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Emergency Plan of Action (EPOA)

Egypt: Train Crash

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF Operation n°	MDREG016	Glide n°:	OT-2021-000031-EGY
Date of issue:	07 April 2021	Expected timeframe:	3 months
		Expected end date:	31 July 2021
Category allocated to the disaster or crisis: Yellow			
DREF allocated: CHF 103,864			
Total number of people affected:	204 directly (1,020 indirectly)	Number of people to be assisted:	1,020 people (204 households)
	Provinces affected:	Souhag	Provinces/Regions targeted: Upper Egypt (Asyut, Qena, Souhag, Luxour, Aswan and Giza)
National Society: Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) Headquarter - 27 branches in 27 Governorates and more than 30,000 volunteers nationwide			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Egyptian public authorities and local NGOs			

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

On Friday 26 March 2021, two trains had collided in the Tahta township in Sohag governorate, killing at least 20 people and injuring more than 185. Two passenger cars flipped on their side from the force of the collision, the latest in a series of deadly accidents along Egypt's troubled rail system, plagued by poor maintenance and management.

The Surveillance Cameras from the scene in the southern province of Sohag, 270 miles south of Cairo, taken shortly after the collision showed derailed cars turned into twisted piles of metal, with some passengers trapped inside. Bystanders carried bodies and laid them out on the ground near the site. Seventy-two ambulances from MoH and ERC were sent to the scene reinforced by medical teams the Tahta district of the Upper Egypt governorate of Sohag from the capital Cairo.

Health Minister Hala Zayed said in a news conference that two planes were dispatched from Cairo with 52 medical teams from various specialties on board to treat the injured. The ministry announced that a technical committee has been formed to determine the cause of the crash, with efforts underway to resume train traffic on the line.



Figure 1: Egyptian Ambulance Organization and community members at the scene of the train crash. Photo: ERC

Few hours later, the Egyptian Red Crescent nearby branches responded with full capacities in first aid, disaster response services, assisting in transporting the wounded to the nearby health facilities with the Egyptian ambulance.

Summary of the current response

Overview of National Society Response Action

The Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) has Headquarters and 27 Branches and more than 30,000 volunteers nationwide. The ERC has volunteers Emergency Response Teams (ERT) who are trained on First Aid, dealing with disasters, Psychological First Aid (PFA), tracing and restoring family links, logistics, water, and sanitation and needs assessments.



Figure 2: ERC volunteers providing First Aid to the people affected by train crash. Photo: ERC

After the government declaration of the emergency alert, the ERC activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC has remained open since then. ERC deployed 15 staff its Headquarter, 15 ERTs and six Psychosocial support teams in four branches were activated with an average of 150 volunteers mobilized following the announcement. The deployed team provided First Aid and emergency medical services, psychological support, distributed relief items and assisted in managing dead bodies.

Over the next few hours following the crash, ERC first aid volunteers treated 65 wounded people, provided them with first aid and emergency medical assistance and transported them to the hospitals. Transport to the hospitals was performed by the Egyptian Ambulance Authority. The ERC team helped the ambulance authority in the recovery of dead bodies, while more were trapped under the collapsed train. In addition to providing Psychological First Aid (PFA) for the people with injuries and their relatives, the ERC deployed team assisted the hospitals with medical supplies, first aid kits, blood bags, hygiene kits, blankets, hot meals, and unconditional cash for 14 individuals. Furthermore, a hotline was launched to help out citizens in distress.

ERC HQ had deployed a team of staff and senior volunteers to conduct a detailed needs assessment at the hospitals.



