

EGYPT RESPONSE PLAN

for Refugees and
Asylum-Seekers
from Sub-Saharan
Africa, Iraq & Yemen



2020



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INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

Egypt is home to 254,726 asylum-seekers and refugees registered with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) as of 31 December 2019 according to UNHCR Egypt December 2019 statistical report. While the Syrian refugee population remains the largest (51 per cent), almost half of the refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt are from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq, and Yemen (49 per cent). Syrian refugees are supported through the Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan (3RP). In efforts to ensure equity in protection services and humanitarian assistance for refugees and asylum-seekers of all nationalities living in Egypt, UN partners and NGOs have established a complementary country appeal. This response plan - known as the “Egypt Response Plan” (ERP) aims to continue addressing the needs of 125,516 refugees and asylum-seekers from 57 countries of origin. Out of them, 24,406 are identified as persons with specific needs.

Egypt is signatory to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 Organization of African Unity Convention governing specific aspects of refugee issues in Africa. In 2020, the protection environment for refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt remains tolerant. In the absence of a national asylum legislation and system, the functional responsibilities for all aspects of registration, documentation and refugee status determination (RSD) of asylum-seekers and refugees have been delegated to UNHCR under a 1954 Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Government of Egypt (GoE). The Government allows refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR to regularize their residency and grants six-month renewable residence permits. However, the lengthy process to obtain and renew residence permit remains a major challenge for many refugees and asylum-seekers. The Ministry of Interior has, however, introduced new measures to improve the related processes. In July 2019, the authorities moved to a new Emigration and Nationality Administration Office in order to improve the processing of residence permits. This was followed by digitalization of visa issuance and residency permits at the end of 2019. Advocacy continues with the Government of Egypt to enable all refugees and asylum-seekers to obtain a one-year residence permit based on their UNHCR documentation.

There has been a rise in in the total number of refugees who sought protection and safety in Egypt. This increase is reflected in the number of registered refugees and asylum-seekers in 2019 which amounted to 25,047 new registrations, with 80 per cent from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq and Yemen. With displacement caused by conflicts and continuous political instability and insecurity in the East and Horn of Africa, Iraq, and Yemen, an increase of total number of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) has also

been observed. The UASC are primarily from Eritrea, Sudan and South Sudan. As of December 2019, 4,855 UASC were registered with UNHCR, with numbers expected to rise.

While the GoE continues to expand its capacities to host the growing population of refugees and asylum-seekers, the challenging socio-economic conditions and increases in the cost of living have reduced households’ purchasing power and exacerbated the levels of vulnerability. This has resulted in refugee and asylum-seeker households not being able to meet their basic needs and their dependence on humanitarian assistance has therefore increased. Refugees and asylum-seekers not only struggle with limited livelihood opportunities but also with obstacles to social inclusion such as language barriers and lack of access to sustainable formal education.

Whereas state institutions play a key role in supporting refugees’ protection, education, and health needs, they require further support in providing broad and quality services for both the refugee and host communities. In addition, there is a need to expand support in promoting livelihood and self-reliance among refugees and Egyptians, who are likely to face mounting pressure in 2020 with continuous economic difficulties in Egypt and unceasing tensions in neighboring countries.

Funding to humanitarian agencies working to support the sub-Saharan African, Iraqi, and Yemeni populations has been limited and has led to inequality in assistance provided to the different refugee population groups in Egypt. The GoE and UNHCR affirm the importance to address the needs of all refugees equally under the principle of a “One Refugee Approach”. However, the 2019 ERP only received 42.6 per cent of the appealed funding.

Nevertheless, these funds have made a notably positive difference in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers, particularly in the sectors of Basic Needs and Livelihoods, Education and Food Security. In the 2020 plan, the GoE and the appealing partner agencies (UNHCR, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the World Food Programme (WFP), CARE International, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Don Bosco, and Gozour Foundation) continue to join efforts in ensuring that adequate protection and minimum essential services are provided to these populations. With additional funding, UNHCR and partners aim to increase the number of refugees and asylum-seekers who benefit from assistance and services as well as to increase support to the GoE, particularly the institutions under the Ministries of Education and Health that serve refugees and asylum-seekers.

In 2020, humanitarian agencies have identified a total need of USD 89.6 million to provide adequate services to estimated 146,500 refugees and asylum-seekers from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq and Yemen living in Egypt. Priority areas of intervention will include improving the Registration and RSD processes, targeted multi-purpose cash assistance, promotion of livelihood opportunities,

prevention and response to SGBV and improved access to child protection, social services, community-based protection and food security to the most vulnerable among refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR and partners will continue to invest in communities and work with partners and national institutions to build resilience and contribute to promoting community development.

POPULATION PLANNING FIGURES FOR 2020/2021

| Population Planning Group | 2019 | 2020* | 2021* |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Refugees from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq and Yemen | 50,000 | 57,200 | 67,800 |
| Asylum-Seekers from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq and Yemen | 77,000 | 89,300 | 96,200 |
| Total | 127,000 | 146,500 | 164,000 |

*Projected figures based on registration trend analysis

Needs, Vulnerabilities and Targeting

In Egypt, the majority of the refugee and asylum-seeker populations live in urban areas. They face various challenges including limited opportunities to meet their basic needs, as well as language barriers. Refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt have access to a six-month residency on their refugee or asylum-seeker cards. However, the procedures to access and obtain residence permits remains relatively lengthy and costly for those who have to travel to Cairo from remote areas. Specific groups among the refugees and asylum-seekers may face greater economic and protection challenges, particularly unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), female-headed households, elderly and people living with disabilities.

All refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt have access to public healthcare services. However, challenges remain in terms of language, referrals, and costly secondary and tertiary healthcare. There are also specific challenges for people living with disabilities or special needs.

Syrian, Sudanese, South Sudanese and Yemeni refugee children have access to education in public schools in Egypt.

Refugees and asylum-seekers from other nationalities rely on private or informal education institutions as they have no access yet to public education. Many attend refugee community schools which are outside the formal education system and deliver certificates that are not accredited by the Egyptian Ministry of Education (MoE). Fewer refugees enroll in private schools, which the vast majority cannot afford. As a result of these challenges, many children see no option to pursue higher education which, in turn, contributes to an increase in the number of out-of-school children at the secondary school level. This leaves them increasingly vulnerable to becoming exposed to various protection risks.

Language barriers additionally limit the activities of some refugees and asylum-seekers from sub-Saharan Africa in Egypt as many are neither Arabic nor English speakers. There is, thus, a risk of isolation, increased socio-economic challenges, and dependency on people who speak the language to help them with daily interaction and meeting basic needs.

Strategic Direction & Response Plan

The 2020 response plan for refugees and asylum-seekers from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq, and Yemen residing in Egypt aims to address the needs of these populations with strong focus on protection (including child protection), public health, education, food security, basic needs and livelihoods. Community-based interventions will be used to enhance outreach among refugees and asylum-seekers.

UNHCR Egypt will continue to register, document and conduct refugee status determination for asylum-seekers and refugees from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq, and Yemen and will continue to lead efforts focusing on the preservation of the protection space, prevention of refoulement, and enhanced access to asylum and effective protection in Egypt. In 2020, mainstreaming access to services (health and education) for all refugees and asylum-seekers will be one of the main priorities, along with strengthening the prevention and response to Sexual and Gender-based Violence (SGBV) and child protection.

Partners will also focus on building resilience, preventing and responding to protection risks and needs of refugees and asylum-seekers and on analysing and documenting protection trends.

As in previous years, UNHCR and partners will continue to assist persons in need of international protection, including those in detention, through legal, material and counselling support. Agencies will advocate for the release of detainees caught in mixed movement, particularly children, and for alternatives to detention. Efforts will continue regarding the regularization of stay of those who have irregularly entered Egypt and regarding the facilitation of family unity visa. Specific activities aiming at strengthening resilience, self-reliance and awareness raising about the risks linked to irregular movements will be pursued.

UNHCR and agencies will continue to actively engage with the refugees and asylum-seekers through various communication channels with the communities, supporting a two-way feedback and their participation as part of the accountability framework to the affected population. At the same time, agencies will ensure that community based compliant mechanisms to report integrity incidents and /or sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) are in place.

The 2020 planning for protection is undertaken on the basis of the assumptions that the Arab Republic of Egypt will continue to host asylum-seekers and refugees; will continue to support refugee protection; and will facilitate implementation of activities through national and international NGOs. As long as the conflicts in the countries of origin remain unresolved throughout 2020, asylum applications from sub-Saharan Africa are expected to remain relatively high.

Protection partners will work closely with authorities to support for greater access to asylum, prevention of refoulement as well as easier access to residency

procedures. UNHCR will continue to support the Government of Egypt with the registration of refugees and RSD processes. Case management, child protection and response to SGBV, as well as multi-sectoral service provision will continue, as well as the involvement of community volunteers for information dissemination and prevention activities.

Education partners will continue to advocate with the Ministry of Education to ensure the successful access and integration of all refugee children into Egyptian public schools. Enhancing the capacity of teachers who work with sub-Saharan African, Iraqi and Yemeni students will also be a priority. A bridging programme is established to ensure smooth transition for refugee children from informal community schools to the national education system. Education grants will continue to support refugee families in covering the costs of education. Children with specific needs will be supported to access appropriate schools that cater for their needs. The agencies appealing under this Response Plan will continue their advocacy efforts with donor governments to mobilize higher education scholarships for refugees.

In the public health sector, partners will support access and further mainstreaming of all refugees and asylum-seekers into public healthcare (PHC) facilities according to the memorandum of understanding signed between UNHCR and the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in 2016. This will be done through the provision of support to selected health facilities in areas with high density of refugees. UNHCR will support and collaborate with MoHP to ensure that refugees have access to curative and preventative healthcare services. Awareness raising activities will inform refugees on available health services in order to enhance access and utilization of public services from their side. The health sector will also support access to immunization for children, access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare for refugees, and life-saving secondary healthcare through a centralized referral system and standardized criteria to ensure equitable services for all refugees and asylum-seekers.

The basic needs sector will provide support to the most socio-economically vulnerable refugees in order to meet their basic needs safely and contribute to their protection from risks and exploitation. The livelihood sector will focus on skills development, entrepreneurship and improving access to wage employment. With the aim to improve economic opportunities for all population groups and enhance social cohesion between refugees and host communities, advocacy with relevant actors for formal access to employment and finance for the refugee population will continue.

Under the food security sector, WFP will enable food insecure refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt to have access to adequate food. In addition to ensuring continued

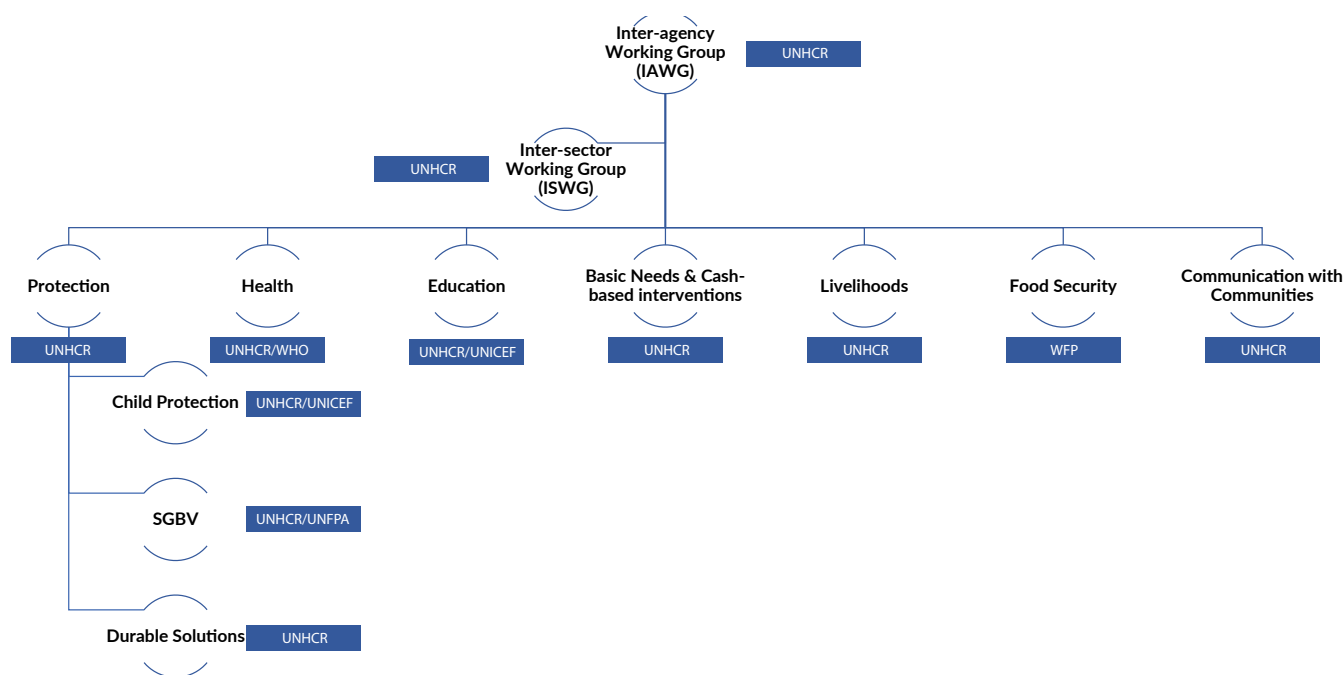
basic food security, WFP will provide the most vulnerable refugees and host community members with resilience activities to promote and support different employability schemes and livelihood opportunities that promote self-reliance. These activities include enhanced access to vocational and skills training for refugees and host community members to allow for an eventual graduation

from direct assistance and support to self-reliance. As a result, one of the underlying causes of vulnerability will be addressed and beneficiaries will enhance their self-reliance. Most importantly, this approach will enhance the social cohesion among populations living in vulnerable areas where refugees also reside.

Partnerships & Coordination

The Government of Egypt, represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), remains the main counterpart for policy and coordination. The humanitarian coordination

mechanisms on refugee issues in Egypt are the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG), the Inter-Sector Working Group (ISWG) and Sector Working Groups.



The IAWG, chaired by UNHCR, is the highest coordination level used for the refugee response in Egypt. On this level, partners discuss policy issues, protection and programme gaps and challenges with regards to refugee communities of all nationalities. The ISWG is an inter-sectorial operational forum which brings together different sector working groups, i.e., Protection, Public Health, Education, Food Security, Basic Needs and Cash-Based Interventions, Livelihoods, and Communication with Communities. The ISWG is mandated to coordinate, identify and evaluate relevant operational topics to ensure a formative and standard approach. The ISWG reports to the IAWG as a higher level of coordination for policy decision and overall guidance.

Each sector working group has its specific set of partners including Government ministries, donors, international agencies, and international and national NGOs. Under the Protection working group, three sub-working groups are established to cover Child Protection, SGBV, and Durable Solutions. The Durable Solutions sub-working group primarily focuses on voluntary repatriation/return of refugees and resettlement/complementary pathways for legal admission to third countries.

All sector working groups and sub-working groups meet on a monthly basis. If required, agencies will form task forces to focus on specific outputs and enhance synergies and impact. On monitoring, evaluation and reporting, the partners in this appeal will continue to exchange information and to roll-out information management tools, including continued assessments and feedback from the communities, to ensure evidence-based planning and programming and cross-sectoral linkages. Partners will continue to report on indicators through Activity-Info to reflect progress made towards the implementation of activities.

UNHCR, as chair of the IAWG, briefs the Resident Coordinator and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) on developments on refugee issues and provides updates on implementation of the 3RP and the Egypt Response Plan on regular basis. These forums ensure coordinated, collaborative, and comprehensive approaches and responses to address protection needs and provision of humanitarian assistance to refugees as well as the vulnerable communities affected by mixed movements in Egypt.

Accountability Framework

The partners in this appeal will continue to actively engage in community outreach to understand concerns and needs of men, women, boys and girls of different backgrounds from sub-Saharan Africa, Yemen and Iraq, and maximize coverage and service provision. Refugees and asylum-seekers will be engaged through community meetings, sector-specific focus group discussions, assessments and studies, as well as through UNHCR's annual participatory assessment.

This will ensure that refugees and asylum-seekers are involved in all stages of sector programme designs, evaluation, and implementation as well as in determining their priorities and identifying appropriate solutions. Partner agencies in all sectors will ensure that community concerns are addressed in a timely and effective manner through complaints and review mechanisms including incidents of fraud and SEA.

The Communication with Communities working group focuses on analysing and identifying effective and feasible channels of communication with refugees and asylum-seekers, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable. It aims to enhance coordination among partners in identifying information needs and gaps, and to improve direct feedback

mechanisms with the refugee community. This includes informing affected communities of available services and assistance programmes and asking for feedback on their quality and relevance. Partners thereby aim to actively include refugees and asylum-seekers in the decision-making processes and to engage them in the design and delivery of interventions. Accordingly, concerns from communities are fed into sector plans and policies.

The community centres act as key locations for refugees to receive information on humanitarian agencies' interventions and services, through posters, videos, and regular direct interaction with staff members of the agencies appealing under this response plan.

UNHCR Infoline provides a systematic method of answering efficiently and effectively to queries from beneficiaries. Ten call-attendants respond to an average of 20,000 monthly calls regarding queries on assistance, protection, registration, RSD, and durable solutions.

The knowledge generated through working group meetings and the abovementioned platforms will be shared with stakeholders to ensure an effective and timely response, accountability, and transparency.



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY SECTOR OF ASSISTANCE

| SECTOR | Refugee Component Budgetary Requirements | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 |
| BASIC NEEDS & LIVELIHOOD | 29,244,231 | 31,140,348 |
| EDUCATION | 12,917,281 | 14,066,849 |
| FOOD SECURITY | 21,311,116 | 21,311,116 |
| HEALTH | 7,903,095 | 7,836,835 |
| PROTECTION | 18,205,056 | 25,216,323 |
| TOTAL | 89,580,779 | 99,571,471 |

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY APPEALING AGENCY

| AGENCY | Refugee Component Budgetary Requirements | |
|---|--|-------------------|
| | 2020 | 2021 |
| UNICEF | 7,199,260 | 7,844,426 |
| UNHCR | 50,409,078 | 58,694,117 |
| SCI | 1,280,000 | 1,425,000 |
| CRS | 4,311,224 | 4,409,812 |
| UN Women | 280,000 | 280,000 |
| WFP | 21,311,116 | 21,311,116 |
| WHO | 800,000 | 725,000 |
| UNFPA | 1,673,000 | 1,932,000 |
| International Labour Organization (ILO) | 2,000,000 | 2,500,000 |
| Don Bosco | 317,101 | 450,000 |
| TOTAL | 89,580,779 | 99,571,471 |





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PROTECTION SECTOR

Agencies in the protection sector collaborate through the Protection working group, as well as the sub-working groups focusing on Child Protection, SGBV and Durable Solutions. These forums bring together government partners, UN sister agencies and other protection partners at large, including the National Council of Women (NCW), the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood (NCCM), UNICEF - co-chair of the Child Protection SWG -, UNFPA, UN Women, Save the Children International (SCI), CARE International, and the Egyptian Foundation for Refugee Rights, Médecins sans Frontiers, CARITAS, Terre des Homme, and select country embassy representations, amongst others.

| | | |
|--|---|---------------|
| Lead Agencies | UNHCR | |
| Appealing Partners | UNICEF, UNFPA, CRS, UN Women, SCI | |
| Other Partners | | |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to asylum is preserved, and solutions are identified, including resettlement, voluntary return whenever feasible and complimentary solution pathways. 2. Community-based protection, empowerment, and outreach mechanisms are enhanced, aiming both at strengthening self-management and harmonious relationships between refugee and host communities; and at identifying and addressing the needs of the most vulnerable, including older persons and persons with disabilities. 3. Child protection systems are strengthened, and equitable access for children, adolescents, and youth to quality child protection interventions is ensured, particularly for unaccompanied and separated children. 4. The risks and consequences of SGBV are reduced, and access to quality services is enhanced. | |
| Financial Requirements | 2020 | 2021 |
| Total Financial Requirement (USD) | 18,205,055.82 | 25,216,322.67 |

Current Situation

As of December 2019, UNHCR had registered a total of 125,516 African, Iraqi and Yemeni asylum-seekers and refugees (49 per cent of total asylum population in Egypt), which is a considerable increase from previous years. Of the registered population, the age, gender and diversity disaggregation are as follows:

A total of 125,516 refugees and asylum-seekers originate from sub-Saharan African countries (59,954 women and girls, and 63,457 men and boys), mainly from Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and Somalia. The group comprises of protracted populations, as well as new arrivals. Among the total sub-Saharan African population, 22,602 are youth (between 18 and 24 years old); 33,009 are school-age children (5 to 17 years); 4,236 are UASC children (3,098 of them unaccompanied) and 24,407 are persons with specific needs.

The Iraqi population is predominantly in a protracted refugee situation and constitutes of 3,260 women and girls, and 3,462 men and boys. Within the total registered Iraqi population are 965 youth; 1,645 school-age children; seven UASC (out of them one child is unaccompanied) and 1,079 persons with disabilities.

With respect to the Yemeni population, 4,545 women and girls, and 4,587 are men and boys. Of this population, 1,138 are youth; 2,686 are school age children; 54 are unaccompanied and separated children (including 18 unaccompanied children), and 1,862 are persons with disabilities.

The rise in numbers amongst these three population groups is largely reflective of unstable conditions in their countries of origin combined with individual persecution claims. The majority of refugees and asylum-seeker enter into Egypt in an irregular manner through the southern border with Sudan. This underlines the continued need for monitoring of protection trends, as well as the importance of protection partners being able to reach the population and offer support, thereby complementing national services.

While African and Iraqi asylum-seekers undergo RSD interviews, no general RSD is undertaken for Yemeni nationals in line with UNHCR regional policy guidance. However, RSD for Yemenis is undertaken if they are considered for resettlement or if they have potentially excludable profiles that require detailed examination and determination.

As per the agreement between the Government of Egypt and UNHCR, all asylum-seekers who register with UNHCR using recognized official identity documents continue to be issued with asylum-seeker cards ('yellow cards') that are valid for 18 months. Asylum-seekers who do not present any identification documentation during registration are issued with 'white paper' certificates. These documents confirm that the asylum-seeker has registered with UNHCR and has applied for asylum. However, the GoE does not issue residence permits to holders of white papers

until they undergo RSD interviews and are confirmed as eligible for International Protection. In a context of mixed movements, when asylum-seekers are unable to present documentation (e.g. because of a lack of state protection or non-functioning civil registration systems in the country of origin), UNHCR works to verify their identity through a more in-depth RSD interviews.

In line with the UNHCR policy on strategic use of RSD, differentiated processing modalities are utilized for different parts of the population, on account of recognition rate and average complexity of the claim.

A merged Registration/RSD process is implemented for populations with high recognition rate, such as asylum-seekers from Eritrea and South Sudan. This means that Registration and RSD interviews are conducted on the same day and the average waiting period is kept below four months.

Other nationalities, such as Iraqi, Somalis, Ethiopian and Sudanese nationals are registered and then undergo regular RSD modalities. Registration and RSD help support asylum-seekers and refugees regularize their legal status and stay in Egypt, the country of asylum. They equally help in instances where the presentation of identity documents is required to access social services and make a difference in situations of possible deportation.

In an operational environment where the majority of asylum-seekers entered the country in an irregular manner, and where UNHCR's physical presence is limited to Cairo and Alexandria, advocacy for potential asylum-seekers caught in mixed movements is crucial. This would allow them to receive support even if they have not yet been able to establish contact with UNHCR. In addition, an expansion of UNHCR's presence in and access to areas where asylum-seekers and refugees are held, remains critical.

Refugees in Egypt benefit from the right to civil status documentation. This includes the processing and issuance of documents such as birth certificates, custody documentation, marriage and divorce certificates, death certificates and others as applicable, through national legal partners and structural mechanisms. In terms of strengthening protection support, more effort will be required to unblock bureaucratic bottlenecks, that at times lead to delays in the issuance of documentation. Receiving their documents in a timely and efficient manner would enable refugees and asylum-seekers to have more immediate access to services that require documentation and to thereby enjoy their rights. Additionally, partners will further advocate for an increased recognition of UNHCR/ asylum documentation in Egypt to ensure the necessary protection safeguards and international standards on asylum are upheld.

Other complementary assistance services that are extended to refugees include support for access to

health and educational facilities; legal aid support; child-specific specialized services; support for survivors of SGBV and the creation of awareness on the subject; care for persons with disability and older persons; mental health and psychosocial support for persons distressed by the challenges of displacement; community related initiatives of information raising, community empowerment/self-reliance and community cohesion related activities.

Protection partners further provide capacity building to different stakeholders; prevention and sensitization activities and mobile registration missions to remote areas. Refugees and asylum-seekers are involved in all stages of protection activities, i.e.: planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, evaluation and assessment stages.

Needs, Vulnerabilities and Targeting

Among the sub-Saharan population is a considerable number of unaccompanied children who are in need for adequate protection services and assistance. The African population faces a number of limitations to the protection space in the operational environment, including language and cultural barriers; community structures that are not unified or strong enough to self-support and drive action towards self-reliance; instances of sexual and gender based-violence and particularly within informal work arrangements; and instances of racial and social discrimination. Also, certain services are limited to nationals and exclusive other legislated third nationals, e.g. in the area of education. Further challenges include a lack of equity in assistance provision predominantly related to the food voucher distribution and lack of documentation from the country of origin for many new arrivals.

For the Iraqi population the main protection gap has been with respect to access to documentation to regularize their stay in Egypt and to obtain access the range of services available in the operational environment. This applies particularly to those who arrived to the country on tourist visas and later claimed asylum. Obtaining and renewing residence permits for this group has been restricted and is governed by the country of asylum's national policy. As a result, the stay of a number of Iraqis in Egypt is irregular and they are at risk of deportation. Also, some landlords cognizant of this situation hesitate to rent out their property to this particular group, and the only accommodation available to them is in poor condition and charged highly.

The Yemeni population was the fastest growing asylum population in Egypt in 2018, but as of 2019 this trend has been reversed, with less than 800 new registrations. However, the conflict situation in Yemen remains volatile and the famine has exacerbated the situation. The decreasing registration numbers may therefore be linked to the difficulties for Yemeni nationals to travel and enter Egypt. In the operational environment, Yemenis are relatively well included in the society, but continue to demonstrate a need for complimentary assistance support, based on the fact that a number of them arrived with no savings or individual capacity to self-sustain.

The majority of African, Iraqi, and Yemeni asylum-seekers and refugees registered with UNHCR in Egypt have substantial psychosocial, protection, and livelihood assistance needs, which are growing over the years, with increased vulnerabilities being noted.

Responding to the needs of vulnerable girls and boys through continued targeted services for all children at risk remains a priority. Protection concerns of sub-Saharan African, Iraqi, and Yemeni refugee children are increasing, and include issues such as individual physical security and legal protection challenges.

With regards to gender-based violence, out of the 1,312 cases reported and registered in the first 10 months of 2019, 90 per cent of the survivors were African nationals. In the month of October 2019 alone, UNHCR, in liaison with CARE International, responded to 142 SGBV cases, out of which 89.4 per cent affected women and girls, and 10.6 per cent affected men and boys. Rape remains the highest reported offense of all SGBV incidents. In October 2019, a total of 85 incidents of rape were reported, constituting 60.7 per cent of the total SGBV incidents reported in the month, in addition to 30 sexual assaults, 18 physical assaults, 6 psychological abuses. Children accounted for 21.1 per cent of the survivors, with 30 of the incidents perpetrated against them (23 girls and 7 boys). Among the total incidents against children 16 were rape, 10 were sexual assault, two were emotional abuse, and two were physical assault.

With respect to children, as of December 2019, and out of the 254,726 refugees and asylum-seekers registered with UNHCR, 83,612 (33 per cent) were children, and of these, 55 per cent were Syrian nationals, whilst 45 per cent (44,457) were of African, Iraqi and Yemeni descent. The total number of all UASC in the operation amounted to 4,855. Eritrean children made up for the highest percentages in both unaccompanied and separated children (48 per cent of the UAC and 35 per cent of the UASC). Boys constituted the majority of UASC, with 69 per cent of unaccompanied children and 49 per cent male of separated children being male.

Child protection partners and national child protection systems continue to require support to roll out their interventions and capacity strengthening to respond to rising and specific needs for the concerned populations. The key areas include amongst others: the need for new arrival support and access services; emergency housing, basic needs support; access to education and health services, and alternative care arrangements.

The impact of the humanitarian situation on affected adolescent and youth and the risk of resorting to negative coping mechanisms also need to be further assessed and addressed. The fundamental barrier of access to sustainable formal education for certain nationalities; limited livelihood opportunities for ageing-out children over 18 years; and costly secondary and tertiary healthcare; require attention and tailored responses. These concerns are aggravated by the lack of support within their communities, the inability to hope for or trust in the possibility of potential return to their countries of origin any time soon, as well as the host country's economic challenges and a perceived lack of future in Egypt, irrespective of any individual efforts made to ease their asylum dependency.

African, Iraqi and Yemeni refugee youth have also been greatly constrained by limited resources, and over the years, challenges have become more complex and deeply rooted, requiring greater investment. Sufficient resources need to be allocated to community-centred and driven activities, in an effort to strengthen community and family support, support ownership, as well as streamline access to specialized services as would be required. Advocacy for targeted initiatives are required to be developed to respond to the specific needs of young women and girls and to foster their empowerment and protection within their broader communities.

Persons with disabilities, older people and persons with specific individual needs comprise another group of vulnerable individuals that require focussed attention. With the breakdown of the traditional communal support structures in displacement, these individuals are at

heightened risk of neglect, abuse, and exploitation, and face challenges in accessing necessary services and support because of their limited mobility. The social stigma associated with their specific needs can also lead to a growing sense of isolation that can extract a toll on their psychological and emotional well-being in asylum.

As regulations related to mixed movements in the region tighten up, a number of sub-Saharan African asylum-seekers and refugees are at risk of detention for having entered or attempted to leave Egypt in an irregular manner. As a result, there is a continuing need for the provision of emergency and humanitarian assistance to those arrested for irregular departure or entry, including children, as well as of legal and counselling services upon release.

The focus will remain on building existing government capacities at both central and local levels to manage irregular migration in a more protection sensitive manner, upholding international standards. An example is the Ten Point Plan that offers guidance on managing irregular movements and protecting the needs of the most vulnerable, and includes persons fleeing persecution and seeking international protection.

Durable solutions, of varied forms, will constitute the tail end of all protection related interventions. In 2020 and 2021, an emphasis on the commitments made under the Global Compact on Refugees will continue to underline all asylum/refugee operations, to ensure that the agreed principle of equitable burden and responsibility-sharing will improve the global response to refugee situations by providing stronger support to the countries and communities welcoming refugees and simultaneously equipping refugees with the means to become more self-reliant. It also aims to increase resettlement opportunities for the most vulnerable refugees and other legal pathways for admission to safe third countries, such as family reunification, labour mobility, and education scholarships, as well as to improve conditions in refugees' countries of origin.

Strategic Vision and Response Plan

Humanitarian partners will continue to support and complement the Government of Egypt's efforts to assure access to asylum and the maintenance of a conducive protection space. Advocacy efforts will continue on the need to uphold the principle of non-refoulement and ensure access to asylum procedures. Additionally and in adherence to the need to secure residence permits for asylum-seekers and refugees, continued advocacy and tangible support to the GoE is required with a view to realise the prolongation of the current residence permit duration from six months to one year, and equally the decentralization of the residence-permit procedures beyond Cairo to Alexandria. Access to public and quality education, birth registration and civil status documentation will also continue to be priorities. Partnership endeavours directed at facilitating solutions through the application for exit procedures for refugees departing Egypt for resettlement or other legal pathways of admission will be enhanced.

In 2020, UNHCR will continue to register and document all refugees and asylum-seekers approaching its offices in Cairo and Alexandria. Biometrics are a core component of the registration process that contributes to the integrity of UNHCR procedures. Regularly updated registration is used by UNHCR as a protection tool, which allows for better identification of persons in need of specific protection and enhanced targeting of assistance and specialized services for the most vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers. UNHCR will equally continue to update its RSD processing procedures in order to comply with evolving international guidance on the process, aimed at making it more effective, efficient and responsive to protection needs in a more strategic and predictable manner, harmonised across the region.

Close coordination with and support to government authorities, particularly MoFA, MoHP, the Ministry of Education (MoE), the Ministry of Solidarity and Social Affairs, alongside other national committees such as NCW, NCCM, as well as other stakeholders within civil society and beyond, will continue towards a more effective advocacy to optimize quality and equitable access and enjoyment of basic rights and services for African, Iraqi, and Yemeni refugees. Strengthening of national capacities to issue civil documentation and to ease access to residency for refugees living in remote areas will also remain a priority, with mobile registration as a standard operational procedure, particularly in the Northern Coast areas.

Under UNHCR's leadership, protection partners will similarly continue to provide technical and material support to the Government towards the adoption of asylum and migration management policies that provide comprehensive, collaborative, and solution-oriented responses to those affected by irregular migration, ensuring that those in need of International Protection are identified and have

access to asylum procedures and appropriate assistance mechanisms. Partners will also continue to assist the authorities to address the needs of those affected by irregular movements, including with the provision of NFIs, as well as humanitarian, legal, medical, and psychosocial assistance for those in detention, while also exploring alternatives to detention for those fleeing persecution and other vulnerable categories, especially children and women.

Protection monitoring, legal counselling and coordinated humanitarian access and assistance to detainees will remain another priority for Protection partners, as well training of law enforcement and immigration officials on international refugee protection, rescue at sea, human trafficking, smuggling, and mixed movements.

Supporting the implementation of the National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women and the National Strategy for the Empowerment of Women will remain a priority and will involve close cooperation with the National Council for Women and other relevant partners. Innovative prevention initiatives and coordinated quality response services will be enhanced in 2020 as well as efforts to reinforce government and non-government SGBV prevention and response capacities and to support the socio-economic empowerment of women while also strengthening national policies and mechanisms.

To respond to the specific needs of African, Iraqi, and Yemeni refugee children and their parents, including UASC and other children at risk, the protection partners will continue to play a vital role in the coordination of stakeholders' efforts to provide access to quality child protection services to all refugee children, adolescents, youth and caregivers affected by forced displacement. This is in addition to supporting a holistic, inclusive, and sustainable response to address their needs and to prevent harmful coping mechanisms. A continued focus will remain on timely identification and referral of cases and the provision of quality case management, including best interest assessments and best interest determination. Further priority areas will cover capacity building initiatives, strengthening of alternative care arrangements in coordination with communities and the authorities, provision of specialized services for children with disabilities, cash-based interventions, and provision of community-based child protection services and specialized psychosocial support, including life skills and positive parenting programmes, as well as self-reliance activities for aging out children and youth. Implementing the community and rights-based approach, protection partners will continue to increase engagement with the various refugee communities to strengthen community capacity for self-management.

Thematic oriented training, material and technical support will be provided to community led/managed initiatives, in order

to help them self-support, as well as equally constructively contribute to their asylum country. Community outreach activities, including community meetings and dissemination of information on services rendered to refugees as well as dialogue with the communities over their protection concerns and how they can be resolved, remain a key objective. Advocacy with the Ministry of Youth and Sports to grant refugees access to national youth centres and their programs on terms comparable to those of host community members will be a strategic direction for the empowerment of refugee youth, as well as promotion of social cohesion between refugee and impacted host communities. These efforts will continue to be led by UNHCR throughout 2020.

Psychosocial support to persons in distress will continue to be provided through trained networks of volunteer refugee workers. The needs of persons with disabilities and older people are attended to by a targeted intervention that provides them with quality-of-life improving material aids, referrals to specialized service providers for rehabilitative treatment and related assistance, in addition to organizing regular social and recreational activities aimed at bringing them out of their isolation.

Refugees will continue to benefit from multi-year planning and prioritization for the strategic use of resettlement as a protection tool. Out of an estimated working quota of 4,500 cases from Egypt, 3,000 African, Iraqi and Yemeni refugees are expected to be submitted for resettlement consideration in 2020. Continued advocacy for other complementary solution pathways through family reunification, education, and/or work schemes will also be pursued. Perception surveys and focus group discussions, on a periodic basis and tied to potential return in countries undergoing fundamental positive changes will also be carried out, in order to assess the climate and readiness to return where applicable, on a voluntary basis. In 2019, the Horn of Africa countries of Ethiopia, Eritrea and South Sudan and Somalia registered some political developments in the shape of signed peace pacts, that could usher in much needed

political, economic and social reforms, to a degree that may influence considerations for return, and which will need to be monitored, assessed and evaluated throughout the course of 2020 by the varied protection partners, as these changes would impact on dynamics on the immediate operational environment, going forward.

In 2019, UNHCR's launch of the Global Refugee Forum, represented at a global ministerial level, mobilised the international community to come together and announce new bold measures to:

- Ease pressures on host countries;
- Enhance refugee self-reliance;
- Expand access to third-country solutions; and
- Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity

This was done through the announcement of impactful pledges and contributions, and the exchange of good practices that called on states, refugees, development actors, the private sector, UN entities, civil society organizations, academics and faith leaders, among others, to play a part. Refugees themselves were at the forefront of preparations for the Forum and were involved and consulted throughout.

The role of partnership with the Egypt Response Plan will be a dynamic platform to realise the above set objectives, at an operational level, and its realisation will go a long way into ensuring that the appealing partners equally strengthen the narrowing of the funding disparity between different nationalities of refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt, and move closer towards the realisation of the 'One Refugee Approach', to ensure equal access to protection and services for refugees of all nationalities, and that no one is left behind.



Protection Sector Response

| Objective | Output | Target for 2020 | Target for 2021 |
|---|---|---|---|
| OBJECTIVE 1: Access to asylum is preserved, and solutions are identified including resettlement and voluntary return whenever feasible. | 1.1 Access to asylum is improved, protection space preserved, risk of refoulment reduced and basic rights are respected | 1,800 asylum-seekers, refugees and persons intercepted in mixed movements are provided with legal aid and assistance (humanitarian, food, medical, NFIs, psychosocial counselling, emergency response or shelter) | 1,850 asylum-seekers, refugees and persons intercepted in mixed movements are provided with legal aid and assistance (humanitarian, food, medical, NFIs, psychosocial counselling, emergency response or shelter) |
| | 1.2 Quality of registration and profiling improved and maintained | 27,200 asylum-seekers undertaking quality RSD procedures | 28,000 asylum-seekers undertaking quality RSD procedures |
| | | 130,000 asylum-seekers and refugees registered with UNHCR for whom disaggregated data by age and location is available and verified including iris scan | 140,000 asylum-seekers and refugees registered with UNHCR for whom disaggregated data by age and location is available and verified including iris scan |
| | 1.3 Resettlement and protection solutions are identified | 3,000 refugees submitted for resettlement or Humanitarian Admission to third countries | 3,500 refugees submitted for resettlement or Humanitarian Admission to third countries |
| | 1.4 Advocacy and capacity building activities aiming at access to rights by refugees are strengthened | 25 training and capacity building activities for government officials related to the promotion of international refugee protection, access to basic rights for refugees and intersection with other related areas conducted. Additionally, activities are conducted with key officials in the context of the development of a national asylum law and asylum system | 26 training and capacity building activities for government officials related to the promotion of international refugee protection, access to basic rights for refugees and intersection with other related areas conducted. Additionally, activities are conducted with key officials in the context of the development of a national asylum law and asylum system |
| | 1.5 Capacity of the Government of Egypt to manage migration flows is improved | 550 persons trained including the provision of technical support to local authorities and civil society | 600 persons trained including the provision of technical support to local authorities and civil society |

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| <p>OBJECTIVE 2:</p> <p>Community-Based Protection, empowerment and outreach mechanisms are enhanced, aiming at both at strengthening self-management and harmonious relationship between refugee</p> | 2.1 Enhanced identification and referral to protection services, including psychosocial support, to most vulnerable refugees through enhanced community-based structures | 65,800 individuals having access to protection services | 66,590 individuals having access to protection services |
| | | 42 participatory assessments, and community mapping exercises conducted | 45 participatory assessments, and community mapping exercises conducted |
| | 2.2 Communications with communities maintained and strengthened to support communication between refugees, host populations and the humanitarian community | 22,000 people benefiting from outreach activities and information sessions | 22,600 people benefiting from outreach activities and information sessions |
| | 2.3 Social cohesion, mutually beneficial relationship and harmonious relationship between refugees and host communities are promoted and strengthened | 5 community groups supported with the delivery of community-based protection interventions responding to the needs of vulnerable persons in their communities | 9 community groups supported with the delivery of community-based protection interventions responding to the needs of vulnerable persons in their communities |
| <p>OBJECTIVE 3:</p> <p>Child protection system is strengthened, and equitable access for children, adolescents and youth to quality child protection interventions is ensured, particularly for unaccompanied and separated children</p> | 3.1 Strengthened and increased capacity of national and local systems and mechanisms to respond to the needs of refugees and host community children | 328 public facilities and government bodies are strengthened | 380 public facilities and government bodies are strengthened |
| | | 1,455 public officials and NGO staff are trained on child protection | 1,710 public officials and NGO staff are trained on child protection |
| | | 1,750 children, adolescents, youth participating in community-based psycho-social support and child protection services | 2,300 children, adolescents, youth participating in community-based psycho-social support and child protection services |
| | | 99 community based organizations and private learning facilities strengthened | 20 community based organizations and private learning facilities strengthened |
| | | 248 community based organizations and private learning facilities staff are trained on child protection | 50 community based organizations and private learning facilities staff are trained on child protection |

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| | | 4,000 children, adolescents and youth benefiting from multi sectoral case management | 4,600 children, adolescents and youth benefiting from multi sectoral case management |
| | 3.2 Specialized child protection services are available for children adolescents and youth, in particular UASC | 3,700 children, adolescents and youth receiving cash-based interventions | 3,900 children, adolescents and youth receiving cash-based interventions |
| | | 350 children, adolescents and youth with specific needs, including with disabilities, benefitting from specialized child protection support | 350 children, adolescents and youth with specific needs, including with disabilities, benefitting from specialized child protection support |
| | 3.3 Children, adolescents, youth and caregivers have access to community based child protection, psychosocial support interventions and life skills | 9,455 children, adolescents and youth participating in structured and sustained psychosocial support, life skills and child protection programs | 9,470 children, adolescents and youth participating in structured and sustained psychosocial support, life skills and CP programs |
| | | 5,500 female and male caregivers participating in positive parenting programs | 5,500 female and male caregivers participating in positive parenting programs |
| OBJECTIVE 4: The risks and consequences of SGBV are reduced and access to quality services is enhanced. | 4.1 Refugees and most vulnerable amongst impacted populations have increased access to safe, confidential and quality multisector SGBV services adapted to their age, sex and diversity | 3,124 SGBV survivors receive multisector services (at least one of the following: legal, medical, psychosocial, emergency response or emergency shelter) | 3,350 SGBV survivors receive multisector services (at least one of the following: legal, medical, psychosocial, emergency response or emergency shelter) |
| | 4.2 Risks of SGBV mitigated and reduced through community led initiatives | 5,350 people reached through community-led prevention and response activities on SGBV | 5,540 people reached through community-led prevention and response activities on SGBV |
| | 4.3 Capacity of Government and non-Government services in all sectors is strengthened to effectively prevent and respond to SGBV | 122 Government and non-Government services that receive support in all sectors | 145 Government and non-Government services that receive support in all sectors |
| | | 75 health service providers trained on SGBV medical protocol | 100 health service providers trained on SGBV medical protocol |
| | 4.4 National polices and mechanisms that address SGBV are enhanced and brought in line with international standards | 100 service providers trained on state laws and regulations that respond to SGBV survivors and related services | 120 service providers trained on state laws and regulations that respond to SGBV survivors and related services |

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| | 4.5 Empowerment opportunities and increased access for communities at risk through raised awareness about SGBV national legislation, practice and existing services and outlet | 950 persons at risk of SGBV benefitting from empowerment opportunities | 1,000 persons at risk of SGBV benefitting from empowerment opportunities |
|--|--|--|--|

PROTECTION SECTOR FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

| Agency/Organization | Total (USD) 2020 | Total (USD) 2021 |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| UNHCR | 13,473,499.950 | 20,109,661.530 |
| UNICEF | 2,530,000.000 | 2,980,000.000 |
| UNFPA | 873,000.000 | 992,000.000 |
| CRS | 308,555.870 | 114,661.170 |
| UN Women | 140,000.000 | 140,000.000 |
| SCI | 880,000 | 880,000 |
| Total | 18,205,055.82 | 25,216,322.67 |



3

PUBLIC HEALTH SECTOR

UNHCR, UNFPA and WHO in close coordination with the MoHP as Egypt's major public healthcare provider are supporting refugee and asylum-seekers' access to health services in Egypt. This is done in close cooperation with Caritas Egypt, Refuge Egypt, and Save the Children International (SCI).

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|--|--|---------------|
| Lead Agencies | UNHCR | |
| Appealing Partners | WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF | |
| Other Partners | Caritas Egypt, Refuge Egypt, and SCI | |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Equal access to comprehensive and quality primary healthcare is improved for refugees of all nationalities and impacted host communities in Egypt 2. Life-saving assistance is optimized through essential secondary and tertiary healthcare for all refugees in Egypt 3. The national healthcare system is supported | |
| Financial Requirements | 2020 | 2021 |
| Total Financial Requirement (USD) | 7,903, 095.22 | 7, 836,835.48 |

Current Situation

Refugees and asylum-seekers in Egypt have access to health services on equal footing with the host community. This is based on a memorandum of understanding signed by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) and UNHCR in 2016 and providing refugees and asylum-seekers of all nationalities access to national services including primary and secondary referral care and emergencies. However, due to out-of-pocket costs and limited capacity for providing some essential health services in public health facilities, UNHCR and health partners continue to extend supports to PoCs complementary for primary and referral healthcare services. Egypt has also adopted a National Health Insurance Law No. 2 for the year 2018 stipulating that Egypt universal health insurance is extendable to refugees who can enjoy health insurance services through a purposefully devised insurance schemes between concerned stakeholders. Moreover, in March 2019, refugees from all nationalities were included into a nationwide presidential initiative the “100 million health” campaign, which provided hepatitis C screening and treatment as part of enhancing

universal health coverage. This national initiative is inscribed in a WHO Global Action Plan to promote healthy living and wellbeing through enhancing sustainable development goal (SDG) accelerators toward universal health coverage by 2030. However, medical care providers in Egypt are increasingly challenged by increasing medication prices and hospital care costs.

It is against this backdrop that all objectives under this response plan aim at enabling urban refugees and asylum-seekers and impacted communities to access and utilize cost-effective primary healthcare services related to child, adolescent and maternal health, reproductive and mental healthcare along with chronic diseases, emergencies and referral care management

Activities described in this plan will therefore alleviate essential healthcare costs for refugees and asylum-seekers, whilst promoting healthy living and wellbeing.

Needs, Vulnerabilities and Targeting

UNHCR Minimal Expenditures Basket (MEB) assessment in 2018 has estimated that around 73 per cent of urban refugees and 59 per cent of Iraqi families are economically vulnerable and unable to meet their basic needs. Furthermore, in a November 2018 UNHCR conducted Health Access and Utilization Survey (HAUS) with 496 households, 52.4 per cent of the households surveyed reported that in the month preceding the survey they had spent money on healthcare including consultations, investigations, medications and other medical supplies. With an average of 252 Egyptian Pounds (EGP) healthcare expenditures represented the third largest households expenditure (10.7 per cent) after food (31 per cent) and rent (30 per cent).

HAUS findings also revealed that 30.4 per cent of households spending on healthcare relied entirely on their wages to cover health expenditure, 28.5 per cent relied on borrowing while 10.4 per cent relied on a combination of both and that the highest healthcare expenditure was on medication (46 per cent), followed by diagnostics (21 per cent). The survey also revealed that 82 per cent of

pregnant women reported that they received antenatal care (ANC) during their pregnancy with the majority (76.9 per cent) having had more than four visits while 18 per cent of the surveyed pregnant women did not receive antenatal care mainly due to inability to pay user fees (45 per cent) and knowing where to go (40 per cent).

Moreover, the November 2018 HAUS revealed that 20.3 per cent of household members reported having a medically diagnosed chronic diseases with the most common chronic diseases being musculoskeletal disorders, gastro-intestinal disorders, hypertension, diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, cardiac diseases and neurological diseases (30.1 per cent, 19.9 per cent, 19.5 per cent, 16 per cent, 15 per cent, 8.9 per cent and 8.9 per cent respectively)

It is against this background of socio-economic vulnerabilities that the Health sector aims at offering through its refugee response component, needed medical care services complementarily to services accessed and effectively utilized at MoHP healthcare facilities.

Strategic Vision and Response Plan

The Health sector appealing agencies will ensure that preventative, promotive, curative and rehabilitative care is enhanced to contribute to refugees, asylum-seekers and host community members' healthy living and wellbeing in a strengthened and resilient health system.

Support to MoHP primary healthcare facilities to strengthen the family health approach in impacted areas remains a strategic direction. These facilities will be potentially linked to Egypt's universal health insurance system, including in the governorates where refugees and asylum-seekers reside. Another strategic direction for 2020 and 2021 is the strengthening of Mental Health and Psycho-social Support (MHPSS), as part of the WHO mental health gap response, which will be done at MoHP primary healthcare facilities and at NGO level. For related activities, agencies will follow a broader MHPSS cross sectoral holistic approach.

The integration of non-communicable diseases into MOHP Primary healthcare facilities will be another key strategic direction toward more inclusion into cost-effective and sustainable national healthcare systems, equitably for refugees, asylum-seekers and the host community. This is part of the WHO Global Action plan and the SDG accelerator on Primary Healthcare.

The Health sector will continue to strengthen health outcomes and achievements related to maternal and child healthcare and will expand the primary healthcare package to strategically include sexual and reproductive health services for youth and adolescents as part of promoting healthy living and wellbeing.

In collaboration with the Basic Needs and Food Security sectors, the Health sector will ensure that key nutrition services for pregnant and lactating mothers and as part of infant feeding and early childhood care and development are equitably offered to refugees, asylum-seekers and the host community.

Community-based healthcare and outreach programs conducted by refugee community health volunteers will also remain a strategic direction. Equally important will be the capacity building of MoHP primary healthcare facilities in promoting health seeking behaviors and access to MOH primary healthcare services package while also providing livelihood opportunities to the volunteers.

Refugees and asylum-seeker women, men, girls and boys living with disabilities as well as SGBV survivors will also be prioritized within a broader protection strategy to promote community inclusion and non-discrimination. Coordination with the Protection sector will be pursued to optimize access to healthcare in particular clinical management of SGBV survivors .

The health sector will keep delivering optimally attainable quality programs for refugees and asylum-seekers, which will also be available to the host communities within set and developing national accountability frameworks.

Moreover, the health sector appealing agencies and their implementing partners will actively engage in community outreach to understand refugees and asylum-seekers concerns about health services, gaps and needs to optimize the coverage and service provision within the available resources. Strengthening the community-based health response will be also ensured through engaging communities and individuals as the rights holders to be part of participatory assessments planning for their needs and to the extent possible in all project's design, implementation monitoring and evaluation activities for the assistance received guided by a rights based approach, Age, Gender and Diversity mainstreaming, and the Accountability to Affected Populations core principles.

On accountability aspects, partners providing medical assistance will ensure the effective management of a complaint mechanism, so that refugees have access to safe and responsive mechanisms to handle complaints.

The Health sector partners will also continue to conduct coordinated needs assessments and evaluation as well as coverage and impact monitoring, to ensure periodic follow-up and access to the necessary medical information for strategic planning and evidence-based programming. The use of health information systems by partners, as well as needs assessments and health access and utilization surveys will continue to be key tools to measure the impact of health services with regards to reducing morbidities, disabilities and mortality indicators.

Health Sector Response

| Objective | Output | Target for 2020 | Target for 2021 |
|--|---|---|---|
| OBJECTIVE 1: Equal access to comprehensive and quality primary healthcare is improved for refugees of all nationalities and impacted host communities in Egypt | 1.1 Regular consultations are provided at primary healthcare facilities | 40,000 acute PHC consultations for girls, women, boys, men (20,400 M- 19,600 F) | 40,000 acute PHC consultations for girls, women, boys, men (2,400 M, 19,600 F) |
| | | 95,000 primary health consultations for ANC and children under five years of age related to routine immunization and growth monitoring and promotion services (47,000 M – 48,000 F) | 95,000 primary health consultations for ANC and children under five years of age related to routine immunization and growth monitoring and promotion services (47,000 M – 48,000 F) |
| | 1.2 Access to basic reproductive, child and youth healthcare ensured. | 14,600 antenatal care consultations provided | 14,600 antenatal care consultations provided |
| | | 5,400 people receiving family planning services (5,200 F, 200 M) | 5,400 people receiving family planning services (5,200 F, 200 M) |
| | | 205 PHC facilities supported for implementing integrated child survival model and nutritional integrated model. | 205 PHC facilities supported for implementing integrated child survival model and nutritional integrated model. |
| | | | |
| OBJECTIVE 2: Life-saving assistance is optimized through essential secondary and tertiary healthcare for all refugees in Egypt | 2.1 Referral system for secondary and tertiary care including specialized services is strengthened. | 9, 000 referrals to secondary and tertiary healthcare services for girls, women, boys, men (4,590 M, 4410 F) | 9, 000 referrals to secondary and tertiary healthcare services for girls, women, boys, men (4,590 M, 4410 F) |
| | | 1,150 patients received secondary healthcare for life threatening emergencies (648 M, 502 F) | 1,200 patients received secondary healthcare for life threatening emergencies (584 M, 616 F) |
| | 2.2 Enhanced access to effective emergency obstetric and neonatal intensive care (CEMONC). | 300 pregnant women with direct obstetric complications managed at secondary healthcare | 300 pregnant women with direct obstetric complications managed at secondary healthcare |
| | | 100 neonatal ICU admission (51 M, 49 F) | 120 neonatal ICU admission (61 M, 59 F) |
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| OBJECTIVE 3: The national healthcare system is supported | 3.1 Enhanced quality of services provided at PHC facilities | 500 staff trained in the supported primary healthcare facilities (180 M, 320 F) | 500 staff trained in the supported primary healthcare facilities (180 M, 320 F) |
| | 3.2 Enhanced quality of services provided at public emergency, secondary and tertiary healthcare facilities | 27 Primary healthcare public facilities supported (Equipment) | 27 Primary healthcare public facilities supported (Equipment) |
| | | 50 Primary healthcare public facilities supported with Information System | 50 Primary healthcare public facilities supported with Information System |
| | | 200 staff trained in the supported secondary/ tertiary healthcare facilities (100 M, 100 F) | 200 staff trained in the supported secondary/ tertiary healthcare facilities (100 M, 100 F) |
| | | 20 Secondary healthcare public facilities supported (Equipment) | 20 Secondary healthcare public facilities supported (Equipment) |
| | 3.3 Community health awareness is expanded and strengthened | 96 community health awareness sessions conducted | 96 community health awareness sessions conducted |
| | | 455 trained community health volunteers (70 M, 385 F) | 455 trained community health volunteers (70 M, 385 F) |
| | | 3,250 home visits | 3,250 home visits |

HEALTH SECTOR FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

| Agency/Organization | Total (USD) 2020 | Total (USD) 2021 |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| UNHCR | 5,508,095.22 | 5,571,835.48 |
| UNFPA | 800,000 | 940,000 |
| WHO | 800,000 | 725,000 |
| UNICEF | 795,000 | 600,000 |
| Total | 7,903, 095.22 | 7, 836,835.48 |



4

EDUCATION SECTOR

UNHCR is working with the following partners in the education sector: UNICEF, MoE, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Youth and Sports, CRS, SCI, School boards, public and private universities in Egypt.

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|--|--|------------|
| Lead Agencies | UNHCR | |
| Appealing Partners | UNICEF, CRS, SCI | |
| Other Partners | | |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access to education is increased for refugees and asylum-seekers through mainstreaming into the public-school system 2. Quality of education is improved in the schools attended by refugee and asylum-seeker students | |
| Financial Requirements | 2020 | 2021 |
| Total Financial Requirement (USD) | 12,917,281 | 14,066,849 |

Current Situation

Egypt hosts a predominantly young refugee population in need of adequate education services at all levels. The majority of refugees in Egypt have experienced considerable disruptions to their education in their country of origin and during their subsequent displacement to Egypt. Many sub-Saharan African, Iraqi and Yemeni refugee children and young people are not enrolled in schools in Egypt due to multiple factors; some dropped out of school before coming to Egypt, while others have fallen behind in their studies following long periods of absence due to insecurity, closure of their schools, or displacement in their country of origin or other protection related reasons. Many have poor educational support capacities within their homes and few opportunities to receive remedial education.

Various participatory assessments conducted by UNHCR on annual basis at the beginning of each financial year indicate that economic constraints are one of the factors contributing to discontinued education, as refugee students are often compelled to enter the labour force to support themselves and possibly contribute to or provide for their family's basic needs. However, despite the general poverty that refugees are experiencing, most families are keen to find an education opportunity for their school-age children.

For some nationalities under this response plan - Sudanese, South Sudanese and Yemeni children - the Government of Egypt has extended access to education. However, the families still face considerable difficulties in providing the required documentation for enrolment in public schools. These include government-issued residence permits, birth certificates, valid passports, and/or national identity documents, original school certificates from the country of

origin, and a letter from UNHCR. All these difficulties hinder their efforts to educate their children.

Meanwhile, refugees who can access public education often face difficulties, as do Egyptian children, in terms of overcrowded classrooms, lack of educational materials, issues over the quality of education and reliance on private lessons to make up for gaps presented by the education system. Many refugees also have difficulties in adapting or adjusting to the Egyptian dialect and curriculum.

In response to the above-mentioned challenges, many faith-based groups and individuals have established community schools. These schools follow the Sudanese national curriculum, and some conduct lessons in English. These schools, however, face similar problems to public schools in terms of overcrowding, quality of education and, at times, a lack of safeguarding mechanisms to ensure that children are protected and well looked after.

Children attending these schools are, in most cases, unable to obtain certificates recognized by the Egyptian or Sudanese Governments. As a result, those children cannot advance beyond primary level education and blocking the road to higher education.

In addition, many refugee children live far from the schools they attend, increasing their protection risks which affects school attendance. A great majority must leave very early in the morning and take more than one form of public transport to reach the nearest community school, which creates an additional financial burden on an already poor household.

Needs, Vulnerabilities and Targeting

The total number of African community schools operating for 2019/2020 academic year has exceeded 72 community schools, with approximately 20,000 refugee boys and girls receiving their education. Twenty-six of these schools are hosting approximately 80 per cent of all students in school-going age with refugee or asylum-seeker and covered by this response plan.

Up until the academic year 2017, UNHCR and CRS conducted annual needs assessment of all community schools at the end of each financial year to determine their needs and to plan for appropriate interventions and budget requirements for the following year. This assessment tool was developed to ensure international best practices for education and safe learning environments set by UNHCR and the International Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE). The assessment of schools looked at the existence of a physical safe learning environment, their financial position, and their governance performance. Most of these community schools are in small flats and are in five main areas of concentration in Greater Cairo. Many of the schools are not affiliated with any formal organization, and only 36 per cent are affiliated with NGOs and faith-based organizations.

According to the last community school assessment, approximately 67 schools out of the assessed schools teach the Sudanese curricula, which is divided into 11 grades, in addition to the kindergarten stage. Only two schools teach other curricula in addition to the Sudanese curriculum. Students enrolled in grade 8 and grade 11 are entitled to sit for the Sudanese national exam upon payment of exam fee ranging between \$150 USD for Sudanese refugees and \$250 USD for all other students. Upon passing this exam, students get a certificate accredited by both the Egyptian and Sudanese ministries of education as part of the completion process. The nationalities of the students enrolled in the schools include Sudanese, South Sudanese, Eritreans, Ethiopians, Somalis, and other nationalities. Approximately 800 teachers are working in the community schools. Sixty per cent of the teachers are males; however, recently the number of female teachers has increased,

which is a remarkable improvement in comparison to three years ago, where women represented less than 40 per cent of teachers. Most recently the GoE took a position of mainstreaming refugee children into MoE schools, and banning the community schools as they do not fall within any of the categories of recognized schools under the Egyptian Law.

UNHCR and partners will be focusing their resources in mainstreaming all African refugee children into the national education system through a well-planned bridging programme, extracurricular activities, citizenship education and capacity building to schools and staff hosting refugee children. Vulnerable families with school children will also be provided with education resources and education grants to pay for school fee, stationary, uniforms and safe transportation to and from school. Children who have been out of school for some time will be targeted with accelerated learning and language programmes in addition to technical and vocational courses to help them integrate in a classroom later or to prepare them for the job market.

Many refugee youth, particularly unaccompanied or separated youth, play a very important role in contributing to their own and others' well-being, yet too often, their present-day capacities are not recognized, and their perspectives are not heard by their communities, host countries or, at times, humanitarian agencies. Compelling evidence supports the case for displaced youth's needs, the constraints they face in improving their situation, and their hopes for long-term solutions. Youth represent an invisible majority within the refugee population, therefore depriving and hindering many refugee youth of university education and employment. This affects not only them as one generation, but it passes on to their children's future generations. UNHCR, in collaboration with the UNCT in Egypt, there is an established UN Youth Task Force (YTF) facilitated by UNFPA and aims to address the needs of youth and adolescents through a much wider forum and in partnership with Egyptian line ministries such as the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education.

Strategic Vision and Response Plan

The education sector partners in Egypt will continue to advocate for the adoption and mainstreaming of protection approaches with the MoE, and school boards, focusing on school-based reform and inclusive education drawing on previous experience and relationship with all stakeholders. The aim will be to ensure successful integration of sub-Saharan African and Iraqi refugees into the governmental school system. This will be achieved through capacitating public schools in areas with high concentration of refugees in and around Cairo, employing a comprehensive professional development programme for educators, improving the capacity of school staff who work with African refugee children, and supporting a school-based reform model that enables stakeholders such as teachers, students, social workers, parents, and community leaders to voice their concerns and contribute towards an improved protection and education process in their districts. This will result in an increase in the enrolment and retention rates of refugee children in formal education.

Due to lack of access for Sub-Saharan African and Iraqi refugees to public schools, in early 2019, the UNHCR High Commissioner met with the Egyptian Minister of Education and advocated for the inclusion of African, Iraqi and Yemeni refugees into the Egyptian public-school system. Yemeni refugees were granted access to public schools at same footing as Egyptian nationals for the 2018/2019 academic year and beyond. As for other nationalities UNHCR continues to lobby for inclusion in MoE schools. These access arrangements will require UNHCR and education partners' efforts and resources to enhance the capacity of public schools that may receive additional children. In 2020, MoE General Authority for Educational Buildings, UNHCR and partners will be mapping out these schools around Cairo looking at the potential for enhancing the physical capacity and assisting the government in building additional classrooms or refurbishing existing schools. The Education sector partners will also provide teacher training and will prepare refugee students to be fully integrated into these schools through a bridging and accelerated learning programme.

Families of African, Iraqi and Yemeni refugee school age boys, girls and youth will continue to receive education grants, upon enrolment and regular attendance. The grant will contribute to school fees, uniforms, books, stationery and transportation to facilitate their learning process. The education grant is distributed according to the school year, school type and the grade of the student. Vulnerable and out-of-school children will be identified, and those with additional needs will be supported through special assistance. In order to provide adequate support to children from destitute families who, even with the grant provided, are unable to enrol in school, vulnerable students whose parents cannot afford to pay their school fees will have access to additional support on a case by case basis. Also, adult literacy and numeracy classes will be provided to African families to assist them in life-long learning and help them support their children's education.

Partners will be providing a comprehensive education service for the unaccompanied and separated refugee boys, girls, and youth, through tailor-made education programmes, to maximize their protection space, enable them to be active members in their communities, boost their self-confidence, and prepare them for the job market where they can eventually break the vicious circle of poverty. Partners will also be expanding the Vocational Training Programmes for youth and adolescents through deeper cooperation with the Federal Government of Germany and other donors who are already providing more than 350 Higher Education scholarships for refugees in Egypt under the Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative Fund (DAFI).

Education sector partners are working closely with child protection, SGBV, public health and livelihood sectors where education is being made an entry point to deliver these needed protection-related services. A health and safety training programme implemented by the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) targeting children, their parents and their teachers in the community and in public schools will be expanded to reach and empower more African, Iraqi and Yemeni refugee children.

Education Sector Response

| Objective | Output | Target for 2020 | Target for 2021 |
|---|--|--|---|
| OBJECTIVE 1: Access to education is increased for refugees and asylum-seekers through mainstreaming into the public-school system | 1.1 Improved inclusive access to education by all children, youth and adolescents | 6,600 children (3-5 years, girls/boys) enrolled in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and pre-primary education | 7,260 children (3-5 years, girls/boys) enrolled in ECCE and pre-primary education |
| | | 25,250 children (3-17 years g/b) provided with education grants | 27,775 children (3-17 years g/b) provided with education grants |
| | | 3,000 UASC (6-17 years, g/b) receiving education grants | 3,300 UASC (6-17 years, g/b) receiving education grants |
| | | 350 students with special needs receiving education support | 350 students with special needs receiving education support |
| | 1.2 Protective learning environments improved | 500 teachers trained on safe-guarding mechanisms and positive discipline | 500 teachers trained on safe-guarding mechanisms and positive discipline |
| | 1.3 Access to accelerated learning or bridging programmes improved | 2,500 (6-17 years, g/b) enrolled in ALP or bridging programme | 2,500 (6-17 years, g/b) enrolled in ALP or bridging programme |
| | | 1,700 children (5-17, g/b) in public schools are provided with remedial classes | 1,870 children (5-17, g/b) in public schools are provided with remedial classes |
| | | 1,000 children (5-17 years, g/b) are provided with language classes | 1,100 children (5-17 years, g/b) are provided with language classes |
| | 1.4 Improved access to higher education opportunities. | 150 youths and adolescents benefiting from higher education scholarships | 150 youths and adolescents benefiting from higher education scholarships |
| | 1.5 Physical capacity of public and community schools hosting refugee children improved and bridging classes conducted | 120 public and Community Schools hosting refugee children improved or maintained | 120 public and Community Schools hosting refugee children improved or maintained |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>OBJECTIVE 2</p> <p>Quality of education is improved in the schools attended by refugee and asylum-seeker students</p> | 2.1 Provide professional development to teachers, facilitators and school staff on child-centred, protective and interactive methodologies | 5,000 teachers and education personnel trained (m/f) | 5,000 teachers and education personnel trained (m/f) |
| | 2.2 Procure and distribute textbooks, teaching and learning materials, and school supplies | 1,500 teachers and education personnel receiving teaching resources, kits and guides | 1,500 teachers and education personnel receiving teaching resources, kits and guides |
| | | 11,000 students (3-17 years) receiving learning materials and supplies | 12,100 students (3-17 years) receiving learning materials and supplies |
| | | 5,000 children (5-17 years, g/b) receiving textbooks | 5,500 children (5-17 years, g/b) receiving textbooks |
| | 2.3 Children, youth and adolescents benefitting from technical and vocational training and life skills education and recreational activities | 10,000 children (5-17 years, g/b) benefitting from life skills and citizenship education and activities in formal settings | 11,000 children (5-17 years, g/b) benefitting from life skills and citizenship education and activities in formal settings |
| | | 6,400 youth (15-24 years, g/b) benefitting from life skills activities in formal and non-formal settings | 6,640 youth (15-24 years, g/b) benefitting from life skills activities in formal and non-formal settings |
| | | 400 youth enrolled in technical and vocational education and training institutes | 440 youth enrolled in technical and vocational education and training institutes |
| | 2.4 Improve data collection related to formal and non-formal education including tracking of out-of-school children, school-based assessments | 5 programmes implemented to enhance data collection | 5 programmes implemented to enhance data collection |
| | | 500 education actors (f/m) trained on policy, planning, data collection, sector coordination and International Network for Education in Emergencies Minimum Standards (INEE MS) | 500 education actors (f/m) trained on policy, planning, data collection, sector coordination and INEE MS |
| | | 1,500 children attending (non-formal) are assessed regularly and provided with psychosocial support and school supplies | 1,500 children attending (non-formal) are assessed regularly and provided with psychosocial support and school supplies |

EDUCATION SECTOR FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY AGENCY

| Agency/Organization | Total (USD) 2020 | Total (USD) 2021 |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| UNHCR | 5,623,146 | 5,652,900 |
| UNICEF | 3,274,260 | 3,968,074 |
| SCI | 400,000 | 545,000 |
| CRS | 3,619,875 | 3,900,875 |
| Total | 12,917,281 | 14,066,849 |



5

BASIC NEEDS & LIVELIHOODS SECTOR

UNHCR is working with the following partners in the basic needs and livelihoods sector: UNICEF, ILO, UN Women, CRS, DON BOSCO and Caritas Egypt.

| | | |
|--|---|------------|
| Lead Agencies | UNHCR | |
| Appealing Partners | UNICEF, ILO, UN Women, CRS, DON BOSCO | |
| Other Partners | Cartias Egypt | |
| Objectives | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic needs assistance is provided; 2. Self-Reliance and sustainable and safe livelihoods improved; 3. Capacities of local partners enhanced to provide sustainable livelihood services and build resilient communities. | |
| Financial Requirements | 2020 | 2021 |
| Total Financial Requirement (USD) | 29,244,231.00 | 31,140,348 |

Current Situation

The latest poverty estimates by the national statistical agency, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, indicate that one-third of Egyptians live below the national poverty line. Several measures have been taken at the national level to safeguard the most impacted with recent socio-economic changes, including through admission to national safety net programs (Takaful and Karama), allocation of higher food subsidies, and increase in minimum wages and pensions to safeguard the middle-class.

