

Tunisia

January 2026

7,812 refugees and asylum-seekers* are registered with UNHCR, most from countries affected by armed conflict and widespread violence.

Among them are people with **critical protection needs**, including victims of torture, gender-based violence survivors, and unaccompanied children.

In response to the changing context, UNHCR has **adapted its operations** by implementing activities both directly and through national partners.

KEY FIGURES

7,812*

forcibly displaced people registered in Tunisia as of 30 September 2025, including 5,446 asylum-seekers and 2,366 refugees.

94%*

of registered individuals originate from countries affected by armed conflict and widespread violence.

902

individuals supported with financial assistance in January 2026.

560

UNHCR document renewals in January 2026.

28

departures on resettlement in January 2026.

3

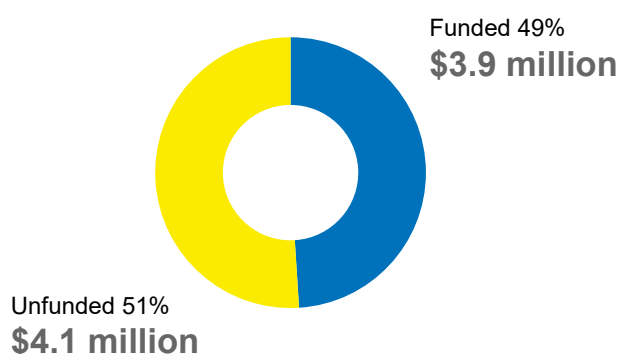
departures on complementary pathway in January 2026.

* These figures reflect the registered population as of 30 September 2025, based on UNHCR's most recent presence verification exercise. They will be updated following the next verification.

FUNDING (AS OF 31 JANUARY 2026)

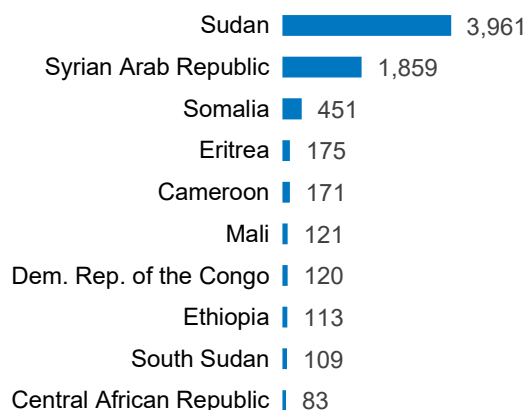
USD \$ 8 million

requested for Tunisia in 2025.



REGISTERED POPULATION

Country of origin*



Operational context

At the crossroads of Africa and Europe, Tunisia is exposed to complex movement patterns involving refugees and migrants along the central Mediterranean route. The country continues to host asylum-seekers and refugees from Sudan, Syria, Somalia, and various West, Central and East African countries, many of whom have experienced conflict, persecution, and other protection risks. Among them are particularly vulnerable individuals, including victims of torture, survivors of gender-based violence, individuals with serious medical or psychosocial needs, as well as unaccompanied children.

In recent years, the operational environment for asylum-seekers and refugees has significantly shifted. Access to protection and essential services has become increasingly limited, exacerbating the vulnerability of forcibly displaced populations. UNHCR has adapted its response to the context by maintaining life-saving assistance while reducing certain activities that can no longer be implemented at scale. Direct implementation has been pursued for some services, while others continue through national partners, namely the Tunisian Scouts, the Arab Institute of Human Rights (IADH), and the Tunisian Association for Management and Social Stability (TAMSS). This approach has ensured continued delivery of critical assistance for the most vulnerable registered asylum-seekers and refugees, including healthcare, legal services, case management, safe shelter, and multi-purpose cash support.

Operational response

PROTECTION

- UNHCR continued its efforts to renew cards for registered refugees and asylum-seekers with a total of 560 cards successfully renewed in January 2026. In addition, one newborn was registered, and his details were added to his registered parents' file.
- UNHCR conducted vulnerability assessments for 22 registered refugees and asylum-seekers to identify the most appropriate interventions and referrals to existing services and assistance.
- As part of the UNHCR and UNICEF collaboration on case management and mental health and psychosocial for children under UNHCR's mandate, nine best interest assessments were initiated during the month.
- UNHCR and its partner provided legal assistance, advice, and consultations to 19 additional refugees and asylum-seekers.

HELPLINE

- In January 2026, UNHCR's helpline service recorded a total of 1 741 communications from 809 unique registered callers. Helpline assistants provided callers with information, counselling, and orientation to specialized services and assistance.

SAFE SHELTER

- In January 2026, UNHCR hosted a total of 244 refugees and asylum-seekers, including 117 unaccompanied children, in three UNHCR-run safe shelters, where they benefited from basic services, including case management, counselling, mental health and psychosocial support, and food assistance.
- UNHCR offered protection initiatives and empowerment programs to people living in safe shelters, providing access to a range of activities such as language courses, sports, movie screenings, and regular hygiene, health, and mental health awareness sessions.
- UNHCR continued to provide rental and utilities support to the Jdariya transitional shelter in the governorate of Médenine, which hosted up to 136 refugees and asylum-seekers in January 2026.

HEALTH

- UNHCR and its partner helped vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers access to national health facilities: 17 individual accompaniments to health facilities were conducted, and 16 consultations and admissions, including two for mental health were covered.

CASH-BASED INTERVENTIONS

- With the endorsement of the Tunisian government, UNHCR continued to implement cash-based interventions, benefiting 902 individuals in January 2025. In total, 638 individuals received multipurpose cash support, 147 received cash-for-food assistance, and 117 unaccompanied children received food vouchers.

SELF-RELIANCE

- UNHCR and its self-reliance partner continued their efforts to strengthen the resilience of asylum-seekers and refugees. One job placement validated by the Ministry of Employment and Vocational Training was facilitated by UNHCR and TAMSS during the month.

Financial information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to its operations in Tunisia.

European Union | Italy | Denmark | Monaco

UNHCR is also grateful for donors' softly earmarked contributions which may be used in Tunisia.

Sweden | Norway | Denmark | Germany | Switzerland | Ireland | Australia | Belgium

Special thanks to the major donors of unearmarked contributions

Algeria | Canada | Estonia | Finland | Iceland | Kuwait | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta |
Monaco | Montenegro | New Zealand | Qatar | Republic of Korea |
Serbia | Singapore | Thailand | Private donors

CONTACTS

Ruben Julian Hamburger, Associate External Relations Officer, Tunisia
hamburge@unhcr.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION

[UNHCR Tunisia](#) | [Help page](#) | [Operational data portal Tunisia](#) | [Facebook](#)