

Egypt

May – June 2018

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

Currently, **230,340 refugees and asylum-seekers of 58 different nationalities** are registered with UNHCR Egypt. More than half of them are from Syria.

14,059 people have **registered** with UNHCR Egypt since the beginning of 2018; 4,324 registered in May and June.

KEY INDICATORS

15,172

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

3,836

unaccompanied and separated children are currently registered with UNHCR Egypt

962

refugees departed to resettlement countries in 2018

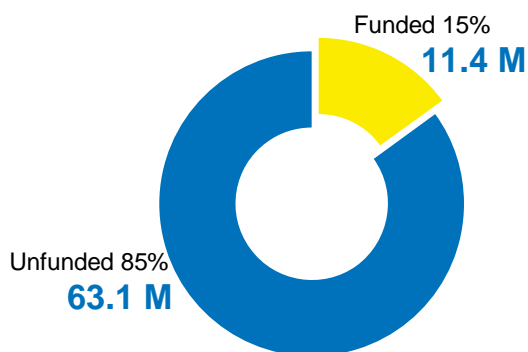


© UNHCR Egypt / Asmaa Waguih

FUNDING (AS OF JUNE 2018)

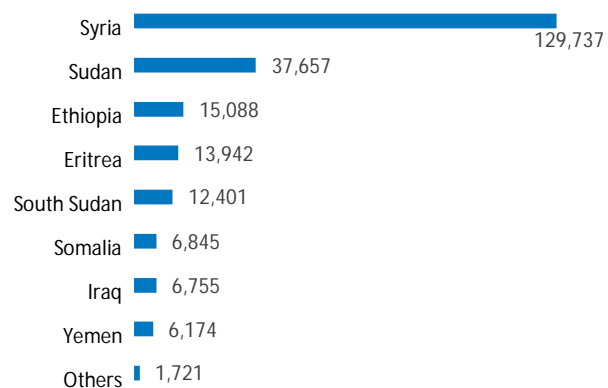
USD 74.5 M

requested for the Egypt operation



POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



Updates

On 20 June of every year, UNHCR and refugees around the world celebrate the World Refugee Day (WRD). The WRD is a chance to recognise and honour the diversity, uniqueness and resilience of refugee communities. This year, UNHCR Egypt organized a series of events in Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta in order to mark this day.

In Cairo, two events were organized. On 23 June, UNHCR partner Terre des Hommes organised a fun day for refugee and asylum-seeker families featuring music and cultural performances, traditional food and a bazaar.

On 28 June, another WRD celebration was organized by UNHCR partner Save the Children and included a photo exhibition by award-winning photographer Heba Khamis accompanied by music performances.

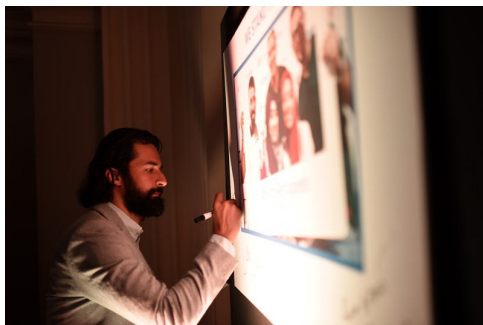
In Alexandria, on 20 June the General Consulate of Spain hosted an art exhibition organized by Caritas Egypt and UNHCR. The displayed paintings were inspired by the example, courage, and resilience of persons forced to flee their homes. The exhibition was an occasion to stand #WithRefugees (a worldwide UNHCR campaign and petition) as they strive to rebuild their lives together with their host communities. The event was attended by local representatives of the Ministry of Social Affairs of Egypt.



A Syrian refugee participating in the exhibition in Alexandria. © UNHCR Egypt/ Nora Ibrahim

On 21 June, two events took place in Damietta. The first one was held at the Damietta Community Centre where handmade products by refugees and asylum-seekers who participated in the income generation activities were displayed. The Engineers Club of New Damietta hosted the second event that included a karate performance by children, a “Refugees Got Talent” competition, and interactive awareness sessions.

On 23 June, Caritas Egypt screened the documentary film “The Gate” – a short documentary that highlights success stories of refugees who took part in the various community-based protection activities supported by UNHCR. The celebration included sharing of stories by refugees, folklore performance, and poetry recital. An art exhibition and display of handmade products by refugees were also organized.

