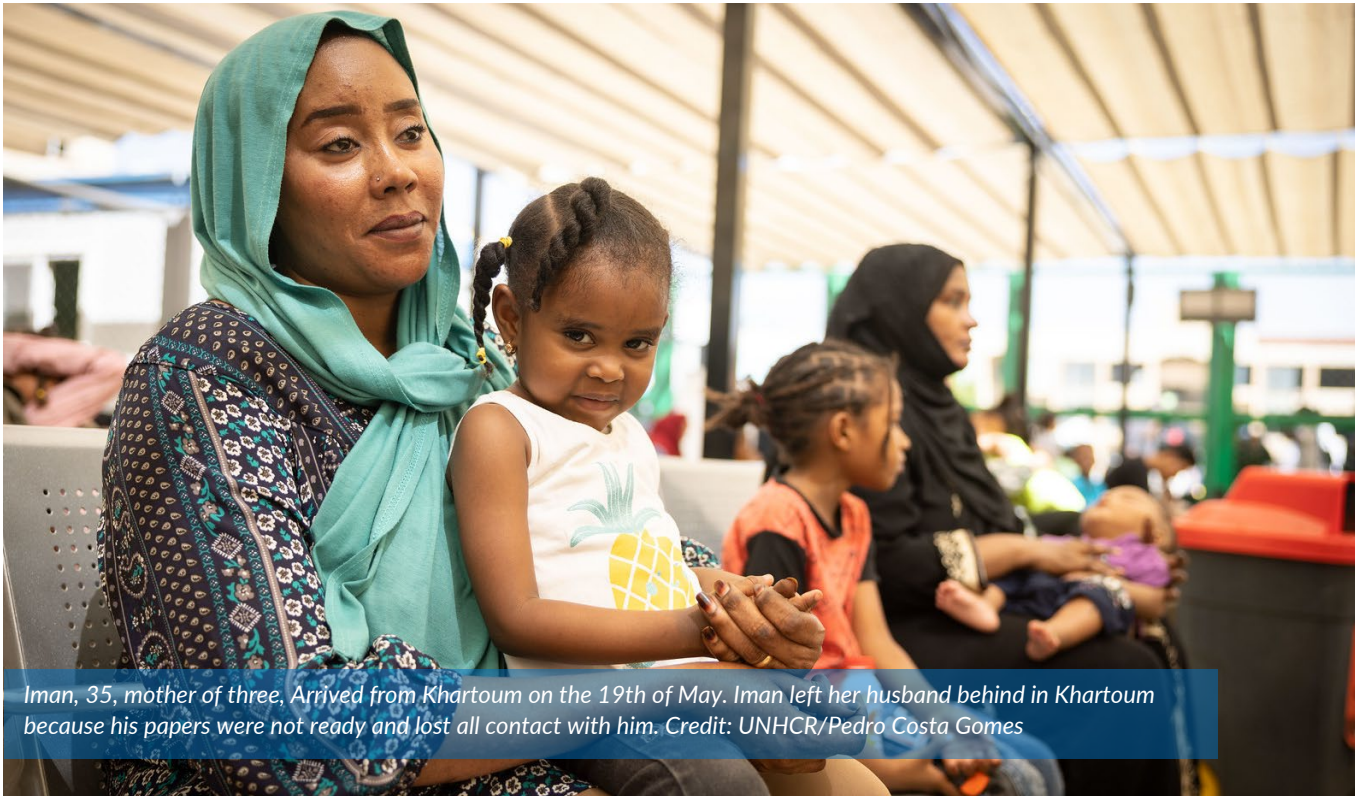


**UNHCR EGYPT**  
**SUDAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE**  
6 July 2023



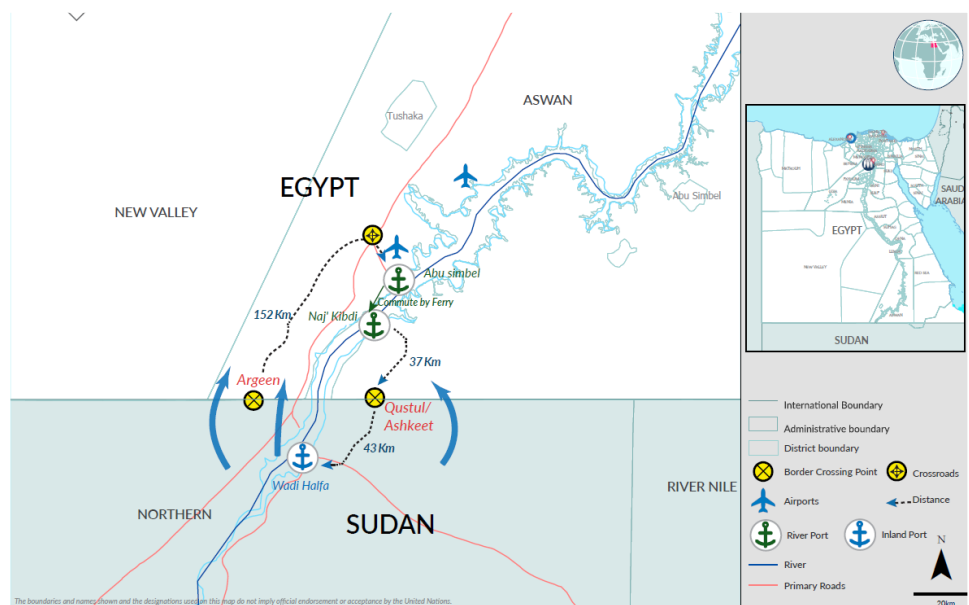
Iman, 35, mother of three, Arrived from Khartoum on the 19th of May. Iman left her husband behind in Khartoum because his papers were not ready and lost all contact with him. Credit: UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

 **>250,000**

Sudanese have entered Egypt from Sudan via the two official border crossings, Arqeen and Qoustol, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
As of 22 June

 **\$25.2 million**

UNHCR's financial requirements for the [Sudan emergency response](#) in Egypt.



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used in this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
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## LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

- The number of new arrivals through the border crossings of Arqeen and Qoustol has decreased since the application of tighter entry measures starting 10 June (more details can be found in the two [previous Updates](#)). UNHCR conducted 22 border monitoring missions to Arqeen and Qoustol during the month of June 2023, where a substantial decrease in the number of arrivals was observed after 10 June. Between 1-9 June, some 25,500 Sudanese crossed into Egypt through Qoustol and Arqeen, while the total figure for the period 10-30 June was of some 7,300 individuals, showing a decrease of some 86% in the average number of daily entries through Qoustol and Arqeen since the enactment of the 10-June regulations. UNHCR continues to observe and monitor reports of visas being issued faster for women, children below 16 and men above 50 from the Egyptian consulates in Wadi Halfa and Port Sudan, compared to men of other age groups.
- Border traffic is however on the increase since Eid. On 4 July, UNHCR learned from the border authorities at Qoustol crossing, that some 480 individuals were processed for entry on the day, of whom the majority are Sudanese. This represents a notable increase compared to the traffic reported at the border during and immediately prior to the Eid holiday. UNHCR also observed heavy traffic of commercial trucks parked in a line that stretches for around 5 kilometres outside of the Qoustol border crossing. According to the border authorities, many drivers left their trucks after reserving their spot in the processing line, to celebrate Eid. They are expected to return to their trucks in the coming days.

## Sector highlights

UNHCR continues to strengthen its engagement and coordination leadership with partners in Cairo as well as in the south and border areas, while continuing to engage local authorities and community-based organizations to assess the needs and scope of the response. Two technical inter-sector working groups (ISWG), one in Aswan and one in Cairo, continue to meet on a bi-weekly basis to report any issue that needs the attention of the inter-agency working group.

## Protection

Between 20 – 22 June, UNHCR conducted a three-day training for 14 military officers from the Moral Affairs and Media Section at Egyptian Ministry of Defense (MoD). The training covered UNHCR's mandate and principles of international protection, the definition of a refugee, the principle of non-refoulement and non-penalization of irregular entry, the refugee model, and key protection considerations in mixed movement. A total of seven capacity-building activities with the Egyptian MoD have been planned for 2023, with the aim of raising awareness of refugee protection.

Capacity building for different actors involved in the emergency response was and still is amongst the key priorities in Aswan where UNHCR, in collaboration and coordination with other UN agencies, national and international NGOs, completed the CBO mapping exercise that has allowed for the identification of nine of them that would be supported with various equipment items needed. Besides, UNHCR jointly with UNFPA delivered a training on the protection from sexual exploitation and abuse for the members of the inter-Sector coordination group in Aswan.

## Registration

As of 5 July, UNHCR has provided pre-registration appointments for 15,154 newly arrived households (32,116 individuals) of whom 7,336 households (15,617 individuals) have been registered. This surpasses registration targets, attributed to increased internal and deployed staffing, data set minimization, simplified processes, and extended registration hours. According to Registration data, over 93% are Sudanese, followed by South Sudanese and Eritreans. Some 60% are female-headed households.

UNHCR office in Alexandria has started registering Sudanese new arrivals, who are increasingly approaching the Office and Infoline for registration appointments. Since the start of the crisis in Sudan, some 634 new registration appointments (for 1,732 Individuals) have been scheduled by the office in Alexandria for new arrivals from Sudan. Of these, 120 families have been prioritized due to their heightened protection risks. The Infoline in Alexandria is currently receiving some 60 inquiries per day, compared to a daily average of 12 inquiries before the crisis. Out of these, some 38% are for new registration appointments.

