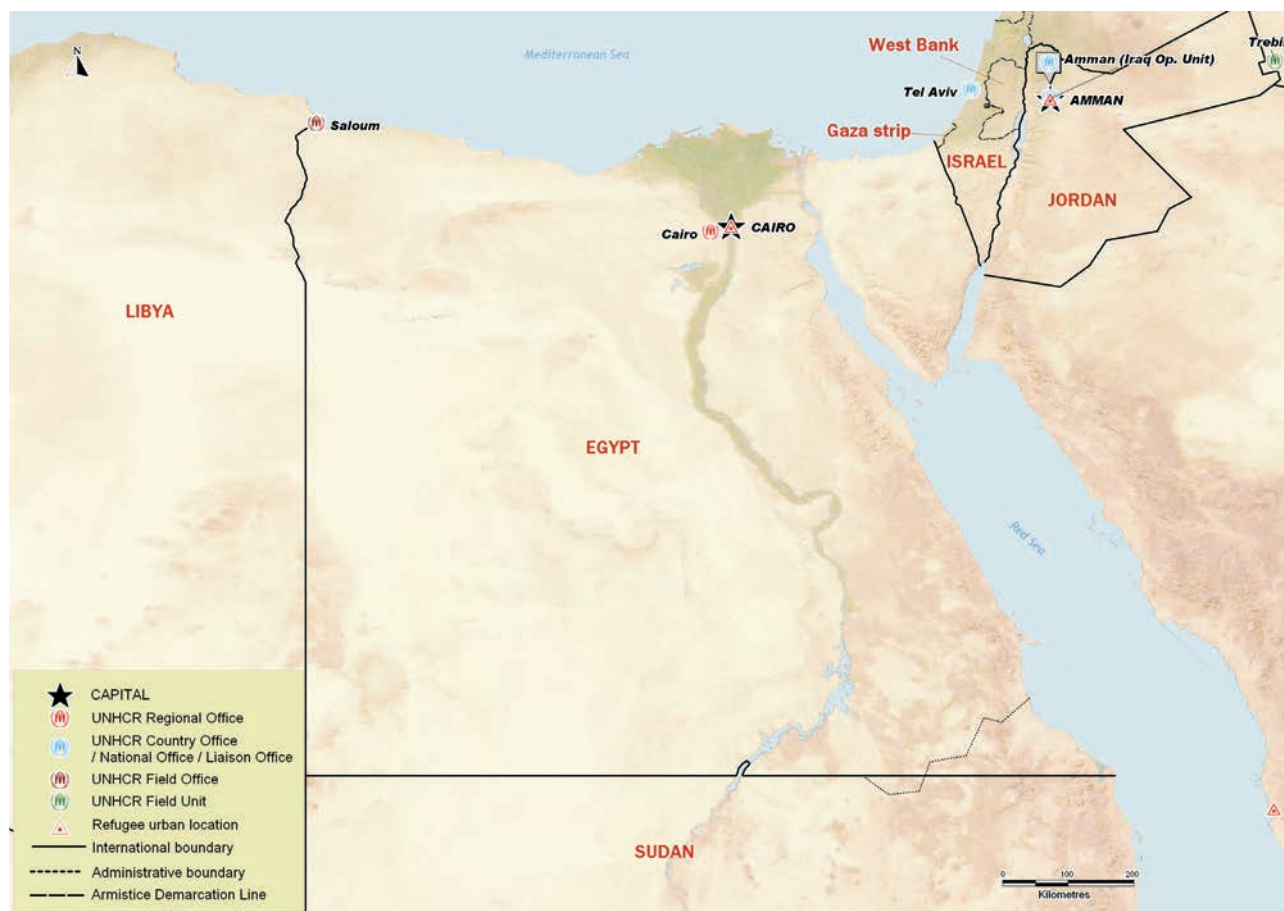


EGYPT



Operational highlights

- UNHCR registered people of concern who approached the Office in Cairo and determined their international protection needs through refugee status determination (RSD) or, where appropriate, on a *prima facie* basis. Refugees and asylum-seekers were issued with UNHCR documents that made them eligible to apply for six-month renewable residence permits from the Government.

- People of concern were assisted by UNHCR to gain access to basic social services, such as education and health care. Financial support was provided to the most destitute refugees and those with specific needs.
- UNHCR helped individuals of some nationalities to repatriate voluntarily. The Office also sought to make people of concern increasingly self-reliant by providing them with vocational training.

Persons of concern

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
Refugees	Occupied Palestinian Territory ¹	70,000	30	47	59
	Sudan	10,300	10,300	39	32
	Somalia	6,300	6,300	51	24
	Iraq	6,000	6,000	51	34
	Eritrea	1,000	1,000	51	16
	Ethiopia	600	600	59	13
	Various	700	700	37	22
Asylum-seekers	Sudan	14,400	-	40	35
	Iraq	1,400	-	45	33
	Eritrea	900	-	68	19
	Somalia	800	-	57	32
	Ethiopia	800	-	79	8
	Côte d'Ivoire	110	-	17	6
	Various	460	-	37	26
Stateless	Various	60	60	77	-
Total		113,830	24,990		

¹ The demographic breakdown of Palestinian refugees refers to the 30 assisted only.

- More than 50 community meetings were held by UNHCR teams with people of concern of different nationalities. Some of these meetings resulted in changes to UNHCR's policies and programmes.
- In response to the influx from Libya, UNHCR established a presence in Saloum, at the Egypt-Libya border. UNHCR offered life-saving assistance to persons stranded in Saloum and worked with IOM to evacuate third-country nationals.

| Working environment |

Egypt is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, as well as to the Organization of African Unity's 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa. However, it has not developed national asylum procedures and institutions. In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Government in 1954, all activities pertaining to registration, documentation and RSD are carried out by UNHCR.

UNHCR's operation in Egypt provides protection and assistance to urban refugees and asylum-seekers of some 40 different nationalities. At the end of 2011, the total population of concern to UNHCR in the country comprised 44,570 refugees and asylum-seekers. This population was made up mainly of Eritreans, Ethiopians, Iraqis, Somalis and Sudanese. Nearly all were living in Cairo.

The uprising in Egypt that started in January 2011 led to the ousting of the former President and the passing of governmental control to a military council on an interim basis. The subsequent upheaval in Libya in February 2011 resulted in some 260,000 people, including Egyptians, Libyans and third-country nationals, arriving at the Egyptian border. Third-country nationals were unable to move beyond the port area due to restrictions imposed by the authorities. While most were evacuated to their home countries by UNHCR and IOM, more than 1,900 refugees and asylum-seekers remained in Saloum at the end of 2011.

| Achievements and impact |

• *Main objectives and targets*

UNHCR's main objectives in Egypt in 2011 were to: ensure that international standards of protection were met for all people of concern; respond to the challenges posed by irregular movements; provide support for access to basic services by the most vulnerable people of concern in the urban context of Cairo; and pursue durable solutions.

The outbreak of conflict in Libya in early 2011 resulted in additional objectives for the operation. These were mainly to respond to the emergency needs of people fleeing Libya; to facilitate evacuation of third-country nationals; and to protect and assist refugees and asylum-seekers remaining in Saloum while simultaneously seeking durable solutions for them.

Favourable protection environment

- The Office worked closely with governmental counterparts on registration, documentation and RSD, as well as on the issuance of residence permits and exit visas. It engaged in dialogue with the authorities on irregular

movements and on the detention of people arrested while attempting to cross borders irregularly.

- People of concern continued to have access to legal remedies through UNHCR's legal partners. The Office's refugee law training and capacity-building activities targeted police officers, border guards, military officers, the judiciary, lawyers, journalists, university students, NGOs and League of Arab States staff.

Fair protection processes

- UNHCR received an average of 100 refugees and asylum-seekers per day in Cairo for registration, counselling or other reasons. Nearly 6,000 individuals were registered in 2011. The Government continued to issue renewable residence permits valid for six months.
- More than 1,000 RSD applicants were interviewed in 2011. Although individual RSD for Sudanese asylum-seekers was suspended in 2005, it was still available for those with specific needs, particularly persons of concern from Darfur.
- In October it was announced that there would be no more RSD or resettlement processing in Saloum, greatly reducing the rate of new arrivals at the port. By the end of 2011, more than 1,900 individuals had been registered in Saloum, and the RSD process had been completed for over 1,400.

Basic needs and services

- Some 12,000 people with special needs, constituting approximately 26 per cent of the population of concern to UNHCR, were provided with time-limited financial assistance in 2011. In April 2011, UNHCR liberalized its financial assistance programme to make asylum-seekers awaiting RSD results eligible for such assistance. In view of the circumstances following the uprising in Egypt, a one-time grant was provided to a total of 6,000 people of concern.
- UNHCR worked with an implementing partner to provide primary and specialized health care in two clinics in Cairo. Some 39,500 people of concern were registered for these services. Referrals were made to specialist medical facilities. Comprehensive natal services were provided to some 750 pregnant refugee women. HIV and AIDS counselling and testing services were extended to some 540 people.
- During the 2011/12 academic year UNHCR provided education grants and helped approximately 7,500 refugee and asylum-seeker children of kindergarten, primary and secondary school age to receive an education. As a result, some 600 refugee and asylum-seeker students were able to sit the final Sudanese curriculum exams for grades 8 and 12.
- In Saloum, UNHCR provided basic services and non-food items (NFIs) to people fleeing Libya. Following authorization by the Government, UNHCR also erected temporary shelter in the port area. In June 2011, when all other agencies operating in the border area withdrew, UNHCR assumed full responsibility for all assistance at the site.



Family Hall in Saloum, where thousands fled escalating violence in Libya.

UNHCR / P. MOORE

Community participation and self-management

- Various mechanisms were established to facilitate communication between persons of concern and UNHCR, including a complaints system, regular consultations and community meetings. Walk-in consultations and hotlines to address concerns related to protection, community services and durable solutions were made available.
- A UNHCR implementing partner trained and supported 24 psychosocial workers of various nationalities coming from different communities. Three community centres offering access to micro-credit grants were opened in Cairo in areas with high concentrations of people of concern. In addition, 14 community-based organizations implemented projects aimed at improving the lives of some 1,300 refugees in various communities around Cairo.

Durable solutions

- Resettlement continued to be used as a protection tool to address specific needs. In 2011, a total of 1,550 individuals of various nationalities were submitted for resettlement.
- The Office assisted some 300 refugees to return voluntarily to Sudan or South Sudan in 2011. Most went to South Sudan by air with IOM's support. UNHCR also helped more than 100 Iraqis to return home in 2011. All were provided with air tickets from Cairo and cash assistance to cover onward transportation. Twenty refugees of other nationalities were assisted with voluntary return to their countries of origin.

- Resettlement was given priority as a durable solution for refugees in Saloum. More than 1,350 refugees in Saloum were submitted for resettlement during the year, of whom some 170 had departed for their new homes by the end of 2011.

Logistics and operations support

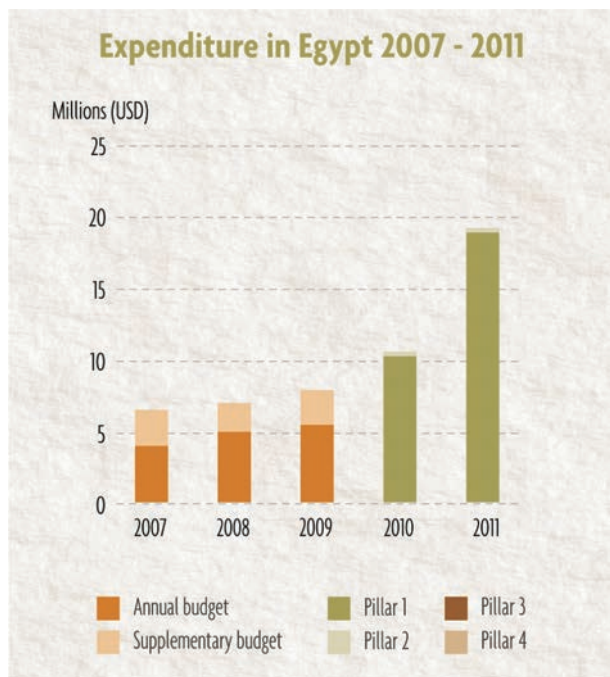
- UNHCR worked with IOM to assist third-country nationals in Saloum to return by air to their countries of origin. At the beginning of the Libya crisis, NFIs were procured to assist third-country nationals in Saloum, including people of concern to UNHCR, as well as IDPs and refugees in eastern Libya.

| Constraints |

The situation of urban refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt was characterized by difficult socio-economic conditions, limited access to the formal labour market and lack of affordable health care and public education. Sharp increases in the prices of basic commodities also affected the most vulnerable.

The general security situation in Egypt deteriorated following the revolution in January. On several occasions, UNHCR's Cairo office was closed as a result of demonstrations and sit-ins, making service delivery difficult.

Operational conditions in Saloum were constrained by requirements set by the authorities, which resulted in the confinement of refugees and asylum-seekers to a limited area beside the port with overcrowded conditions.



Financial information

During 2011, the financial requirements for operations in Egypt increased by USD 15.3 million as a result of the Libya emergency, bringing the total budget to USD 34.8 million.

Organization and implementation

UNHCR operated through a Regional Office in Cairo covering Egypt and the League of Arab States and a field office that was opened in Saloum in 2011. In 2011, a total of 101 staff worked in Egypt, in addition to others deployed to respond to the Libya emergency. Three regional posts hosted in Cairo were transferred to the new hub in Tunis.

