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MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO

# REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAMME FOR NORTH AFRICA

## PHASE VI - KEY RESULTS UP TO DEC 2023



In the absence of a national asylum system, UNHCR conducts registration and mandate refugee status determination (RSD) alongside other key protection activities.

### ALGERIA

In 2023 3,217 new registrations and 13,002 continuous registrations were finalized and 678 individual RSD decisions were adjudicated and notified. With reference to child protection, 105 Best Interest Assessments (BIAs) supported a total of 121 children. A total of 846 individuals received integrated protection solutions including regular multi-purpose cash-based interventions. Eight training sessions on international protection of refugees were organized addressing 168 national actors including magistrates law enforcement officials, members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice. e. The RDPP-NA programme funded 100% of the above reported activities in 2023.

948 individuals informed on Protection, Registration, RSD procedures and referred to UNHCR for subsequent registration (Morocco)

39,078 asylum-seekers/ refugees newly registered

131,187 continuous registrations



### EGYPT

Following the start of hostilities in Sudan, UNHCR Egypt faced a surge in new arrivals approaching to seek registration and obtain UNHCR documentation. As a direct result, UNHCR registered and provided government recognized UNHCR documentation to 200,015 refugees and asylum seekers as well as continuous registration to 118,185 asylum seekers and refugees. Despite the Refugee Status Determination (RSD) Unit seconded multiple staff to the Registration Unit, UNHCR was able to surpass the target and finalized 12,595 individual RSD decisions. Moreover, UNHCR carried out capacity building for 195 government officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Justice (MoJ), Interior (MoI),

17,398 individual Refugee Status Determination decisions adjudicated and notified

2,927 children assisted with Best Interest Procedures (BIDs) or fast track registration procedures

as well as the Diplomatic Corps and the National Council of Human Rights. Furthermore, UNHCR carried out specialized sessions to capacitate government actors on the border with regards to refugee law and international standard and sponsored 7 government officials to attend trainings facilitated by the IHL in Sanremo. In 2023 the resources led available by the RDPP-NA sustained approximately 42% of the registration team as well as 90% of the RSD team, hence critically contributing to the overall registration, documentation and refugee status determination of asylum seekers and refugees in Egypt that confirmed its role as the largest mandate RSD operation for UNHCR.

### LYBIA

With the resettlement pledges received by third countries at the beginning of the year, the situation was challenging, nevertheless, 750 resettlement registration forms were submitted and 360 among the most vulnerable refugees awaiting resettlement received multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA). To note is that the acceptance rate of submissions made by UNHCR Libya was above the global average, as an indicator of the quality of submissions made.



In 2023, the Common Feedback Mechanism (CFM) providing support and accountability on available humanitarian assistance programs, received 87,275 calls relating to resettlement inquires, opportunities or follow up on cases in process, as well as to protection needs assessments or available assistance in Libya. Overall, in 2023 the RDPP-NA programme sustained approximately 40% of the durable solution team, 80% of the hotline activities as well as approximately 50% of the MPCA costs reported.

### MAURITANIA

In 2023 4,192 new individuals were registered and 6,317 were pre-registered by UNHCR. Among them 622 children were registered and provided with documentation. 2,467 RSD

1,038 among the most vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees benefitting from integrated protection

750 individuals whose resettlement registration forms were submitted to resettlement countries (Libya only)

1,466 national key actors trained or sensitized on international protection standards

individual decisions were adjudicated, and 120 government officials were trained. In 2023 Global Refugee Forum, Mauritania renewed its commitment to strengthen refugee registration and documentation, as well as to adopt an asylum legislation by 2027, in alignment with UNHCR's advocacy. In 2023 the resources led available from UNHCR contributed to sustain 50% of registration and RSD teams as well to the functioning of the protection team who delivered the capacity building initiatives in the country.

### MAROCCO

In 2023 948 asylum seekers were referred by the Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights (OMDH) from Eastern and Northern regions of the country (Oujda, Nador and Tangier) to UNHCR in Rabat for subsequent registration and refugee status determination; 3,698 new asylum seekers were registered; 642 RSD individual decisions were adjudicated; 916 individuals were trained by UNHCR and its partner OMDH, including 435 members of Law enforcement authorities. The RDPP-NA programme provided resources to sustain approximately 52% of registration and RSD teams as well as 80% of all resources necessary to operate outreach and awareness raising activities in border areas.

## NIGER

The coup d'état on 26 July 2023 did not result in a major hindrance to the implementation of the regular activities during the year. In fact, at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2023, the Government of Niger reiterated its commitment to protecting refugees. During the reporting period, UNHCR conducted three specific training sessions for 67 members of the Commission Nationale d'Éligibilité (CNE) concerning international protection principles, asylum laws and procedures, interview techniques, and the handling of unaccompanied minors and vulnerable persons. The RSD eligibility sessions supported by the programme led to the finalization of 241 individual RSD cases. Also, UNHCR assisted asylum-seekers during their morality interviews with the DST (Direction de la surveillance du territoire), a crucial step in the RSD governmental process, and supported individuals who were rejected at first-instance in submitting their appeal documents. In 2023 the RDPP-NA resources were the key source of funding for the national CNE sessions and RSD caseworkers, as well as for the capacity building initiatives reported.

## TUNISIA

During the reporting period, UNHCR Tunisia has been observing a monthly increase in asylum requests, which allowed the registration of 7,956 new asylum seekers, exceeding the RDPP target of 2,300 individuals planned for 2023. It is important to note that for certain vulnerable groups, in particular unaccompanied minors, registration is the only proof of existence in the country hence a key protection activity. In parallel, 775 RSD individual decisions were adjudicated. In 2023 the RDPP-NA sustained 100% of the teams in charge of registration and refugee status determination activities.



## REGIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE

Due to the late signature of the RDPP-NA phase VI Grant Agreement activities initiated in the last quarter of 2023 and involved the selection of the teams in UNHCR and the Sanremo institute (IIHL), intense planning, consultation, and coordination among the Regional Bureaus of UNHCR ( and West and Central Africa including the Niger office of UNHCR and the six North Africa operations involved. Together with IIHL strategic directions were designed and the specific activities were planned and organized. The teams also identified the criteria for the identification of the participants, logistical considerations (venues/languages) as well as the potential contributions of other key partners such as IOM and EUAA.

