

Egypt

July – September 2018

Egypt is a **destination country** for refugees and asylum-seekers, most of whom live in **urban areas**.

Currently, **237,389 refugees and asylum-seekers of 58 different nationalities** are registered with UNHCR Egypt. More than half of them are from Syria.

22,143 people have **registered** with UNHCR Egypt since the beginning of 2018; 8,056 from July to September.

KEY INDICATORS

13,888

households/cases received multi-purpose cash grants in September 2018

3,929

unaccompanied and separated children are currently registered with UNHCR Egypt

1,161

refugees departed to resettlement countries in 2018

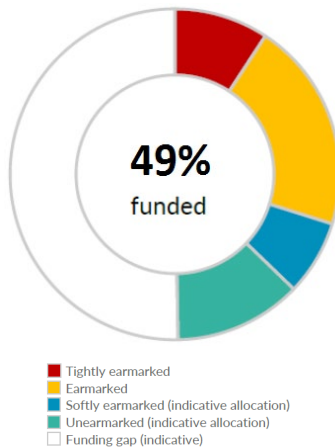


© UNHCR Egypt / Asmaa Waguih

FUNDING (AS OF SEPTEMBER 2018)

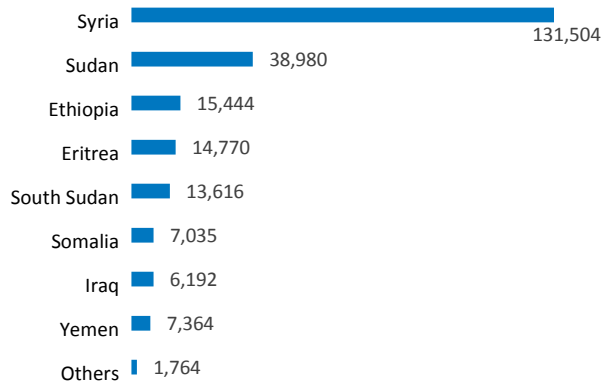
USD 74.5 M

requested for the Egypt operation



POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



**PROTECTION**

- During the period July – September, UNHCR Egypt responded to **61,075** phone calls from refugees and asylum-seekers. In addition, some **16,404** individuals were processed through the UNHCR main building reception, and some **200** protection related interventions were undertaken, including provision of extensive counselling, protection interviews, protection-based support and relocation-related partner referrals.
- During July and August, 249 Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) incidents were reported to UNHCR and CARE International in Cairo and Alexandria (168 women, 56 girls, 13 men and 12 boys). A wide range of **SGBV prevention activities** were conducted by UNHCR's partner CARE in Cairo, reaching 724 refugees and asylum-seekers during the reporting period. This included awareness sessions on early marriage, legal issues, and reproductive health as well as basic psychosocial sessions. The sessions were coupled with gender training for children and SGBV trainings for volunteers, in addition to other recreational and income generating activities held at the 'Women Friendly Space'.
- The Best Interests Procedures (BIP) remains an integral part of UNHCR child protection (CP) programming. During the reporting period, child-sensitive procedures were further strengthened. A one-day event held for UASC in Cairo and facilitated by UNHCR CP Partner Caritas fostered community resilience among UASC, caregivers and the wider community.
- During the reporting period, no irregular migration attempts via sea were reported. Meanwhile, 188 foreign nationals were arrested on the Libyan border for attempting to irregularly leave the country; 57 were found to be registered with UNHCR. The registered detainees were released after the verification of their status with UNHCR.

**EDUCATION**

- As part of UNHCR Capacity Building Programme for public schools and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education (MoE), the first installation phase of the 720 smart classrooms project has been implemented where the cabling system has been setup in the targeted public schools, with high concentration of refugee students. The project targets preparatory schools and contributes to the reform of the education included in the “Sustainable Development Strategy: Egypt Vision 2030” of the GoE.



Refugee boys during a class in a community school in Cairo
©UNHCR/Scott Nelson

- Yemeni children have been granted access to the national education system on equal footing as Egyptians. This is an encouraging development as now Syrians, Sudanese, and South Sudanese and Yemenis have access to the more sustainable public school system. UNHCR is extremely grateful to the Ministry of Education and hopes that access to national public education will soon be extended to all other refugee children.
- UNHCR, in coordination with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), is implementing the “Sehha Wi Salama” (Health and Safety) project in order to maximize protection space for children in public schools. The project includes parent and teacher trainings on first aid, hygiene, no violence/positive discipline approach, and psychosocial sessions. This quarter, a total of **135** parents and **615** teachers received the health and safety trainings in three governorates: Cairo, Giza, and Damietta.
- UNHCR celebrated the **graduation of 29** youth students, who have attended and participated in the first round of the Technical and Vocational Educational Training (TVET’s).



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- UNHCR and its partners met more than 800 refugees, half of whom are new arrivals, through outreach meetings to the various communities in Greater Cairo. An awareness campaign is underway to advise refugee youth on staying safe, coping with the challenges of growing up in displacement, and finding livelihoods and education opportunities to help build better futures for themselves.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with the UN Inter-Agency Task Force for Youth and the Egyptian Ministry of Youth and Sports, organized a four-day youth camp in Alexandria for over 150 youth participants, 20 of whom were refugee youth nominated by UNHCR. The four-day workshop introduced participants to the new UN Partnership Development Framework's with several sessions being held to acquaint youth with the issues and challenges underlying the Framework's four pillars of social justice, inclusive development, women's empowerment, and environmental sustainability.
- Three area-based celebrations of International Youth Day were organized in the month of August with the participation of over 1,100 refugees and host community members. In addition, refugee youth from different nationalities took part in a five – day camp on becoming peer educators and promoting positive development practices with their communities.