UNHCR's presence in 2011

□ Number of offices	2
□ Total staff	101
International	19
National	48
JPOs	1
UNVs	13
Others	20

Working with others

UNHCR worked with a range of implementing and operational partners and remained engaged as part of the UN Country Team in Egypt, taking part in joint activities, particularly with IOM in Saloum.

Overall assessment

The aftermath of the Egyptian uprising found many people of concern in particularly vulnerable circumstances and dependent on UNHCR's financial assistance and subsidized basic services. This compelled UNHCR to increase resettlement opportunities for urban refugees in Egypt. The detention and systematic deportation of those trying to move irregularly to Israel remained serious protection concerns.

The limited protection space, coupled with the slow pace of the resettlement process, made the operation in Saloum particularly challenging. In a few instances, frustration caused by the slow rate of departures and conditions in the confined space of the port area led to security incidents.

Unmet needs

In Egypt, the following activities were affected by the funding shortfall:

- The waiting time for registration was six weeks and for RSD it was over nine months.
- The creation of new identification documentation for refugees and asylum-seekers was deferred to 2012.
- Only 50 per cent of vulnerable persons of concern were provided with monthly financial assistance. Inflation in the prices of housing and basic commodities meant that the assistance provided was sufficient to cover only 30 per cent of basic needs.
- The planned increase in the number of education grants for students enrolled in private schools did not take place, which affected the financial situation of some 1,500 refugee families not allowed to register their children in public schools.
- Limited funds for medical care meant that, at the end of the year, UNHCR had to limit surgical assistance to emergency cases only and stop supporting tertiary health care completely.

Partners	
Implementing partners	
Government agencies:	Ministry of Health and Population
NGOs:	Arab Council Supporting Fair Trial, Caritas Egypt, Catholic Relief Services, Central Association for Kindergarten's Supervisors League, Egyptian Federation for Scouts and Girls Guides, Egyptian Red Crescent, Psycho-Social Training Institute in Cairo, Refuge Egypt, TADAMON, <i>Terre des Hommes</i>
Others:	Nabil Hilmy Law Firm
Operational partners	
Government agencies:	Refugee Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Others:	Community-based organizations, DRC, IOM, IRC, NRC, UNOPS, UNV

Budget, income and expenditure in Egypt | USD

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	Total
FINAL BUDGET	34,143,957	679,846	34,823,803
Income from contributions	5,582,328	0	5,582,328
Other funds available	13,449,312	311,501	13,760,813
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	19,031,640	311,501	19,343,141
EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN			
<i>Favourable protection environment</i>			
National legal framework	120,063	0	120,063
Cooperation with partners	67,100	0	67,100
<i>Non-refoulement</i>	83,555	0	83,555
Emergency management strengthened	1,013,038	0	1,013,038
Subtotal	1,283,756	0	1,283,756
<i>Fair protection processes and documentation</i>			
Registration and profiling	731,835	0	731,835
Fair and efficient status determination	934,182	0	934,182
Individual documentation	151,415	0	151,415
Subtotal	1,817,432	0	1,817,432
<i>Security from violence and exploitation</i>			
Gender-based violence	62,898	0	62,898
Protection of children	38,826	0	38,826
Non-arbitrary detention	42,411	0	42,411
Access to legal remedies	45,331	0	45,331
Subtotal	189,466	0	189,466
<i>Basic needs and essential services</i>			
Nutrition	1,668,245	0	1,668,245
Water	121,229	0	121,229
Shelter and other infrastructure	716,020	0	716,020
Basic domestic and hygiene items	1,290,625	156,946	1,447,571
Primary health care	1,457,035	134,175	1,591,210
Education	1,349,098	0	1,349,098
Services for groups with specific needs	3,180,574	0	3,180,574
Subtotal	9,782,826	291,121	10,073,947
<i>Community participation and self-management</i>			
Community self-management	330,575	0	330,575
Self-reliance and livelihoods	211,379	0	211,379
Subtotal	541,954	0	541,954
<i>Durable solutions</i>			
Voluntary return	262,938	0	262,938
Resettlement	265,914	0	265,914
Subtotal	528,852	0	528,852
<i>Logistics and operations support</i>			
Programme management and coordination	619,754	3,027	622,781
Subtotal	619,754	3,027	622,781
Other objectives	561,471	0	561,471
Balance of instalments with implementing partners	3,706,130	17,354	3,723,484
Total	19,031,641	311,502	19,343,143