

© UNICEF/UN20231127/Ahmed



Egypt

Humanitarian Situation Report

No. 8

Date of Issue: 31 December 2023

Period Covered: 1-31 December
2023

The Sudanese children playing at UNICEF-supported learning space in Aswan.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Sudan has been in a state of crisis since 15 April 2023, when fighting broke out between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in the capital city of Khartoum. Since then, more than 7.2 million people have been displaced inside and outside Sudan, with children representing about half of the people displaced¹. More than 500,000 people have been displaced due to armed clashes that took place in Medani and surrounding areas in al Jazirah State.

As of December, the number of suspected cholera cases reached 8,536, increasing 94 per cent over the past month. Movement from Sudan to Egypt continues despite visa related restrictions and lengthy processes at the border. Movement is mainly due to the continuing risk of escalation of the hostility in Sudan, forcing more Sudanese to seek refugees in the neighboring countries including Egypt.

According to UNHCR, currently in Egypt there are 400,000 Sudanese and 9,000 individuals of other nationalities that have crossed into Egypt from Sudan since the beginning of the crisis in April 2023, including registered 140,000 new arrivals from the total of 233,167 pre-registration appointments since the beginning of the crisis, with 91 per cent of whom are Sudanese². The new arrivals are spread across governorates in Egypt with concentration in Gaza 83,721, Cairo 41,483, Alexandria 8,414, Sharkia 1,609, Suez 1,108 people and other governorates. Out of this number over 40 per cent are between 1-17 years old and 53 per cent are female.

¹ [Sudan Humanitarian Update 28 December 2023](#)

² [Sudan Emergency Response Update as of 09 January](#) – the data of December is released in January.

UNICEF RESPONSE

UNICEF continues to work with the Government and NGOs partners to respond to the needs of Sudanese displaced in Aswan and other governorates, despite challenges around determining the locations of the refugees after leaving the entering points.

UNICEF managed to secure US\$ 8.56 million (71 per cent) out of the US\$ 12.1 million requirement. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all donors such as Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM) USA, European Commission/ECHO, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and Global Thematic Humanitarian Funds for their generous contributions, which are instrumental to providing much-needed support to vulnerable children and their families. Flexible funding received under Humanitarian Thematic was instrumental for UNICEF to start life-saving interventions immediately at the border while securing additional funds for the delivery of basic services to women and children.

Child Protection

- Since May, UNICEF, through its partners, has continued to provide services in Aswan governorate, with 7,419 Sudanese children and care givers including (4,184 female) reached with Mental Health Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS) in Child Friendly Spaces (CFS). These spaces have benefited about 800 people of other nationalities, with over 60 per cent of the interventions facilitated by highly qualified Egyptian and Sudanese professionals.
- In addition, UNICEF and its partners provided special services to 1,601 Sudanese, including 771 females, through MHPSS. Meanwhile, 549 Sudanese, including 271 females, received case-based protection services at specialized centers in Alexandria, Damietta, Aswan, Cairo, and Giza governorates. UNICEF and its partners are continuing the verification process in these governorates.
- UNICEF provided humanitarian cash transfers for winterization items to 18,000 Sudanese, including 9,114 females, in Alexandria, Aswan, Cairo and Giza governorates.

Health and Nutrition

- Approximately 40,000 children were vaccinated against polio and 7,000 against measles. Primary health care services were provided to 1,200 women and children.
- UNICEF is currently providing support to 30 Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in various governorates to enhance the quality of screening services for malnutrition. To date, 685 mothers and 3,556 children have been screened, of which 117 mothers, and 441 boys and 416 girls were screened in December.

WASH

- Following a comprehensive evaluation of the water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities in healthcare centers in Aswan, UNICEF and WHO took prompt actions to address any identified gaps. As a part of these efforts, hygiene and infection

prevention and control supplies were procured and distributed to the 21 healthcare facilities. Moreover, training sessions were conducted for 25 (18 female) health managers in the Aswan health directorate, university, and healthcare centers, to enhance their knowledge and skills in infection prevention and control practices.

- Around 80,000 personal hygiene dignity kits were successfully distributed to Sudanese refugees at the border and in community schools. The kits contained a packet of sanitary pads, disposal bags for the safe disposal of used sanitary pads, as well as comprehensive information on menstrual product usage, disposal, personal hygiene, and remedies for period pain.
- As part of improving the WASH infrastructure, 30 latrines were renovated at Aswan train station and Karkar bus stop. These included four toilets - two for males and two for females - specifically designed for people with special needs. After receiving feedback from mothers about limited space for cleaning, showering, and changing diapers, the latrine design was modified to include a shower and a dedicated space for changing babies' clothes.
- UNICEF with its partners provided access to sufficient and safe drinking water for 225,000 people and sanitation services to over 350,000.

Education

Education Cash Grant and Learning Materials:

- UNICEF through its implementing partner supported 14,705 Kindergarten students (total of 10,057 Sudanese and sub-Saharan nationality (4,961 girls)) with Education Cash Grants, and extra - vulnerability Cash for the most vulnerable and in-need households.
- UNICEF distributed educational material to 473 Sudanese students and 920 Sudanese students received winterization clothes at UNICEF Learning Spaces in Aswan.

Learning Spaces Interventions in Aswan:

- UNICEF conducted training on Life Skills and Citizenship Education (LSCE) and Learning Recovery Programmes for 17 Sudanese educators and other educators in 72 community schools and learning spaces. The training aimed to enhance children's life and citizenship skills, as well as remediate the identified learning gaps, particularly in foundational literacy and numeracy skills that resulted from displacement and interruption of their learning. The teachers were equipped with necessary techniques and knowledge for creative and participatory teaching while using available resources.
- Moreover, to enhance children's access to education and learning, 18 new libraries were established in coordination with local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

Social Protection

- More than 80,000 Sudanese displaced individuals have been reached through the WFP-UNICEF Emergency Cash Assistance Programme.

- Through the UNHCR-UNICEF Cash Assistance Programme 3,744 households of displaced Sudanese have been reached.³
- Throughout October and November 2023, a second round of the telephone-based survey, primarily focusing on education and food consumption and nutrition, was conducted as part of UNICEF's effort to conduct real time monitoring of the evolving situation, and to provide insights into the changes in status and experiences of displaced Sudanese persons in Egypt. This was conducted in technical collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) and the World Bank. Through technical collaboration with WFP, a module including food consumption and reduced coping strategies indices were integrated into the survey. The technical collaboration with the World Bank enabled UNICEF to integrate a component for Egyptians to understand recent developments related to the socio-economic and employment effects of the Sudanese conflict on Egyptian households, their perception of the crisis as well as coping behavior.

Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP)

- UNICEF is actively supporting the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in strengthening accountability to affected populations for the Sudan crisis response by introducing three dedicated seats for Sudanese agents in the MoHP call center. The agents will respond to questions and inquiries from the Sudanese communities in Egypt. The call center agents are currently receiving training; the service will be activated early 2024.
- UNICEF supported RapidPro interactive platform that has registered 1,600 Sudanese, providing them with unique medical numbers for streamlined healthcare access. Additionally, the MoHP 100-health initiative's mobile units delivered health screening services to Sudanese individuals across Greater Cairo, showcasing commitment to inclusive healthcare.

Coordination and leadership

UNICEF collaborates closely with its partners and sister agencies to ensure the affected children and their families receive complementary services. UNICEF leads the thematic working groups for WASH, Nutrition, and co-leads Child Protection. UNICEF also actively participates in Health, Education, and cash working groups. Meetings take place in Aswan and Cairo. UNICEF continues to work with partners to identify locations of vulnerable Sudanese groups including host communities, ensuring their seamless integration into regular services via established systems.

³ UNICEF-WFP is a joint humanitarian cash assistance for families to transition to UNHCR-UNICEF regular multi-purpose cash assistance.

FUNDING SITUATION

Funding received from April to November 2023.

Sector	Funding Requirement	Funding Received	Funding Gap %
Child Protection	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 2,183,747	-
Education	\$ 300,000	\$ 1,220,000	-
Health & Nutrition	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 607,315	47%
WASH	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 915,537	69%
Multi-Sectoral (Cash)	\$ 6,450,000	\$ 3,649,715	43%
Total	\$ 12,100,000	\$ 8,576,314	

Next Sitrep:

The Egypt response to Sudanese refugees has been integrated into the 2024 Syrian Refugees and other vulnerable populations Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) Appeal. Starting January 2024, UNICEF Egypt response to Sudanese will hence be integrated into the corresponding quarterly situation report (SitRep) to be published in April 2024.

Who to contact for further information:

Jeremy Hopkins
Representative
UNICEF Egypt Country Office
Tel: +201223950010
Email: jhopkins@unicef.org

Shiraz Chakera
OiC Deputy Representative
UNICEF Egypt Country Office
Tel: +201222140125
Email: schakera@unicef.org