Requests from Sudanese nationals to get their files reopened continue, as the current prevailing conditions in Sudan prevent them from returning. UNHCR has received over 450 file reopening requests from Sudanese. The Office is streamlining reopening processing and is currently screening cases, prioritizing persons with specific needs and other vulnerabilities. To date, UNHCR has reopened 25 cases (47 individuals) – mainly those in detention. Sudanese with closed files have shared the difficulties they are facing to access residency and education services, given their lack of registration with UNHCR. They have also stated the lack of legal status makes them vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, and unable to easily access basic services.

Since mid-June, the daily average of registration appointments issued via Infoline has been consistently high, with an average of 390 registration appointments a day last week. This is consistent with previous averages of 400 appointments issued daily for the period 18-22 June, and the 349 appointments issued daily for the period 11-15 June. This trend also demonstrates a stabilization of number of registration appointments being issued via Infoline which, during the initial three weeks of the Sudan crisis, were effectively doubling each week.

## Cash assistance

UNHCR continues to provide one-off emergency cash assistance to registered and unregistered new arrivals from Sudan.

As of 5 July, since the start of the Sudan conflict, a total of 13,088 registered and unregistered individuals (4,728 families) have been identified by UNHCR as eligible for the emergency cash assistance among whom 8,927 individuals (3,253 families) have already been assisted. Some 2,688 unregistered families (8,132 individuals) were assessed by UNHCR partner, Caritas, for eligibility for emergency cash assistance via assessments in Aswan, Greater Cairo, and Alexandria – 73% of these were female-headed households.



Ahmed, 28, registers with UNHCR partner Caritas for a cash-based intervention after crossing the Arjeen border on May 2023 with his wife and two children. ©UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

Around 61% of the assessed unregistered families (1,630 families, 5,299 individuals) were found eligible for emergency cash. As of 5 July, 978 unregistered families (3,162 individuals) have already been assisted through Egypt Post Office and the remaining are in the pipeline. 3,098 eligible registered cases (7,789 individuals) have been identified to receive emergency cash assistance and 1,081 cases (2,431 individuals) have already been assisted; the remainder is currently being assisted.





Moayad and his sister Mawada, refugees from Sudan, waiting at UNHCR registration centre in Cairo.  
©UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

## Education

UNHCR and the Ministry of Education (MoE) have concluded their joint three-day mission to Aswan and the surrounding areas. During the mission, UNHCR and the MoE assessed public schools in Aswan, Kom Ombo, Idfu, Daraw, and Nasr El Nuba areas. A total of 25 schools with a high density of Sudanese refugees and nationals were identified as requiring support in and around Aswan.

Each visited school had an average of around 20 to 25 Sudanese refugee children awaiting school enrolment. The enrolment process is ongoing and will continue until the end of December 2023. In the short term, the identified needs include the provision of school supplies and IT equipment, training of local officers responsible for enrolment and certification in and around Aswan, upgrading of WASH facilities, and other minor improvements to several schools in preparation for the 2023/2024 academic year.

In the medium term, the construction of annexes in two schools (approximately 16-22 classrooms each) is needed in Idfu and Aswan City. These new annexes will help reduce classroom density, particularly in schools where kindergarten, primary, preparatory, and secondary school children are accommodated in the same building.

## Core relief items

Items distributed to newly arrived individuals:



666,520  
Bottles of water



150,000  
hygiene kits



75,000  
Sanitary items

So far UNHCR installed two rub halls in Qoustol border crossing, and a third rub hall has been installed in the zone between the two borders. Those installations have been facilitating the scale up of the response as well as providing space for asylum-seekers to rest. In addition, UNHCR delivered nine commercial fridges, 15 family tents, 50 office chairs, 20 smartphones, four freezers, four logistic trolleys and 250 waiting benches to partner ERC.

## Main needs and gaps



UNHCR staff assists a Sudanese child refugee at the border.  
©UNHCR/Pedro Costa Gomes

Access to territory under new admission procedures remains a concern. New visa regulations implemented on 10 June have since been rigorously in place with respect to all Sudanese nationals except for individuals requiring urgent life-saving medical assistance who are admitted into the Egyptian territory even when they do not fully meet the newly introduced entry conditions. As a result, the average daily arrival rate has drastically dropped from about 4,000 – 5,000 individuals to approximately 500 persons per day. Crowds in the thousands and growing are behind the border gate and inside the buffer zone, including many with serious medical needs but incomplete documentation. UNHCR and partner the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) have been able to facilitate entry for serious medical cases, but only for those with correct documentation.

The interagency response in Egypt is currently only 12% funded.

## Financial information

UNHCR is grateful to the donors who have contributed to its operation in Egypt, including in response to the Sudan situation. Ongoing support is critical to help families rebuild their lives. UNHCR is urgently appealing for **\$151.4 million** to support its response, including to the emergency across Egypt, with little contributions received to date.

**DONATE NOW**

**CONTACT:** UNHCR Public Information and External Relations Unit – [arecapi@unhcr.org](mailto:arecapi@unhcr.org)

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