



Country card

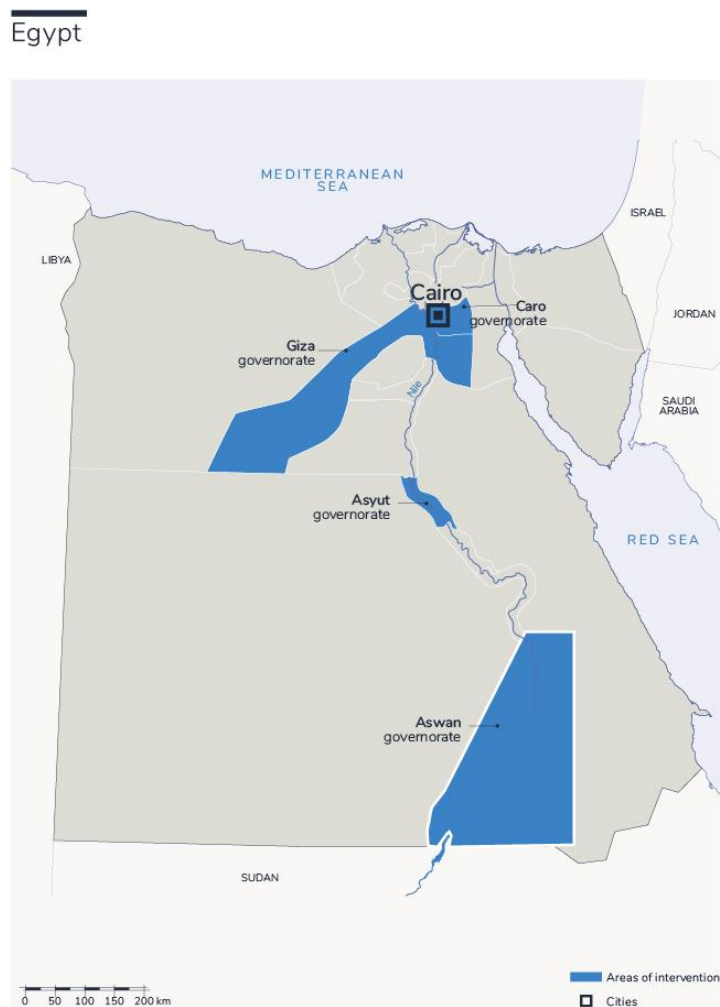
Egypt 2024





HI Team and intervention areas

HI has 47 staff members in Egypt.



General data of the country

a. HI internal classifications of the country context

Level of violence	Operations Director Focus	Health Focus	Positioning Focus	Emergency Focus
Context C – Level 2	No focus	No	No	No



b. General data

DATA	Egypt	Neighbouring country (SUDAN)	France
Population	110 990 103	44 909 351	67 499 343
IHDI	0.519	0.333	0.820
Gender-related Development Index	0.882	0.860	0.987
Maternal mortality (deaths per 100,000 live births)	17	237	4
GINI Index	31.9	34.2	32.4
Population within UNHCR mandate	358523	4 170 987	580 898
INFORM index	4.7	6.4	2.3
Fragile State Index	81.6	107.1	30.9
Public social protection	34,7	9.3	100
Net official development assistance received (M USD)	8 240.0	1 624.7	/

c. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Not signed
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Not signed
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified in 2008, with 1 reservation ¹

d. Geopolitical analysis

98% of the population lives in 5% of the territory, along the Nile, with 50% of the population being located in the Delta region including Cairo, the third largest city in Africa. 90% of the Egyptian population is Muslim and 10% is Coptic.

Egypt is home of important gender disparities. In 2023, the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report rated Egypt 134 out of 146 countries in gender

¹ Egypt declared its interpretation of article 12 of the CRPD, is that persons with disability enjoy the capacity to acquire rights and assume legal responsibility ('ahliyyat al-wujub) but not the capacity to perform ('ahliyyat al-'ada), under Egyptian law.



equality. This marks a drop of 5 rankings from the previous report. Regarding inequalities between the incomes of men and women, Egypt comes as one of the countries at the bottom of the distribution with 19.7%. However, regarding the economic participation and opportunity, Egypt have registered increases in both the share of women senior officer positions and the share of women in technical positions.²

Egypt is among the countries with ‘very high’ gender discrimination. Reasons for inequalities mentioned are numerous including social norms and attitudes, economic pressures, religious beliefs, that all contribute to discriminate women and limit their participation on the socio-economic scene.

