

Annual Results Report

2022

Egypt

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Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

The socio-economic environment in Egypt is increasingly challenging for vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers given the rising inflation rate and cost of living. Egypt is a signatory to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol as well as the 1969 OAU Convention. A 1954 Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Egypt (GoE) accords UNHCR functional responsibilities for, inter alia, all aspects of registration, asylum documentation, refugee status determination, while in 2019, the GoE announced its decision to initiate the process of drafting an asylum law. At the end of 2022, some 289,000 refugees and asylum-seekers were registered with UNHCR Egypt— 47,000 of which were newly registered. Syrians consist of around 40% of the newly registered, indicating a shift over the years with an increase in asylum-seekers and refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa. Nonetheless, Syrians and Sudanese asylum-seekers continued to arrive regularly in 2022. For refugees and asylum-seekers, who are among Egypt's most vulnerable population, the deterioration of the socio-economic situation witnessed as of the start of 2022 has critically impacted their health and well-being, including nutrition. At the same time, the mental health needs of forcibly displaced communities are rising with increased reports of suicide attempts, incidences of violence, and substance abuse. In the March 2022 UNHCR Participatory Assessment (PA) organized before the current economic crisis, respondents reported that safety and security, education, cash-based interventions, livelihoods, and health were among most significant areas of concern. Given the reduction in resources available to the Office to implement the refugee response in Egypt, coupled with the worsening socio-economic conditions and rising needs, these concerns will likely become more pronounced as refugees and asylum-seekers are expected to resort to harmful coping mechanisms to meet their basic needs.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

By end of 2022, persons of concern can access safety and asylum and live in a more favorable protection environment.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
1.1 Proportion of individuals seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%
1.2 Proportion of PoC who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence. [GCR 2.1.2]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.68%	97.03%

The asylum environment in Egypt remains generally tolerant, with no significant change in the ability of persons we serve (PwS) to access asylum, physical and legal protection, as well as their rights and national services. UNHCR continues to advocate inter alia for streamlined access to the legal right to stay, access to fair asylum procedures, including identification and protection of persons seeking asylum, and civil documentation. PwS holding UNHCR documentation benefit from GoE residence permits valid for six months and renewable, however undocumented asylum seekers are not able to access residence permits until they are recognized as refugees. Obtaining and renewing residence permits remains cumbersome, resulting in some PwS remaining in a precarious and illegal situation. In line with global international protection standards and policy, Egypt has upheld and maintains an out-of-camp policy for all refugees and asylum-seekers who live in urban settings alongside and within host communities. The GoE has generally demonstrated respect for the principle of non-refoulement for the registered population. UNHCR continues to advocate for regular access to persons detained for immigration purposes in the context of identifying persons who may be in need international protection. Further, UNHCR advocated for ensuring protection-sensitive entry mechanisms, systematic case referral pathways of asylum cases, and adoption of a consistent and predictable “one refugee approach” to be applied across all asylum nationalities as key forward-looking objectives. The majority of PwS have access to birth documentation, however access to other civil documentation such as marriage and divorce is challenging. Legal aid support through UNHCR partners, as well as national judicial mechanisms are accessible to PwS, albeit with challenges. With regards to the draft asylum law, UNHCR continued to offer its expertise in the form of discussion and capacity building, as organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. Impact Area: Realizing Rights in Safe Environments

More POCs live above poverty line with greater access to basic assistance and health services

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
2.3 Proportion of PoC with access to health services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.00%	85.57%

In 2022 and in order to support PwS to meet their basic needs, UNHCR Egypt continued to work towards achieving a UN common cash statement and build upon progress made with WFP on joint targeting, redress mechanisms, post-distribution monitoring, common delivery mechanisms as well as accountability to affected population. In 2022 The Office engaged with the UNHCR-WFP Joint Program Excellence and Targeting Hub to revise the existing targeting approach. Together with health partners, in 2022 the Office continued to provide support for essential health care services to complement those of the Ministry of

Health and Population (MoHP). The Office continued to advocate with relevant authorities for the inclusion of refugees into the Universal Health Insurance Scheme (UHIS) and has strengthened its collaboration with potential health actors to promote the inclusion of refugees into the available health services. Until refugees and asylum-seekers gain access to the UHIS, UNHCR will need to continue to provide health care support.

UNHCR successfully advocated with the Ministry of Education (MoE) for the continuation of the Ministerial Decree allowing Syrian and Yemeni refugee and asylum-seeker children to enroll in Egyptian public schools in the academic year 2022-2023, on an equal footing to nationals. In total, UNHCR Egypt provided some 56,200 education grants to school age refugee children allowing them to enroll in all types of schools in 2022. The Office also provided tertiary education opportunities and vocational training for specific sectors. The Office also took a more proactive approach on economic inclusion interventions, focusing on women and youth. The promotion of livelihoods and economic inclusion for refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt was enhanced through wage and self-employment support and by identifying new sectors of activities and new partnerships.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

Refugees and asylum-seekers' live safer lives and are more resilient and engaged in their communities.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
3.2a Proportion of PoC enrolled in primary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.00%	85.00%
3.2b Proportion of PoC enrolled in secondary education	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	80.00%	79.00%

In 2022, UNHCR Egypt increased the inclusion of refugees in planning, programmatic and monitoring systems, by actively engaging refugee communities from different nationalities and coordinating closely with partners and government institutions to ensure timely support. Communication with communities continues to be enhanced through the UNHCR Infoline, social media, regular community meetings, creation of community centres, community outreach and awareness sensitization campaigns, as well as mapping of community-based organizations in Cairo to strengthen understanding. As GBV incidents continue to be reported, support to GBV survivors has been strengthened. Continued engagement activities, including for women and children, will be essential to strengthen resilience, foster social inclusion, and ensure the long-term empowerment of refugee communities. UNHCR Egypt continued to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to the most vulnerable cases in 2022. The assistance provided was complemented by including some 100,000 refugees and asylum-seekers under the WFP's food distribution programme. The MPCA post-distribution monitoring (PDM) exercise conducted in 2022 provided evidence of the positive impact of the program in relation to broader protection outcomes. In addition, coordination with WFP was essential to ensure that vulnerable and food insecure PwS were not left behind. UNHCR and WFP have continued to provide food and cash assistance to vulnerable families. UNHCR also prioritized improving the identification of suitable refugee profiles to be linked to income generating activities and employment opportunities, in order to increase their resilience and their ability to meet basic needs. In this regard, the Office developed a Five-Year Road Map for Livelihood and Economic Inclusion linking the sector to Social Protection and aiming to achieve better socio-economic data.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

More persons of concern with compelling protection needs benefit from a wider range of solutions and legal pathways by end of 2022.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Actual (2022)
4.1 Number of refugees who voluntarily return in safety and dignity to their country of origin. [RF/GCR 4.2.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1	24
4.2a Number of PoC who departed on resettlement. [GCR 3.1.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,004	4,101
4.2b Number of PoC who departed through complementary pathways	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	891
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	0	2

Refugees do not have immediate prospects for local integration in Egypt. Accordingly, resettlement, VolRep and complementary legal pathways to third countries continue to be the main solutions available to refugees and asylum seekers in Egypt. In Egypt, resettlement is utilized as a key protection tool strategically, as a tangible expression of solidarity and fostering of international responsibility-sharing, particularly to reduce the strain on basic social services provided by the GoE and the host community. Thus, resettlement is not only meant to benefit those departing to resettlement countries, but also those refugees remaining in Egypt by improving the protection space. To that end, the Office focused on resettling the most vulnerable refugees in Egypt who require a third country solution, such as refugees with serious medical conditions and disabilities who cannot access services to meet their daily needs, women and girls facing legal and practical obstacles to employment, GBV survivors, refugee children, especially UASC, at risk. To ensure that resettlement is used efficiently and effectively, the Office has enhanced the Resettlement Identification referral pathways, including to strengthen integrity measures. Voluntary repatriation is not a foreseeable option for most refugees among the main population groups due to conditions in their respective countries of origin, as UNHCR only facilitates the return of certain nationalities guided by the global guidance on returns and the circumstances in the areas of return of individual cases. To that end, in line with the Comprehensive Solutions Strategy for Ivorian Refugees (cessation), the Office facilitate the voluntary repatriation of 22 refugees to the Ivory Coast. Furthermore, the Office has worked to strengthen legal pathways of admission of refugees to third countries, including family reunification, labor mobility and education mobility schemes and has made concrete strives to this effect.

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

Refugees and asylum-seekers face challenges regarding UNHCR expired documents and pending requests for new registration, which consequently impacts their access to legal residency in the country. This has been particularly a challenge in 2022, given the needs as opposed to the capacity of UNHCR, which has resulted in increased wait times for registration as well as correlating protection risks. In the absence of an asylum legal framework, refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt fall under the category of foreigners and related legal provisions, which are not adequate to their needs. The short validity and centralized processing of residency permits pose significant challenges. With regards to access to fair asylum procedures, including identification and protection of persons seeking asylum, UNHCR's regular access to persons detained remains the key challenge. Provision of protection services is increasingly challenging as the needs grow. The number of GBV cases under case management in 2022 represented only 50% of the overall needs. The year has also witnessed a considerable increase in the numbers of unaccompanied and separated children, recorded at 18% higher than 2021. While UNHCR and partners continue to offer frontline protection services, the needs far outweigh the response available, particularly in relation to case management, alternative care, as applicable, and cash assistance. The Office is also aware of the limitations of its Infoline which is planned to undergo a major revamp in 2023. The situation is further compounded by difficulties with information dissemination given the high dispersion of the PwS population in Egypt, the multiplicity of spoken languages, and the low internet connectivity. Moreover, the GoE is working towards inclusion of refugees in national systems which is increasingly putting pressure on national

structures, and, for it to succeed, a more equitable sharing of international responsibility is required.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

UNHCR's response in 2022 continued to rely on partnerships and on a collaborative approach with the government, international and local NGOs, as well as UN agencies, in order to protect and extend services to refugees and asylum-seekers. In line with SDG 17 - Partnership for the Goals, UNHCR Egypt signed a total of 13 partnership agreements to implement interventions pertaining to protection, livelihood, health care, education, and assistance programmes. UNHCR selected eight NGOs (4 international and 4 national), one UN agency and the Ministry of Education to assist in the implementation of its programs in 2022. In line with the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), UNHCR Egypt and its partners worked towards UNHCR's strategic objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including, SDG 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 16.

In 2022, the refugee response continued to be coordinated through the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG), chaired by the UNHCR Representative. In 2022, the GoE, represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), remains the main UNHCR counterpart for policy and coordination. The ministries of Education, Health and Population, the Immigration Department, the National Security under the Ministry of Interior, remain key partners for achieving the Office's protection and solutions strategy. Within the framework of the United Nations Partnership Development Framework (UNPDF), UNHCR continued to work with development partners in advancing both humanitarian and resilience components of protection.

The Joint Platform for Migrants and Refugees (JPMR) launched by UNHCR, IOM, the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator and the GoE, gained momentum in 2022 as the first situational analysis report focusing on service for migrants and refugees in the Health and Education sectors, was published in March 2022. Moreover, some donors have also started programming their refugee response envelope through the Platform in 2022.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

1. Outcome Area: Access to Territory, Reg. and Documentation

Children of refugees and asylum seekers supported with issuance of birth certificate.

Registration and documentation procedures and systems function effectively and in a timely manner.

Reception facilities for people of concern to UNHCR are improved and maintained as well as reception conditions and processes improved.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
1.1 Proportion of refugees and asylum seekers registered on an individual basis.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
1.2 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority. [SDG 16.9.1 - Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	93.50%	90.00%	90.32%
1.3 Proportion of PoC with legally recognized identity documents or credentials [GCR 4.2.2].	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR Egypt continued to provide new and continuous registration services to refugees and asylum-seekers in 6th of October, Zamalek and Alexandria offices. Registration appointments, including for unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), are granted through the Infoline, in-person at UNHCR Offices, as well as through internal and external referrals. Persons with specific needs are systematically identified and prioritized pursuant to Standard Operating Procedures. In 2022, some 127,900 individuals were interviewed for various registration services, including some 47,000 individuals for new registration and around 80,800 for continuous registration. UNHCR conducted a total of 12 mobile registration missions, reaching around 5,200 individuals in the North Coast. Furthermore, a total of 53 home/hospital visits were also conducted to provide mobile registration services to persons with limited mobility. The UNHCR corporate tool, Biometrics and Identity Management Systems (BIMS), was rolled out in Egypt in 2022. The Office continued its efforts to further streamline and standardize registration processes through various trainings for the registration team members.

In 2022, UNHCR continued to enhance early case identification of those facing challenges in birth registration through the specialized services and awareness raising activities such as community meetings, leaflets, and inclusion of information on the UNHCR Help website. As a result of early identification, PwS are mostly assisted under the regular procedures of early birth registration, which is more efficient in addressing the situation of undocumented children. The high rate of birth registration is considered an effective remedy to prevent statelessness. UNHCR and its partner also provide PwS with residency appointments before the immigration authorities to lodge their residency permit applications.

Reception conditions in Egypt satisfactorily meet minimum standards. The vacant plot offered by the municipality across from the 6th October Office in late 2021 has improved the queuing and screening

system and streamlined security mechanisms, reducing the risk of unrest, violence and criminality in the outside waiting area. The Office established a mechanism for the prioritization of persons with specific needs to access reception, including those with disabilities, serious medical conditions, pregnant/lactating women, children at risk and older people. The office conducted three trainings targeting 100 NGO staff members on protection reception and counselling, particularly for consultation/preparation of the newly launched joint reception activities, which led to successful implementation of the joint reception events.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Despite prioritization of persons with heightened protection needs, the waiting periods for registration interviews remain beyond standard. UNHCR continued to streamline processes with the aim to reduce waiting periods, including through “surge” capacity exercises. The unit also witnessed a high turnover of staff in 2022. There is a need to further capacitate the registration team, as well as to provide the necessary training to GoE counterparts as part of the transition and gradual handover in the asylum process. In the absence of an asylum law, refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt fall under the category of foreigners and related legal provisions, which do not include refugee civil registration events such as birth, marriage and divorce. The short validity and the centralized procedures of asylum-based residence permit, non-issuance of Convention Travel Document by the GoE and the absence of clear protocol on family re-unification procedures continue to be key challenges. Asylum-seeker and refugee children born in Egypt can access birth registration, however some barriers persist for late birth registration procedures.