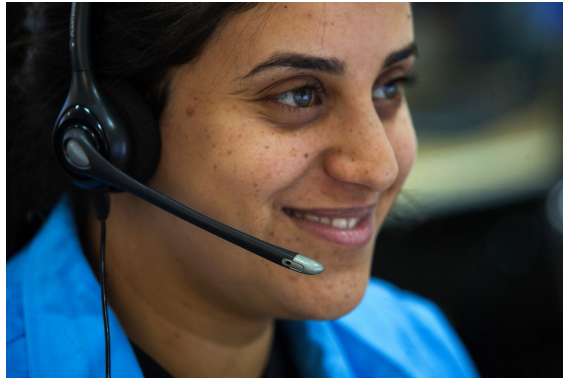


Egyptian actor Ahmed Hatem expresses his support for refugees by signing the #WithRefugees poster at the 2018 WRD reception at the British Embassy in Cairo © UNHCR Egypt

On 9 July UNHCR and the British Embassy in Cairo co-hosted a reception to mark the WRD with Egyptian government officials, the diplomatic community, the League of the Arab States, non-governmental organizations, Egyptian civil society and media. A photo exhibition titled “Then and Now – Refugee Voices in Egypt” also ran throughout the event to shed light on UNHCR’s work in Egypt, the government’s generosity and Egyptian’s society hospitality toward refugees and asylum-seekers over the past six decades.


PROTECTION

- In May and June, call attendants of UNHCR Egypt's in-house infoline answered a total of 29,489 phone calls.
- UNHCR Office in Alexandria registered 324 individuals, among them 169 Syrians had entered Egypt irregularly through Sudan. During two mobile registration missions to Damietta and Matrouh governorates, UNHCR Alexandria carried out 25 new registrations and 597 document renewals.
- During May and June, 263 SGBV incidents were reported to UNHCR and UNHCR Partner CARE International in Cairo and Alexandria, with survivors being predominantly women and girls. Access to multi-sectorial response services including safety, medical, psychosocial, livelihoods and legal services and case management have been continuously ensured for identified SGBV survivors. A set of SGBV prevention activities were conducted by UNHCR's partner CARE, reaching out 607 refugees and asylum-seekers. Activities included awareness sessions on early marriage, legal issues, reproductive health and basic psychosocial sessions. Training on gender and SGBV was provided to support staff.
- Under the leadership of the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM, the members of the Children on the Move Taskforce – UNHCR, UNICEF and IOM – convened to support the Government of Egypt in fostering an inclusive, responsive and coordinated protection and assistance response for all children on the move in order to create an inclusive and holistic framework for child protection in Egypt. With Taskforce members covering different mandates, coordinated efforts have been made to advocate for concrete solutions and to strengthen NCCM's role as legal guardian. Annexes to the National Child Protection SOPs are being developed to address the specific situation of children on the move taking into account their status: refugees and asylum seekers, migrants and Egyptian children on the move. NCCM expressed interest in attending the monthly held CPSWG on a more regular basis.
- UNHCR continues to lead the comprehensive and coordinated review of existing case management capacities for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) for each organization under the Child Protection Sub Working Group (CPSWG), chaired by UNHCR together with UNICEF. Moreover, UNHCR continues to ensure that children receive appropriate support based on their needs in a timely manner, and to identify and address risks of duplication and gaps in services. A capacity building taskforce under the CPSWG in Alexandria convened to agree on training modules to be held in 2018/2019. With the systematic distribution of service leaflets for unregistered UAC by UNHCR and all CP actors, CPSWG members reported a significantly reduced number of unregistered UAC approaching their services. This is a direct result of the coordinated efforts initiated by the inter-agency UASC Taskforce chaired by UNHCR. Efforts in the Northern Coast are underway to strengthen the collaboration with Child Protection Committees in targeted Governorates.



UNHCR infoline call attendant responds to refugee inquiries. ©UNHCR Egypt/ Scott Nelson

**EDUCATION**

- UNHCR continues its advocacy efforts with the Ministry of Education on granting access to the national education system, on equal footing as nationals, to all refugees, regardless of their nationality, ethnicity, and/or background. A bridging programme was developed by UNHCR and its partner, the Catholic Relief Service (CRS), to assist interested Sudanese and South Sudanese students (who already have the right to enrol in public education) to transfer from community schools to public schools, if they choose to do so. The programme is designed to focus on preparing students for the placement exam in public schools.
- In June, UNHCR launched the registration for educational grants for refugee students. By the end of the same month, a total of 3,506 students (1,716 girls and 1,790 boys) had already applied to receive educational assistance to enrol in public, private, or community schools. In addition, 57 UASCs (29 girls and 28 boys) have received their education grant. During the registration process, counselling was provided to 64 heads of households on issues relating to the grant process, school options and protection mechanisms within schools.
- UNHCR with CRS announced the annual Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programme for UASCs and students who dropped out from school. 40 trainees have been selected to attend courses on sewing, culinary arts, and general technical maintenance.
- UNHCR continues to support refugees and asylum-seekers to access tertiary education in Egypt, including 348 students (184 females and 164 males) who receive scholarships from the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI).



Refugee girl during a gymnastics class in a community school Cairo ©UNHCR Egypt/ Scott Nelson



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE

- In May-June, UNHCR partner for community empowerment, Terre des Hommes (TDH), organized a variety of sports activities, including football matches and table tennis tournaments that involved more than 300 young refugees and contributed to foster co-existence among different communities. Moreover, participants took part in sessions aimed at raising their awareness about various subjects, including consequences of substance abuse, leading healthy lifestyles, etc.



A group photo marking the end of a tournament
 ©Terre des Hommes Egypt

- With the support of Terre des Hommes, refugees from the South Sudanese Shiluk tribe in Maadi organized a joint *Iftar* (banquette during the Ramadam period) as part of their campaign “Know your neighbour.” The *Iftar* was attended by 38 refugees of different nationalities. The participants expressed appreciation for the initiative and the wish to replicate the social gathering in other areas of Cairo over the coming months.
- A social event was organized by CARITAS for African refugees with disability. Approximately 200 persons participated. The programme featured the screening of an inspirational video entitled “Yes I can” starring a person with disability, and a workshop led by inclusion specialists on how persons with disabilities can help each other to cope with the challenges they experience every day. The event also included various entertainment activities for children with disabilities, including face-painting, origami workshop, etc.



A group of refugees enjoying their company after having shared food
 ©Terre des Hommes Egypt

- Since the beginning of 2018, 227 refugees and persons from host communities were trained to support their livelihood. Topics of the trainings included development of soft skills (communication, time-management, CV writing, etc.); business management; various vocational training (sewing, hairdressing, embroidery, mechanic, etc.).

**HEALTH**

- UNHCR is exploring with the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) the possibility to include refugees under the new national social and health insurance system. The new assistance scheme will be rolled out in Port Said Governorate in September 2018. UNHCR Senior Public Health Officer based in Geneva visited Egypt in order to share examples of inclusion's modalities for refugees into national insurance systems implemented in other countries.
- In June, the Cabinet of Ministers of Egypt officially approved UNHCR's request of donation of medical equipment to the MoHP. UNHCR is now working with the Ministry for the identification of the hospitals that will receive the in-kind donation.



A refugee boy playfully explores the scale at one of Refugee Egypt clinics. ©UNHCR Egypt/Scott Nelson

**DURABLE SOLUTION**

As of end of June 2018, UNHCR Egypt submitted a total of 1,584 refugees to third countries for resettlement consideration and 962 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.

Working in partnership

- UNHCR works closely with the Government of Egypt and its UN and NGO partners to provide protection and assistance to asylum-seekers and refugees. The Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) led by UNHCR is the main coordination mechanism for the refugee response and oversees six sectorial working groups: Communication with Communities, Protection, Health, Education, Livelihoods, and Basic Needs and Cash-Based Interventions. The Protection Working Group has two sub-working groups which focus on Child Protection and response to SGBV.
- In 2018, UNHCR Egypt works through the following partners: All Saints' Cathedral • Arab Council Supporting Fair Trial & Human Rights (ACSFT) • CARE International • Caritas Egypt • Catholic Relief Services (CRS) • Mostafa Mahmoud Society • Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR) • Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) • Plan International • Save the Children International (SCI) • Terre des Hommes (TdH) • United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) • United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to **US\$ 11.4 million** in 2018, including **US\$ 6.3 million** for the Syria situation.

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by **the United States of America, 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.



Eritrean refugee girls sell their ethnic food at a UNHCR event in June. © UNHCR Egypt/Yasmine El Demerdash.

Thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions | USD

Germany 45.4 million | Private donors Australia 6.3 million | Denmark 5.7 million | Sweden 4.4 million | Finland 4.3 million | Private donors Germany 3.9 million | Norway 3.2 million | Private donors Switzerland 2.8 million | Private donors Republic of Korea 2 million

Iceland | Italy | Romania | United States of America | Private donors

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions | USD

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LINKS

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

UNHCR Refugees & Migration Emergency Mediterranean Response:

data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean

