



A Sudanese family inside Karkar Station in Aswan

©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali

KEY FIGURES



200,000+ SUDANESE ARRIVALS IN EGYPT



ESTIMATED 350,000 INDIVIDUALS FROM THE REFUGEES AND HOST COMMUNITIES TO BE REACHED



40 METRIC TONS OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES DELIVERED



LESS THAN 10% OF NEEDED FUNDS HAVE BEEN SECURED



200+ TRAINERS, PROFESSIONALS, AND NON-PROFESSIONALS TRAINED ON DELIVERING PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID



40,000 PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC MEDICAL CONDITIONS TO BENEFIT FROM NCDs KITS FOR 3 MONTHS



SITUATION OVERVIEW

The escalating violence in Sudan has forced more than 528,000 people to flee the country. To date, Egypt has received the largest number of displaced people from Sudan, amounting to more than 200,000 individuals, according to the latest figures by the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA). The Interagency Regional Refugee Response Plan estimates that other hundreds of thousands will continue to arrive in Egypt in the upcoming six months.



On 10 June, MoFA imposed new visa restrictions on the Sudanese arrivals in Egypt, requiring everyone, regardless of their gender or age, to obtain a visa prior to arrival. MoFA said in an official statement that these measures are meant to regulate rather than restrict entry, citing the responsibility that the government bears for providing basic needs, including healthcare services, for the displaced people in addition to the 5 million Sudanese who already live in Egypt.



Reportedly, the displaced people are concentrated mostly in Aswan, Cairo, and Alexandria Governorates.





HEALTH SITUATION

33,000
Doses of Polio and MMR vaccines

*A Sudanese child at Karkar Station in Aswan
©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali*

The Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) is taking essential preventive measures at the points of entry (PoEs), namely Argeen and Qustul land crossings, including vaccinations, vector control measures, mobile clinics, and laboratory testing for communicable disease. More than 33,000 doses of polio and MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines have been administered for children, as of 6 June.

A ministerial decree that was issued by MoHP back in 2012 guarantees the Sudanese the right to be on a par with Egyptians in terms of receiving healthcare services at Egyptian public hospitals. Nonetheless, there are reported challenges in accessing some of the healthcare services, amidst the mounting pressure on the already-strained healthcare system to tend to the needs of the displaced population with its specific health challenges and violence-related injuries and trauma.



HEALTH SECTOR COORDINATION & RESPONSE

- As the United Nations (UN) health agency mandated to lead and coordinate global public health efforts, WHO works with countries, partners, and stakeholders to address health emergencies and maintain health security.
- Since the early onset of the refugee influx into Egypt, WHO Egypt staff has been on the ground to assist MoHP with assessing the health situation, and providing technical, humanitarian, financial, and logistical support as needed.
- Leveraging its long-standing close partnership with MoHP, the Egyptian Healthcare Authority and other key stakeholders, WHO in Egypt has conducted visits to several healthcare facilities to map the available health services, assess their capacity for meeting the growing needs, and explore potential collaborations to support the resilience of the health system.
- WHO has also brought together different key community-based organizations and civil society organizations at Aswan, in partnership with MoHP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity, to further gauge the needs of the refugees and host communities and establish a regular coordinating mechanism for the health response.
- In addition, WHO has been co-leading the UN in Egypt Interagency Health Working Group with UNHCR since 2022, to coordinate the efforts of the UN agencies at the country level, leaving no one behind.
- Additionally, to maintain cross-border health security, Egypt is supporting Sudan with environmental surveillance of the poliovirus, which is an essential measure to detect any new emergence of the virus in countries that are polio-free. Through a country-level coordination between WHO offices in Sudan and Egypt, samples were sent to MoHP Central Public Laboratory for testing in Egypt, given that most medical services are severely disrupted in Sudan.



WHO Representative to Egypt meeting with Aswan
University Hospital Manager
©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali



WHO visit to a key hospital in Aswan
©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali



WHO meeting with civil-society organizations at
Aswan
©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali



WHO DELIVERED RESPONSE IN EGYPT

- **Delivering 10 Metric Tons of medical and surgical supplies to MoHP**, the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), and University Hospitals at Aswan from the Dubai-based WHO logistics hub. These include lifesaving non-communicable diseases kits (cardiovascular diseases, asthma, hypertension and diabetes medicines), **that will serve 40,000 patients over 3 months**. The supplies also included rapid diagnostic tests and medicines for communicable diseases, Severe Acute Malnutrition kits for children, and personal protective equipment for healthcare. This brings the total medical and surgical supplies that were delivered by WHO in Egypt to more than 40 Metric Tons.
- **Establishing a mental health and psychosocial support clinic** inside “Karkar” Bus Station in Aswan.
- **Conducting 4 trainings** (including a training for trainers) at Cairo and Aswan for around 200 professionals and nonprofessionals from MoHP, ERC, and volunteers on the WHO training manual on managing mental health conditions in humanitarian emergency settings (mhGAP).
- **Installing 8 latrines at the borders and at Karkar**, particularly in locations where access to WASH is most needed. The latrines operate with clean energy and are equipped with shower units.
- **Installing a caravan unit** that will provide shelter for 16 healthcare workers/day at Qustul border, to expand medical services at the borders and protect caregivers from extreme heat and exposure to mosquitos/parasites.
- **Orientation workshop at Aswan for 80 healthcare workers** and volunteers from the National Council of Women on the healthcare response to gender-based violence (GBV).
- **Distributing Information, Education, and Communication materials** with MoHP about the available health services at the borders.



MoHP and ERC receiving medical supplies, procured by WHO Egypt & delivered by WHO Dubai logistics hub to Aswan Airport
©WHO Egypt



Mental Health and Psychosocial support training in Aswan
©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali



WHO visit to a PHC in Karkar village, Aswan
©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali



GAPS

WHO in Egypt has been working and delivering relentlessly, but the needs are critical, and the resources are limited. Gaps have been identified in referral mechanisms and some emergency-specific medical services.

In the upcoming 6 months at least, WHO in Egypt plans to scale up its operations to ensure access to quality essential health services and medicines for both the refugees and host communities, enhance early detection and response to communicable diseases with epidemic potential, support the provision of lifesaving medical services, and reinforce the capacities of partners and healthcare workers to deliver quality GBV services.



©WHO Egypt/Yasmeen Ali

FUNDING NEEDS

Based on a revised assessment of the growing needs, WHO in Egypt is urgently appealing for a 6-months 10 million US\$ funding, of which only less than 10 percent has been secured thus far. The funds will support WHO in meeting the health needs of 350,000 individuals from the refugee and host communities, supporting the resilience of the healthcare system, and maintaining health security.

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:



Dr. Omar Abouelata
Emergency Technical Lead
abouelatao@who.int



Ms. Yasmeen Ali
Communications Officer
aliya@who.int

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WHO IN EGYPT AND THE SUDAN CRISIS RESPONSE:

