

# Egypt

May 2018

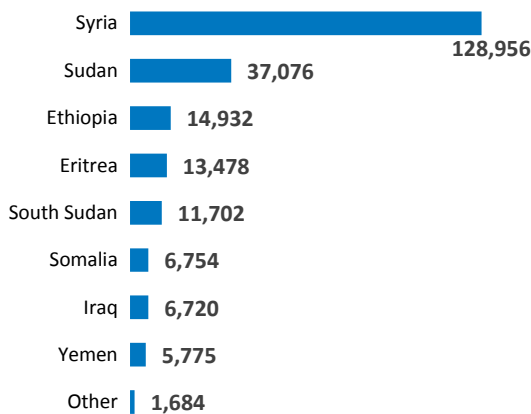
Egypt remains a **destination and transit country** for refugees and asylum-seekers, most of whom live in **urban areas**.

Currently, **227,077 refugees and asylum-seekers of 58 different nationalities** are registered with UNHCR Egypt. More than half of them are from Syria.

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

## POPULATION OF CONCERN

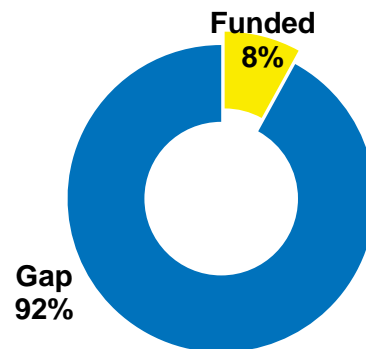
### Countries of Origin



## FUNDING (AS OF MAY 2018)

**USD 74.5 M**

requested for the Egypt operation



## UNHCR PRESENCE

### Staff:

208 national staff

61 international staff

### Offices:

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

1 field office in Alexandria



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## 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 interagency coordination mechanism, overseeing six sectorial working groups gathering representatives from UN agencies and international and national NGOs:
  - Protection, including sub-working groups on Child Protection and Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV),
  - Health,
  - Education,
  - Basic Needs and Cash-Based Interventions,
  - Livelihoods, and
  - Communication with Communities (CWC).

## Main Activities

### Protection

- All refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR Egypt are documented. As an anti-fraud mechanism, the registration process includes the collection of biometric information, iris scanning and finger printing. After registration, refugees and asylum-seekers must apply for residency to legalize their stay in Egypt, as per the Government of Egypt's regulations.
- UNHCR conducts **Refugee Status Determination (RSD)** for all nationalities but for Syrians. Syrian nationals are considered refugees and only undergo RSD when they are being considered for resettlement, as per a regional approach, and in line with an informal agreement between UNHCR and the Government of Egypt.
- UNHCR and partners provide **special assistance and psychosocial support** to children and risk, survivors of SGBV and to those who have experienced or witnessed conflict, violence or trauma.
- Currently, 3,763 **unaccompanied and separated children (UASC)** are registered with UNHCR in Egypt. UNHCR conducts Best Interest Procedures and prioritizes the protection of UASC and other children at risk across all programs through prevention and response activities and specialized services, including quality case management, the strengthening of national child protection systems and capacity building.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers have **access to legal remedies** and representation through lawyers of partner NGOs. Refugees and asylum-seekers arrested for irregular departure by sea are provided with legal and humanitarian assistance and UNHCR intervenes on their behalf with local authorities to ensure that their claims for international protection are assessed.
- To protect refugees and prevent them from resorting to negative coping mechanisms, **monthly unconditional cash grants** are provided to an average of 15,500 extremely vulnerable refugee households.

### Education

- UNHCR and its partners support **education in urban settings**, including primary, preparatory and secondary education. Currently, Sudanese and Syrians can access public education, while other nationalities primarily rely on private and community schools, and home schooling. In the academic year 2017/2018, UNHCR provided education grants to 37,000 students in efforts to support access to education and retention in school. The grant partially covers school fees, transportation, uniforms and school supplies of refugees and asylum-seekers.
- UNHCR works closely with the **Ministry of Education and assists public education institutions** through capacity-building and material support.
- To ensure a successful **integration** of refugees and asylum-seekers of all nationalities **into Egyptian public schools**, UNHCR advocates with the Ministry of Education.

### Health

- Refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt have **access to public primary, secondary and emergency health care** on par with Egyptian citizens.
- UNHCR supports the national efforts of improving the quality of services and of meeting the needs of refugees as well as the host population in impacted areas. This entails strengthening the **existing national health system** through capacity-building and the provision of equipment.
- UNHCR focusses its support on 15 primary public facilities in areas where many refugees live. Complementary to services available in public facilities, UNHCR and partners provide health care for patients with chronic diseases, as well as **psychosocial and mental health support**.

### Community Empowerment and Livelihood

- UNHCR works closely with communities and enhances their capacity for self-management. In 2017, 1,042 community mobilizers in Alexandria and Cairo were trained to undertake community-based protection interventions. UNHCR also organizes **outreach meetings, community dialogue, focus group discussions and awareness raising** on UNHCR and partner services.
- In order to assist refugees to successfully engage in **sustainable livelihood** activities, UNHCR provides eligible refugees and asylum-seekers with training and coaching, job placements and micro grants for business start-ups. In 2017, nearly 2,000 refugees and asylum-seekers benefitted from livelihood support.

### Durable Solutions

- UNHCR Egypt works on increasing and maintaining resettlement opportunities for refugees to the USA, Europe and other countries. So far, 2,779 resettlement places have been confirmed for refugees in Egypt in 2018. In the first four months of the year, **405 refugees departed for resettlement** to the UK, Germany, Canada, Sweden, the USA and Australia.

## External / Donors Relations

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by **Italy, the Netherlands, the European Union, Canada** and **Japan** who have contributed to this operation in 2018, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked and broadly earmarked funds.

### Thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions | USD

Germany 45.4 million | Private donors Spain 7.2 million | Sweden 4.4 million | Finland 4.3 million | Private donors Australia 3.8 million | Norway 3.2 million  
Iceland | Italy | United States of America | Private donors

### Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions | USD

Sweden 98.2 million | Norway 42.5 million | Netherlands 39.1 million | United Kingdom 37 million | Denmark 25.5 million | Private donors Spain 19 million | Australia 18.9 million  
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## LINKS

Syria Regional Refugee Response: [data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php](http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php)

UNHCR Refugees & Migration Emergency Mediterranean Response:  
<http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/mediterranean>