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

People of concern have access to efficient RSD and protection processes

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
2.2 Proportion of individuals undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal advice or representation.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
2.3 Proportion of individuals undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR Egypt remains the largest mandate RSD operation globally and finalized 11,007 individual RSD decisions in 2022. This number was significantly higher than in 2021, with an increase of 59.5%, attributed to the introduction of more effective and efficient RSD case processing procedures, and the overall improvements related to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. UNHCR Egypt carries out differentiated RSD case processing modalities to achieve the best protection impact for the largest number of PwS, by maximizing efficiency while maintaining fairness, transparency, quality decision making and the integrity of the asylum system, in strict accordance with procedural safeguards. Throughout 2022, efforts were made to apply the strategic use of RSD and develop efficient processing strategies for specific caseloads. The Merged Registration-RSD procedure and Simplified RSD procedure for Eritrean and South Sudanese nationals which resumed in the first quarter of 2022, accounted for 35% of all finalized decisions by year end. These procedures had a positive impact on waiting periods and yielded high protection dividends as the process allows for more persons of concern to obtain residency permits. This is because undocumented asylum-seekers do not have access to residency permits and therefore must be recognized as refugees to obtain legal right to stay as well as solutions such as access to tertiary health care and resettlement. The Office continues to focus on Regular RSD Processes for cases which present complexities and for

example, require probing with regard to credibility or present exclusion concerns, including those referred from the Merged Registration-RSD and Simplified RSD processes. By the fourth quarter of 2022, 98% of asylum applicants were interviewed in person.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Despite UNHCR Egypt achieving high processing figures, the substantial number of individuals seeking asylum in Egypt makes managing RSD waiting times a challenge. The office's approach in this regard was to further enhance the strategic use of RSD and develop efficient processing strategies for specific caseloads, curtailed to focus on achieving maximum protection dividends, including durable solutions, as well as safeguarding the integrity of the asylum system. Another on-going challenge common in many RSD operations is the high turnover rate amongst staff. UNHCR Egypt continues to focus on staff welfare initiatives and other strategies, including rotating staff to participate in other processes, such as notification and counselling, Merged Registration-RSD processing, and Derivative Status processing, amongst others.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

Knowledge of refugee law for targeted national counterparts enhanced

Enhancement of the protection space available for people of concern to UNHCR through advocating with Member States of the League of Arab States so that internal refugee law principles are mainstreamed within the National Laws and policies

Refugees' access to information and public attitude towards them is enhanced

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Egypt does not have a comprehensive domestic normative or institutional asylum framework. In 2019, the GoE announced its decision to initiate the drafting of a national asylum law. Although UNHCR has not had access to the law, it continues to offer support and guidance towards the drafting of a national asylum law and is engaged in discussions and capacity building efforts with authorities to advocate for a law in line with international standards.

In 2022, UNHCR conducted capacity building on refugee law for 295 individuals from civil society and for 183 government counterparts. The Office provided specialized sessions for border guards, military judges and peacekeepers, on its role and mandate.

UNHCR works closely with the League of Arab States (LAS) and its Member States to enhance the protection space for refugees and asylum seekers in the Arab region. UNHCR and the LAS jointly advocated for access to safety and protection from refoulement, thus reinforcing national responsibilities, promoting regional legal instruments on statelessness and internally displaced persons, as well as ensuring alignment with the spirit of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR). UNHCR engagement with the resulted in the introduction of Arab Declaration on Belonging and Legal Identity, as well as its Regional Plan of Action presented to the member states in 2022.

Throughout 2022, UNHCR worked to enhance refugees' access to information and sensitize public attitudes. Content was published on UNHCR Egypt's social media platforms which have some 138,000 followers. The UNHCR Egypt regularly updated its service brochure in six languages, including Arabic, English, Amharic, Somali, Tigrinya and Oromo to ensure that PwS are aware of the different services offered by UNHCR and its partners. The Office disseminated more than 100 information posters covering 15 different topics. UNHCR also maintained two social media pages targeting refugees and asylum-seekers reaching almost 190,000 followers and hosted monthly live Q&A session in Arabic reaching a total of 493,029 users.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

UNHCR's cooperation with the League of Arab States (LAS) has encountered several challenges, mostly stemming from the fact that the Arab region remains an area of high tensions, protracted forced displacement situations and significant geopolitical role. This context poses challenges in adopting further legal instruments concerning refugees, asylum seekers, and stateless persons.

The limited financial resources available to some LAS member states indicates the need to find alternative financing channels for states to be able to implement their commitments and pledges. Regarding the draft asylum law, the Office welcomes the process and remains engaged with the GoE on providing relevant capacity bidding to national authorities.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Risk of gender based violence (GBV) is reduced for all people of concern to UNHCR and all survivors have timely access to quality response services, while working towards supporting a safe and compliant national GBV response system.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
4.1 Proportion of PoC who know where to access available GBV services	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	85.00%	83.33%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with SGBV case management services.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	50.00%	90.00%	89.66%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In response to GBV risks in the operational environment, UNHCR and partners have strengthened GBV response services. In 2022, the total number of survivors supported with intake/case management by UNHCR, and CARE was 2745; a 23% increase compared to 2021, and a 75% increase compared to 2019. Nevertheless, the number of survivors seeking response services continues to outpace expansion in GBV case management capacity. Most reports were received from Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers, followed by South Sudanese and Eritreans, while only 6% of survivors disclosing were Syrians.

UNHCR coordinates a multi-sectoral response through the GBV Sub-Working Group co-chaired with UNFPA, including case management, psychosocial support, legal assistance, and immediate medical response. Considering the specific protection risks that person with specific needs face, particular attention was paid to ensure these survivors received appropriate and protection-sensitive services. This year, out of the 2,745 survivors provided with intake/case management services from UNHCR and CARE, 1,341 survivors were assisted with safe relocation by CARE to reduce repeated risks from perpetrators, while 757 were provided with cash assistance by UNHCR to promote safety and recovery. With the aim of expanding the capacity of GBV SWG members to respond to survivors' needs, UNHCR and CARE launched a cooperation with the local GBV NGO AI Shehab Foundation, providing intensive capacity building.

In 2022, UNHCR achieved progress on inclusion into national GBV services. UNHCR and the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) agreed to establish a letter of understanding to allow refugee survivors to access GBV shelters run by the Ministry. In addition, UNHCR provided capacity building sessions for two new Safe Women Clinics jointly with UNFPA and NCW and will work on an MoU for refugee survivors' inclusion in these clinic services in 2023.

In 2022, 171 awareness-raising prevention sessions were conducted by CARE and attended by 4,789 participants (4,137 females and 661 males) from different nationalities. UNHCR cooperated with community leaders in the Faisal area of Cairo to reflect on the findings of the 2021 GBV Safety Audit conducted in the same neighborhood. As a result of several consultation meetings with the community, UNHCR is funding a new Safe Space in Faisal in 2023 which will provide GBV prevention activities for both refugees and host communities in this neighborhood.