Egypt has been the scene of heightened political instability since the wake of the Arab Spring in 2011, which enabled the millions of protestors who took up to the street country-wide to denounce lack of democracy and police abuses and demand economic reforms. Egyptian military dissolved the parliament and organized rushed elections which saw The Muslim Brotherhood and another Islamist group obtain majority. Following newly elected President Morsi’s rise to power, highly contested measures were put in place, namely decrees immunizing his decisions from judicial challenge and review and a decree to criminally sanction demonstrations. With growing protests, chief of Army Al-Sisi suspended the Constitution and ousted president Morsi in a coup July 2013. In 2019, the general assembly proposed constitutional amendments, which aim to increase the length of presidential term from four to six years, appoint a vice president, amend regulations on the judiciary and recreate a second upper house by the name of the Senate. Currently, the political scene has been stagnant due to the very weak participation of opposition political groups.

Economic Highlights

The government has been focusing on implementing mega infrastructure projects such as the widening of the Suez Canal, and the establishment of the new administrative capital city. In parallel, Egypt launched an economic reform program in 2016 that resulted in the devaluation of the Egyptian Pound, increasing tax revenues that are later proportionately allocated to loan payments, and finally cutting subsidies.

An increased poverty rate is observed from 25.2% in 2011 and 27.8% in 2015 to 29.7% in 2023³. According to Egypt’s official Survey on Households Income, Expenditures and Consumption (HIECS 2019/2020), the average of annual

² <https://www.weforum.org/publications/global-gender-gap-report-2023/in-full/benchmarking-gender-gaps-2023/#country-coverage>

³

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099759004052420744/pdf/IDU1a7b77b53184c7145c51b87417fd82a86f49a.pdf>



household income accounts for 69,059.6 EGP (equivalent to approximately 4,400 USD in 2020, and currently equivalent to 1,450 USD). Most of the paid labour work without contracts and accordingly they are deprived of social and health insurance schemes.

Egypt's annual urban headline inflation rate declined for the fifth consecutive month in July 2024, reaching 25.7%. Annual food inflation fell to 29.7% in July 2024, down from 31.9% in June 2024. This is mainly attributed to the change of cabinet of Egypt in July 2024, following the re-election of President Al-Sisi in December 2023. The new cabinet was assigned with the focus to lower inflation rates and control commodity prices.⁴ The unemployment rate declined to be 6.7% from an annual unemployment rate of 7.2 for the year 2022.

The Egyptian economy has been heavily impacted by global and regional crises in the last few years. The COVID-19 pandemic, followed by the war in Ukraine, have severely disrupted key sources of income such as tourism and the Suez Canal. As Egypt is relying on Russian and Ukrainian wheat imports, the war in Ukraine has worsened food security issues. Moreover, the current conflict in Gaza also poses an additional threat, with ongoing disruptions to the Suez Canal further burdening Egypt's economy.

Geopolitical Opportunities and Challenges

Being located on the crossroads of several areas, Egypt remains a key diplomatic power in the region that plays an active role in issues such as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Another opportunity is the human and social capital where adolescents and youth representing one-third of its 105 million population. Social capital also included the diasporas around the world, which may act as safety nets to Egyptian households through remittances, or may contribute to reinforcing Egypt's soft power in global business, media and academic spheres. Furthermore, the Suez Canal is regarded as a significant contributor to global trade and a main source of income for Egypt.

The war in Gaza has had immediate impacts on the Egyptian side as the escalations of the conflict in the region with the involvement of the Houthi movement will increase the risks of spill over. The Houthi attacks in the Red Sea have already threatened Egypt's vital shipping lanes through the Suez Canal, disrupting global trade and impacting Egypt's economy, which heavily relies on revenue from this key maritime route.

Another conflict on the borders of Egypt that still has an impact is the one in Sudan. Egypt has already received hundreds of thousands of Sudanese refugees since the start of the conflict in April 2023, adding pressure to the already fragile economy that struggles with inflation, unemployment and limited resources. This influx of refugees has also strained public services, especially in border

⁴ <https://english.ahram.org.eg/News/527355.aspx>, <https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/egypt-has-agreed-long-awaited-cabinet-reshuffle-local-media-report-2024-07-03/>



governorates such as Aswan, complicating efforts to provide humanitarian aid and maintain social stability.

Finally, the failure of negotiation between Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia in terms of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) further complicates the Egyptian geopolitical context. the growing relation between Ethiopia and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) complicates diplomatic efforts as it undermines Sudan's official position in the negotiations, shifting the power dynamics, and potentially affecting Egypt's water security.

Disruption of trade routes, economic instability, and strained diplomatic relations could further complicate Egypt's ability to respond effectively to these crises.

Summary of HI presence in the country

HI has long history in Egypt. Our operations started in the late 1990's while HI was offering ad-hoc technical assistance. HI conducted successful projects in Community-Based Rehabilitation (CRB), in capacity building of Community Based Organizations (CBOs), in inclusive employment, etc. Since 2013, HI is registered under the Ministry of Social Solidarity. HI's license has been renewed in 2022 for three years. HI operates in Greater Cairo, Asyut, and most recently Aswan governorates, in the sectors of early childhood development, BaNEREI (Basic Needs, Economic Recovery and Economic Inclusion), inclusive education and physical and functional rehabilitation.



Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Project title and main sector(s) of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiaries	Final beneficiaries	Partners	Location	Dates of beginning and end of the project and donors funding it	Donors who finance the project
Covid-19 specific response (B-SAFE 2) Main Sectors of Intervention : BaNEREI, MHPSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification of 2000 households displaying extreme vulnerability to the COVID19 crisis and assessment of their needs.• Referral of 500 extreme vulnerable households to existing social protection programs and supporting their application process.• Provision of direct food assistance to 1500 households unsupported by social safety nets.• Provision of psychoeducation to 2000 households to address the stigma associated to MHPSS services and identification of households displaying signs of psychosocial and mental distress. Referral and direct provision of MHPSS services to 1000 beneficiaries.• Participatory definition of household's personalized support plan for 2000 households to adopt positive coping	2750 extremely vulnerable households economically affected by the Covid-19 crisis and in needs of basic needs assistance; 500 vulnerable households economically affected by the Covid-19 crisis and in need of business recovery. 150 inactive women, with	13750 family members of the households (average of 5 persons per household) who will benefit from one or multiple services of the project.	Caritas Egypt	Cairo and Giza Governorates	July 2022-March 2025	EU



	<p>mechanisms and provision of financial literacy trainings as part of these plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification of 500 vulnerable households with potential for economic recovery, selection of households' member to support. In addition, provision of business planning training and a coaching is provided to the identified households to recover or start their businesses.• Adaptation of businesses premises and tools to meet the needs of women and men with disabilities.• Linkage between recovered/started businesses and local markets, including online ones.• Building inactive women's consciousness of their potential and promote their economic participation as strategy to diversify target vulnerable households' livelihoods. In addition to providing vocational counselling and life skills training in link with market opportunities and facilitation to apprenticeship opportunities.• Provision to men and women in targeted households and targeted employers with awareness on local good practices to protect against sexual harassment in public spaces.• Facilitation of dialogue between employers and targeted women to find ways to conciliate business needs with their needs.	and without disabilities					
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<p>Promoting Inclusive Empowerment for Women, Girls and Boys in Upper Egypt ("Ro'ya")</p> <p>Main Sectors of Intervention : Economic Inclusion & ECD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an in-depth participatory market assessment of the intervention areas, with a specific focus on potential job opportunities for young people with disabilities. • Strengthen and build capacity of a local multi-stakeholder (private sector, government and civil society) working group (MSWG) to identify and support productive and inclusive initiatives, including business clusters and value chain development. • Provide access to quality and inclusive early childhood care and development (ECCD) facilities run by local partners, for children aged 6 months-6 years, to reduce childcare barriers for women. • Establish and build capacity to run women-managed and inclusive Village Saving and Lending Associations (VSLA). • Provide inclusive life skills and livelihoods training program for women living in poverty, including those living with disabilities. • In cooperation with the MSWG, provide start-up support, including business planning and coaching and facilitate access to financing opportunities. • Deliver an integrated training package for youth, including those with disabilities, to build foundational life skills, financial literacy and basic business skills. • Establish inclusive production units, run by local partners, to support the entrepreneurial projects of youth, including those living with 		<p>Direct beneficiaries: 824</p> <p>300 children (150 girls and 150 boys), aged between 6 months and 6 years, will be able to benefit from early child care and development (ECCD) services.</p> <p>24 women, aged between 20 and 45, will be involved in early child care and development centres.</p> <p>250 men, aged between 20 and 50, and 250 women, aged between 20 and 45, will benefit from the "Dawar" and "Arab Women</p>	<p>Ebtessam OPD</p> <p>Friends OPD</p>	<p>Assiut governorate</p>	<p>36 months (July 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2025)</p>	<p>Consortium with SCI (in lead) funded by the Italian Agency of International Cooperation (AICS)</p>
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	disabilities. Provide seed funding to support micro-enterprises among youth trainees.		Speak Out" awareness sessions.				
Empowerment of Civil Society Organizations to Contribute to Gender Equality in Migrant and hosting Communities in Greater Cairo. (Toyya) Main Sectors of Intervention : ECD, Economic Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of an ECD and Women Economic Empowerment focused MSWGs. • Participatory Quality assessment of mainstream ECD services ▪ Market study on the socio-economic profile of migrant women and the factors constraining their capacity to generate income, as well as resilient market opportunities in the creative industry ▪ Definition of a Roadmap for promoting migrant women's access to mainstream ECD services and promoting migrant, and Egyptian women's access to income-generating opportunities while providing support to the implement both roadmaps. ▪ Mapping and selection of active CSOs in the field of ECD to technically and financially support them to establish / equip local ECD units, and to provide personalized support to women to access income-generation activities. ▪ Provision of technical and financial support to the selected CSO to provide family case management and referral to ECD services and provide ECD and rehabilitation services. Plus, supporting selected CSOs who are experts in the field of women economic empowerment to support women's access to productive assets 	10 CSOs (5 CSOs specialized in ECD and 5 CSOs specialized in ECD and Economic Empowerment). 40 staff (technical and administrative) of 2 to 4 CSOs (20 staff from each beneficiary CSO) 20 MSWG members from CSOs, local authorities, service providers and activist informal groups.	1,200 vulnerable women (60% migrants and host communities, 40% Egyptians from the host communities, with at least 10% women with disabilities). 720 children with developmental delay and/or with disability (60% migrants and host communities, 40% Egyptians from the host communities). 100 male caregivers. 5,000 members of migrants and	A transparent process of call for proposals will allow local civil society organizations to apply to partner with HI within the described project.	Greater Cairo (Giza and Cairo governorates)	36 months (from May 1st	European Union delegation in Egypt Canton De Genève



