

# Egypt

December 2018

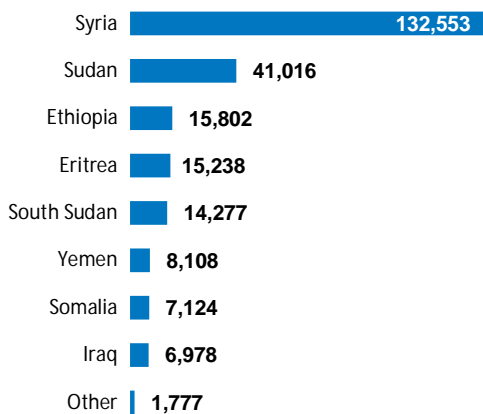
Egypt is a **destination country** for refugees and asylum-seekers, most of whom live in **urban areas**.

Currently, **242,873 refugees and asylum-seekers of 58 different nationalities** are registered with UNHCR Egypt. More than half of them (55%) are from Syria.

UNHCR **registers and documents** refugees and asylum-seekers and **facilitates their access to protection basic services**, such as health and education.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

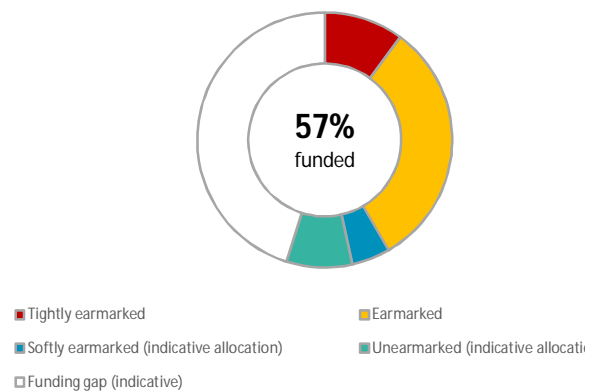
### Countries of Origin



## FUNDING (AS OF 4 DECEMBER 2018)

**USD 74.5 M**

requested for the Egypt operation



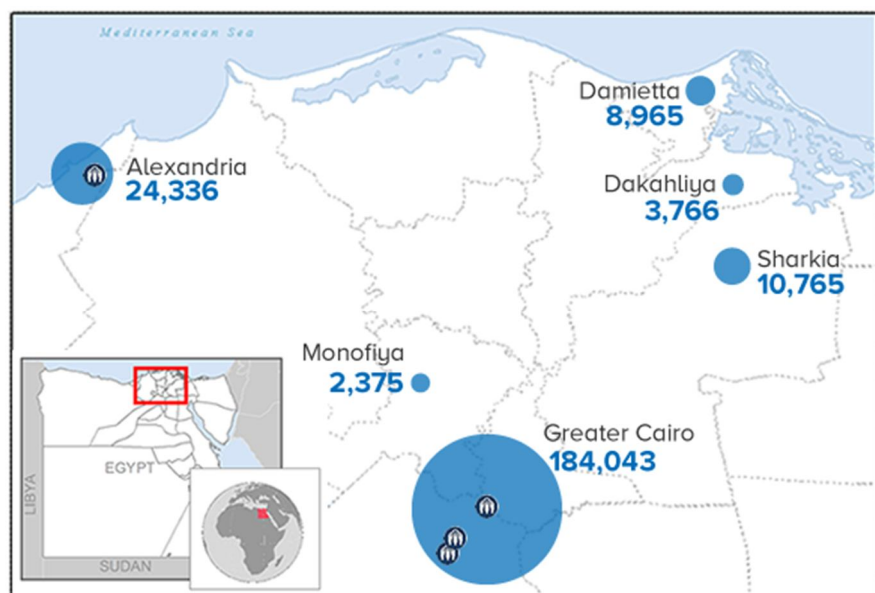
## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

207 national staff  
47 international staff

### Offices:

3 offices in Greater Cairo  
(6<sup>th</sup> of October City and Zamalek)  
1 field office in Alexandria



## Working with Partners

- 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 refugee 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 Sex and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) and Durable Solutions. The other working groups cover Education, Health, Cash for Basic Needs, Livelihoods, and Communication with Communities.

