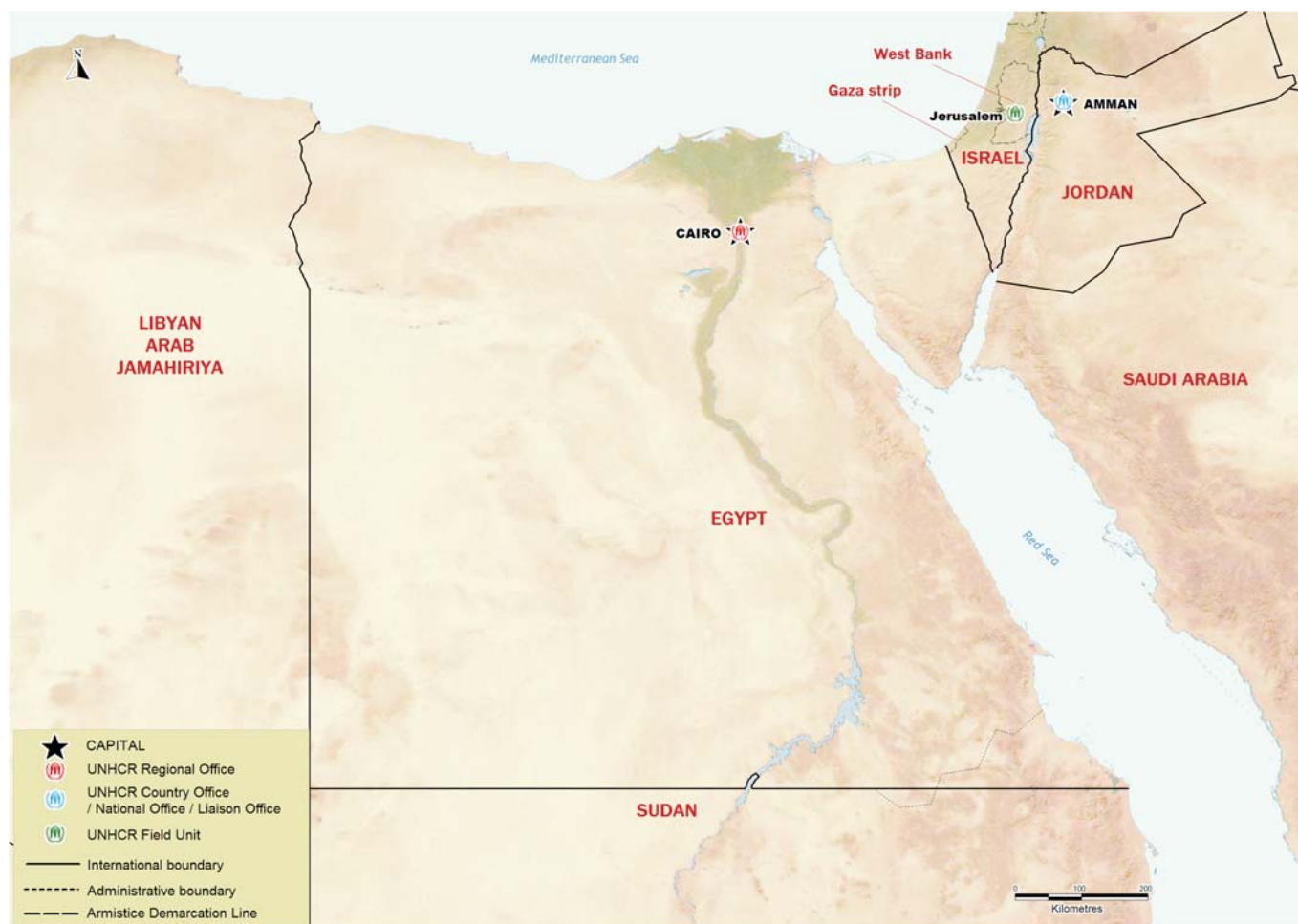


EGYPT



Working environment

The context

Egypt is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, as well as to the Organization of African Unity's 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa. However, it has no domestic procedures and institutions for asylum. All aspects of registration, documentation and refugee status determination (RSD) are

carried out by UNHCR under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government. The situation is not expected to change in the near future.

Egypt hosts refugees and asylum-seekers from 38 countries, mostly in urban settings. The registered population of concern to UNHCR numbers about 42,000. This includes some 10,000 people who did not contact UNHCR or any of its partners in the past three years for assistance or document renewal.

At the end of 2008, 54 per cent of the people of concern to UNHCR were Sudanese (65 per cent from Southern Sudan),

Planning figures

TYPE OF POPULATION	ORIGIN	JAN 2010		DEC 2010 - JAN 2011		DEC 2011	
		TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR	TOTAL IN COUNTRY	OF WHOM ASSISTED BY UNHCR
Refugees	Sudan	10,100	10,100	11,000	11,000	11,500	11,500
	Iraq	9,200	9,200	9,200	9,200	7,000	7,000
	Somalia	6,500	6,500	7,000	7,000	7,500	7,500
	Various	2,500	2,500	3,000	3,000	3,500	3,500
Asylum-seekers	Sudan	13,500	13,500	14,500	14,500	14,800	14,800
	Eritrea	800	800	1,000	1,000	1,200	1,200
	Ethiopia	500	500	600	600	700	700
	Various	500	500	600	600	700	700
Stateless		60	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		43,660	43,600	46,900	46,900	46,900	46,900

24 per cent were Iraqis and 13 per cent were Somalis. There was also a growing number of Eritreans and Ethiopians.

Egypt is a refugee-receiving as well as a transit country, with irregular movements of people fleeing their countries due to economic reasons or serious violations of human rights. UNHCR seeks to identify and help those within these irregular movements who are in need of international protection in a manner which takes account of Egypt's legitimate security concerns while ensuring respect for the principle of *non-refoulement*.

● The needs

Refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt face difficult lives marked by poverty and a sensitive political and security environment. The problems are aggravated by restrictions on employment and access to public schools and the lack of affordable health care. A sharp increase in commodity prices has added to refugees' woes.

| Main objectives |

Favourable protection environment

- Strengthen the national legal framework to increase the available protection space.

Fair protection processes

- Update registration data and provide protection information to persons of concern.

Basic needs and services

- Improve the health of the population of concern by providing primary, reproductive and mental health care and organizing a referral system.
- Advocate for children of concern to be given access to the national education system.
- Strengthen services to groups with specific needs.
- Improve the fairness and efficiency of RSD procedures.

Community participation and self-management

- Create self-reliance and livelihood opportunities by developing appropriate self-management structures.

Durable solutions

- Support voluntary return by providing transportation and relevant information to returnees.
- Expand activities to identify those in need of resettlement.

| Strategy and activities |

The main focus of UNHCR's work in Egypt is self-reliance of refugees and asylum-seekers. Working with its partners, UNHCR will continue to provide protection to all those of concern and help urban refugees to avail themselves of social services, such as health care and education.

Key targets for 2010

- UNHCR's capacity for reception, registration and documentation is maintained, with some 5,000 people newly registered or departing, either on resettlement or voluntary repatriation.
- Some 7,000 laminated documents are issued to refugees and asylum-seekers.
- Approximately 2,500 people are able to avail themselves of RSD and the waiting time is reduced from four to two months.
- Education grants are provided to some 6,500 students in primary and secondary school.
- Some 25 per cent of the refugee population (those who cannot survive by their own means) receive targeted support in housing and food assistance.
- Vocational training and job-services are provided for some 380 refugees.
- Some 1,000 Sudanese are helped to return home and 1,500 Iraqis are given financial assistance to return home on a case-by-case basis.
- The resettlement needs of some 3,600 people are assessed and individual referrals made for some 900 refugees.



Kilo Arbo Wi Nus, on the outskirts of Cairo, is home to many Sudanese refugees who fear returning home.

UNHCR's presence in 2010

□ Number of offices	1
□ Total staff	64
International (global)	4
International (Egypt)	4
National	39
JPOs	2
UNVs	14
Others	1

PARTNERS

Implementing partners

NGOs:

Caritas Egypt
Refuge Egypt
Coptic Evangelical Organization for Social Services

Others:

St. Andrew's Church
Catholic Relief Services

Operational partners

Government agencies:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Refugee Affairs Department)
Ministry of Interior

NGOs:

AMERA

Others:

IOM
Community based organizations
Sakakini

The search for durable solutions will continue. Furthermore, UNHCR will provide limited financial support to the most destitute persons of concern and those with specific needs. It will also provide basic social services, in particular health care, to a small group of elderly stateless persons.

In the absence of national asylum procedures, UNHCR will actively work with the Government to ensure access to asylum and *non-refoulement*. It will intervene as necessary with the authorities and provide training to Government officials. A particular focus will be on protection-sensitive responses to irregular migratory movements.

UNHCR will try to prevent *refoulement* and ensure access to asylum through registration, documentation and targeted RSD. It will also bid to identify people with specific needs and victims of violence. Translation services will be provided during these procedures.

To aid the social and economic well-being of persons of concern, UNHCR will work with the Government and other partners to improve access to affordable health care services and education. It will provide counselling and support to address the most pressing basic needs. In addition, subsidized health care, education grants, financial support and emergency assistance will help the most destitute refugees and those with specific needs.

UNHCR will continue to explore and enhance opportunities for self-reliance, both as a precursor to durable solutions and to support community self-management.

UNHCR seeks durable solutions for a growing number of refugees by actively supporting voluntary repatriation. It also uses resettlement as a protection tool for refugees with specific needs which cannot be addressed in Egypt. At the same time, the Office must work to reduce the risk that resettlement will act as a "pull factor".

Constraints

Faced with big development challenges for its own people, the Government is reluctant to provide refugees access to public services. This position, as already expressed in reservations made by Egypt when acceding to the 1951 Refugee Convention, is unlikely to change, particularly in light of the current financial crisis. Efforts to develop a

sustainable self-reliance strategy for urban refugees in Cairo are hampered by legal constraints and high unemployment in the formal sector. Addressing the needs of refugees in the context of broader development challenges will continue to be one of UNHCR's main challenges in this urban refugee setting.

Organization and implementation

Coordination

UNHCR will continue to work closely with the Refugee Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Interior, in particular the Immigration Department and state security authorities. The cooperation aims to promote protection-sensitive responses to irregular movement and explore the possibility of new documentation for refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt. UNHCR will also work closely with refugee communities and community-based structures, for instance through capacity-building activities.

UNHCR does not foresee major changes in the cooperation with its main NGO partners. It will, however, seek to diversify its partner base and engage with more local NGOs. It will also expand its cooperation with the main universities in Cairo and work more closely with partners in legal aid and psycho-social and psychological treatment and care. It will continue working closely with other UN agencies, the League of Arab States and the Arab Parliament.

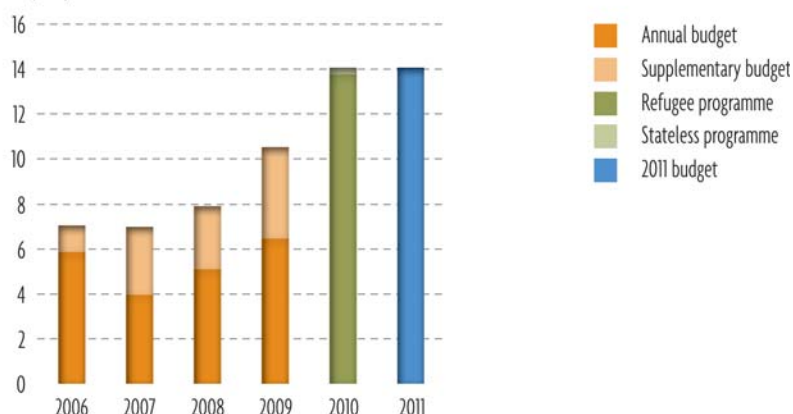
Financial information

The budget for UNHCR in Egypt has been steadily increasing since 2006, allowing the Office to respond more effectively to the needs of persons of concern, which have also increased by an estimated 12,000 from 2006 until 2009.

The operation includes the repatriation of Sudanese and Iraqis to their countries. For 2010 and 2011, and following a comprehensive needs assessment, the budget will increase to address gaps in registration, profiling, durable solutions and support to the most vulnerable individuals.

UNHCR's budget in Egypt 2006 - 2011

Millions (USD)



2010 UNHCR Budget for Egypt (USD)

RIGHTS GROUPS AND OBJECTIVES	REFUGEE PROGRAMME PILLAR 1	STATELESS PROGRAMME PILLAR 2	TOTAL
Favourable protection environment			
National legal framework	177,157	0	177,157
Non-refoulement	143,761	0	143,761
Subtotal	320,918	0	320,918
Fair protection processes and documentation			
Registration and profiling	571,918	0	571,918
Fair and efficient status determination	571,995	0	571,995
Subtotal	1,143,913	0	1,143,913
Basic needs and essential services			
Basic domestic and hygiene items	0	140,688	140,688
Primary health care	1,176,413	114,654	1,291,068
Education	3,109,688	0	3,109,688
Services for groups with specific needs	4,042,954	0	4,042,954
Subtotal	8,329,055	255,342	8,584,397
Community participation and self-management			
Community self-management and equal representation	300,348	0	300,348
Self-reliance and livelihoods	240,995	0	240,995
Subtotal	541,343	0	541,343
Durable solutions			
Voluntary return	1,973,418	0	1,973,418
Resettlement	336,658	0	336,658
Subtotal	2,310,076	0	2,310,076
Logistics and operations support			
Programme management, coordination and support	476,499	39,699	516,198
Subtotal	476,499	39,699	516,198
Headquarters and regional support			
Technical advice and support to operations	202,712	0	202,712
Media relations and public affairs	202,712	0	202,712
Capacity building, skill development and knowledge management	251,618	0	251,618
Subtotal	657,042	0	657,042
Total	13,778,847	295,041	14,073,888

2011 budget	14,083,900
--------------------	-------------------

2009 Revised budget	
Annual budget	6,502,338
Supplementary budget	4,025,921
TOTAL	10,528,259

Consequences of a 20-40 per cent funding shortfall

- The number of people benefiting from community development services will be reduced.
- Fewer community service structures will be strengthened.
- Refugee law training and capacity-building activities, particularly those targeting immigration, police and security officers, will be reduced.
- Fewer people wishing to repatriate will be assisted.
- Only 60 per cent of those identified to be in need of resettlement will be submitted for this durable solution
- Standards of registration and profiling will not be improved, and waiting periods for registration interviews will remain lengthy.
- Assessed needs for education and health services will not be met. Education grants will be reduced. Health services will cover primary and emergency needs only.
- Financial assistance to refugees with specific needs will cover only 50 per cent of their housing and food needs and only the most vulnerable will be assisted.
- Vocational training will not be available.