

TUNISIA

30 June 2019

Key figures:

2,073

Persons of Concern to UNHCR

783

Newly registered asylum seekers and refugees since Jan 2019 (following profiling)

169

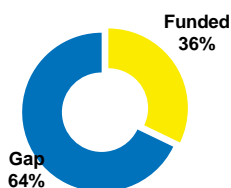
New arrivals in June (land and sea) - mixed populations movements

1,008

New arrivals in 2019 (land and sea) - mixed populations movements

Funding

USD **7.3 M** required for 2019 operations



USD **2.5 M** received as of 09 July 2019

Highlights

During the month of June, 169 new arrivals within mixed population flows were recorded by UNHCR and its partners. Among them, 94 reached Tunisia by land from Libya, while 75 were rescued at sea by tugboat *Maridive 601* and disembarked at Zarzis after almost three weeks at sea. UNHCR's partners provided medical, material and food assistance, while UNHCR stayed ready to receive any asylum-seekers. Most of the rescued individuals opted for repatriation to their country of origin, while 11 persons expressed their intention to seek asylum during profiling. All of the rescued have been assisted and counselled by IOM and UNHCR.

As of 30 June 2019, 2,073 persons of concern were registered with UNHCR Tunisia, an increase of 38 per cent since the beginning of the year (1,290 persons). Of these, 1,064 originate from Syria while the others come mainly from Eritrea, Côte d'Ivoire, Somalia and Sudan.

On 18 June, the Ministry of Social Affairs and UNHCR partner the Arab Institute of Human Rights (IADH) signed a partnership agreement in the presence of UNHCR's Representative in Tunisia. The agreement will enable refugees and asylum seekers in Tunisia access to social services offered by the Ministry, and will aim to enhance the Ministry's capacity in regard to mainstreaming human rights.

On 13 – 14 June, UNHCR and its partner IADH held a training session on international protection of refugees and asylum-seekers in Tunisia.

Participants also included 18 officials from the Supreme Commission for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, the National Authority for the Prevention of Torture, the National Commission for Combating Human Trafficking and the National Commission for the Protection of Personal Data. Capacity building of authorities is a key aspect in the creation and strengthening of the protection space in Tunisia, namely in the absence of a national asylum law, which is pending approval. Between 2016 and 2018, UNHCR and IADH trained more than 1,100 government officials, judges, lawyers, journalists, academics and NGO members.

On 26 June, UNHCR [called](#) for USD 210 million to assist and protect thousands of refugees and others travelling each year through North and Sub-Saharan Africa across the Central and Western Mediterranean routes, many of whom fall prey to traffickers or smugglers and suffer appalling human rights abuses. UNHCR's appeal is for a comprehensive programme of support that prevents people from falling into the hands of smugglers and traffickers in the first place, provides meaningful alternatives to dangerous journeys in first countries of asylum, and offers increased humanitarian assistance and support to survivors of human rights violations and abuses.



UNHCR is grateful for the support of [Italy](#) | [Monaco](#) | [RDPP NA – EU](#) | [Switzerland](#) | [United States of America](#) and to those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and softly earmarked funds