

Egypt

September 2017

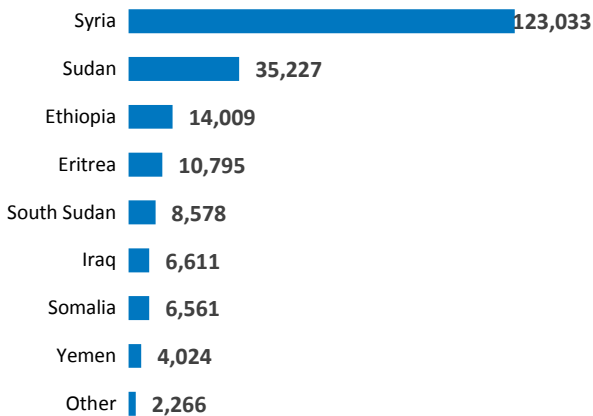
Egypt remains a **destination and transit country** for refugees and asylum-seekers, most of which live in **urban areas**.

Currently, **211,104 refugees and asylum-seekers of 63 different nationalities** are registered with UNHCR Egypt. Over half are from Syria.

UNHCR **registers and documents** refugees and asylum-seekers and **facilitates their access to basic services** such as health and education.

POPULATION OF CONCERN

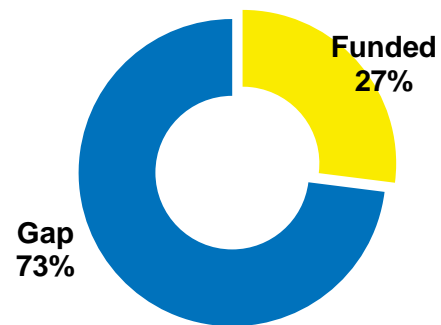
Countries of Origin



FUNDING (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2017)

USD 79.2 M

requested for the Egypt operation



UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

226 national staff

64 international staff

Offices:

3 offices in Greater Cairo
(6th of October City and
Zamalek)

1 field office in Alexandria



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Working with Partners

- UNHCR works closely with the Government of Egypt, and UN and NGO partners to provide protection and assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees.
- The Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) is the main interagency coordination mechanism, overseeing six sectorial working groups gathering representatives from UN agencies and international and national NGOs:
 - Protection, which comprises two sub-working groups: Child Protection and Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence,
 - Health,
 - Education,
 - Basic Needs and Cash-Based Interventions.
 - Livelihoods, and
 - Communication with Communities (CWC).

Main Activities

Protection

- All refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR are documented. The registration process includes collection of biometric information, iris scanning and finger printing, as an anti-fraud mechanism. After registration, refugees must apply for residency to legalize their stay in Egypt, as per the Government of Egypt's regulations.
- UNHCR conducts **Refugee Status Determination** (RSD) for all nationalities but for Syrians nationals, who are considered as refugees. Refugee status determination for Syrians is conducted for the purpose of resettlement. In March, UNHCR Egypt merged registration and RSD interviews into one single interview. The new process currently targets four nationalities, and will gradually be expanded to all nationalities.
- UNHCR and partners provide **special assistance and psychosocial support** to victims of trafficking and survivors of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) and to those who have experienced or witnessed conflict, violence or trauma.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers have **access to legal remedies** and representation through partner lawyers. Refugees arrested for irregular departure by sea are provided with legal and humanitarian assistance and UNHCR intervenes on their behalf with local authorities, to ensure that their refugee claims are assessed.

Education

- UNHCR and its partners support **education in urban settings**, including early childhood education, and primary, preparatory and secondary education. Currently, Sudanese and Syrians can access public education, while other nationalities rely primarily on private and community schools, and home schooling. In the academic year 2017/2018, UNHCR provides education grants to 29,850 students in efforts to support access to education and retention in school. The grant covers school fees, transportation, uniforms and school supplies.
- UNHCR works to facilitate the integration of refugees and asylum-seekers into the national education system in Egypt and supports the Ministry of Education. So far in 2017, 1,800,000 school books for Egyptian and refugee students have been distributed, 670 teachers and social workers trained, and computer labs established in 30 public schools.

Health

- Refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt have **access to public primary, secondary and emergency health care** on par with Egyptian citizens. UNHCR supports the national efforts of improving the quality of services and of meeting the needs of refugees as well as the host population in impacted areas. This entails strengthening the existing national health systems through capacity building and provision of equipment. UNHCR focusses its support on 15 primary public facilities in areas where many refugees live. Complementary to services available in public facilities, UNHCR and partners provide health care for patients with chronic diseases, as well as **psychosocial and mental health support**.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- UNHCR closely works with communities and enhances their capacity for self-management. In the first half of 2017, 115 community mobilizers in Alexandria and Cairo were trained to undertake community-based protection interventions. UNHCR also organizes **outreach meetings, community dialogue, focus group discussions and awareness raising**.
- To protect refugees and prevent them from resorting to negative coping mechanisms, **monthly unconditional cash grants** are provided to an average of 14,500 extremely vulnerable refugee households.
- In order to assist refugees to successfully engage in **sustainable livelihood** activities, UNHCR provides eligible refugees and asylum-seekers with training and coaching, job placements and micro grants for business start-ups. So far in 2017, over 1,900 refugees and asylum-seekers have benefitted from livelihood support.

Durable Solutions

UNHCR Egypt works on increasing and maintaining resettlement opportunities and Humanitarian Admissions Pilot (HAP) program for refugees to the USA, Europe and other countries. In 2016, 7,006 refugees were submitted for resettlement consideration, and 4,035 individuals departed for resettlement, mostly to the USA, Canada and the UK.

External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by the **United States of America, Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada, the European Union** and the **Vodafone Foundation** who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

Special thanks to the major donors of unrestricted and regional funds in 2017

United States of America (95 M) | Sweden (76 M) | Netherlands (52 M) | Norway (41 M) | Priv Donors Spain (35 M) | Japan (25 M) | Denmark (23 M) | Australia (19 M) | Priv Donors Republic of Korea (17 M) | Canada (16 M) | Switzerland (15 M) | France (14 M) | Priv Donors USA (13 M) | Germany (12 M) | Priv Donors Italy (12 M) | Italy (10 M)

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LINKS

Syria Regional Refugee Response: data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php

UNHCR Refugees & Migration Emergency Mediterranean Response:

<http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean>

