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Emergency Plan of Action Final Report

Egypt: Sinai Attack

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n° MDREG014
Date of Issue: 30 November 2017	Glide number: OT-2017-000171-EGY
Date of disaster: 24 November 2017	
Operation start date: 30 November 2017	Operation end date: 28 Feb 2018, extended 3 months till 28 May 2018
Host National Society: Egyptian Red Crescent	Operation budget: CHF 65,601
Number of people affected: 5,000 people	Number of people assisted: 2,000 people
N° of National Societies involved in the operation: Egyptian Red Crescent	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation: Ministry of Social Solidarity, Ministry of Health, local authorities, local non-governmental organizations	

The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, and Fortive Corporation and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the national society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

On 24 November 2017, a bomb and gun attack occurred in a mosque in al-Rawda Village (Bir Al Abed locality) in North Sinai. The attack occurred during Friday (Gomaa) prayer when hundreds of people were inside the mosque. The attack resulted in more than 300 deaths, including 27 children and 138 injured, affecting more than 500 families. More than 50 surrounding houses were damaged due to the random shooting around the mosque. Ambulances were exposed to armed attack and two health workers were killed.

The North Sinai is a marginalized and insecure area, since 2011 with ongoing conflict between Muslim insurgents and the Egyptian government. Dozens of people have died since the conflict start, however the mosque attack on 24 November as the most devastating to date. During the DREF operation, Government security forces closed access to North Sinai, which impacted the ability to distribute relief items. Access was severely hampered. ERC finally negotiated access with the government authorities, however it was not possible for ERC to finish work in just one day, and so due to the curfew ERC staff and volunteers had to travel over 50kms to the nearest city to stay overnight.

Summary of response

Overview of Host National Society

Immediately after the attack, ERC activated the operation room at its headquarters in Cairo, as well as the North Sinai and in Ismailiyah branches which are respectively 200 and 150 km distance from Cairo. Emergency Action Teams (EATs) were mobilized from Arish and Ismailiyah branches. Additional teams joined the response from the headquarters in Cairo.



ERC volunteers helped the children in Rawda village with PSS promoting a sense of connectedness among themselves and within their communities

The intervention of ERC has been organized in the following phases:

Immediate emergency response (took place the 24 - 26 November):

- 100 ERC staff and volunteers were deployed in the immediate emergency response, to different locations.
- Blood bags and transfusion sets were provided for all blood groups in addition to 200 units of plasma:
- On the 24 November, 75 blood bags were sent from ERC Blood bank in Cairo and 200 plasma units.
- By 25 November, due to high volume of public willing to donate blood, ERC sent from Cairo a blood collection car, together with 120 transfusion sets including bags.
- Medical supplies were provided to the two hospitals in Ismailiyah including two surgical war kits provided by ICRC.
- Emergency Action Teams (EAT) were deployed from the North Sinai and Ismailiyah branch. The teams helped in the transferring of affected people by ambulances to hospitals, providing first aid in support to the overwhelmed medical crew. Some 40 injured received first aid assistance.
- A National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) were deployed from Cairo and Ismailiyah branches. They distributed clothes for injured people at the hospital and provide bed sheets and blankets for a complete ward in Arish hospital.
- The NDRT distributed food and non-food items to affected families, especially blankets, for the families waiting for their injured relatives. A total of 300 hot meals, including bottled water, were provided on the same day as the attack and this support was repeated on the next days for 125 persons.
- Initially a psychosocial (PSS) team were deployed from Ismailiyah branch and support from specialists from Cairo. This team initially helped to support families during the evacuation of wounded, ensuring smooth passage for the ambulances and then assisted affected families to track the wounded to the appropriate hospitals. They also facilitated contacts between doctors and families. The team provided Psychosocial First Aid for 400 people and PSS for children.

Intermediate emergency response

In response to the need in Al-Rawda village, ERC provided 500 food parcels for the families including basic food items (around 15 Kg each). Each parcel covers one average sized family for 10 days. A second distribution was planned to be undertaken 10 days after the first, however due to security issues, the distributions were postponed till the first half of May 2018. The distributions were undertaken in coordination with Ministry of Social Solidarity and other governmental and non-governmental actors. A 15-member psychosocial support team was deployed in Bir Al Abed to carry out psychosocial activities for 150 children and their families. Toys and playing sets for children were distributed.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The International Federation of Red Cross Societies and Red Crescent societies (IFRC) has a North Africa Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) Office in Tunis, covering Egypt. The IFRC CCST was notified of the disaster and immediately provided support to the ERC in assessing the impact of the disaster and ERC support requirements. IFRC's MENA Regional Office and its Disaster and Crisis Prevention Response and Recovery (DCPRR) team, based in Beirut, provided technical advice to the CCST office and ERC throughout the operation in assessing and mobilizing support necessary for the national society.

