



A Sudanese family seeking treatment at the PHC in Karkar village.  
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## Highlights



WHO in Egypt launches a cash-based secondary healthcare programme, whereby *nine* major public hospitals at Aswan provide free-of-charge healthcare services for Sudanese patients.





## Key Figures



**250,000+** Sudanese arrivals in Egypt



**200+** trainers, professionals, and non-professionals trained on delivering psychological first aid in humanitarian emergencies



**40+** Sudanese patients are medically covered for secondary and/or tertiary medical care



**40+** metric tons of essential medications and supplies delivered



**40,000** Sudanese patients covered with noncommunicable diseases medications for three months



**350,000** individuals from the refugees and host communities to be reached



**10%** of funds needed have been secured so far

## Situation Overview

To date, **Egypt has received more than 250,000 externally displaced people** fleeing the violence in Sudan, according to the latest data by the national authorities in Egypt.

On 10 June, the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (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. Following the decision, the number of daily arrivals from Sudan has markedly decreased.

Reportedly, the displaced people are residing predominantly in Aswan, Cairo and Alexandria Governorates (locations are listed in no particular order).



## Health Situation



The Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) has been taking essential preventive measures at the points of entry (PoEs), namely Argeen and Qustul land crossings, including vaccinations, vector control measures, medical mobile clinics, and laboratory testing for communicable disease. According to the ministry, almost 25,000 doses of polio vaccines, and more than 12,000 doses of MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccines have been administered for children crossing into Egypt from Sudan, as of 30 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 have been 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.

## WHO Response in Egypt

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.

### 1 Health Sector Coordination & Response

- As the United Nations 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.
- Leveraging its long-standing partnership with MoHP and other key stakeholders, WHO in Egypt has launched a secondary healthcare referral programme to provide free-of-charge medical services at 9 major public hospitals at Aswan Governorate stretching over a range of around 500 kms. Through this cash-based programme, WHO financially covers for Sudanese patients who need secondary or tertiary medical care. So far, more than 40 patients have already received free-of-charge treatment, including renal dialysis for patients with severe kidney diseases.
- Having its guiding principle “Health for All by All” in mind, WHO has been holding regular coordination meetings that bring key community-based organizations at Aswan together with officials from MoHP and the Ministry of Social Solidarity, to further gauge and deliver on the needs of the refugees and host communities alike.
- WHO conducted a capacity-building workshop for around 30 healthcare providers at primary healthcare units at Aswan governorate on the prevention and management of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).
- WHO, together with UNHCR, has been co-leading the United Nations (UN) in Egypt Interagency Health Working Group since 2022, to coordinate the efforts of the UN agencies at the country level, leaving no one behind.
- Installed a caravan unit that provides 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.



## 2 Essential medicines & health equipment procurement

WHO in Egypt so far delivered more than 40 metric tons medical and surgical supplies, and essential medicines to Aswan governorate including:

- **30 metric tons of surgical and medical tools**, personal protective equipment for healthcare workers, general hygiene tools and drinking water tanks.
- **10 metric tons of essential medicines** shipped from the Dubai-based WHO logistics hub to Aswan. These include lifesaving NCDs kits (cardiovascular diseases, asthma, hypertension, and diabetes medications), that will serve 40,000 patients over three months. The kits were distributed to 6 different health directorates at Aswan governorate. The 10 metric tons of supplies also included rapid diagnostic tests and medications for communicable diseases, Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) kits for children, and personal protective equipment for healthcare workers.



NCDs kits distributed to health care units at Aswan.  
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## 3 Cross- border Health Security

- WHO in Egypt and Sudan's **polio programme** teamed up with Egypt's health authorities to use the VACSERA laboratory in Giza to test samples from Sudan for Polio virus.
- Conducted a training of trainers for primary entomologists from MoHP on **vector surveillance** to strengthen their capacities and support vector control response at Egypt's PoEs.
- Conducted an assessment site visit to the Abu Simbel **quarantine** and provided it with 16 beds, in addition to the other support that is in the pipeline.



WHO staff handing over samples for testing to the focal points from Egypt.©WHO

## 4 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Installed 8 **latrines** at the borders and at Karkar bus station, particularly in locations where access to WASH is most needed. The latrines operate with clean energy and are equipped with shower units.
- Provided two drinking water tanks of 2000 L capacity at PoEs
- Provided 100 waste bin to manage and control waste at PoEs of 12000



Latrines set up at the borders.  
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## 5 Mental Health and psychosocial support

- Established a **mental health and psychosocial support** clinic at Aswan under the lead of MoHP
- Conducted **4 trainings** (including a training for trainers) at Cairo and Aswan for more than 200 professionals and nonprofessionals from MoHP, ERC, and volunteers on the Mental Health Global Action Programme - Humanitarian Intervention Guide ([mhGAP-HIG](#)), a WHO guide for first-line management recommendations for mental, neurological and substance use conditions for non-specialist health-care providers in humanitarian emergencies where access to specialists and treatment options is limited.



MoHP and WHO in Egypt mental health and psychosocial support clinic. ©WHO Egypt

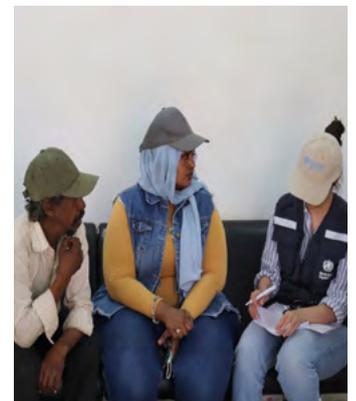
## 6 Protection

- Oriented 80 healthcare workers and volunteers from the National Council of Women on the health system response to gender-based violence (GBV), at Aswan.
- Held a joint advanced training with UNFPA on the health system response to violence against women in partnership with the Ministry of Health and the National Council for Women. The training was provided for 33 medical services providers from several key healthcare facilities at Aswan.



## 7 Risk Communication & Community Engagement

- Distributed **Information, Education, and Communication** materials with MoHP about the available health services at the borders.
- Produced and disseminated regular **press releases, social media posts, and situation reports** on the [website](#) and on social media (for links, refer to the final page), and made TV and Radio appearances, to spread health education messages and promote anti-discriminatory attitudes and practices among the general public.





## 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 months, WHO in Egypt is scaling 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.

## Funding Needs



WHO in Egypt is [appealing](#) for a 6-months 10 million US\$ funding, of which only 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.

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



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