UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Egypt

Sudan Emergency Response Update

10 July 2024

Youmna and Mahmoud, from Sudan, were part of the 500 refugees who enjoyed captivating artistic and musical performances during the World Refugee Day event hosted by UNHCR and Terre des Hommes in Cairo on 27 June. ©UNHCR/Karim Hany

652,000
people forced to flee Sudan to Egypt
have approached UNHCR for registration between 15 April 2023 and 8 July 2024.

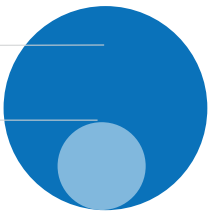
33% funded
of the $134.7 million required by UNHCR to support refugees of all nationalities in Egypt in 2024.

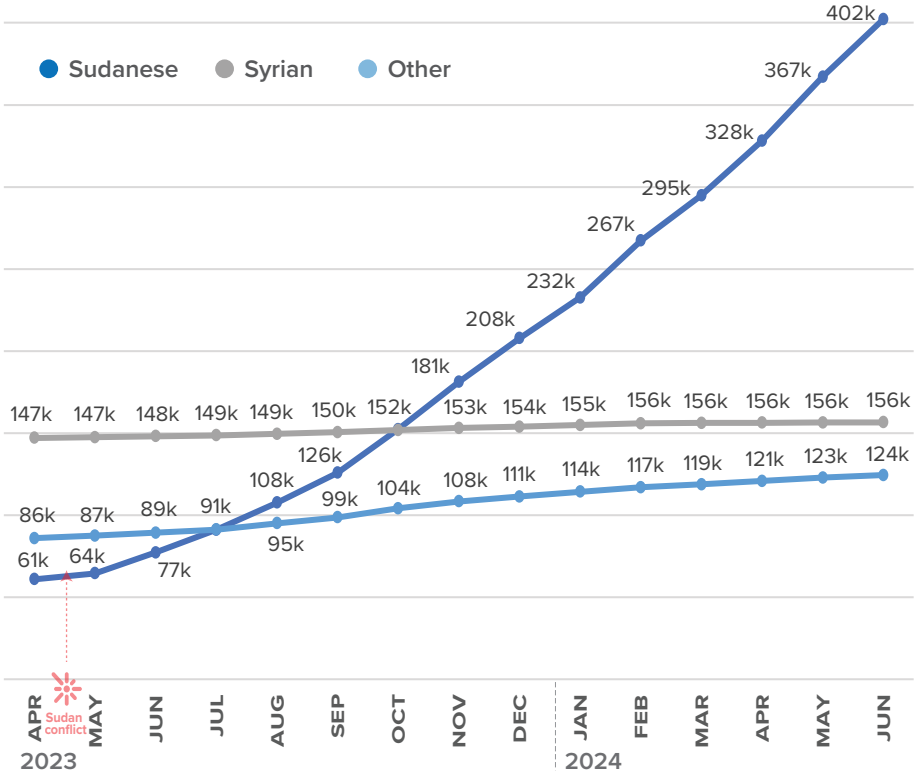
UNHCR respons to continued rising numbers of Sudanese

The number of Sudanese refugees and asylum-seekers fully registered with UNHCR Egypt increased almost seven-fold between the onset of the Sudan conflict and the end of June 2024.

562%
Sudanese Increase

133%
Overall Increase





LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- During his intervention at the Aswan Forum, held in Cairo on 2 and 3 July, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, Raouf Mazou, highlighted the importance of providing development interventions, and for humanitarian agencies to shift the focus of their programmes from dependency to self-reliance. The idea of reinforcing the resilience capacities of populations affected by conflicts and focusing on solutions was also supported by the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, who delivered the opening speech at the forum. The Director General of IOM, Amy Pope, who also participated in the event, affirmed that the long-term approach of the humanitarian peace nexus should also be integrated by agencies responding to crises like Sudan.

- Sudanese factions met in Cairo on 6 July for reconciliation talks for the first time since the conflict began in April 2023. The conference encouraged a national dialogue among Sudanese groups to achieve lasting peace in the country, involving regional and international actors. The final statement included the following main points: 1) call for an immediate end to the war, a permanent ceasefire, and adherence to the Jeddah Declaration; 2) preservation of Sudan as a unified country based on citizenship, equal rights, and a federal democratic civil state; 3) formation of a committee to develop discussions and work towards lasting peace; 4) humanitarian protection and aid are critical, urging the international community to fulfil its commitments.

- UNHCR delivered a workshop for 22 military officers at the Border Guards Forces headquarters in Cairo between 25 and 27 June. The training focused on the importance of referral mechanisms for those seeking international protection. UNHCR also provided a session on international refugee protection to 150 Military Technical School students. The workshops are part of 17 capacity-building activities for MoD officers and students to be given by UNHCR this year.

