



This monthly fact sheet’s special focus is:

IOM’s Female migrant beneficiaries in Egypt

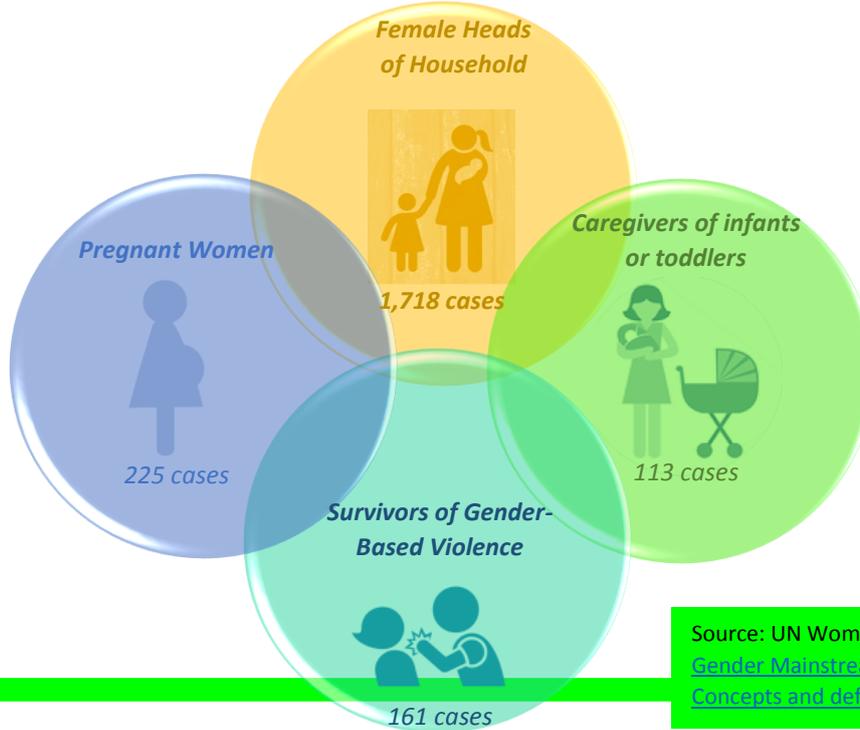


The main characteristics of IOM Egypt Female Migrant Beneficiaries

Data collected jointly by IOM Egypt Migrant Health and Migrant Assistance Divisions from January 2013 to July 2017, shows that IOM Egypt received:

Did you know?

Gender equity denotes an element of interpretation of social justice, usually based on tradition, custom, religion or culture, which is most often to the detriment to women. **The preferred terminology within the United Nations is gender equality, rather than gender equity.**



Did you know?

Gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys. Equality does not mean that women and men will become the same but that women’s and men’s rights, responsibilities and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female.

Source: UN Women, [OSAGI Gender Mainstreaming - Concepts and definitions](#)

SOME NUMBERS ON IOM:

- Globally, women make up an average of 45.8% of the IOM staff force [Source: [Diversity and inclusion within IOM](#), June].
- Female staff at IOM Egypt represent 55.6% of the total staff as of the end of July 2017.

A Story from our Beneficiaries

Sarah* lived in Eritrea with her parents and siblings. After all her brothers and sisters were forcibly recruited by the Eritrean military service, and her father arrested, Sarah was called for conscription. However, she couldn’t report for service as she was her **mother’s sole support**. Sarah also suffered from **breast cancer**. As she feared detention if she stayed home, she fled to Yemen in 2009. There Sarah, her husband and her daughter were kidnapped from their home by armed men one night. She was eight months **pregnant** at the time. The kidnappers separated Sarah and her child from her husband. They **aggressively** pushed Sarah around, and her leg was broken. They took Sarah and the daughter to an abandoned house. As the kidnappers dragged her upstairs, she was not able to stand up due to the broken leg and she was throwing up. They continued **beating** her and, then, four men **raped** her right before her daughter’s eyes. Two weeks later Sarah was thrown out on the side of the road with her daughter. On the way back to her house, she was warned by one of her neighbours that the armed group had seized it. Sarah thus fled to Khokha city from where she took a boat with other migrants leaving to Sudan. They decided to take her with them when they saw that she was **pregnant**. The trip took four days. On the third day, Sarah **delivered her child on the boat****, assisted by some of the people who were on the boat with her. Afterwards, Sarah was sick for the three months she spent in Sudan. While she was able to provide **her child with basic medical treatment**, thanks to **the community and the mosque**, she was told that **her baby was not going to survive**. Thus, Sarah left for Egypt with the assistance of **community members**, seeking better living circumstances for her children. **Sarah has now received medical and financial assistance from IOM Egypt’s Direct Assistance team.**