## Main Activities

### Protection

- UNHCR Egypt registers asylum-seekers and refugees on behalf of the Government of Egypt (GoE). The system entails the use of biometric information, iris scanning and finger printing. After registration, asylum-seekers and refugees are asked to approach the MFA and the Mol Department of Immigration in order to apply for a residence permit which will legalize their stay in Egypt. The renewable residence permit is valid for six months.
- UNHCR conducts **Refugee Status Determination (RSD)** for all nationalities except for Syrians and Yemenis, as per regional policy directions.
- UNHCR works on increasing resettlement opportunities for all refugees. Between January and November 2018, **2,841 refugees were submitted for resettlement to various countries. A total of 1,452 refugees departed for resettlement** to Australia, Canada, Germany, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. These included refugees from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria and others.
- UNHCR and partners provide **special assistance and psychosocial support** to children at risk, survivors of SGBV and to those who have experienced or witnessed conflict, violence or trauma.
- Currently, 4,126 **unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)** are registered with UNHCR in Egypt. UNHCR conducts Best Interest Assessments and prioritizes the registration and protection of UASC and other children at risk across all programmes through prevention and response activities and specialized services, including quality case management, the strengthening of national child protection systems and (internal/external) capacity building.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers have **access to legal remedies** and representation through lawyers of partner NGOs. Refugees and asylum-seekers arrested for administrative and residency related charges are provided with legal and humanitarian assistance. UNHCR also intervenes on their behalf with local authorities for release and to ensure that their claims for international protection are assessed.
- To protect refugees and prevent them from resorting to negative coping mechanisms, UNHCR provides **monthly unconditional cash grants** to extremely vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers. As of November 2018, a total of **19,644 families** (comprising 85,239 refugees and asylum-seekers, which is equal to 35 per cent of the total registered refugees and asylum-seekers) were supported with monthly multipurpose cash assistance for a minimum of three months.

- On a daily basis, refugees have five **access** avenues to UNHCR: reception areas in four UNHCR offices; two UNHCR info-lines; social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook); community interactions; and via partners directly working with UNHCR. Outside working hours, there are emergency contact lines with all the respective partners.
- In addition to the close **coordination** with partners, daily refugee **counselling** and case management is an integral component of the office engagement. Moreover, the office has in place internal **integrity mechanisms**, such as anti-fraud and complaints receipt systems, in order to ensure full adherence to the organisation's principles and guidelines.

### Education

- UNHCR and its partners support access to **education**, including primary, preparatory and secondary education. Currently, refugee and asylum-seeker students from Sudan, South Sudan, Syria and Yemen can access public education. Other nationalities rely on community schools, private schools or home schooling. In the 2018/2019 academic year, UNHCR provided education grants to 43,000 students in an effort to support access to education and retention of children in school. The grant partially covers school fees, transportation, uniforms and school supplies for refugees and asylum-seekers.
- UNHCR also supports access of refugees and asylum-seekers to tertiary education. In the 2018/2019 academic year, 348 students received scholarships from the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative (DAFI) through UNHCR.
- UNHCR works closely with the **Ministry of Education and assists public education institutions** through provision of equipment and capacity-building of teachers and social workers.
- UNHCR continues to advocate with the Ministry of Education the **mainstreaming** of refugees and asylum-seekers of all nationalities **into Egyptian public schools** and universities.



UNHCR Egypt/ Scott Nelson

### Health

- Refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt have **access to public primary, secondary and emergency health care** at an equal level as Egyptian citizens.
- UNHCR supports national efforts to improve the quality of services to refugees and asylum seekers as well as the host population in refugee-dense areas. This entails strengthening the **existing national health system** through capacity-building and provision of medical equipment.
- UNHCR focuses its support on 15 primary public facilities in areas where many refugees live. In addition, UNHCR provides health care for patients with chronic diseases as well as **psychosocial and mental health support** through partners. Moreover, UNHCR provides secondary and referral care for life-saving conditions for all refugees.

### Community Empowerment and Livelihood

- UNHCR works closely with communities to enhance their skillset as well as their capacity for self-management. In the second half of 2018, 197 refugee community representatives, members of volunteer initiatives and outreach volunteers were trained on the community-based approach to protection in Greater Cairo and the North Coast. UNHCR also organizes **outreach meetings, community dialogue, focus group discussions and awareness raising** on UNHCR and partner services.

### Donors

Thanks to major donors of unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds as well as donors who have contributed directly to UNHCR Egypt in 2018 (as of October 2018): **USA | EU | Italy | RDPP NA| Netherlands | Canada | Japan | UK | Germany | Denmark | Sweden | Finland | Norway | Switzerland | France | Austria | Miscellaneous private donors.**

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