The ICRC Delegation in Cairo supports the ERC with RFL as well as emergency response in mass casualty events. ICRC has supplied the National Society with two war wounded kits, which were distributed to the hospitals responsible for treating the wounded of the Al-Rawda attack.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

Local NGOs contributed with food and Ministry of Social Solidarity provided cash assistance to affected families. The Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) is member of the National Crisis Management Committee at the level of Prime Minister Cabinet. Branches are represented at similar body at local level.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

As a result of the attack, the majority of injuries were orthopedic related, as well as internal bleeding and deep wounds resulting from shrapnel. As per medical reports, most cases required further rehabilitation and all of the injured as well as their families, especially children, required psychosocial support.

Only a few cases were transferred to Arish hospital in North Sinai which has very basic facilities. The majority of casualties were transferred to Ismaileya Governorate to either the public or university hospitals. Thirty cases have been transferred to Cairo for further specialized treatment.

In total 5,000 people were in need of support as a result of the attack. Most of the people killed and injured in the attack were adult men. This left a lot of women widowed and children orphaned. As a result, families were left without the main source of income, with limited options for livelihoods.

ERC planned to support 500 families. The present DREF covers 400 families, equivalent to 2,000 people, with an average of 5 family members in rural Egypt. The National Society will cover the needs of the remaining 100 families.

ERC prioritized those families with children and those whose houses have been damaged by explosion and shooting. In total, some 1020 children needed support (390 in primary stage and 630 in preparatory and secondary).

The ERC distributed support in terms of food and NFIs for those families for 10 days, while the present DREF aims at supporting those families for two additional months, as continuation of the intermediary emergency response. It includes as well complementary medical supplies to the public hospital in Ismailiyah.

Finally, the DREF includes a component of building a Psychosocial Support providers teams in North Sinai to maintain the services in place, as it has been so far delivered by Headquarters team.

Operation Risk Assessment

Since 2014 the impoverish North Sinai region was in a state of emergency and experiencing escalated violence while situation remains highly volatile. ERC teams have access to the locations and beneficiaries, particularly through the local branches and teams. However, access is not always guaranteed.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The overall objective is to provide assistance in terms of medical, PSS, food and non-food items to the affected people and families following the attack.

Operational Strategy:

During the initial response, ERC identified the critical needs and responded to them accordingly. The operational planned to give continued support based on the most needs to-date as well as those anticipated over the weeks that followed. Al Rawal is a small Bedouin village and doesn't have significant shops, so it is not possible to procure food or nonfood items. These items were procured in Cairo and transported to North Sinai.

Livelihood and basic needs:

- Provision of food parcels for 400 families for two months
- Provision of nutritional food for young children
- Provision of clothes and NFIs for 400 families (winter clothes for 400 families, two children and one woman each).

Health:

- Complementary medical supplies: blood transfusion sets and bags to replace ERC stock.
- Building a team of PSS providers in North Sinai, a Training of trainers was conducted for 25 volunteers for three days, facilitated by PSS experts from ERC in Headquarters
- The operation will include the deployment of 15 staff and 30 volunteers from the affected branches.

3. Operational Support Services

All procurement related to this operation was done locally and followed the IFRC standards and procurement procedures. Local procurement was undertaken by the logistical department of ERC. The IFRC Logistic department in MENA was available to provide support to ERC. The ERC used their warehouses in the targeted branches.

4. Information Technologies (IT)

The DREF allocation supported communication related cost.

5. Communications

The ERC, with the support of the IFRC Country Cluster North Africa and the IFRC MENA Regional Office provided information to national and international media on the humanitarian response.

6. Security

ERC ensured maximum safety for its staff and volunteers in the field. Additionally, the team members are trained in first aid and had sufficient personal protective equipment to ensure safety and security in the field.

7. Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)

Monitoring of the operation has been done in accordance with the IFRC standards, and reporting is in line with the IFRC standard reporting requirements, with a final narrative report produced three months after the end of the operation. However, the final financial report was produced with a considerable delay thus postponing the final report publishing.

8. Administration and Finance

A Letter of Agreement (LoA) will be signed between the IFRC and the ERC to outline the parties' responsibilities regarding the implementation of the activities planned within the DREF operation, and to ensure that the appropriate

guidelines are respected in terms of the use of DREF allocations. The ERC has a permanent administrative and finance department which will ensure the proper use of financial resources in accordance with condition of the LoA.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p>Shelter People reached: 1,200 people Male: 400 Female: 800</p>		
Indicators: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households	Target	Actual
# of households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	1,200	1,200
Narrative description of achievements		
<p>The attack has left 5,000 people in need, due to the death or injury of family members during the attack. In addition, some houses severely damaged by the explosion. ERC staff and volunteers undertook an assessment of some 400 household in Rawda village between 4 - 7 January 2018. The assessment targeted most vulnerable families in Rawda. The assessment identified needs related to winterization clothing and began the procurement processes based on these needs. This DREF is targeting the most vulnerable 400 families to distribute winter clothes for two children and one woman per family. Children received winter jackets, while women received woolen covers or blankets. The clothing was well received by the affected communities who continued to use the winterised items especially at night. This activity reached adults: women 238 and men 92, and children: girls 562 and boys 308.</p>		
Challenges		
<p>ERC procured the clothes when the DREF was launched however limited access to North Sinai meant that the items could not be distributed earlier. Delays were encountered at the borders due to North Sinai security forces approval, Access was not guaranteed, which meant additional costs to the operation. Another challenge was the availability of transport as external rental agencies could not guarantee that vehicles would be available when security forces gave the green light. There are curfews in place, which meant that stocks had to be offloaded, and teams had to exit North Sinai and then return the next day to resume their work. This made it challenging to have volunteers on standby.</p>		
Lessons Learned		
<p>The security situation has stabilised somewhat and has returned to normal. Long term agreement with vehicle rental agencies and who understand that there may be delays in getting access will be put in place. ERC are exploring opportunities to increase their fleet, so that these risks can be managed better internally.</p>		

 <p>Livelihoods and basic needs People reached: 2,140 Male: 944 Female: 1,196</p>		
Indicators: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities	Target	Actual
# of people reached with food assistance for basic needs	2,000	2,140
Narrative description of achievements		
<p>ERC teams used both quantitative and qualitative surveys to better understand the needs of the Rawda vulnerable people as well as gauge the perceptions of community leaders through face to face discussions in the aftermath of the terrorist attack. This was important to understand better the impact the attack has had on their daily life and the livelihoods of their communities. The assessment visit happened 9 – 14 December 2017. Preliminary data indicated that Rawda needed basic livelihood support, medical services and psychosocial support. Rawda Village has a population of 428 families. while the neighboring villages population estimated 653 families.</p> <p>This need assessment update objective was: a) Impact of the crisis on basic services</p>		

b) Identify the most vulnerable households and meet their urgent needs

According to initial assessment, average of family size was estimated to be five members, including two adults and three children. Procurement has been done at Headquarters level, with three quotations, for the total number of 428 families, as follows:

Composition of a Food Parcel

- Rice (5 Kg)
- Flour (4 Kg)
- Sugar (5 Kg)
- Oil (2 bottles)
- Tea (500 gm)
- Tomato paste (2 jars – 400 gm each)
- Halawa (350 gm)

Children Food Box

- Cereals biscuits and date bars (500 gm)

Food items were packed at HQ, on 5 February, with family name and content based on the assessed need. However, when ERC went to transport the food items to the affected communities, on 8 February security forces refused to allow ERCs so the distribution couldn't take place and the food was returned to Cairo. By 7 May 2018, ERC got the security clearance from North Sinai Governor, in coordination with Ministry of Defense, to enter North Sinai for distribution in Rawda Village. By 8 May 2018, the food items, including food for children, were delivered to Rawda and distributed between 9 – 14 May 2018 to the targeted 428 families.



Challenges

The same challenges in access to North Sinai were encountered under this sector as described for NFI relief items. The timeframe of food procurement was challenging in terms of expiry date.

Lessons Learned

ERC has a partnership with companies to replace the soon-to-be expired stock. If ERC had their own stock, it would make access easier and would reduce additional costs and logistics inputs.



Health

People reached: 1,482

Male: 574

Female: 908

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people provided with clinical health care services during emergencies	-	457
# number of people reached by psychosocial supports:	-	1,482
Narrative description of achievements		
<p>During the immediate emergency response, the ERC provided blood bags from all blood groups in addition to 200 units of plasma. Blood transfusions sets (120) were provided to hospitals in the two hospitals (Ismailiya and Al-Arish) to compensate shortage. This operation will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Replenishment of blood transfusions sets;• PSS capacity building for the North Sinai branch (PSFA and PSS for children). <p>The ERC PSS work was so successful that the government has recognized and requested to lead PSS in emergencies. ERC facilitated lessons learned and debriefing for volunteers. ERC has found that by integrating health and safety with PSS support has been participatory successful. People like to have tangible information and things to do. ERC used children's drawings as pre and post testing to verify improved coping and resilience. At first all drawings were related to the attack, however by the end of the intervention that drawings were positive about how the children hope to see their lives.</p> <p>One child was transferred to Cairo for treatment after the attack, which killed his father. The boy was traumatized and left him unable to talk. An ERC volunteer attended to the sick boy and his family every day in the hospital until the boy was able to talk again. The value and impact of PSS should not be underestimated.</p> <p>ERC work was picked up by the media and the team has been interviewed to explain their work and the impact of PSS on local and national television and radio. This media has raised the profile of the operation to the authorities. Children now feel confident that they have a future in their village. ERC stayed long term in the communities, longer than other agencies who left quite soon.</p>		
Challenges		
No significant challenges were encountered related to this activity.		
Lessons Learned		
There was a number of successes (described above) which need to be noted for future.		

D. THE BUDGET

Please find the Final Financial Report in the end of this document.

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Egyptian Red Crescent

- **Prof. Moamena Kamel, Secretary General**; phone: +20 2 26 703 979/81/83; email: erc@egyptianrc.org

In the IFRC

- **IFRC MENA Regional Office / DCPRR Unit**: Dr. Hosam Faysal, Head of Disaster and Crisis (Prevention, Response and Recovery); phone: +961 71 802 916; email: hosam.faysal@ifrc.org
- **IFRC North Africa Country Cluster**: Iliana Mourad, Head of Country Cluster; phone: + 216 71 86 24 85; email: iliana.mourad@ifrc.org

IFRC HQ (Geneva):

- **Tiffany Loh, Operations Coordinator for Asia Pacific and MENA**; phone: +41 (0) 79 251 8004; email: tiffany.loh@ifrc.org
- **Karla Morizzo, DREF Senior Officer**; phone: +41 (0) 22 730 4295; email: karla.morizzo@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **Yara Yassine, Regional Senior Partnerships and Resource Development Officer**, Beirut; email: yara.yassine@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting)

- **Nadine Haddad, PMER Manager**; IFRC Regional Office in MENA; phone: +961 71 802 775; email: Nadine.Haddad@ifrc.org

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

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The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2017/11-2019/4	Operation	MDREG014
Budget Timeframe	2017/11-2018/5	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 30/May/2019

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDREG014 - Egypt - North Sinai Attack

Operating Timeframe: 30 Nov 2017 to 28 May 2018

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	65,601
DREF Allocations	65,601
Expenditure	-63,880
Closing Balance	1,721

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter			0
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	63,407	59,530	3,876
AOF4 - Health	2,194	3,791	-1,597
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	65,601	63,322	2,279
SF11 - Strengthen National Societies			0
SF12 - Effective international disaster management		355	-355
SF13 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			0
SF14 - Ensure a strong IFRC		203	-203
Strategy for implementation Total		558	-558
Grand Total	65,601	63,880	1,721

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2017/11-2019/4	Operation	MDREG014
Budget Timeframe	2017/11-2018/5	Budget	APPROVED

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MDREG014 - Egypt - North Sinai Attack

Operating Timeframe: 30 Nov 2017 to 28 May 2018

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	54,360	52,078	2,282
Clothing & Textiles	13,200	14,754	-1,554
Food	40,800	36,951	3,849
Medical & First Aid	360	373	-13
Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,492	4,192	1,300
Distribution & Monitoring	5,492	4,192	1,300
Personnel	45		45
Volunteers	45		45
Workshops & Training	1,700	3,187	-1,487
Workshops & Training	1,700	3,187	-1,487
General Expenditure		524	-524
Financial Charges		524	-524
Indirect Costs	4,004	3,899	105
Programme & Services Support Recover	4,004	3,899	105
Grand Total	65,601	63,880	1,721