Protection

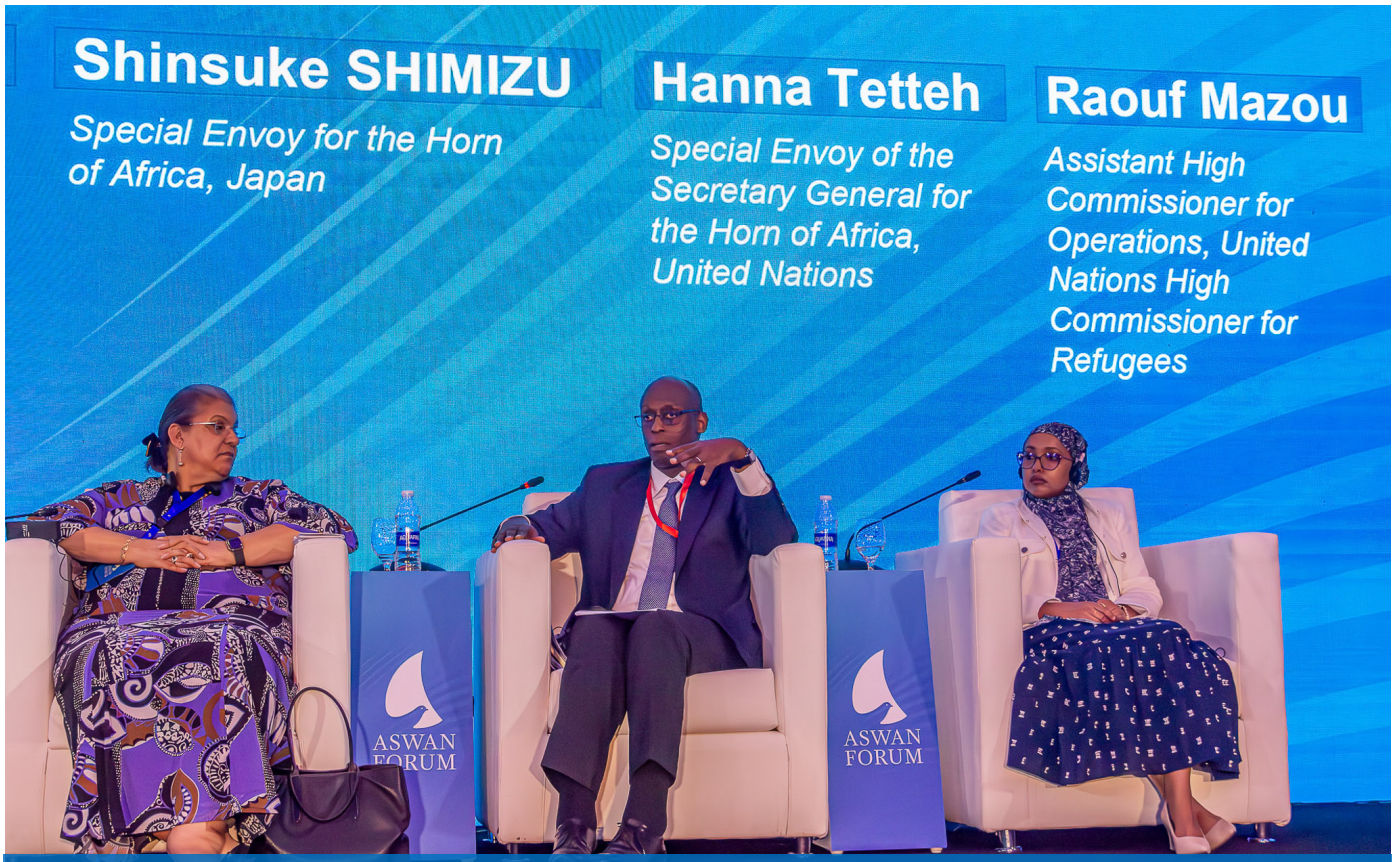
Registration

As of 4 July 2024, UNHCR Egypt provided registration appointments to 647,097 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of those, 334,623 individuals have been registered (52%). 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 (87%). A fifth of those provided with registration appointments have one or more specific needs, including lack of legal documentation, children at risk, people with disabilities, or serious medical conditions.

Between 30 June and 4 July, UNHCR Egypt newly registered 10,300 refugees and asylum-seekers, including 9,500 new arrivals from Sudan, and renewed 1,220 UNHCR documents. Additionally, UNHCR provided some 15,700 registration appointments to individuals forced to flee Sudan. In June, some 38,000 individuals (93% Sudanese) were registered, a 9% decrease compared to May.

Infoline

Over the past two weeks, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline handled some 19,800 inquiries, of which 7,700 new registration appointments were allocated to 21,400 individuals who had fled Sudan. The proportion of callers from Greater Cairo was 83%; 6% for Alexandria; 4% for Aswan and 7% for other cities. Since the start of the conflict to date, 440,000 new arrivals from Sudan, comprising 163,000 households, have received appointments via Infoline.



"At the beginning of every crisis, we need to have development interventions and shift from dependency to self-reliance", said Raouf Mazou, UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, in the Aswan Forum on 2 July. ©UNHCR/Jaime Giménez

Community-based protection

Over the last two weeks, some 9,350 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. During the same period, UNHCR partner Terre des Homme (TdH) provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 4,125 new arrivals, from which 31 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment.

Prevention of gender-based violence

Since the start of the year, UNHCR has completed 12 workshops on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) for its staff in Egypt, including interpreters and security guards. Additionally, UNHCR has provided two training for trainers for partners and UNHCR's PSEA focal points. Furthermore, two PSEA risk assessments were finalized for Cairo and Alexandria, in addition to the one carried out in 2023 for Aswan, with findings informing prioritized activities.

Cash assistance

As of 6 July, 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 37,750. Of them, 4,290 households (19,926 individuals) have received the MPCA.

During the last two weeks, 80 families, 230 individuals, 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.

Funding 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 Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the USA.

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