Figure 3: ERC medical volunteers providing pre-hospital/medical care and PFA for the affected people at hospitals. Photo: ERC

The result of the needs assessment showed that 30 individuals have been discharged from the hospitals while 185 individuals are still in hospitals receiving medical treatment. The injuries range from:

- multiple fractures (116 cases),
- in need for multiple surgeries: cut wounds, spleen rupture, etc. (49 cases)
- post-concussion coma and under medical observation (20 cases)

Among the injured people, around 13 work in the Military and were transferred to the military hospitals. Egyptian authorities revised death toll from train crash to 19.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement Actions in country

[First report](#) of the situation was prepared and posted on [IFRC GO platform](#). Progress reports will be shared with the IFRC - MENA Regional Office throughout this DREF Operation.

The ERC has a solid experience in responding to similar emergencies such as, 2002 Giza train fire, 2017 Alexandria train crash, 2019 Cairo Central railway crash. The ERC Response Teams are the first responders following an emergency. They provide first aid, PSS, medical transport, search and rescue, and carry out relief interventions.

Overview of other actors' actions in country

The ERC, in its auxiliary role to the public authorities, has collaborated with the civil society, ambulance authority and Ministry of Social and Solidarity (MoSS), Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP) in response to the event.



Figure 4 ERC volunteers providing Psychological First Aid to the injured and the relatives of the people affected by train crash. Photo: ERC

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

Hundreds of people have been affected and suffer from psychological impact of the train crash, while all health facilities in Souhag and surrounding areas are crowded and overflowed with injured patients.

In the immediate aftermath of the crash, ERC provided assistance such as First Aid, pre-hospital care, cash assistance and relief items distribution through its emergency response and psychosocial support team, branches, EOC and disaster management (DM) unit.

A total of 204 people were directly affected by the train crash. 185 were injured and 19 have lost their lives. Families of those people affected by the crash have been indirectly facing income losses. Other risks include further deterioration of income generation opportunities for the families of the affected population and decreased capacities to address the basic needs. Additional unexpected costs may result in financial burden for these families in distress from poor socioeconomic status.

The injuries range from fracture, multiple fractures, to contusions. These injuries take time to heal. The Ministry of Health (MoH) is providing urgent medical care to the injured during their stay at the hospital. The MoH is covering the treatment costs of the injured, such as surgeries and essential drugs available at the hospital. While the families of those injured will cover the medical expenses incurred immediately after discharge from Hospital as well as post-hospitalisation expenses.

The Ministry of Social and Solidarity (MoSS) had announced that a compensation will be disbursed for the families of the deceased and those injured in the Sohag train collision. EGP 100,000 will be paid as compensation for the families of each victim, as well as those suffering total permanent disability. The injured would also be paid compensation ranging between EGP 20,000 to 40,000, depending on their injury degree.

ERC through unconditional cash grants aims to empower the affected households enabling them to cover their eminent basic needs for two (2) months that will be deducted from the MoSS compensations- expected to be delivered at later stage.

ERC is going to expand its operational capacities to maintain continuity of the services as the leading humanitarian actor and auxiliary to the public authorities. The identified immediate needs are to support and strengthen the capacity of the ERC in: i) first aid, ii) blood transfusion services, iii) psychosocial support, iv) medical supplies, v) unconditional cash assistance and vi) relief distributions for the ERC to be able to provide timely and effective assistance to the affected people, throughout this DREF operation.

Targeting

This operation will target 204 families of those 185 injured and 19 killed, affected by the train crash.

These figures were announced officially by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and have been validated upon the visits to the hospitals through the needs assessment exercise which was carried out jointly with the national authorities.

Based on the needs assessment, the Governorates of origin are Asyut, Qena, Souhag, Luxour, Aswan and Giza.

Operation Risk Assessment

ERC is a trusted humanitarian organization and auxiliary to the public authorities. In response to the crisis in the shadow of COVID-19, the ERC will continue to apply safety and security measures throughout the operation to ensure maintaining access to the people in need, while ensuring the safety of its staff and volunteers.

Despite the increase in COVID-19 cases in Egypt, restrictions on the COVID-19 preventive measures such as complete lockdown were not yet imposed by the national authorities. As of the evening of 3 April 2021, 204,256 cases of COVID-19 were confirmed and 12,123 deaths in Egypt were acknowledged by the Ministry of Health and Population. The ministers of health and higher education, as well as other health officials have admitted that the number of coronavirus cases are higher than the official reported figures, as most people who become ill with COVID-19 prefer to receive the medical treatment at home.

The ERC constantly monitors the situation and maintains communication with the local authorities and government agencies to assess the context and the situation of the affected population.

B. Operational strategy

Overall Operational objective:

The objective of this operation is to provide basic emergency assistance, livelihoods support, healthcare, psychosocial support, cash for health and rehabilitation to 204 families affected by the train crash while respecting and applying COVID-19 prevention measures. This DREF operation will support ERC to provide assistance through the following activities:

- First aid, dressing kits, blood transfusion through the replenishment/provision of medical and first aid consumables, laboratory tests, and running costs.
- Strengthen the capacity and equip ERT volunteers deployed to the targeted areas.
- Distribution of unconditional cash grants to the affected households to ensure consistency and continuity of adequate medical care of those injured, dignified burial, and to cover existing basic and diverse needs on household level. The 125 USD grant has been identified based on the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) as follows:

Affected families by injury

Basic Need	Food basket	USD 50	Most urgent basic needs
	WASH (Hygiene items and Water)	USD 25	
Health	Health expenditure (pain killers, bandage)	USD 35	follow-up medical treatment expenses due to the injury
	Visits (4/month)	USD 15	
Total		USD 125	Round of to 125/month. Assistance for 2 months.

Affected families by death

Basic Needs	Food basket	USD 50	Most urgent basic needs
	WASH (Hygiene items and Water)	USD 25	
Non-food	Transportation & communication	USD 25	
	Miscellaneous expenses including burial costs	USD 25	
Total		USD 125	Round of to 125/month. Assistance for 2 months.

Human resources

An Operations Coordinator will be hired by the Egyptian Red Crescent for a period of three months to manage the DREF operation and to liaise with the internal thematic and technical people responsible for the implementation of the activities. IFRC MENA Regional Office will coordinate with the ERC to ensure the quality of the implementation by offering the technical support to enhance the ERC plan as well as to provide technical guidance and assistance if needed.

Logistics and procurement

The ERC will proceed with the procurement of all items and financial services aligned with the IFRC procurement regulations and standards (with support of GHS & SCM MENA). For all procurement with a total value equivalent or more than CHF 50,000, any procurement involving drugs and medical supplies, complete file will be validated by IFRC (GHS & SCM) prior placing order or signing contract. In addition to ensure the process of distributions and assessments and transport to targeted communities' vehicles included in the DREF budget will be used to transport and distribution of humanitarian assistance. The DREF will cover the costs of fuel, vehicle rentals for the vehicles of the ERC.

Communications

ER will ensure the safety and security of its volunteers and will increase their visibility.

Security

ERC will coordinate with the national authorities at central and governmental levels to make sure their volunteers have movement clearance. ERC will provide its volunteers with PPEs for them to be able to undertake safely their mission.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

ERC will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the affected areas through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers along with HQ PMER unit. IFRC, through its regional office, will provide technical support in programme management to ensure the operation objectives are met. Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF minimum reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's reporting timeframe and a final report will be issued within three months from the end of the operation. The Regional Office will conduct a training for the ERC staff and volunteers, engaged in this operation, on evidence-based reporting standards required to uphold accountability through this operation. A lesson learned workshop will be organized at the end of the operation and a report will be subsequently published.

Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI)

Acknowledging that women, girls, men and boys with diverse ages, disabilities and backgrounds have very different needs, risk and coping strategies, the operation will pay particular attention to protection and inclusion of vulnerable groups.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA)

CEA will be mainstreamed throughout the intervention to guarantee maximum and meaningful participation of the affected communities. A feedback and complaint desk will be put in ERC centres for recipients of different ERC services to provide direct feedback. For the purpose of clarity and for a good flow of information, clear roles and responsibilities will be agreed with representatives, community leaders and committees and information will be shared widely about selection criteria, distribution processes and response activities with the whole community. The selection process of people to be reached will be clearly communicated to all affected people.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 1,020 people (204 families)

Requirements (CHF): 55,380

Needs analysis: In the light of the different roots of the affected families who were affected by the train crash, many of these affected people are most vulnerable at these times while they struggle at normal times to provide food for their families. On the other hand, many people have also lost the head of household or need cash to cover the expenses of their treatment plan outside the hospital.

Population to be assisted: all families who had been affected by the train crash, as they are vulnerable and not being able to provide their basic needs, these families need assistance to cover their livelihood, hospital expenses, follow up treatment plan after discharge. The targeted families will receive cash disbursement worth value of 125 USD each month for two-months.

The Ministry of Social and Solidarity (MoSS) and according to a [press release](#) announced that the families of the deceased will receive CHF 6,000 (EGP 100,000) and between CHF 1,200 – 2,400 (EGP 20,000 - 40,000) for the injured people based on their type of injuries. The planned support is being coordinated with ERC and other local actors and NGOs. ERC will contribute to this planned response through the provision of 125 USD for two (2) months as unconditional cash grants to ensure the targeted families are reached at early stages to cover their basic needs based on the SMEB.

ERC have more than 5 years' experience in assisting the most vulnerable people (Palestinian) with Cash assistance that was in coordination with ICRC and German Red Cross for a five-member family: (880 families). ERC had also an experience in CVA during emergencies. With support from IFRC – 2020 DREF, the ERC carried out the cash disbursement for 880 families affected by 2020 flash floods in Cairo.

Programme standards/benchmarks: the activities will seek to meet sphere standards in light of COVID-19 aligned with IFRC CVA SOPs.

P&B Output Code	Livelihoods and basic needs Output 1.5: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs	# of vouchers / cash assistance. <i>Target: 204 families</i>															
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Activities planned Week																
	Select beneficiary households, prepare beneficiary lists and sensitize them on the assistance process																

	Training of staff and volunteers on CVA (Level I or Level 2)																		
	Monitoring (on site during cash distribution and Post distribution)																		
AP081	Unconditional/multipurpose cash distributions.																		



Health

People targeted: 1,020 people (204 families)
Requirements (CHF): 26,359

Needs analysis:

Psychosocial support will be provided to the bereaved families. Most hospitals in Souhag have expressed the need for supplementary blood units to treat wounded people. The first aid and relief items used for the response will be replenished.

Population to be assisted: This operation aims to support ERC response to the affected people by the devastating train crash and will continue to support with the same standards for the coming period.

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 2: The immediate risks to the health of the affected populations are reduced through improved access to medical treatment	# of people reached through first aid and pre-hospital care (Target: 204)																
	Health Output 2.1: Improved access to health care and emergency health care for the targeted population and communities.	# of FA kits replenished (Target: TBD) # of Personal Protective gears purchased (Target: TBD)																
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP022	Replenishment of First Aid kits																	
AP022	Train and recruit medical and non-medical staff. Provide Personal Protective Equipment for ERT volunteers																	
P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 4: Vulnerable people's health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services	# of people reached through increased access to blood transfusion services (Target: TBD)																
	Health Output 4.1: Communities are provided by NS with services to identify and reduce health risks	# of blood bags replenishment (Target: TBD)																
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP012	Replenishment of medical reagents and consumables for blood transfusion and voluntary donations																	

P&B Output Code	Health Outcome 6: The psychosocial impacts of the emergency are lessened	# of people reached to reduce the psychosocial impacts of the disaster (Target: 1,020)															
	Health Output 6.1: Psychosocial support provided to the target population as well as to RCRC volunteers and staff	# of volunteers trained – Target: 30 volunteers # of targeted people received PSS (Target: 1,020)															
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP023	Identification and training for volunteers in psychosocial support in emergency																
AP023	Assessment of PSS needs and resources available in the community																
AP023	Provide PSS to people affected by the crisis/disaster																
AP023	Provide PSS to staff and volunteers																

Strategies for Implementation

Requirements (CHF): 22,126

P&B Output Code	S1.1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform	# of volunteers involved in the operation and actively participating in the activities. Target: 150															
	Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected	# of volunteers involved in the operation who are trained in Security, Code of Conduct and Standards and principles of humanitarian aid. Target: 150															
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP040	Ensure that volunteers are insured																
AP040	Hire DREF coordinator																
AP040	Ensure volunteers have the personal protection equipment and visibility to operate																
AP040	Lessons Learned Workshop and/or case study on CVA																
P&B Output Code	Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured																
	Output S2.1.1: Effective and respected surge capacity mechanism is maintained.	# of surge missions (Target:1) # of monitoring visits (Target:1)															
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
AP046	IFRC monitoring visits																

AP046	Surge support																	
P&B Output Code	Output S2.1.4: Supply chain and fleet services meet recognized quality and accountability standards	# of rented vehicles (Target: 2) # of days of transport (Target: 60)																
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP050	Running cost for fuel, maintenance and transport costs																	
P&B Output Code	Outcome S3.2: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded.	<i>Amount of funding mobilised by the IFRC. Target: 103,864</i>																
	Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved	<i>Planning, monitoring, and reporting sessions to ensure effective accountability internally and externally. Target: TBD</i>																
	Activities planned Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
AP058	Train ERC staff and volunteers, engaged in this operation, on evidence-based reporting standards required to uphold accountability throughout this operation																	

Funding Requirements

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

*all amounts in
Swiss Francs
(CHF)*

DREF OPERATION

MDREG016-Egypt: Train Crash

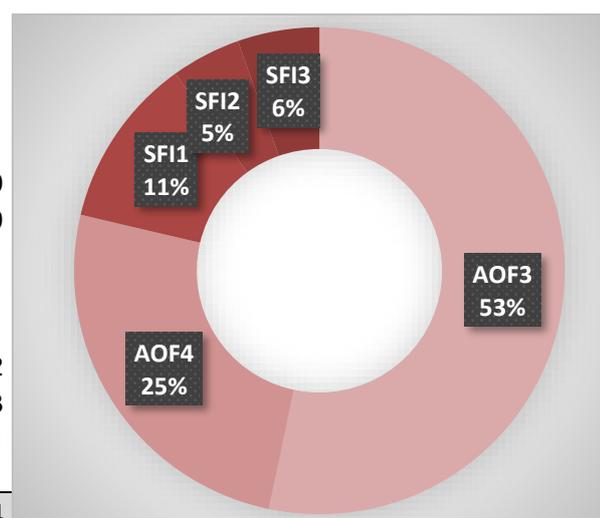
3/29/2021

Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Shelter - Relief	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	0
Medical & First Aid	20,750
Teaching Materials	0
Cash Disbursement	51,000
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	71,750
Distribution & Monitoring	1,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	4,500
Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,500
National Society Staff	2,250
Volunteers	11,025
Personnel	13,275
Workshops & Training	4,000
Workshops & Training	4,000
General Expenditure	3,000
DIRECT COSTS	97,525
INDIRECT COSTS	6,339
TOTAL BUDGET	103,864

Budget by Area of Intervention

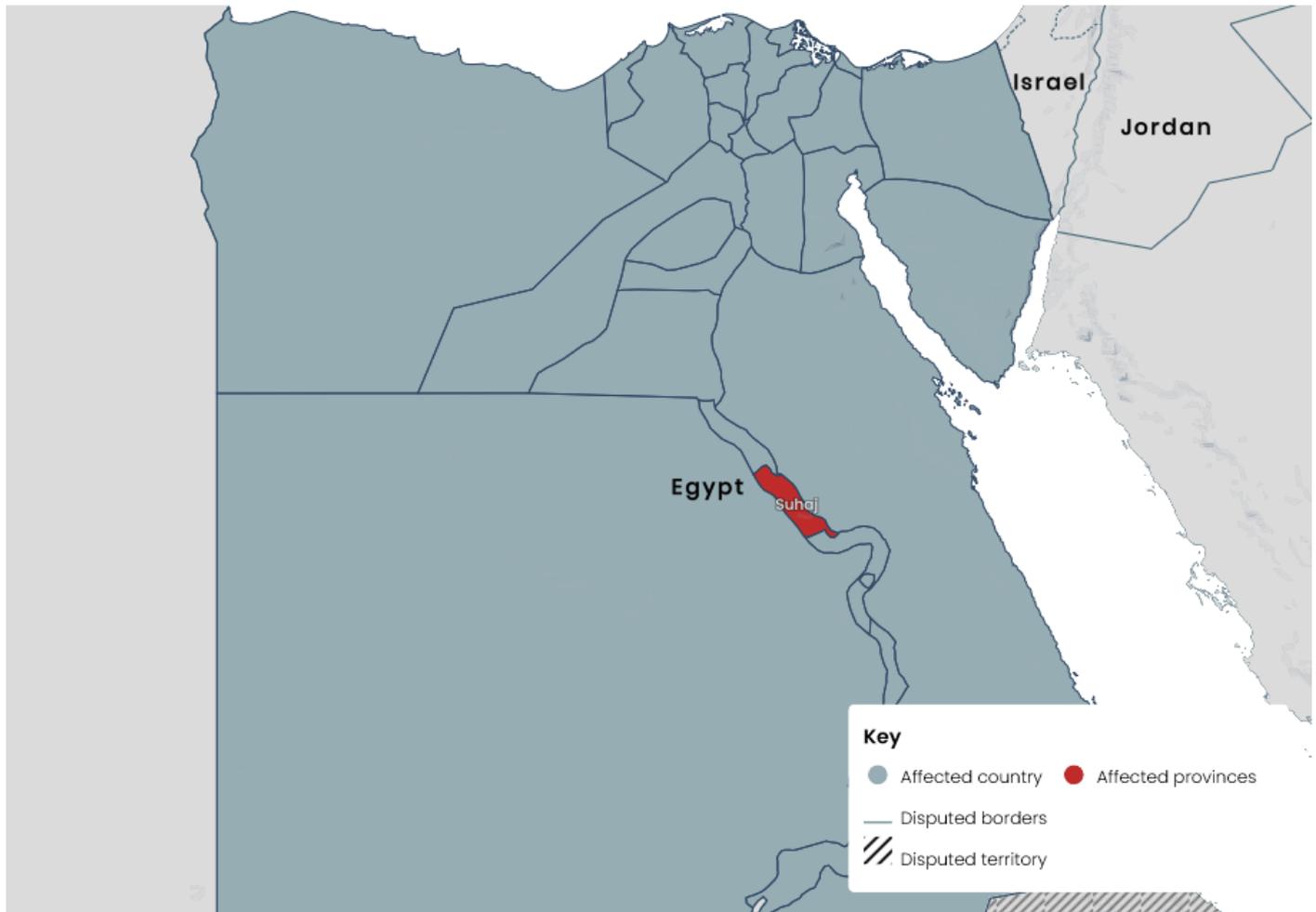
AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	
AOF2	Shelter	
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	55,380
AOF4	Health	26,359
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	11,742
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	4,793
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	5,591
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	
TOTAL		103,864





Egypt: Train Crash

1 April 2021



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities, Data sources: IFRC, OSM contributors, Map box.

Contact information:

Reference documents



Click here for:

- Previous Appeals and updates
- Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

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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.

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



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace.**