Egypt's economy has managed to stabilize and sustain growth over the last few years of transformations at the macro-economic level¹. The country's inflation rate has dropped to lowest in a decade reporting 2.4 per cent in October 2019 compared to 17.5 per cent in October 2018. The country had reported the highest inflation rate in 2017 at 23.54 per cent². Unemployment has witnessed a similar resurge as 2.2 million Egyptians were estimated to be unemployed in the third quarter of 2019 (i.e. 7.5 per cent from 9.9 in the third quarter of 2018), although accompanying a decrease in the labour force participation rate³.

While refugees and asylum-seekers have access to formal jobs under the 10 per cent quota of foreign labour, they are predominantly engaged in the informal employment market

where many Egyptians are similarly accommodated. The informal market in Egypt has maintained its supply-capacity for jobs and work options in certain sectors, hence it has had a fluctuating and uncertain nature to the people it caters for.

Refugees and asylum-seekers from sub-Saharan Africa, Yemen and Iraq constitute 49 per cent of refugees residing in Egypt. They are more concentrated in their dispersion trends than Syrians as they are mostly in Greater Cairo Region with few in Alexandria. Among them, is a considerable number of women and men between the ages of 18 and 24 years. Out of this young population, around 10,000 male and female asylum-seekers and refugees have reported being students.

The population figures show trends at two contrary ends: while considerable group has no education and work experience, the other group is pursuing higher education and comes with mobility to negotiate the labour market. This is underlined by the fact that more than 9,000 women over 18 years old reported having gained work experience before coming to Egypt.

1 <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/egypt/overview>

2 <https://www.france24.com/en/20191109-egypt-s-inflation-lowest-in-nearly-a-decade>

3 <http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/3/12/355945/Business/Economy/Egypt-unemployment-goes-up-by-in-Q.aspx>



Needs, Vulnerabilities and Targeting

In 2019, UNHCR conducted vulnerability assessments through home visits for a total of 9,715 households of varying levels of welfare were interviewed. The vulnerability assessment covered a total of 24 Governorates (encompassing 162 districts) with a total of 19 refugee and asylum-seeker nationalities registered with UNHCR interviewed. The survey collected data on several aspects including, biodata, access to residence permits, income and expenditure, participation of community activities, education and employment level among others.

Preliminary results indicate higher vulnerability levels of this population groups across multiple sectors. The majority of respondents indicated that they did not have valid residency permits with only 26 per cent possessed valid residence permits. Without formalizing their legal status, refugees are susceptible to arrest. Furthermore, while an average income of EGP 2,830 (USD 172) per month was reported for the entire assessed population, refugees from these nationalities had a substantially lower average income of EGP 1,951 (USD 118).

In terms of housing, crowding was also observed where a total of 6 persons per household shared their living space within an average of 49m² compared to the overall average of 5 persons per 65m² of living space.

The main challenges cited within this population group, from the assessment include, the high cost of living (30 per cent), followed by access to housing (26 per cent) and safety/security (26 per cent). Over three-quarters of refugees of these nationalities face difficulties in meeting their basic needs and are dependent on humanitarian assistance. However, less than 15 per cent receive monthly humanitarian cash assistance, and 20 per cent receive food vouchers. More support is needed to support this population and avoid their resorting to harmful coping strategies to meet their most pressing basic needs.

The engagement of refugees and asylum-seekers in the informal labour market and in some precarious jobs has resulted in exposure to multiple protection and social risks. African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers have reported needs to be capacitated to engage in better options (through skills development and market-oriented education). In addition, they lack the reliable and informed intermediary programmes that facilitate their access to wage and self-employment opportunities. Based on the

2019 participatory assessment, livelihood needs of youth (especially those with no education and no previous work experience), professionals, women and educated job seekers are specifically unmet. African refugees reported xenophobic and discriminatory attitudes.

The humanitarian response in Egypt attempts to provide support that is aligned with the Takaful and Karama initiative. Three-quarters of refugees of these nationalities face difficulties in meeting their basic needs and are dependent on humanitarian assistance. Out of this population, 15 per cent receive monthly humanitarian cash assistance, and 20 per cent receive food vouchers.

The engagement of refugees and asylum-seekers in the informal labour market and in some precarious jobs has resulted in exposure to multiple protection and social risks. African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers have reported needs to be capacitated to engage in better options (through skills development and market-oriented education). In addition, they lack the reliable and informed intermediary programmes that facilitate their access to wage and self-employment opportunities. Based on the 2019 participatory assessment, livelihood needs of youth (especially those with no education and no previous work experience), professionals, women and educated job seekers are specifically unmet. African refugees reported xenophobic and discriminatory attitudes.

The eligibility determination and targeting modality of humanitarian cash assistance are aligned with the national system and have been implemented by partners in Egypt since April 2019. The thresholds for vulnerability used by the sector also reflect the national poverty lines which comprise four main categories, namely: extreme poor, poor, near-poor and non-poor. These thresholds facilitate population segmentation and targeted interventions for the refugee population including: (a) phasing out of assistance for those classified as “near poor” to resilient livelihood opportunities; (b) graduation from cash assistance for those

who have been on cash for a prolonged period of time; and (c) consideration for durable solutions for those at heightened risk and whose ability to engage in the labour force is severely impaired.

Strategic Directions and Response Plan

The strategic response of the sector aims to simultaneously meet the goals of market-based economic empowerment and the basic needs of socially and economically vulnerable refugees from sub-Saharan Africa, Iraq and Yemen.

As an effort to build the resilience of refugee families against economic shocks and stresses, the sector will continue to identify and support the most viable vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers with livelihood support through wage employment facilitation and capacity development. Cash grants will be provided to start or enlarge businesses and will be accompanied by business coaching and mentoring support. Furthermore, in order to secure stronger outcomes, this support will be supplemented with existing access to public health and education services as well as other assistance types including education grants, vocational training, livelihood grants and maternal and child health services, as appropriate. Dedicated protection support for those at heightened risk will also be pursued.

It is important to recognize that supporting safe and sustainable livelihoods of refugees in Egypt has potential positive impact on the refugee hosting community at large. Introducing integrated socio-economic development initiatives that address social needs while creating diversified and responsive livelihood avenues is crucial. It is hence important to link refugees' livelihoods to the framework of prioritizing and synergizing relevant SDGs with the GoE, UN agencies and partners.

It is also important that efforts to support refugees' livelihoods are synergized and cross-linked through structured

and effective coordination efforts among different NGO partners. Cases with specific vulnerabilities, especially young population who are aged out from childhood phase, women, and recipients of regular cash grants will be considered under a comprehensive protection-based approach. In parallel, technical and financial assistance will be provided to "business ready" micro, small and medium-sized enterprises to expand opportunities for value chain and job growth.

The sector will also continue to explore avenues with other sectors, national and academic institutions, private sector on various issues, including: harmonizing approaches to programming cash interventions; promoting cross-learning on targeting, beneficiary selection and grievance redress approaches; utilizing common cash-delivery platforms including piloting biometric enabled cash delivery; and building evidence on the impact of cash assistance on protection and sectoral outcomes.

Finally, cost efficiencies will be sought by UN partners of the 3RP where appropriate. In previous years, UNICEF has allocated seasonal basic needs funding to UNHCR under the "Operating as One" strategic framework, allowing savings to be made in procurement, human resources and finance, and facilitating the realization of the Joint Statement by the Principals of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNHCR, WFP and UNICEF on cash assistance in December 2018.

Basic Needs & Livelihoods Sector Response

| Objective | Output | Target for 2020 | Target for 2021 |
|---|---|--|--|
| OBJECTIVE 1: Basic needs assistance provided | 1.1 Multi-purpose cash assistance is provided to most vulnerable refugees and hosting communities | 22,178 refugee HH (MHH/FHH) received multi purpose cash assistance on monthly basis (regional indicator) | 23,677 refugee HH (MHH/FHH) received multi purpose cash assistance on monthly basis (regional indicator) |
| | 1.2 Winterization support provided to Syrian refugees outside camps | 21,514 HH (MHH/FHH) received winterization support outside camps (regional indicator) | 21,514 HH (MHH/FHH) received winterization support outside camps (regional indicator) |
| | | 3,100 refugee children received winter cash assistance on monthly basis (top up) | 3,389 refugee children received winter cash assistance on monthly basis (top up) |

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| OBJECTIVE 2: Self-Reliance and sustainable and safe livelihoods improved | 2.1 Employment Opportunities Enhanced | 1050 of Persons have access to wage employment (50%F, 50%M) | 1930 of Persons have access to wage employment (50%F, 50%M) |
| | | 720 of persons have access to self-employment (50%F, 50%M) | 1480 of persons have access to self-employment (50%F, 50%M) |
| | 2.2 Capacities and Skills Enhanced | 1190 of persons provided by trainings for livelihood purposes (50%F, 50%M) | 1390 of persons provided by trainings for livelihood purposes (50%F, 50%M) |
| OBJECTIVE 3: Capacities of local partners enhanced to provide sustainable livelihood services and build resilient communities | 3.1 Capacities of local partners enhanced to provide | 50 of trainings provided to Government and public officials (50%F, 50%M) | No of trainings provided to Government and public officials (50%F, 50%M) |
| | 3.2 Community livelihoods and local development support | 1 of community livelihoods interventions (infrastructure/ services) implemented | 2 of community livelihoods interventions (infrastructure/ services) implemented |

BASIC NEEDS AND LIVELIHOODS SECTOR FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY AGENCY

| Agency/Organization | Total (USD) 2020 | Total (USD) 2021 |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| UNICEF | 600,000.00 | 296,352 |
| UNHCR | 25,804,337 | 27,359,720 |
| SCI | - | - |
| CRS | 382,793 | 394,276 |
| UN Women | 140,000 | 140,000 |
| WFP | - | - |
| WHO | - | - |
| UNFPA | - | - |
| ILO | 2,000,000 | 2,500,000 |
| Don Bosco | 317,101.00 | 450,000 |
| TOTAL | 29,244,231.00 | 31,140,348 |



5

FOOD SECURITY

Current Situation

According to the 2018 Global Hunger Index, Egypt suffers from a moderate level of hunger, ranking 61 of 119 countries. Affordability, food quality and food safety remain the most pressing challenges as Egypt continues to rely on global markets for more than half of its staples. Malnutrition is another growing public health concern, with the double burden of undernutrition, including high rates of stunting and micronutrient deficiencies, and overweight and obesity. Because of poor hygiene, education and positive food consumption awareness, the burden of malnutrition among children aged 6-23 months, adolescents and women of reproductive age continues to be exacerbated.

With the increase in the refugee population in Egypt, the cumulative impact of economic reforms on inflation rates is expected to continue to diminish the purchasing capacity of households for host communities and refugees, especially

those not receiving humanitarian assistance. Moreover, the lack of valid legal residence permits and the prevailing overall legal framework impeding work permits and licences for businesses, continue to be a concern among refugees in Egypt.

As a firm believer that regional integration, stability and prosperity are prerequisites for the realisation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, WFP in partnership with the Government of Egypt are cooperating with other development partners and civil society organizations to develop and implement an inclusive and resilience-based approach to strengthen protection and support for refugees and affected host communities, with a focus on meeting food, health, education and livelihoods needs and consequently contributing to all 17 SDGs.

WFP's Assistance

Recent structural economic changes in Egypt significantly affect all aspects of the lives of refugees and asylum-seekers similar to the Egyptian population. The difficult socio-economic conditions and increases in the cost of living have reduced households' purchasing power and exacerbated the levels of vulnerability. One main difference, however, is the access of Egyptians to social protection packages which the Government is using to alleviate the impacts of the country's economic reforms such as Takaful and Karama and others, while refugees and asylum-seekers are not eligible for this support.

This has resulted in refugee and asylum-seeker households not being able to meet their basic consumption needs and, therefore, their dependence on food assistance has increased. In this regard, through Strategic Outcome 2 of WFP Egypt's Country Strategic Plan 2018-2023, WFP helps address the needs of food-insecure refugees, displaced populations and host communities in Egypt through access to adequate food all year round.

To address the growing needs of vulnerable refugees, starting May 2019, WFP Egypt started implementing the "One Refugee Policy" to include the most vulnerable and food insecure refugees regardless of their nationality. Egypt's developed infrastructure and functioning local markets, as well as the geographic spread of refugees in urban areas led to WFP's adoption of food vouchers as the primary modality of assistance to refugees in the country.

Overall, WFP supports about 117,000 vulnerable refugees and host communities through two main activities of relief and livelihood. Interventions include targeting 78,000 refugees from Syria and 25,000 refugees from seven other countries through General Food Assistance (GFA), nutrition support to 8,000 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW), and resilience-building (Food for Training) for 6,000 refugees and host community members.

In coordination with humanitarian stakeholders, WFP provides GFA through which each refugee receives food-restricted vouchers (EGP 400 per month), redeemable from the 50 WFP-contracted shops across the country. The voucher modality helps restore a sense of normalcy and dignity in the lives of refugees by allowing them to purchase food items of their choice, thereby helping them meet their individual consumption and nutritional needs more efficiently.

WFP's assistance for refugee is one that focuses on ensuring food security while at the same time exploring possibilities of more durable solutions through human capital and livelihood support for both vulnerable refugees and host community members. With this two-pronged approach, WFP aims to better address root causes of vulnerability, increase self-reliance, improve sustainability, and gradually reduce dependency on assistance.

Needs, Vulnerabilities and Targeting

So far in Egypt and many other countries in the region, African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers have not received the due attention and support. Although WFP has started implementation of the 'One Refugee Policy' it is evident that the needs of these refugee populations remain significant. Recognizing their extreme vulnerability, WFP intends to appeal with UNHCR and other partners to the international community for additional funding to extend its food assistance to reach at least 50,000 African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers.

The socio-economic situation of African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers is assessed by UNHCR's partner Caritas through structured interviews that take place throughout the year. The assessment investigates various aspects including demographic profiles, physical and non-physical disability, housing conditions and living standards, employment, sources of income and debt, expenditure patterns, food consumption patterns as well as the adoption of severe coping strategies.

The results of the 2018 assessment survey indicated the socioeconomic vulnerability of African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers. More than 80 percent of the surveyed households fell below the minimum expenditure basket threshold (MEB) estimated by UNHCR, and 37.5 percent of all households were headed by females. About 60 percent of the surveyed households were living in shared homes (separate rooms in an apartment). Nearly 16 percent of the heads of households were illiterate while 27 percent merely had primary education and 38.1 percent had preparatory or secondary education, all pointing to the increased limitations to finding an employment opportunity in Egypt. This is confirmed by the high prevalence of unemployment amongst them which increases to 25.2 percent, while 34.9 percent are employed on temporary or casual basis. Regarding food consumption, nearly 32 percent had poor or borderline food consumption, i.e. unacceptable frequency and pattern of food intake. Additionally, 33.4 percent had low dietary diversity and 49.3 percent had moderate dietary diversity, indicating the likelihood of nutritional gaps. The overall assessment of

access to food, whether in terms of actual food consumption or in terms of economic and coping capacity showed that 32.4 percent of the households are food insecure (mostly moderately insecure) while 53.6 percent are vulnerable to food insecurity. It is also important to note that the refugees and asylum-seekers are increasingly relying on food consumption coping strategies; 76.5 percent have reduced the number of meals, 76.4 percent reduced the portions of meals, 36.7 percent of adults are eating less to feed their children and nearly 90 percent are consuming less preferred foods or lower quality of food while nearly half of the households either borrow food or money to buy food.

As per the above, there is a pressing need for the expansion of assistance to reach the most vulnerable. Special emphasis on providing food and nutritional support as well as securing employment opportunities is needed, especially for African refugees who are highly vulnerable to exploitation.

Due to administrative challenges in obtaining official work permits in Egypt, most refugees and asylum-seekers are employed in the informal sector. This is especially the case for African refugees as many may also face discriminatory attitudes, which can result in marginalization and abuse. Unlike Syrian refugee women, thousands of African refugee women are employed in the domestic work sector where some have been subjected to verbal and physical assaults. Many men and youth from African countries, are offered daily wages for short term, temporary jobs. Often, refugees may not have the required skill sets that would allow them to secure safe and long-term employment, moreover, refugees lack access to data and information.

There is therefore an urgent need for funding to support livelihood opportunities for African, Yemeni and Iraqi refugees and asylum-seekers living in Egypt. These potential opportunities include certified market-oriented vocational training, enhanced marketing opportunities for entrepreneurs, community-based savings programmes, and access to seed funding to start-up viable businesses.

Strategic Directions and Response Plan

The focus of WFP interventions will be on the provision of crisis response to support refugees with the most socio-economical and protection related vulnerabilities. These refugees will be supported with unconditional monthly food vouchers, supplemented, where appropriate with conditional cash for employability and vocational training, as well as maternal and child health services for pregnant and lactating women and children under 2 years of age.

WFP plans to scale up assistance to a least 50,000 vulnerable refugees and asylum-seekers with food assistance in the form of a monthly unconditional food vouchers of approximately USD 23 (periodically adjusted to prevailing market prices and exchange rate). This amount is equivalent to EGP 400 and in line with the current national minimum expenditure basket. Similar to Syrian refugees, refugees and asylum-seekers from other nationalities will be able to redeem their food assistance in over 50 selected contracted supermarkets located in areas, where most refugees are residing. Targeting will be based on vulnerability indicators resulting from periodic socio-economic food security vulnerability assessments. Targeting for food assistance will also ensure inclusion of the most vulnerable groups such as female-headed households, unaccompanied minors, families with special needs, and elderly people.

In addition, WFP's nutrition assistance for pregnant and lactating women which is already being provided in

collaboration with the Government of Egypt to Syrian refugees as well as to host community members, will be expanded to include non-Syrian refugees and asylum-seekers. About 6,000 women and infants will benefit from a monthly conditional value voucher of 23 USD (400 EGP) to purchase locally produced high energy food items. Entitlements for assistance will be conditional to regular primary healthcare visits with a view to improving nutrition and pre-antenatal care among mothers. This assistance aims to prevent chronic malnutrition through an integrated approach of nutrition sensitive, and nutrition specific interventions. In addition to the food voucher, the families will be provided with nutrition and well-being information and awareness raising sessions at local clinics, helping achieve social and behavioural change.

In addition to ensuring continued basic food security, WFP will provide the most vulnerable refugees with resilience building activities to promote and support different employability schemes and livelihood opportunities that promote self-reliance. These activities include enhanced access to vocational and skills training for refugees and host community members to allow for an eventual graduation from direct assistance to self-reliance. Further, these activities will be extended to host communities with the aim of eliminating disparities, achieving better social cohesion and ensuring equal access to food.

Partnerships

WFP's most strategic partnership is with the Egyptian Government, which supports the resourcing and implementation of WFP's activities. WFP has signed several agreements for collaboration with key governmental entities ensuring shared strategic direction and joint implementation. Government partners include the Ministry of Social Solidarity, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, the Ministry of Health and Population, the Ministry of Supply and

WFP works with local NGOs for its general food assistance, vocational trainings and livelihood enhancement activities, where NGOs support in identifying, reaching, and delivering assistance to beneficiaries. Given WFP's corporate partnership strategy and the UN's "Delivering as One"

approach, WFP works closely with sister UN agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization, UN Women and UNICEF to achieve synergies and impacts at scale. WFP will also continue its collaboration with UNHCR with a focus on migration issues. Further areas of collaboration will be identified with the International Organization for Migration, the WHO, UNFPA, and UN Women.

Furthermore, WFP engages with various private sector partners and academic institutions to explore potential innovations to promote sustainable interventions in support of vulnerable refugees in the area of food security, health services and employment.

Food Security Sector Response

| Objective | Output | Target for 2020 |
|--|---|---|
| OBJECTIVE 1: Providing assistance to refugees and migrants from Africa and other countries | 1.1 General food assistance provided to targeted refugee populations to meet their basic food needs | 50,000 refugees and asylum-seekers receive food vouchers on monthly basis |
| | 1.2 Food assistance provided to pregnant and lactating refugee women and girls, and their children | 6,000 pregnant and lactating women and girls, and their children (6–23 months) receive food vouchers on monthly basis to meet their basic nutritional |
| | 1.3 Access to livelihood and income diversification activities to enhance livelihood opportunities and promote resilience | 4,000 selected participants receive vocational and life-skills training |

WFP FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY ACTIVITY

| Activity | Beneficiaries | Feeding days/Year | Ration/day | Total USD (2020) | Total USD (2021) |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|------------------|
| GFA | 50,000 | 360 | 0.83 | 14,881,875 | 14,881,875 |
| PLW | 6,000 | 360 | 0.83 | 1,785,825 | 1,785,825 |
| Vocational Training | 4,000 | 180 | 0.83 | 595,275 | 595,275 |
| Total CBT Transfers | | | | 17,262,975 | 17,262,975 |
| Operational Cost | | | | 2,747,462 | 2,747,462 |
| ISC | | | | 1,300,678 | 1,300,678 |
| Total WFP Cost | | | | 21,311,116 | 21,311,116 |



Acronyms

| | |
|---------|--|
| 3RP | Regional Refugee & Resilience Plan |
| ANC | Antenatal care |
| CEMONC | Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care |
| CP | Child Protection |
| CRS | Catholic Relief Services |
| ECCE | Early Childhood Care and Education |
| EGP | Egyptian Pound |
| GFA | General food assistance |
| GOE | Government of Egypt |
| HAUS | Health Access and Utilization Survey |
| IAWG | Inter-Agency Working Group |
| INEE MS | International Network for Education in Emergencies Minimum Standards |
| ISWG | Inter-sector Working Group |
| MHPSS | Mental Health and Psycho-social Support |
| MOE | Ministry of Education |
| MOFA | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| MOHP | Ministry of Health and Population |
| NCCM | National Council for Childhood and Motherhood |
| NCW | National Council for Women |
| NFIS | Non-Food Items |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| PHC | Public Healthcare |
| PLW | Pregnant and Lactating Women |
| RSD | Refugee Status Determination |
| SEA | Sexual exploitation and abuse |
| SCI | Save the Children International |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goal |
| SGBV | Sexual and Gender-based Violence |
| UASC | Unaccompanied and Separated Children |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| USD | United States Dollars |
| WFP | World Food Programme |



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency