

Egypt

Sudan Emergency Response Update

11 December 2024

Samia is one of nearly 80,000 refugees in Egypt who, in 2024, received education grants from UNHCR and its partners, enabling her children to attend school. ©UNHCR/Pedro Costa



1.2 million
Sudanese forced to flee to Egypt

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

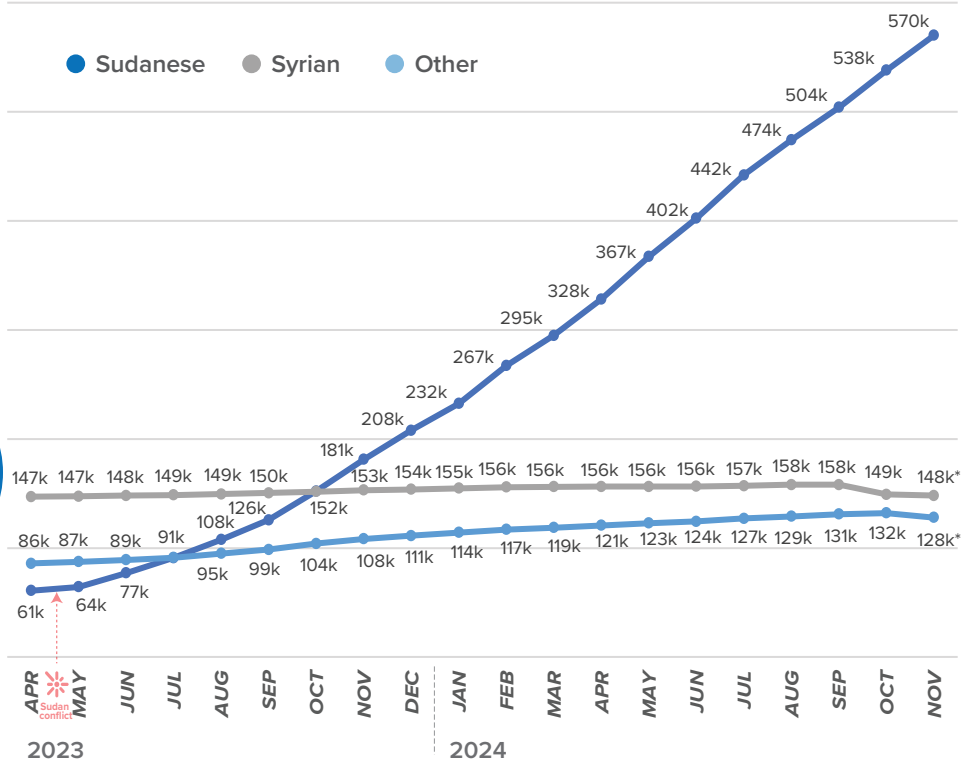
55% funded

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



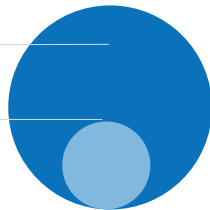
Egypt is the largest host country for Sudanese fleeing conflict

The number of **Sudanese** refugees and asylum-seekers fully registered with UNHCR Egypt **increased almost tenfold** between the onset of the Sudan conflict and 10 December 2024.



859%
Sudanese Increase

193%
Overall Increase



*Syrian and Other nationalities refugee numbers dropped in November 2024 as UNHCR resumed inactivating cases of those who did not renew their documents. This process had been paused earlier due to the registration upscaling measures due to the Sudan response.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS – HIGHLIGHTS