Concerning community outreach/prevention, during the 16 Days of Activism against GBV, UNHCR published six refugee women/survivors' (fictionalized) stories about women's empowerment on social media. In coordination with UNFPA and the Ministry of Youth and Sports, UNHCR conducted a community session targeting around 200 women and men to promote gender equality and raise awareness about GBV. UNHCR also distributed 1,300 dignity kits to women and girls. CARE carried out a GBV prevention media campaign for the 16 Days entitled My Stories, My Right. CARE also selected 10 CBOs to conduct GBV prevention outreach.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

GBV survivors' needs continue to outweigh the response capacity, even with the doubling of UNHCR/CARE response capacity since 2019. Limited progress was achieved on the inclusion of refugee survivors into the national system, while access to the legal system for GBV survivors remains complex, including due to the lack of survivor centered approach and child friendly procedures. While intensive prevention activities continue, transformative change is slow. Further engagement with men and boys, refugee-led CBOs and other agents of change is needed. Additional gaps in GBV prevention and response include inadequate GBV mainstreaming across sectors, strengthened GBV data analysis, and limited safe livelihoods opportunities.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Refugees children at risk receive appropriate case management and alternative care services and are gradually included into quality national child protection systems.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	87.50%	90.00%	89.50%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an appropriate alternative care arrangement	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	25.00%	21.09%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

At the end of 2022, 110,934 child refugees and asylum seekers were registered with UNHCR, of whom 56,677 were of Syrian nationality and 54,257 of other nationalities. Of those, 4,865 were unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) (587 Syrians and 4,278 from other nationalities). UNHCR continued to receive referrals for unregistered children at risk, particularly unaccompanied and vulnerable separated children. In 2022, 2,408 unaccompanied and separated children (427 Syrian and 1,981 from other nationalities) were newly registered given their highlighted protection needs or heightened vulnerabilities. All identified children at risk, including UASC, underwent a screening with UNHCR following their registration, and were referred to relevant child protection services in line with their best interest.

Throughout 2022 and together with UNHCR's partners Caritas and Save the Children, UNHCR Egypt ensured that Best Interest Procedures (BIP) and Best Interest Assessments (BIA) were maintained for

timely identification, assessment of protection risks, adequate referral to services, case planning and follow up. In 2022, 1,825 BIAs and 167 BIDs were carried out by UNHCR and child protection (CP) partners for children at risk, including UASC and children facing abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation. As of December 2022, 2,784 children (57% of the total UASC) were receiving case management services. UNHCR and CP partners continue to coordinate to extend case management to as many UASC as possible. A total of 2,803 UASC were eligible for monthly cash assistance from UNHCR following their BIA.

UNHCR has continued its transition to adulthood programme with Save the Children to provide this group with essential life skills, referrals to livelihoods services, and transitional case planning. In 2022, 337 children participated in life skills sessions and 454 UASC received focused-mentorship support.

Regarding protection-sensitive entry systems, children continue to be detained in border areas. In 2022, UNHCR worked jointly with UNICEF and IOM on the implementation of the Children on the Move (COTM) SOPs (adopted by the Government in January 2020), in line with international CP standards. Furthermore, UNHCR continued to work and coordinate with the national CP counterpart, National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), on individual high-risk cases. UNHCR advocated and obtained the agreement of the Minister of Social Solidarity to include refugee children and families into the draft Alternative Care Law.

UNHCR continued to co-chair the Child Protection Sub-Working Group with UNICEF, which has established SOPs and referral pathways among all partners. Additionally, UNHCR has continued to chair the Child Protection Inter-Agency Case Conference which aims to coordinate protection actions for individual cases among implementing and operational partners.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

The reporting period has witnessed a considerable increase in the numbers of unaccompanied and separated children due to the increased focus on registration for such children in 2022, as well as the continuous new arrivals of PwS to Egypt. The total number of unaccompanied and separated children at the end of 2022 has grown by around 18% compared to the end of 2021. While UNHCR and partners continue to offer frontline direct CP services, the needs far outweigh the response available, particularly in relation to case management, alternative care, and cash assistance. In addition, challenges remain on the inclusion of refugees and asylum-seekers into national services. UNHCR Egypt continues to work closely with the GoE on the implementation and roll-out of the Children on the Move (COTM) SOP, and on establishing timely functioning referrals mechanisms for serious CP risk cases.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

People of concern have effective access to legal remedies and appeal processes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, legal assistance was provided to a total of 1,394 individuals to facilitate access to justice and due process of law, before law enforcement institutions. In addition, a total of 1,975 persons benefited from legal counselling as part of the provision of legal aid services provided by UNHCR and its legal partners, including sessions for GBV survivors. Legal assistance was equally important to gain access to those in detention who require assistance.

In 2022, UNHCR received reports from the community and the authorities on the detention of 951 registered refugees and asylum-seekers in relation to irregular movements and lack of residency permits. The overall number of arrests recorded in 2022 show a 4% decrease for the registered population in comparison to 2021. Sudanese refugees and asylum seekers continue to be the most affected population,

followed by Syrians, Ethiopians, South Sudanese and Eritreans. UNHCR continued its advocacy with the authorities, inter alia, for access to fair and effective asylum procedures for individuals seeking asylum, including for those in detention expressing a fear to return to their country of origin, for securing the release of registered refugees and asylum-seekers, and promoting alternatives to detention- particularly for children.

In 2022, the Office screened some 42,600 counselling requests and conducted gate reception orientation, prioritization and referrals across its offices. The Office conducted counselling interviews for 12,923 individuals, leading to 12,065 follow-up recommendations made to the functional units and partner NGOs on GBV, housing, legal, livelihood, CBI, child protection, health, psychosocial and resettlement. The Office also launched the 'Joint Reception' initiative in August 2022, where PwS were jointly received by NGOs partners in remote areas of Cairo. The initiative aims to facilitate access to protection counselling by comprehensive service providers in one place close to the PwS' residence. The service is particularly efficient for granting access to individuals with specific needs. Three pilots were successfully implemented in 2022, reaching 911 PwS and leading to 1,111 case follow-up recommendations. Partner NGOs and UNHCR functional units praised the new initiative as a means for efficient prioritization, instant case coordination without back-and-forth referrals and minimized duplication of efforts. Based on this success, the office decided to mainstream joint reception in 2023 as a strategic pillar for year-round activities.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

With regards to access to fair asylum procedures, UNHCR's regular access to persons detained, including identification and protection of persons seeking asylum, remains the key challenge. The short duration of residency permits, and the centralised procedures often result in the inability by PwS to regularize their residency permits in a timely manner, thus increasing their risk of arrest.

In 2022, counselling requests have decreased, particularly with regard to registration and documentation queries following the clearance of the backlog accumulated during the pandemic and thus, resulting in lower than planned targets in the form of at 42,615 individuals screened as opposed to the target of 48,000.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Ensuring equal participation in community consultations, increasing gender representation in the existing community structures and support to the people with specific needs

Refugees' access to relevant information enhanced

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
7.1 Proportion of PoC who participate meaningfully across all phases of the OMC.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	82.14%	84.00%	82.36%
7.2 Proportion of PoC who have access to effective feedback and response mechanisms.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	82.14%	84.00%	82.36%
7.3 Proportion (and number) of active female participants on leadership/management structures.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	28.57%	30.00%	28.13%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR Egypt utilized a new AAP tool for the annual participatory exercise. The tool enabled the operation to store data digitally and allows for multi-year analysis to better understand trends among the communities we serve. In 2022, a total of 134 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) were mapped in Cairo, with the aim to gain a better understanding of community capacities.

A total of 61 CBOs received capacity building and material support aimed at promoting social cohesion, resilience, and community empowerment. Outreach with diverse refugee communities was conducted through 25 community meetings and 3,900 awareness sessions on reporting mechanisms, PSEA, health, registration, RSD, RST, protection, livelihood, child protection and GBV. UNHCR was able to ensure that refugee youth could access, 8 newly established digital technological hubs under the Ministry of Youth and Sport, thus reflecting progress towards inclusion of refugees in national systems. Through existing community learning centres, 1,091 refugee youth from nine nationalities enrolled in digital skills training courses, and 361 earned specialization certificates preparing them for potential employment. The establishment of the Centre for Opportunities by UNHCR partner PSTIC, saw an improvement in the inclusion of persons with disabilities and others as it served as a safe space where individuals could develop income generating skills, life skills and access counselling sessions to build their self-reliance and psychosocial well-being. UNHCR has also enhanced engagement with refugee youth on different levels and throughout different interventions in education, livelihood, and empowerment. In addition, under the Sports for Protection programme a total of 14 youth led community and sports initiatives were supported with trainings and materials which benefited 671 refugee youth and 42 Egyptian youth through football, basketball, and other recreational activities.

A total of 8,400 PwS with specific needs were identified and assessed in 2022 as part of case management services provided by UNHCR and its partner Caritas. Out of these, almost 1,800 individuals received assistive devices and material support, while 1,260 individuals accessed rehabilitation sessions. Efforts to strengthen MHPSS were made through continuous capacity building and technical guidance to 53 community-based refugee outreach workers under UNHCR's partner PSTIC who supported 4,288 PwS on conflict mediation, community integration, emergency response and service referrals including mental health as a first line response by the refugee communities themselves.

In 2022, the Infoline in Cairo responded to almost 275,000 queries, an unprecedented number of inquiries compared to previous years, and functioned in the main languages spoken by refugees. Info-line services play a crucial role as a first line of response, as well as protection sensitive reception means, without exposure of PwS to commuting risks, crowds or expenses.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In 2022, Infoline technical challenges persisted, including the system's limited capacity to accommodate large numbers of incoming calls and to schedule counselling meetings. An overall revamp of the Infoline system is required to meet the needs of PwS. Funding constraints restricted UNHCR's capacity to fully meet the needs of PSN who required rehabilitation sessions, including physiotherapy. Support to bedbound individuals and persons with developmental disabilities, was not sufficient due to the limited resources allocated to these programmes. The limited one-time emergency cash and transportation allowance provided could not fully meet the needs of the increased number of individuals with specific needs facing social exclusion from their communities. Refugee leaders reported that they were pressurized and exhausted by the growing needs of vulnerable members, especially PSN who do not meet the current eligibility criteria for UNHCR's cash assistance.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

People of concern with heightened protection risks and falling under the national poverty line can meet their basic needs

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
8.1 Proportion of PoC in need that receive cash transfers or in-kind assistance.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	49.80%	35.00%	32.87%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, UNHCR Egypt continued to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers in order to support them to meet their basic needs and to contribute to reducing their protection risks. The total number of assisted families in 2022 was 13,255 (47,637 individuals), assisted with regular MPCA on bimonthly basis via the Egypt Post Office. The number of assisted families in 2022 surpassed the initial planned target due to the fluctuation of the Egyptian currency and gain of exchange rate, which had a direct impact on the number of families assisted and the cash transfer value. In 2022, UNHCR also supported 20,462 vulnerable families (56,658 individuals) who are on the MPCA waiting list with a one-off MPCA grant.

MPCA is provided to the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seeker families through a targeting process that aims to ensure that PwS are supported with the most appropriate interventions that addresses their needs. UNHCR registration data provides an important overview of the demographic, geographic, specific needs, and other characteristics of the PwS and is used in combination with other tools, including socioeconomic assessments conducted by UNHCR's partner Caritas who collected socioeconomic data from a total of 16,535 families throughout the year.

To ensure a greater impact of the multipurpose cash assistance, UNHCR increased the cash transfer value by 20% as of September 2022, the first-ever increase since the program's inception. Additionally, building on the longstanding successful partnership with Egypt Post, UNHCR renewed the bilateral agreement which will enable the use of over 4,000 branches of the Egypt Post Office to serve the most vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers across the country. The partnership also has the potential to support financial inclusion efforts through digital financial services, ATM services, mobile apps, and other advanced digital services. Finally, as part of UNHCR's efforts to ensure that cash transfers are provided in a timely, efficient, and accurate manner, CashAssist was introduced and rolled out in Egypt in 2022, as the main cash assistance management system.

In 2022 and thanks to the strong partnership with Terre des Hommes/PSTIC, emergency protection housing assistance was provided to 2,163 households (1,861 in Cairo/302 in Alexandria) for 9,074 individuals. Beneficiaries' profiles included individuals facing heightened protection risks and in need of urgent relocation, or homeless/host family situations exposed to violence and abuse. Housing assistance services include protection assessments, home visits, negotiations with landlords, contract support, as well as the first month rent covered for the beneficiary.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Despite the caseload expansion and transfer value increase for MPCA beneficiaries, in 2022 UNHCR was not able to assist all of the identified vulnerable families. As of December 2022, the Office recorded a waiting list of some 19,700 families (54,000 individuals), of whom 54% are not receiving any kind of assistance. In response to the increasing needs, UNHCR issued one-time assistance targeting families on the waiting list. to provide financial assistance for refugees in the current challenging circumstances.

In 2022, the Office continued to face multiple challenges in emergency protection housing, mainly due to the increasing homeless/host family cases exposed to high protection risks, combined with an excessive inflationary pressure on housing costs. Serious unmet needs remain for refugees and asylum-seekers facing worsening protection and socio-economic vulnerabilities as a result of the ongoing economic crisis.

10. Outcome Area: Healthy Lives

People of concern have access to health services

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
10.1 Proportion of children aged 9 months to five years who have received measles vaccination.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	81.00%	100.00%	95.45%
10.2. Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel. [SDG 3.1.2 Tier 1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	94.97%	95.00%	95.45%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, essential health services were provided to refugees and asylum-seekers by a number of actors, including the Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP), private health care providers, international and national NGOs, charities and UNHCR public health programs. According to the annual Health Access and Utilization Survey (HAUS) carried out by UNHCR in November 2022, 85% of the respondents reported being able to access health care services when in need, 96% of children under five were reported to have received the measles vaccine and 96% of women with a child of 2 years or younger reported having delivered in a health facility.

UNHCR's health activities in Egypt target refugees and asylum-seekers from all nationalities and are available mainly in greater Cairo, Alexandria and Damietta. They include provision of primary health care services in clinics run by implementing partners, paying for emergency hospital care and prioritized elective interventions through a network of private and public hospitals contracted with an implementing partner, and cash support for birth deliveries. Furthermore, UNHCR through an implementing partner, is supporting 20 public primary health care facilities with capacity-strengthening activities including training of staff. Finally, UNHCR constructed new outpatient department clinics for a public mental health hospital, donated hospital beds, office material and a call-centre system for the national mental health hot-line.

In 2022, a total of 106,000 primary health care consultations were provided within the UNHCR programs, of which 84,000 within the implementing partner clinics. Around 9,100 persons received treatment for chronic conditions and 1,300 persons were treated for mental condition. Additionally, 380 persons living with HIV received antiretroviral treatment and 110 persons that had contracted TB received TB treatment. Around 940 women received cash support for their deliveries and 57 survivors of gender-based violence received medical services. Community health workers provided health awareness to the target population through group- as well as face-to-face sessions. Regarding secondary and tertiary care, UNHCR paid for around 15,000 hospital care interventions including admissions, benefitting 9,200 persons.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

The public health team assisted ILO to conduct a feasibility study on the possible inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers in the universal health insurance scheme (UHS) that is being rolled out in the country. In its wake, meetings have been held with other stakeholders to investigate possible entry-points, but no mechanism has so far been established. The main challenge is in financing the high proportion of persons who will not be able to contribute themselves to the premiums of the scheme.

Financial constraints have forced the health program to limit the range of services UNHCR can provide, with

the result that persons with certain medical conditions are now facing increased difficulty in accessing the health care they need. Finally, the continuous depreciation of the Egyptian currency has made it challenging to achieve targets within the given budget, since costs of certain health services (especially medication) has increased.

11. Outcome Area: Education

Increase UNHCR advocacy efforts with the MoE and enhance coordination with Education actors to increase enrollment & retention of refugee students in schools

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
11.2 Proportion of PoC enrolled in the national education system. [GCR 2.2.1]	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	40.73%	45.00%	42.38%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, the Office successfully advocated with the Ministry of Education (MoE) for the continuation of the exceptional Ministerial Decree allowing Syrian and Yemeni refugee and asylum seeker children to enroll in Egyptian public schools in the academic year 2022-2023, on an equal footing to nationals. In 2022, UNHCR provided some 56,200 education grants to school age refugee children allowing them to enroll in all types of schools. A total of some 46,400 education grants went to students enrolled in basic education and over 9,200 to students enrolled in upper secondary education. In addition, approximately 600 children with disability were provided with an enhanced education grant allowing them to enroll in specialized schools that have the model of education and care suitable to their needs. The Office also supported the enrolments of 1,800 unaccompanied and separated children for the academic year 2022/2023. The UNHCR education grant support was instrumental in increasing the number of refugee children enrolled in all types and levels of education, as it allows children to buy school uniforms, stationary and helps to pay part of the tuition fee.

UNHCR continued to support the capacity of the MoE during 2022, in particular in the area of digital education solutions aimed at improving the quality of education for both refugees and nationals enrolled in public schools. Moreover, the Office trained 220 Enrollment and Certification officials and 200 Social Workers working in schools hosting refugee children. In partnership with MoE and Vodafone Foundation, UNHCR also refurbished 30 classrooms, established digital solutions in the same schools and built four (4) playgrounds in public schools hosting a high number of refugee children.

In view of the challenging funding landscape, in 2022 UNHCR Egypt adopted more innovative approaches to increase enrolment rates of refugee children and youth into certified technical education schools. The Office supported 20 refugee youth to enroll in the German Hotel Technical Secondary School in Hurgada on the Red Sea. This three-year course which is accredited by both Egypt and Germany, guarantees students a contract of employment with the school's five-star hotel following successful graduation. Enrolment of refugee youth in Tertiary Education continued to expand. The operation was able to secure an additional 200 DAFI scholarships for the academic year 2022-2023, bringing the total of DAFI scholarship beneficiaries in Egypt to 596 scholars from Syria, Sudan, Yemen, South Sudan, Iraq, Eritrea, and Somalia. UNHCR continues to Co-Chair the Education Working Group with UNICEF with a focus in 2023 to develop a sustainable mainstreaming education strategy for all refugee school children MoE school system.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Among the nationalities registered with UNHCR in Egypt, only Sudanese, South Sudanese, Syrians and most recently Yemeni children have access to education in public schools on equal footing to nationals. While enrolment at primary school level is considered high (approximately 85% across the board) drop-out

levels at secondary school level is at 20%.

Funding limitations coupled with the deteriorating socio-economic conditions in Egypt, meant that some key challenges affecting refugees and asylum-seekers in the education sector could not be addressed such as more support for improving the quality of education through teacher training, provision of education materials and supporting the creation of a conducive learning environment. Lack of funding also meant that awareness raising for possible risks related to Child Protection and GBV for parents of community schools' students were not carried out.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

Refugees and asylum seekers have access to adequate socio economic inclusion and livelihood opportunities

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2022, the Office took a more proactive approach on economic inclusion interventions. UNHCR enhanced the promotion of livelihoods and economic inclusion for refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt through wage and self-employment support, and by identifying new sectors for activities and possible new partnerships. Wage employment support was matched to the educational background, professional qualifications, work experience, and skills of the PwS, with employment opportunities available in the labor market. Skills development was crucial and increased refugees' possibilities to meet employers' demands. For self-employment livelihood cash grants were given to selected individuals who submitted business plans for start-up businesses or got expansion grants for existing small and medium enterprises.

In 2022, some 600 individuals received capacity building training relevant to the needs of the labor market, while around 400 individuals were supported to establish and/or to enlarge their businesses (start-ups and expansion grants), 630 found a job and almost 4,400 were provided with guidance on labour-market opportunities. The targeted population included all nationalities and groups, with a focus on women and paying special attention to the inclusion of youth. Approximately, 50% of the targeted beneficiaries were from Syria and the other 50% from other nationalities. In 2022, the Office recorded an increase of refugees from sub-Saharan countries in livelihood activities.

The Office developed a Five-Year Road Map for Livelihood and Economic Inclusion linking the sector to Social Protection and aiming to achieve better socio-economic data. The Office continued to chair the Livelihood and Economic Inclusion Working Group (LEIWG), to ensure better coordination and mapping of livelihood interventions across stakeholders. Community engagement was enhanced through monthly community meetings, while a corporate monitoring framework was adopted at national level.

UNHCR expanded the MADE 51 model to Alexandria and Damietta, complemented by training courses to improve the quality and the design of products. Beneficiaries of the Livelihood interventions were also encouraged to participate in a number of exhibitions and events, while a short project focusing on inclusion of refugees into the creative industry in Egypt was implemented in partnership with International Emerging Film Talent Association (IEFTA). The Livelihood unit was instrumental in the signing of a Letter of Understanding (LoU) with the National Council for Women and pursued a collaboration with Al Sadu House in Kuwait to initiate a MADE51 project in Alexandria. New partners were also approached (EBRD) around the financial inclusion of refugees and support to small and micro enterprises. UNHCR maintained a dialogue with IFC to promote the access of refugees and asylum seekers to financial services in Egypt.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Funding constraints limited UNHCR's ability to fully meet the needs of refugees showing potential and ability to work. The consequences of COVID-19 coupled with the Ukraine situation, led to growing economic

instability at national and household level. Savings were eroded and businesses struggled to get supplies and keep operating. PwS that were able to work and sustain themselves had difficulties in keeping up with the increasing inflation and rising prices.

Extended programmes are needed to provide support to individuals with employability potential and who lack the initial capital to engage successfully into the labor market. Refugees and asylum-seekers continue to face difficulties in attempting to access and to sustain work opportunities in the informal labor market. Youth and women require support in the development of soft and technical skills, as well as the possibility of flexible work arrangements.

