UASC with cash for protection through the Egypt Post Office and Caritas, including 251 new arrivals from Sudan. This assistance helps to meet their essential needs and mitigate resorting to negative coping strategies.

Education

For the new academic year, UNHCR disbursed the first batch of education grants for more than 49,000 children, by August 2023, through the Egypt Post Office. Furthermore, 26,545 additional refugees and asylum-seekers have approached UNHCR partners to register for education grants in 2023.

After the increase in education fees and the possibility that non-Egyptian children may miss the school year, the refugee community has voiced its deep concern to UNHCR. Some families have recently expressed that if the access to education continues to worsen in Egypt, they might consider onward movement to Libya.

Core relief items

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

784,600
Bottles of water

150,000
hygiene kits

80,000
Sanitary items

On 25 and 26 October, 104,400 more water bottles with a total quantity of 62,000 litres were delivered to the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) for distribution at the Argeen and Qustol border crossings between Egypt and Sudan.

Since the start of the conflict in Sudan, UNHCR has installed three Rubb halls at the border crossings, and a fourth in the reception 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 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.

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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