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of technical and financial support to the ECD CSO to implement community awareness sessions about the importance of ECD, and responsive caregiving, and inclusive education. ▪ Technical and financial support to organize a community awareness campaign about social cohesion, gender justice, and safe public spaces, targeting men and women, migrants and Egyptians from host communities 		host communities members who will receive awareness sessions				
Response to the chronic needs of refugees and host communities children in Greater Cairo and urgent needs of refugees and host communities in Aswan governorate Main Sectors of Intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on the barriers and facilitators affecting refugees and asylum seekers' access to early detection, early intervention and rehabilitation services • Capacity building of targeted healthcare centres on early detection and early intervention of disability (based on the model developed and tested by Handicap International). • Provision of equipment, tools and materials to healthcare centres to deliver quality early detection, early intervention and rehabilitation services • Establishment and reinforcement of child and caregiver case management and referral system for early detection and early intervention in the targeted communities. • Capacity building of community facilitators (refugees and Egyptians) to offer basic psychosocial support and psychological first aid. 	<p>Response to chronic needs: 2,120 direct beneficiaries</p> <p>Response to urgent needs: 5,185 direct beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Response to the chronic needs: 11.770 indirect beneficiaries.</p> <p>Response to the urgent needs: 25.925 indirect beneficiaries.</p>	Caritas-Egypt	Greater Cairo (Cairo and Giza governorates) and Aswan governorate	18 months (from September 1 st , 2023 to February 29 st , 2025)	<p>US-Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration</p> <p>MoFA Luxembourg</p>



: ECD, Rehabilitation, IHA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness sessions on social inclusion and the needs of refugees and asylum seekers for mainstream MHPSS services• Psychosocial support for caregivers as per their intervention plan and caregiver’s case management• Community awareness sessions and events on disability, early detection and intervention, mental health.• Screening of children aged 0-8 (who are refugee, asylum seeker and Egyptian from refugee host communities) for early detection of disability and developmental delays.• Children and caregivers case management.• Based on children’s intervention plans, referring children to early intervention and physical and functional rehabilitation services.• Training of caregivers of children with disabilities and supporting their peer activities for positive parenting, and the creation of self-help groups.• Provision of technical and financial support, and equipment to local partner and CBOs to provide MHPSS support to refugees, migrants and host communities including those with disabilities• Mapping, quality assessment of specialized MH services• Assessment and identification of disability related barriers and support to remove identified barriers						
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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identification and assessment of persons in need of MHPSS, through MHPSS awareness in groups sessions and individual interviews and definition of personalized support plan• Provision of MHPSS through local partners and/or referral to specialized MH services• Provision of emergency cash to extremely vulnerable beneficiaries receiving MHPSS in coordination with relevant actors• Identification of persons with disabilities with physical rehabilitation and other specific needs among refugees and hosting populations• Provision of equipment, training and coaching to local physical rehabilitation services to improve quality of services and capacity to support refugees provide services to refugees and host communities• Provision of physical rehabilitation services, assistive technologies and hygiene items to identified the beneficiaries persons in need, through local services• Provision of emergency cash to extremely vulnerable beneficiaries receiving MHPSS rehabilitation, in coordination with relevant actors• Provision of technical assistance to NGOs and CBOs relevant local and international humanitarian assistance’s actors to remove the barriers that hinder refugees with disabilities’ access to mainstream						
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	humanitarian assistance in the target areas barriers faced by refugees with disability.						
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Delegation of the European Union In Egypt



U.S. Department of State - Bureau of
Population, Refugees and Migration
(PRM)



The government of the Grand Duchy of
Luxembourg - Ministry of Foreign and
European Affairs



Italian Agency for Development
Cooperation



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