14. Outcome Area: Voluntary Return and Sustainable Reintegration

Support for refugees' voluntary return is provided.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
14.2 Proportion of PoC who wants to receive the CoO information actually receives it.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In Egypt, Voluntary Repatriation is not supported for most refugees and is only facilitated for a few nationalities based on the conditions of return in the countries of origin. UNHCR Egypt facilitates the return of refugees, primarily Sudanese, originating from and requesting to return to certain areas within their respective country, by providing information, counselling, registration (VRF), and facilitating exit formalities. This support is extended to Ethiopians and Somalis returning to areas considered safe to return only. Those returning to their countries of origin are provided with a multi-purpose cash grant to facilitate return and assist post-arrival. In 2022, UNHCR Egypt facilitated the return of 21 Ivorians following the application of cessation, including 1 dependent of Burkinabe nationality, as well as 2 nationals of Ethiopia, reuniting with their family members in the country of origin. Facilitation of return to countries of origin encompasses counselling and provision of information on conditions in areas of return, registration (VRF), as well as facilitating exit formalities, as needed through the Egypt Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2022, the Office worked on updating the Standard Operating Procedures for Voluntary Repatriation, which will be further revised in 2023 following the publishing of the UNHCR Operational Guidance on Voluntary Repatriation. Specifically for Syrian refugees and asylum seekers, the Office reported 444 spontaneous returns in 2022, compared to 399 returns noted in 2021 and 105 returns in 2020. Refugees and asylum seekers returning to Syria do so on their own, without the assistance of UNHCR or the GoE.

In 2022, the Office carried out a Syrian Refugees Perception and Intention Survey on Returns, in line with the regional guidance on return of Syrian nationals, indicating the intention to return within the following 12 months, 5 years and without a specified timeframe. Although, in 2023, the operation will take a more proactive role in screening and facilitation of returns where conditions are considered conducive for other nationalities, it is expected that returns to Syria, following the Syrian Refugees Perception and Intention Survey conducted in all 3RP countries in the MENA region, will remain low in the next 12 months. However, the percentage of those hoping to return from Egypt within the next five years was noted as being the highest in the region and amounting to 50% of the Syrian population. Among those Syrian refugees willing to return to Syria without a specified timeframe, Egypt once more scored the highest in the region with 80% of Syrians willing to return.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

Voluntary Repatriation in Egypt is undertaken on individual basis and being facilitated for a few refugees only based on the conducive conditions in their countries of origin and allowing for return in safety and

dignity. Despite proactive information gathering in regard to returns to Syria, the numbers of those willing to return remain relatively low. In most instances UNHCR is only aware of the return based on the closure of the Registration Group, often based on the information provided by the remaining family members. Additionally, in 2022, the Office did not have dedicated staff to sufficiently focus on Voluntary Repatriation activities, noting the extremely high staff turnover, allowing the facilitation of 24 departures only. In 2023, the Office will place more emphasis on voluntary repatriation, ensuring that those refugees willing to return to areas of return considered safe to return, are assisted efficiently and effectively.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Opportunities for resettlement and complementary pathways of vulnerable people of concern are increased.

Indicators	Population Type	Baseline (2022)	Target (2022)	Actual (2022)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	2,800	2,900	2,834
15.2 Average processing time from resettlement submission to departure under normal priority.	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,100.00	1,300.00	1,282.00

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Resettlement continued to be availed to the most vulnerable of the refugee population in Egypt, in line with the global UNHCR resettlement strategy and the strategic use of resettlement as a protection tool. As of January 2022, the total population of PwS in Egypt stood at 271,102, of which 10% was identified as in need of resettlement based on their specific needs, including: refugees with serious medical conditions and disabilities who cannot access services to meet their daily needs, women and girls facing legal and practical obstacles to employment and/or seeking work in the informal sector, exposing them to risks of exploitation, GBV survivors facing challenges in accessing services and limited national GBV capacity, social stigma, and language barriers for non-Arabic speakers, refugee children, especially UASC, at risk of abuse, neglect, violence and exploitation, girls compelled to marry early or facing harassment going to or at school, and children from certain communities targeted by gangs.

Individual submissions at the end of the year stood at 2,834. Among the refugees identified, processed, and submitted for resettlement, the majority were submitted to Germany (899 individual submissions) and the USA (833 individual submissions), followed by Switzerland (356 individual submissions), Sweden (307 individual submissions), France (193), Canada (135), Portugal (92), UK (16), and lastly, Norway (2) and Belgium (1). Additionally, and reflecting on the vulnerabilities identified, 40% of all submissions represented refugees submitted under the Survivors of Violence and/or Torture Resettlement Category, followed by those submitted under the Legal and Physical Protection Needs (27%), Women and Girls at Risk (17%) and Children and Adolescents at Risk (11%) – among the most frequently used categories. Moreover, following the recommendation of the Exceptional Case Committee, 26 cases have been submitted for Resettlement Consideration based on their identified serious and / or life-threatening medical conditions for which all avenues for medical assistance in Egypt have been exhausted.

During the reporting year, the unit enhanced the resettlement identification referral pathway recommending that all externally received referrals are initially channeled and screened via functional units, while ensuring that UNHCR partners are appropriately trained on Resettlement categories and prioritization profiles, as well as vulnerability thresholds. This was done with a view to ensure that resettlement remains a key protection tool for vulnerable refugees who require a third country solution as well as to enhance integrity measures.

Challenges to Achieving Outcome

In 2022, staffing remained one of the greatest challenges with high staff turnover, including five resettlement staff departures in August alone, resulting in the need for recruitment of several positions and training of new staff. In order to meet the yearly targets, from other units were asked to support resettlement temporarily for review or casework. UNHCR Egypt also requested to delay submission deadlines for both Germany and Switzerland to ensure that cases were appropriately identified, interviewed, drafted and reviewed at two levels.

While UNHCR Egypt reduced the backlog of cases pending submission for medical needs in 2022, regular contact with the contracted Medical Assessment Form (MAF) doctor remained a challenge. The submissions of cases with serious and / or life-threatening medical conditions remained low, also due to the limited number of medical slots offered by Resettlement Countries.

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

UNHCR is mandated to ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers can realize their rights and participate meaningfully in the decisions that affect their lives. Data and information collected during the Participatory Assessment (PA) conducted in 2022 was disaggregated by age, sex, disability, and other diversity considerations. To ensure accountability to affected populations (AAP), UNHCR conducted numerous FGDs with diverse groups to close the feedback loop and provide updates on progress made against issues raised during the PA. In addition, dedicated FGDs during the course of the year with persons with disabilities, older persons and others continue to indicate that they face multiple barriers to accessing services and assistance and frequently report experiencing stigma, discrimination and being socially excluded from their communities. Continued capacity building and sensitization efforts are needed to address both physical and attitudinal barriers faced by these groups with UNHCR staff, partners and the communities we serve. UNHCR also ensured that AGD is mainstreamed at the policy and technical levels and applied in all HR policies, protection procedures and operational deliverables.

