

Egypt

October – December 2018

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

As of 31 December 2018, **244,910 refugees and asylum-seekers of 58 different nationalities** were registered with UNHCR Egypt. More than half of them were from Syria.

30,902 people have **registered** with UNHCR Egypt in 2018; 8,732 from October to December.

KEY INDICATORS

13,424

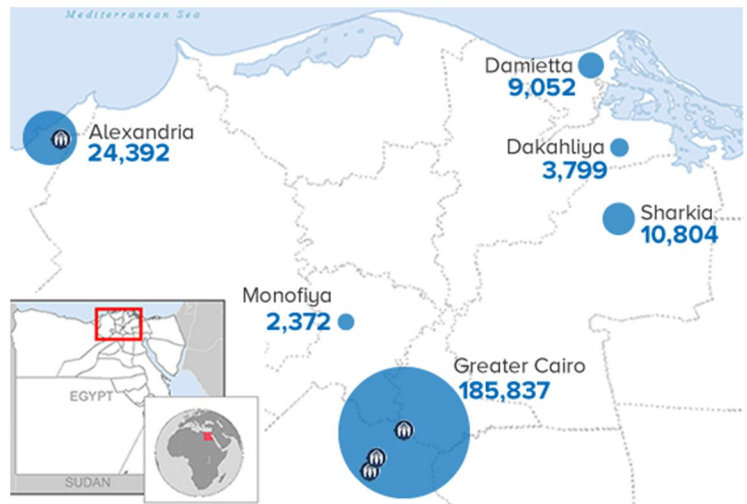
households/cases received multi-purpose cash grants in December 2018

4,176

unaccompanied and separated children were registered with UNHCR Egypt as of end of 2018

1,757

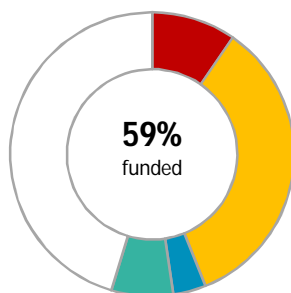
refugees departed to resettlement countries in 2018



FUNDING (AS OF 8 JANUARY 2019)

USD 74.5 M

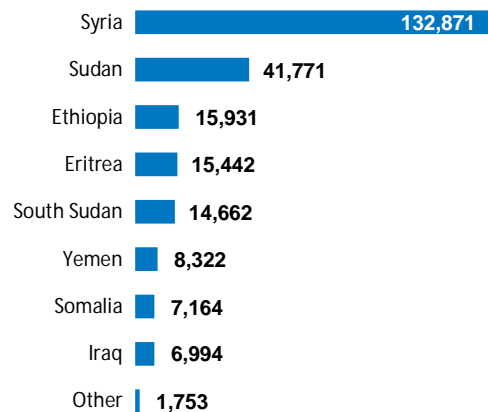
requested for the Egypt operation in 2018



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

POPULATION OF CONCERN

Countries of Origin



Highlights

- For the sixth year in a row, UNHCR, in collaboration with Alex marathon, organised a six-kilometer marathon in the context of the *16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence* campaign in Alexandria. Around 500 runners of all ages turned up to the Friday run to support the cause and raise awareness on the issue. Egyptians together with Syrian and South Sudanese refugees ran side by side along the Alexandria corniche.



Early morning, women of all ages getting ready for the 6KM marathon on the occasion of 16 Days of Activism.

- UNHCR Egypt Representative Karim Atassi attended the closing ceremony for the “Creative Refugees” initiative organised by Refuge Egypt and the Nile Valley Association. During the ceremony, Mr. Atassi presented outstanding artists with certificates of appreciation for their work. “It is our duty to highlight the talents of refugees and asylum-seekers and UNHCR is happy to cooperate with organizations in the field of art to enhance their skills,” he said. The event was attended by Ambassador Dina El Sehy, Deputy Assistant Foreign Minister, and Ambassador Mohamed Abdelghaffar.
- UNHCR, in collaboration with the community empowerment partner Terre des Hommes Egypt, hosted a football tournament for refugee youth from eight different nationalities alongside Egyptian youth to build upon shared interests and foster harmonious coexistence.

PROTECTION

- During the period October–December 2018, UNHCR Egypt responded to **53,020 phone calls** from refugees and asylum-seekers. In addition, **19,058 individuals were processed through UNHCR reception centres**, and some **240 protection related interventions were undertaken**, including provision of extensive counselling, protection interviews, protection-based support, relocation and housing.
- From October to December, **334 Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) incidents were reported** to UNHCR and CARE International in Cairo and Alexandria [238 women, 54 girls, 20 men and 22 boys], bringing the total number of SGBV incidents reported during 2018 to **1,520**. Additionally, a wide range of SGBV prevention activities were conducted in Cairo by UNHCR’s partner CARE, reaching **740** refugees and asylum-seekers during the reporting period (a total of **3,682** refugees in 2018). These activities included basic psychosocial counselling, trainings for

volunteers on prevention and response to SGBV, in addition to other recreational and income generating activities held at the “Women Friendly Space”.

- On the occasion of the campaign for *16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence*, UNHCR conducted a series of activities aimed at raising awareness on Gender-Based Violence with the theme “The world of work”. The Campaign’s closing ceremony involved different performances carried out by refugee artists. A total of **277** individuals from various nationalities attended the event and received food kits, including **150** women and girls who received personal hygiene kits. UNHCR participated in UNFPA’s event during which UNHCR distributed a total of 388 personal hygiene kits to refugee women.
- Between October and December 2018, **466 unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) were newly registered** with UNHCR. By the end of December, UNHCR had registered a total of 4,176 UASC. 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. **Community-based child protection mechanisms involving community members were enhanced** with targeted outreach in Cairo and the Northern Coast addressing early identification for cases of violence, exploitation and child marriage. CP coordination mechanisms were boosted through monthly inter-agency case meetings.
- During the reporting period, no irregular migration attempts via sea was reported. Meanwhile, **146** foreign nationals were arrested on the Libyan border for attempting to irregularly migrate 26 of whom were found to be registered with UNHCR. The registered detainees were released after verification of their status with UNHCR by the authorities.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- In total, **3,286 refugees were submitted for resettlement** to eleven different countries in 2018. A total of **1,988 refugees departed for resettlement** to Australia, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. These included refugees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria and others.

In 2018 the UK was the largest resettlement country, receiving 1,291 submissions and departing 755 persons. Other countries receiving large submissions of refugees from Egypt were Canada (747), Sweden (354), Portugal (309), USA (204), Netherlands (196), and Australia (116).

**EDUCATION**

- During the reporting period, UNHCR has registered and delivered the second installment of the education grant to 40,138 refugee students. In addition, 4,584 newcomers received both installments concurrently. The number of Unaccompanied and Separated Children (UASC) assisted with this grant and enrolled in schools reached just over 1,800 students, in addition to approximately 300 children with special needs enrolled in schools with the most suitable model of education and care to meet their specific needs.



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

- In addition to education grants, 348 refugee youth continued to benefit from DAFI scholarships provided by the Federal Government of Germany. Four students are currently receiving scholarships from the Government of Japan to study at the Egyptian Japanese University of Science and Technology in Alexandria.

**COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND SELF RELIANCE**

- The Multi-Functional Team outreach meetings engaged **448** refugees through 18 outreach meetings to improve understanding of their protection concerns, coping mechanisms, and proposed solutions for the attainment of better protection outcomes. In response to identified needs, **147 awareness sessions were organized by refugee workers** with the **participation of more than 2,800 refugees** to disseminate information about services provided by UNHCR and its partners.
- One hundred persons attended a performance by a refugee youth theatre group on the mutually enriching joint experiences of refugees and host communities. In a separate venue, 140 community focal persons and community school teachers and headmasters completed training on conflict management and mediation to bolster their role as advocates for the peaceful resolution of disputes.
- UNHCR delivered technical and material assistance to **43** refugee community groups to reinforce their capacities for the delivery of community-based protection interventions that cater to their respective

community's prioritized needs. Examples of the activities include sports and recreation for youth, language instruction for non-Arabic speakers, psychosocial support for older persons and single parents, and cultural events aimed at reviving traditions among persons in situations of displacement.

- A one-day workshop was organized for 20 staff members of six partner organizations involved in the provision of care and support to persons with disabilities and elderly persons. The workshop contributed towards strengthening knowledge and practices for the identification, profiling, and response to persons with specific needs. An agreement was also reached at the workshop to harmonize inter-agency referral mechanisms and to convene regular case conferences to enhance access and support to extremely vulnerable individuals.



Bridging divides: A team of Syrian, Iraqi, and Yemeni refugee youth volunteer their time to teach Arabic to refugees from the Horn of Africa region.

- A celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities was organized on 7 December 2018 with the participation of more than 340 persons with disabilities. The day's program included a variety of awareness sessions on countering bullying and discrimination, promoting activities that encourage self-acceptance, musical performances, arts and handicrafts workshops, as well as sports. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) joined the event to support tracing and reconnect attendees with family members from whom they were separated during flight.


HEALTH

- Some **12,316 primary health care consultations were conducted** by UNHCR partners, including 11,939 consultations for non-communicable chronic diseases. A total of **1,175 referrals for secondary and tertiary health care** took place, including for life-threatening emergencies and complex, long-term medical conditions such as cancer and renal failure. Furthermore, 269 antenatal care consultations were



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

conducted, where 38 women with complicated pregnancies were attended to by UNHCR partners, and an additional 32 deliveries were financially supported.

In 2018, UNHCR started a new project with Save the Children (SCI) supporting the Ministry of Population and Health's strategy to pilot the integration of non-communicable chronic diseases and mental health into selected family facilities in 2019, with the objective of ultimately phasing out by 2020. The project aims to enhance access to these facilities through community mobilization activities within the refugee population. In its effort to strengthen the national health system, UNHCR and its partner SCI supported 16 national primary healthcare facilities in 2018.

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.

Financial Information

Total recorded contributions for the operation amount to **US\$ 43.9 million** in 2018.

UNHCR is grateful to major donors of un-earmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as donors who have contributed directly to UNHCR Egypt in 2018:

Austria | Canada | Denmark | European Union, Finland | France | Germany | Italy | Regional Development and Protection Programme North Africa | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | UN Children Fund | United Kingdom | United States of America | Sweden | Switzerland | Private Donors

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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