- As part of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, UNHCR and its partners were involved in a series of [activities](#). This included the distribution of 5,000 blankets, 1,000 dignity kits and 500 motherhood kits in Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta. On 4 December, a film was shown at CARE's offices in Giza to raise awareness among men and boys about the devastating effects of violence against women. The following day, an awareness-raising session was held at CARE's safe space in 6th of October City. The session focused on managing emotions in cases of violence against women and girls and introduced various support strategies. Participants also shared their personal experiences. Additionally, the session featured a crafting activity and a small bazaar, where refugee women sold handmade products like bags and candles.
- From 25 to 27 November, the Cairo International Center for Peace (CCCPA) and UNHCR, among other organizations, organized a training event on forced displacement and the operationalization of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN). The training sessions facilitated by UNHCR focused on durable solutions for displaced communities and enhancing social cohesion to ensure sustainable integration. The African Union Centre for Peacebuilding and Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) highlighted its efforts to implement the HDPN in the region. The training was kicked off with a Policy Dialogue on 24 November, with UNHCR participating in panels focusing on displacement, Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), and integration of gender in PCRD efforts.
- From 25 to 26 November, UNHCR Egypt's Representative participated in a series of key events in Alexandria. On 25 November, UNHCR [signed](#) a Letter of Understanding (LOU) with the University of Senghor to provide refugees and asylum-seekers with scholarships, access to educational programs, and capacity-building opportunities, and training sessions, socio-cultural events, and volunteering opportunities for students to contribute to UNHCR's initiatives. On 26 November, the Representative and the Chairman of the Alexandria Pediatric Center (APC) [signed](#) an LOU to deliver advanced healthcare services to refugees, with a particular focus on children. This partnership will provide critical treatments, surgeries, and mental healthcare, reflecting the importance of engaging private sector expertise to meet the complex health needs of refugee children. On the same day, UNHCR [renewed](#) its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Bibliotheca Alexandrina. Over the past decade, this partnership has facilitated cultural exchanges, knowledge-sharing initiatives, and joint activities between refugees and host communities.

Protection

Registration

As of 10 December, UNHCR Egypt provided registration appointments to 833,000 people forced to flee Sudan since the onset of the conflict in April 2023. Of those, UNHCR has now registered 516,000 individuals for assistance and protection (62%). Most of the newly registered population arriving from Sudan are Sudanese nationals (96%), followed by Eritrean (2%), and South Sudanese (2%). The great majority originate from Khartoum (84%).

Legal and physical protection

During the reporting period, some 174 individuals received legal counselling through UNHCR and legal partners for legal aid, related to early and late birth registration, filing legal reports, divorce, custody, and legal representation. Of them, 113 were Sudanese.

Infoline

Last week, an average of 1,400 individuals per day fleeing the conflict in Sudan secured registration appointments through UNHCR Egypt's Infoline. Since the start of the crisis, a total of 565,250 individuals have scheduled appointments via the Infoline.



On 4 December, UNHCR and its partner CARE distributed blankets to eleven refugee families in Cairo. These items will be essential for the families' well-being throughout the winter. ©UNHCR/Yasmin Yousef

Community-based protection

Over the last two weeks, some 6,600 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 8,300 new arrivals, from which 56 cases were referred for in-depth psycho-social assessment.

On 2 December 2024, UNHCR attended a conference organized by the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD), in collaboration with Elaraby Foundation for Social Development under the auspices of the Prime Minister to celebrate the International Day of Persons with Disabilities. The conference began with opening remarks from the Minister of Social Solidarity, the Head of the National Council for Persons with Disabilities, and a representative from the Elaraby Foundation. This was followed by a documentary showcasing the initiatives organized by the NCPWD. The event included a panel discussion on national efforts towards disability issues, performances by persons with disabilities, the honoring of Paralympic champions, and success stories of individuals with disabilities.

Education

So far in 2024, UNHCR partner Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has registered more than 79,300 refugee and asylum-seeker children for education cash grants in Egypt, including 50,300 Sudanese.


Health

On 8 December, UNHCR initiated procuring two Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machines used for medical diagnosis, staging and follow-up of disease. The machines will be delivered to two hospitals, located in the Cairo and Qalyubiyya Governates, that have been particularly involved in the reception and treatment of refugees.


Cash assistance

In November and December, UNHCR Egypt provided cash assistance to more than 32,000 newly arrived Sudanese refugees in Egypt, as part of its Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) programme. Of them, 97% have collected their assistance at the Post Office, marking the highest rate in UNHCR Egypt's history. Authentication through iris scanning to receive the cash also saw a significant improvement, reaching 85%, compared to 50% in previous years. Additionally, UNHCR will launch its winter assistance in the coming weeks to support highly vulnerable households to cover additional expenses, including for blankets, clothing, and electricity heating bills.

As of 7 December, UNHCR has conducted vulnerability assessments for 122,600 newly arrived Sudanese individuals since the start of the crisis. In Aswan, UNHCR Egypt has so far assessed 14,430 individuals for Emergency Cash Assistance (ECA), with 68% found eligible. Nationwide, 99,200 newly arrived individuals have been identified as eligible for one-time ECA.

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 Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Spain, and Sweden.

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