At the community level, UNHCR facilitated training for 94 refugee community leaders (45 females), to enhance the community's knowledge on AGD, gender equality and APP. UNHCR established WhatsApp communication channels with 143 refugee leaders to strengthen two-way communication and identify and discuss community concerns. Efforts to systematically collect and respond to feedback from the communities was scaled-up through 25 community meetings and 3,907 outreach information sessions dedicated to this purpose. Other platforms such as the UNHCR's HELP webpage, also includes FAQs and information on services provided by UNHCR and partners, while Facebook pages were used to regularly share information. The GBV mailbox continued to be utilized and thus, reduce access barriers for PwS to report incidents. To support gender equality, efforts to increase female representation, which currently comprises 29% among refugee leaders, remain challenging as they are nominated directly by their communities. Women and girls are registered individually and systematically provided with documentation. Female-headed households are mostly registered by female staff and PSN including women and girls are prioritized for registration interviews.

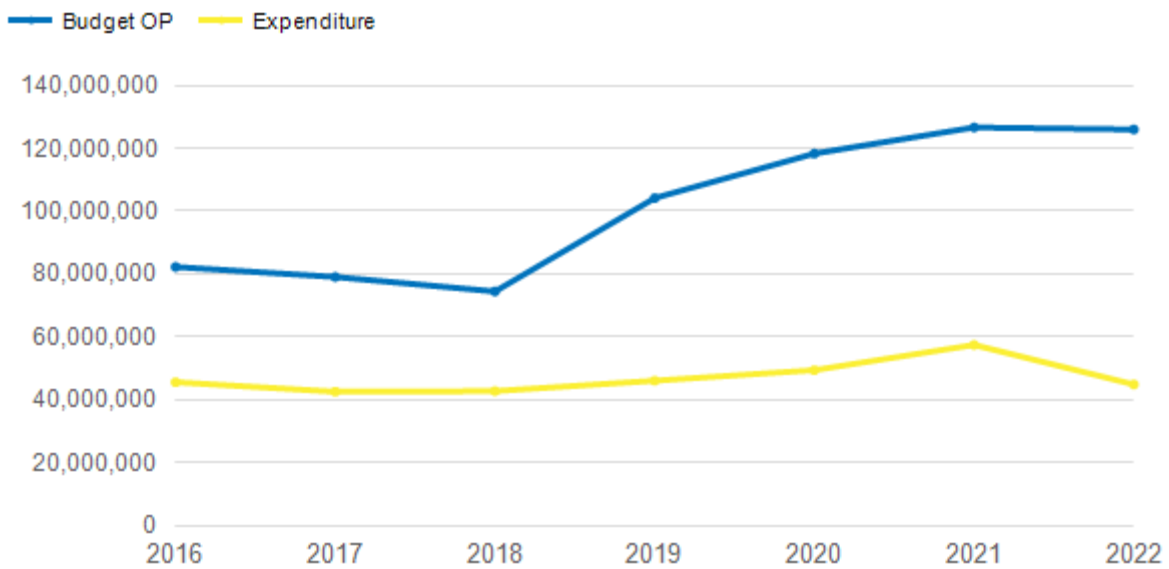
Section 3: Resources

3.1 Financial Data

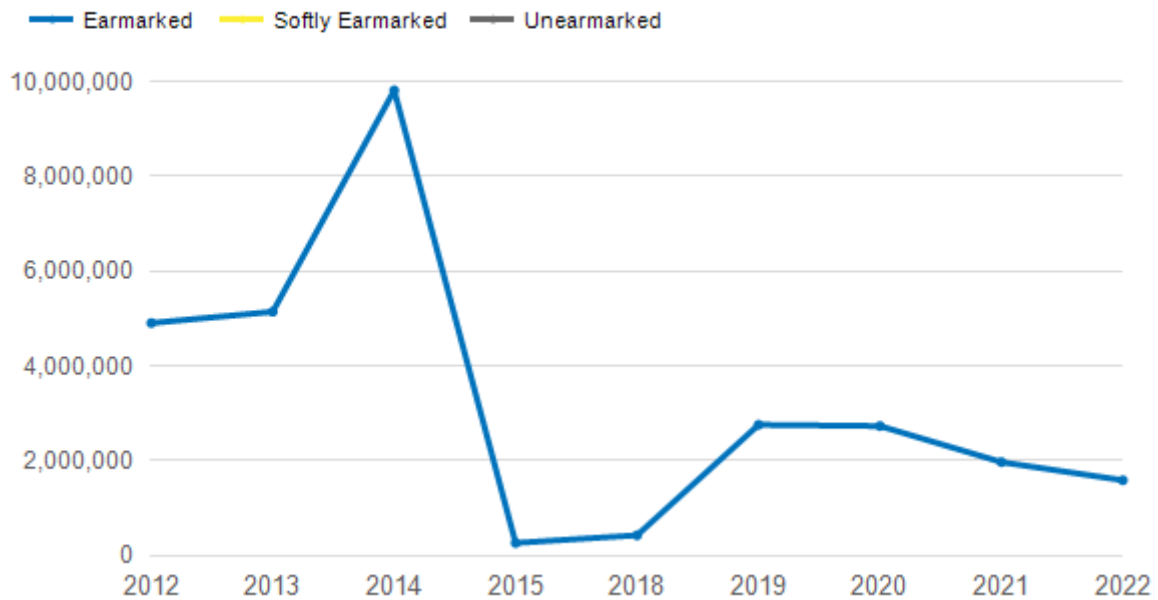
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	26,109,163	14,307,004	54.80%	14,307,004	100.00%
IA2: Respond	66,259,930	17,733,975	26.76%	17,733,975	100.00%
IA3: Empower	27,747,260	11,628,131	41.91%	11,628,131	100.00%
IA4: Solve	5,873,296	1,247,801	21.25%	1,247,802	100.00%
Total	125,989,649	44,916,910	35.65%	44,916,912	100.00%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA1: Access/Doc	7,681,652	4,945,392	64.38%	4,945,392	100.00%
OA2: Status	3,089,182	1,262,186	40.86%	1,262,186	100.00%
OA3: Policy/Law	3,480,489	2,279,593	65.50%	2,279,593	100.00%
OA4: GBV	2,149,125	1,448,055	67.38%	1,448,055	100.00%
OA5: Children	8,778,720	3,365,657	38.34%	3,365,657	100.00%
OA6: Justice	2,149,956	1,524,766	70.92%	1,524,766	100.00%
OA7: Community	5,506,943	3,822,546	69.41%	3,822,546	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	51,135,334	12,192,764	23.84%	12,192,764	100.00%
OA10: Health	15,124,596	5,537,361	36.61%	5,537,361	100.00%
OA11: Education	17,442,606	5,443,127	31.21%	5,443,127	100.00%
OA13 Livelihood	2,648,586	913,483	34.49%	913,483	100.00%
OA14: Return	5,069,148	528,598	10.43%	528,598	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	804,148	718,573	89.36%	718,574	100.00%
EA17: Systems	929,163	927,810	99.85%	927,810	100.00%
EA20: External		7,000	0.00%	7,000	100.00%
Total	125,989,649	44,916,910	35.65%	44,916,912	100.00%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

UNHCR’s needs-based budget of \$126 million for Egypt in 2022 was only 36% funded. The United States of America contributed more than half the funding, at \$25.3 million. Expenditure was constrained, especially in Impact Areas 2 (Respond) and 4 (Solve) and totaled \$44.9 million.



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