A youth band playing modern remixes of traditional songs at one of the 2018 International Youth Day events.

- Ten social support group sessions were organized as part of UNHCR's community-based support to persons with disability and older persons. The sessions offered participants an opportunity to break out of their isolation, exchange experiences, and relieve some of the psychological stress of living in displacement with compound vulnerabilities. Following the success of the first few sessions, refugee community groups began replicating the support group model to further expand its reach to other persons in need.



A refugee-initiated support group for older persons living in the distant outskirts of Greater Cairo.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- As of end of September 2018, UNHCR Egypt submitted a total of 2,504 refugees to third countries for resettlement consideration and 1,161 refugees departed for resettlement countries (Australia, Canada, Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the USA). Currently, the UK is the largest resettlement country processing refugees for resettlement from Egypt, followed by Canada, Sweden, The Netherlands, Portugal and other countries.

**HEALTH**

- UNHCR's partner for the primary healthcare mainstreaming project, Save the Children (SCI), finalized the assessment of the public primary healthcare facilities that are to be supported by UNHCR to receive refugees from all nationalities. According to the results of this assessment, some of the previously selected facilities in which some services were unavailable were excluded and 15 public health care facilities (PHC) in refugee-dense areas were selected.



Egyptian doctor checks the blood pressure of an Eritrean refugee woman @UNHCR/Scott Nelson

- Within the same project, SCI conducted **sensitization training on refugee issues** to **433** Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) staff from **14 PHC** units in Greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta. SCI also contributed to build the capacity of **212 MoHP doctors, nurses and statisticians** by conducting workshops on **primary healthcare packages** and **health information system and data collection**. This comes as part of a comprehensive training plan that has been developed by SCI in collaboration with MoHP.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR works closely with the Government of Egypt, UN and NGO partners to provide protection and assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees.
- The Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG), chaired by UNHCR, is the main interagency coordination mechanism, overseeing six sectorial working groups gathering representatives from UN agencies, as well as international and national NGOs. The protection sector includes three sub-working groups which consists of Child Protection, Response to SGBV and Durable Solutions. The other working groups are for Education, Health, Cash for Basic Needs, Livelihoods, and Communication with Communities.

Event highlights

UNHCR Egypt and the Bibliotheca Alexandrina signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 4 September to renew their cooperation. The event was attended by government officials, representatives of the diplomatic community, donor countries, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, Egyptian civil society, media professionals, and the private sector.



*Mr. Karim Atassi and Dr. Mostafa El Fekki signing the MOU.
©UNHCR/Christine Beshay*

UNHCR Egypt was present in El-Gouna Film Festival on 24 September to discuss how refugee voices can be amplified through film. Egyptian athlete Omar Samra shed light on "Beyond the Raging Sea" - a film that tells the story of Omar Nour's and Samra's perilous Atlantic crossing attempt and struggle for survival, and how their journey, in a way, resembled the fight of some of the 66 million forcibly displaced individuals worldwide who set off on similar crossings in a desperate in order to find safe refuge.

UNHCR participated in the 18th Arab Conference of Heads of Immigration, Passports and Nationality Agencies, which was held in Tunisia, and in the 22nd Session of the Arab Childhood Committee held in Morocco.

UNHCR Egypt Representative Mr. Karim Atassi inaugurated an exhibition of products by refugee artisans at UNHCR Egypt's premises titled "All that is mine, I carry with me". The pieces on display were made by refugees and asylum-seekers of different nationalities residing across Cairo. The exhibition is designed to be a touring exhibition with a first stop in Old Cairo at Darb 1718.



*UNHCR staff member checking out the refugee products
©UNHCR/Yasmine ElDemerdash*

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to **US\$ 36.8 million** in 2018.

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

Thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions | USD

Germany 50.1 million | Private donors Australia 9.9 million | Private donors Germany 6.4 million | Denmark 5.7 million | United States of America 4.8 million | Sweden 4.4 million | Finland 4.3 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 3.6 million | Private donors Switzerland 3.3 million | Norway 3.2 million | Holy See | Iceland | Liechtenstein | Malta | Romania | Private donors

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions | USD

Sweden 98.2 million | Private donors Spain 58.7 million | United Kingdom 45.3 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 28.5 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Switzerland 15.8 million | Private donors Italy 15.1 million | Private donors Japan 14.6 million | France 14 million | Germany 13.7 million | Italy 11.2 million | Private donors Sweden 11.2 million

Algeria | Argentina | Austria | Belgium | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Bulgaria | Canada | Chile | China | Costa Rica | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | India | Indonesia | Ireland | Israel | Kuwait | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Philippines | Portugal | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Russian Federation | Saudi Arabia | Serbia | Singapore | Slovakia | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | United Arab Emirates | Uruguay | Private donors

CONTACTS

UNHCR Egypt Public Information and External Relations Unit

arecapi@unhcr.org, Tel: +20 1275588548

Maura Morandi, Reporting Officer, UNHCR Egypt

morandi@unhcr.org, Tel: +20 227285600 ext: 2141

LINKS

Syria Regional Refugee Response: data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/syria

UNHCR Refugees & Migration Emergency Mediterranean Response:

data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean

