

# Egypt

## Sudan Emergency Response Update

30 October 2024

Yasmine and Yusra are two Sudanese sisters who were forced to flee their country. Now living in Egypt, they make a living by crafting beaded accessories, crocheted products, and incense. They were among the 15 refugee artisans who sold their handmade creations at the bazaar of the She Arts festival in Cairo on 27 September. ©UNHCR/Karim Hany

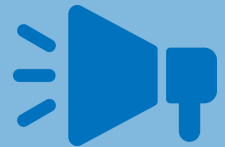


**1.2 million**  
Sudanese forced to flee to Egypt

from 15 April 2023 to 25 September 2024, according to the Government of Egypt.

**51% funded**

of the \$57.7 million required by UNHCR for the Sudan emergency response in Egypt in 2024.



## Newly arrived refugees and asylum-seekers from Sudan

as of 30 October 2024

 **781,000**

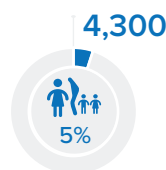
new arrivals provided with registration appointments since the start of the Sudan conflict in April 2023

 **467,000**

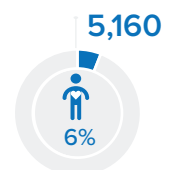
individuals registered with UNHCR Egypt

 **86,000**

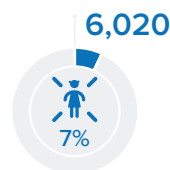
newly arrived registered persons with specific needs\*



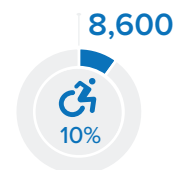
Unaccompanied or separated children



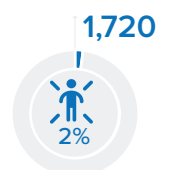
Serious medical conditions



Children at risk

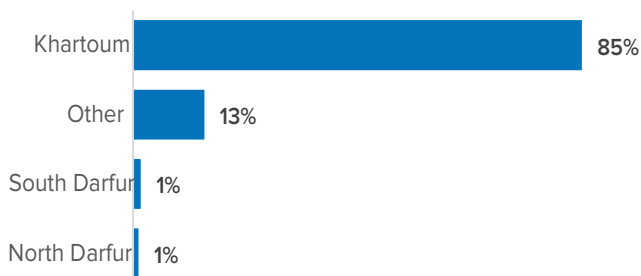


Disabilities



Single parents

### Newly arrived Sudanese by place of origin



\*Individuals who may face particular vulnerabilities and barriers to access services and protection. For more information please click on the link [here](#).

## LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- According to UNHCR’s recently published [Mid-Year Trends Report 2024](#), Egypt received the second-highest number of new asylum applications globally in the first half of the year. With over 209,000 applications, Egypt ranked just behind the United States and ahead of Germany.
- In addition to the 1.2 million Sudanese new arrivals, a total of 67,067 non-Sudanese individuals have fled to Egypt from Sudan since the start of the conflict in April 2023, according to the latest figure provided by the Government of Egypt (GoE) to UNHCR on 15 October 2024.
- On 22 October, the Defence and National Security Committee of the Egyptian House of Representatives approved a draft national asylum law for plenary discussion. A copy of the ministerial decree referring the Draft Law to the House of Representatives and an extract of the law was [published](#) in a local newspaper. The extract indicates that the law establishes a formal framework for the recognition and processing of refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt. When the new law takes effect, the GoE will take over responsibility for the asylum process. UNHCR has been registering refugees and asylum-seekers on behalf of the GoE since signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the GoE in 1954. Now, UNHCR is supporting the GoE to ensure a smooth transition and access to international protection for those in need.
- From 25 to 27 October, UNHCR Egypt [participated](#) in the Gouna Film Festival, strengthening its long-standing partnership and raising awareness about forced displacement and the impact of regional conflicts on millions of lives. The initiative entailed a [workshop](#) empowering emerging storytellers, including refugees from Sudan, Somalia, and Syria. Further, it included a panel discussion, highlighting the role of cinema in conveying the experiences of conflict-affected filmmakers, led by UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Raya Abirached. The festival closed with a [panel](#), exploring how film can reshape public perceptions and inspire social impact. Also, UNHCR Representative to Egypt, Dr Hanan Hamdan, [met](#) with Samih Sawiris, co-founder of the GFF and chairman of Orascom Development Holding. The Sawiris Foundation for Social Development and UNHCR Egypt have been working together since 2020.
- From 21 to 22 October, in the context of the Dutch-funded Prospects partnership, UNHCR [contributed](#) to a series of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning sessions in Cairo. Since its inception in 2019, Prospects has focused on improving refugee registration, enhancing safe educational access for children, and building skills among refugees, migrants, and host communities to foster self-sufficiency and long-term sustainability amidst Egypt’s displacement challenges. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNICEF, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the International Labour Organization (ILO) also participated in the sessions.

 **Protection** **Registration**

As of 30 October, UNHCR Egypt provided registration appointments to 781,100 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. UNHCR has now fully registered 60% of them (466,600 individuals) for assistance and protection. Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (95%), followed by South Sudanese (2%), and Eritrean (2%). The great majority originate from Khartoum (85%).

 **Child Protection**

On 17 October, UNHCR conducted a training session for the Child Protection Committees (CPCs) in Asyut, Upper Egypt. The session, attended by 30 people, focused on international protection, UNHCR’s work, and the refugee situation in Egypt. It was part of a three-day workshop covering child protection systems, recent changes to the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM) structure, and the role of international organizations and UN agencies. The CPCs respond to child protection risks all over Egypt and report to the NCCM.





Sudanese refugees attended the opening event of the Cairo International Art District exhibition on 10 October. ©UNHCR/Karim Hany

### Community-based protection

Over the last two weeks, some 10,180 refugees and asylum-seekers attended information sessions at the UNHCR registration centre in Greater Cairo and were provided with details on services, assistance, and procedures for reporting fraud and complaints. During the same period, UNHCR partner Terre des Homme (TdH) provided on-the-spot basic psychosocial support to 7,200 new arrivals, from which 57 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment.

Between 21 and 26 October, outreach volunteers in Southern Egypt conducted 21 information sessions attended by some 200 newly arrived individuals from Sudan residing in Aswan, Edfu, and Karkar. During the sessions, volunteers provided information on UNHCR's work, how to access registration - including through the online appointment tool - and services provided by UNHCR and partners.

### Capacity-building

On 14 October, UNHCR held a training session on international protection and mixed movements. About 50 police officers from 23 African countries attended. This session was part of a four-week workshop in Cairo, co-organized by the Egyptian Police Academy and the Italian Ministry of Interior. Participants were especially interested in UNHCR's registration and refugee status determination processes, as well as identifying refugees within mixed movements.

### Infoline

Over the past two weeks, UNHCR Egypt's Infoline handled some 22,330 inquiries, a 17% increase compared to the previous fortnight. Of those, 3,980 new registration appointments were allocated to 10,170 individuals from Sudan. The proportion of callers from Greater Cairo was 86%, Aswan 4%, and Alexandria 3%. Since the start of the conflict, 527,630 new arrivals from Sudan have received appointments through the Infoline.

## Legal and physical protection

During the reporting period, some 745 individuals received legal counselling through UNHCR and legal partners. Additionally, 250 cases were referred to UNHCR partner, the Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR), for legal aid, related to early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation.

On 23 and 24 October, UNHCR participated in three legal clinics organized by the Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights (EFRR) in Nasr Nuba and Karkar. Some 390 Sudanese residing in the Aswan governorate learned about how to access their basic rights in Egypt.



Khadija and Huyam, a mother and a daughter from Sudan, speak with a UNHCR worker at the 6<sup>th</sup> of October Reception Centre. ©UNHCR/Pedro Costa

## Prevention and Response to Violence Against Women

In September 2024, the number of gender-based violence survivors assisted by UNHCR Egypt and its partners increased by 20% compared to August. Most of the individuals supported in September were Sudanese (67%). Many faced social stigma, community ostracization, as well as challenges in achieving self-reliance, and difficulties in breaking the cycle of abuse due to a lack of safe livelihood opportunities. Many survivors arrived in Egypt after dangerous journeys, during which they were either forced to witness or were exposed to GBV. Sudanese new arrivals reported that access to GBV services in Sudan is very limited, making Egypt the only safe place to access these services. The most frequently sought services are housing, financial aid, and psychosocial support.

## Education

So far in 2024, UNHCR partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has registered more than 72,300 refugee and asylum-seeker children for education cash grants in Egypt, including 45,300 Sudanese.

## Health

From 21 to 25 October, UNHCR, alongside other UN agencies, [participated](#) in the Global Congress on Population, Health, and Development in Egypt's New Capital, providing information, promotional materials, and digital messages. The congress featured numerous panel discussions, including on Egypt's new Health Strategy for 2024-2030. Notably, the strategy includes a specific objective of improving refugee access to comprehensive healthcare, supported by actionable steps and related indicators. This represents a significant advancement, supporting UNHCR Egypt's advocacy efforts to further include refugees in Egypt's national healthcare system.

## Livelihoods and economic inclusion

On 16 October, UNHCR participated in the [launch](#) of a new phase of the "Humanitarian Response with Sustainable Impact: Sustainable Livelihoods and Social Cohesion" programme in Egypt. It aims at strengthening the resilience of at least 300 women and girls in Cairo, Alexandria, and Aswan who have been affected by conflict, and climate change. It will address women's urgent needs through sustainable livelihoods, protection, social cohesion, and climate action. The programme will be implemented by UNHCR, UN Women, and the National Council for Women and funded by the Government of Japan.



From 10 to 30 October, 23 refugee artists participate in the Cairo International Art District exhibition, organized by Art D’Egypte with UNHCR’s support. The displayed artworks of refugee artists from Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen focus on stories of women in the midst of conflict. The artists share narratives of struggle, resilience, and hope in the face of adversity.



## Cash assistance

As of 26 October, the total number of newly arrived Sudanese households assessed by UNHCR to receive Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) since the beginning of the crisis is 37,200, comprising 114,000 individuals. Of them, 6,100 households (28,000 individuals) received the MPCA in October, representing 33% of the total 18,300 assisted households. During the last two weeks, 32 families were assessed for emergency cash assistance (ECA) in Aswan. Since the start of the crisis, a total of 21,182 registered and unregistered households (57,799 individuals) have been identified as eligible for one-off ECA, out of whom 17,023 families (49,100 individuals) have successfully received their assistance.

## Funding information

UNHCR is grateful for the crucial and generous contributions from its donors, who provide both earmarked and unearmarked funding to support its operations in Egypt, including the response to the Sudan situation.



UNHCR Egypt is also grateful for the crucial support of private donors, including those from Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Spain, and Sweden.

**DONATE NOW**

**CONTACT:** UNHCR External Relations and Public Information Unit – arecapi@unhcr.org

**LINKS:** [UNHCR Global Focus](#) | [UNHCR Data Portal](#) | [UNHCR Egypt X account](#) | [UNHCR Egypt Website](#) | [UNHCR Sudan Emergency Website](#)