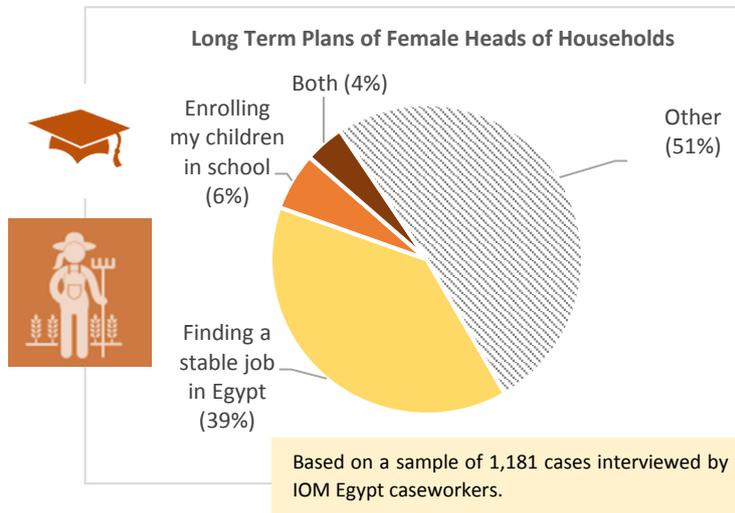
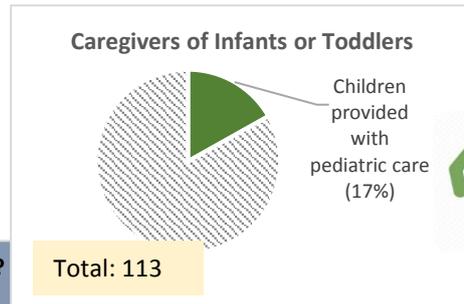
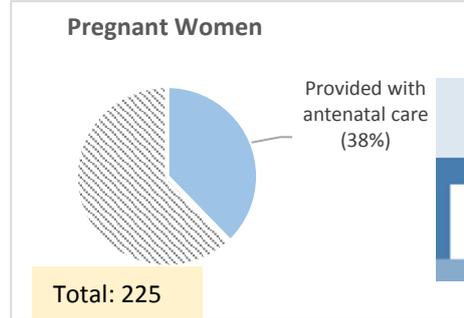
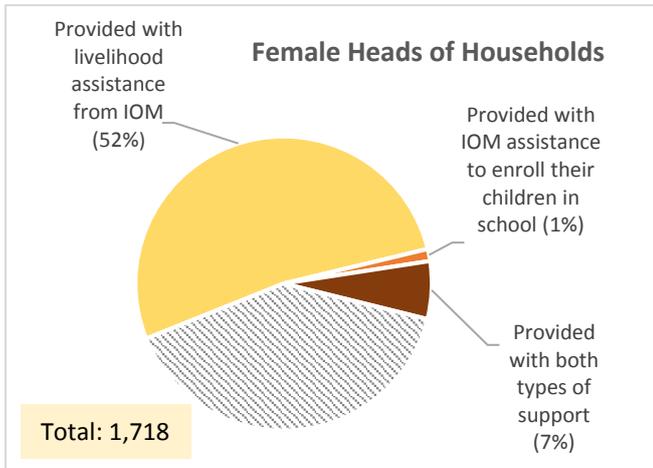
*Name has been changed

**After Sarah gave birth on the boat, the women who assisted her in the delivery, made her daughter a necklace made out of seashells from the sea and blue beads, and the baby girl was named “Horeya” meaning *Mermaid* in Arabic.

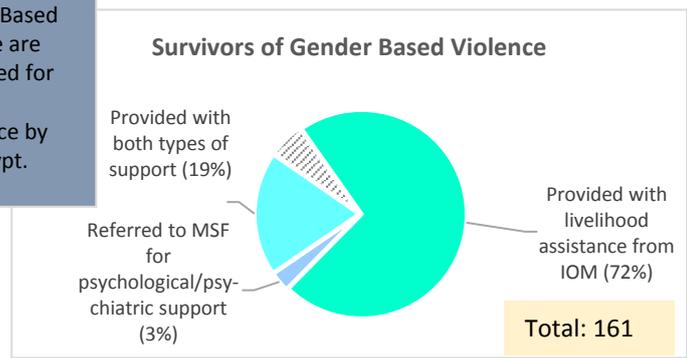




IOM Egypt's response to the specific needs of female migrant beneficiaries in 2017



Did you know? Survivors of Gender-Based Violence are prioritized for direct assistance by IOM Egypt.



Recent highlights

“Female migration and the potential impact on the life experiences of these women, will impact the social, economic and gender roles in their societies of origin.”

Ambassador Laura Thompson, Deputy Director General, International Organization for Migration

IOM’s Deputy Director General Ambassador Laura Thompson visited Cairo on 24-27 July 2017. During her visit, Ambassador Thompson remarked *“With more than 26 million Arab migrants living outside their country of origin, including within the Arab region, migration is not only a livelihood strategy for many, but also a potentially powerful driver of development and economic growth through remittance flows and skills transfer.”*



Deputy Director General Ambassador Laura Thompson and IOM Egypt hold diplomatic reception in Cairo, July 26th

In 2014, Ambassador Laura Thompson was re-elected as Deputy Director General of IOM for a second five-year term. With more than 20 years of experience, she led during her first term the implementation of a worldwide structural reform to consolidate the Organization’s expansion, sharpen its capacity, enhance its efficiency and effectiveness, and ensure its position as a strategic partner to both countries and beneficiaries.