

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Final Report

Egypt: Flash Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation	Operation n°: MDREG015
Date of Issue: 25 March 2020	Glide number: FL-2020-000038 EGY
Operation start date: 26 March 2020	Operation end date: 30 September 2020
Host National Society(ies): Egyptian Red Crescent Headquarter - 27 branches in 27 Governorates and more than 30,000 volunteers nationwide	Operation budget: CHF 488,004
Number of people affected: 20,000 people (4,000 families)	Number of people assisted: 12,565
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Egyptian local authorities and local NGOs	

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. On behalf of the Egyptian Red Crescent Society, the IFRC would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

On March 11, 2020, the Egyptian Meteorological Authority - stated that the situation during the period 12 – 14 March 2020 will witness heavy rains with potential floods. The government has appealed the citizens not to leave their homes and closed several major roads between the provinces, disrupting government, public and private sectors.

On 11 March 2020, the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) issued an emergency alert and activated its Central Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as well as the Emergency Operations Rooms at the Branches.

The continued severe weather, including heavy rain, strong winds and thunderstorms caused widespread flooding across Egypt, killing at least 40 people. According to Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS), 10 people died and more than 400 injured in Cairo, three people died and five were injured in



Figure 1 ERC team conducting rapid assessments.
Credit: ERC



Figure 2 Damage of infrastructure from the floods.
Credit: ERC

Qena Governorate (central Egypt). The remaining fatalities occurred in Giza, Ismailia, Sharkeia, New Valley, Menofia, and South Sinai Governorates, 12.

The train service was suspended nationwide, as heavy rain caused a train collision in northern Giza, injuring 13 people. The official figures reported by the MoSS on the number of people affected by the floods in the country estimates 20,000 people (4,000 families).

As the rest of the affected people are located in various areas within the governorates, MoSS and some local NGOs have conducted the needs assessment in those affected areas. Several key highways and some public infrastructure, including seaports and international airports were closed. Schools and government offices remained closed on 13 and 14 March 2020.

Summary of response

The actions taken by the ERC to respond to the disaster:

After the government's declaration of the emergency alert, ERC activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The EOC has remained open 24/7 for any emergency and to follow up on all activities of the DREF. Additionally, 100 ERTs in 27 branches were activated with an average of 500 volunteers mobilized.

ERC supported the evacuation of 684 people into the assembly points. There were 2,926 people hosted in 19 evacuation centers in Cairo, Giza, Beni Suef and Faiyum.

ERC also supported the evacuation of 38 migrants to move to an evacuation center in "6th of October" school. They obtained hygiene kits, hot meals, clothes, blankets, mattresses and pillows.

2,247 people were assisted by ERC with First Aid services and received blankets, mattresses, pillows, clothes, hygiene kits and hot meals.



Figure 5 Distribution of relief items following the floods. Credit: ERC



Figure 4 Volunteers providing First Aid Services to affected people. Credit: ERC



Figure 3 Volunteers providing First Aid Services to affected people. Credit: ERC

ERC psychological teams provided services especially for children including, Psychological First Aid, psycho-educational and recreational activities.

The number of volunteers in the EOC increased at the onset of the floods to ensure that ERC could respond to the disaster around the clock and support any requests from the headquarters and nearby branches.



Figure 6 ERC volunteers providing PSS to children affected by the floods. Credit: ERC



Dr. Nevin El-Kabbaj, "Minister of Social Solidarity and Vice President of ERC," followed-up the situation through EOC on March 12, 2020.

ERC conducted a rapid assessment at the most affected locations in the Governorates: Cairo, Giza, Beni Suef, Ismailia and Faiyum.



Figure 9 . ERC volunteer conducting rapid assessment Credit: ERC



Figure 8 ERC volunteer conducting rapid assessment Credit: ERC



Figure 10 ERC volunteer conducting rapid assessment Credit: ERC

ERC obtained locations in the village of El Desamey, and Alzaraib area, and equipped them with basic furniture to provide its services to the citizens living there. ERC deployed its doctors in different specialties to these locations to provide their services. A total of 111 beneficiaries received services from the doctors.



Figure 11: ERC volunteer doctors providing health care services to affected families. Credit: ERC



ERC distributed cash assistance to **982 families** (4823 individuals); (**279 families** from Alzaraib area, Cairo Governorate and **703 families** from El Desamey, Giza Governorate). Cash assistance was provided to the most vulnerable and affected populations including, three people with disabilities.



Figure 12 ERC volunteers distributing cash assistance to the beneficiaries. Credit: ERC

The distribution of cash assistance was distributed as follows:

- Families consisting of 1 to 5 members received 800 EGP per family member.
- Families consisting of 6 or more members received 750 EGP per family member.

ERC distributed **4,225** Hygiene kits in Cairo, Ismailia, Gharbia, Monofya, Fayium, Beni Suef and Giza. The contents of the hygiene kits included:

- Sterile wipes
- Tissues
- Toothbrush
- Toothpaste
- Alcohol 70% 150ml
- Towel
- Soap

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

The North Africa Country Cluster Support Office of the International Federation of Red Cross Societies and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), based in Tunis, was notified of the disaster and immediately provided support to the ERC in assessing the impact of the disaster and ERC support needs.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

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

ERC was invited to the national coordination meetings led by the MoSS, in order to share information about their interventions and to coordinate with all the local NGOs. This helped ERC in designing the EPoA for the affected areas. Each organization involved in the flood's response will provide support based on the existing needs in each affected area.

ERC partnered with other organizations in Egypt at the onset of the floods in order to provide a coordinated response. The Women's Renaissance Society in El Desamey and a church in Alzaraib provided locations for ERC to use to provide related services.

In addition, the MoSS identified beneficiaries for cash assistance and provided cash assistance for 397 families whose homes were destroyed completely or partially.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Since the beginning of the operation, ERC assessment teams, composed of 10 teams (50 volunteers) were mobilized to the affected areas to conduct assessments.

Families were evacuated from their homes into evacuation centers located nearby including, guest centers, churches and mosques. In addition, ERC distributed relief items to more than 2,264 people. There is still a need to distribute household supplies and basic needs for more than 900 families.

ERC communicated with the MoSS to obtain its list of beneficiaries, who obtained cash assistance to make a verification that cash assistance hadn't been provided to the same family twice.

ERC developed a verification questionnaire to identify the most vulnerable families to obtain unconditional cash assistance. ERC volunteers were deployed to conduct this questionnaire and identify the most vulnerable families.

Figure 13 Verification questionnaires to identify the most vulnerable families to obtain unconditional cash assistance. Credit: ERC



Figure 14 ERC volunteers conducting verification questionnaires for the cash assessment.

As a result of this assessment, 983 families were identified from Alzaraib area and El Desamey village to receive unconditional cash assistance.

Risk Analysis

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Egypt, the Egyptian Government issued obligatory precautionary measures that every entity in Egypt is required to follow. These measures include, reducing the number of employees, reducing the number of working hours and applying a curfew in the country. The Egyptian government issued a decree stating that all activities will be closed throughout the day from Saturday 23 May to Friday 29 May 2020.

One of ERC staff members was infected with COVID-19 on Tuesday 19 May 2020, which led to ERC taking the precautionary procedures by closing the office starting Wednesday (20 May 2020).

Therefore, all activities of the DREF were postponed from Wednesday, 20 May 2020 until Sunday 31 May 2020.

In addition, ERC was starting the DREF activities by April 22, 2020 as the first instalment of the DREF was received on April 15, 2020.

Due to the above, the implementation of DREF activities was delayed as a result of COVID-19 and the delay in receiving the first instalment of the DREF.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

The main priority is to provide DREF activities to the families who were displaced to evacuation centers and families who are temporary hosted by their neighbor's or relatives.

Overall objective

The objective of this operation was to provide basic emergency shelter assistance, livelihoods support, primary healthcare services, psychosocial support, hygiene promotion and COVID-19 prevention measures to 2,590 families (12,950 people) affected by the heavy rains in 5 areas. As well as to make a replenishment the items which were distributed to the affected families from the central, regional and local warehouses of ERC.

Proposed strategy

DREF was extended an additional three months until the end of September 2020 due to the delays in implementation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Egyptian Government issued obligatory precaution measures that every entity in Egypt is obliged to follow which included, reducing the number of employees, reducing the number of working hours and implementing a curfew across the country. In addition, the government issued a decree stating that all activities will be closed from 23 May 2020 until 29 May 2020 which impacted the planned implementation of activities in this week.

ERC purchased insurance for 1,000 volunteers in case of accidents. Part of ERC volunteer network includes health volunteers (doctors, nurses and paramedics) formed by ERT volunteers, MHPSS volunteers and Health Promotion volunteers.

ERC took preventive and precautionary measures to reduce the spread of COVID during the distribution of cash assistance, including:

- Mandatory wearing of medical masks.
- Maximum of 30 beneficiaries allowed to enter the premises at one time in a place that accommodates more than 100 individuals, taking into account social distancing.
- The number of beneficiaries was divided over several days.

- Determining a certain number of beneficiaries to be present at a certain time so that not all beneficiaries are present at the same time.
- Provide hand sanitizing materials throughout the day.

ERC added additional budget lines to the DREF without increasing the budget including:

- Assessments of the families' households (verification questionnaires).
- Distribution of relief items.
- Advertisement published in the newspaper for public tender of the items.
- Zoom application fee (3 months) for the necessary meetings and trainings.

ERC proceeded with the procurement of the all items and financial services aligned with the IFRC procurement regulations and standards.

ERC participated in many coordination meetings between Giza governorate, Cairo governorate, MoSS and some NGOs to coordinate the distribution of humanitarian assistance (mattresses, blankets, kitchen sets etc.) to avoid any duplications of the distributions.

The result of these meetings was that the affected families had already obtained these humanitarian items from other organizations. Therefore, ERC decided to keep the NFIs (mattresses, blankets and kitchen sets) in its warehouse to respond to any other future disasters.


ERC received many calls from families lives in Alzaraib area complaining that they did not receive the unconditional cash assistance. Whilst the families are in need of this cash assistance, they were not identified during the initial assessment as they were not present when the ERC volunteers conducted the assessment. ERC deployed its volunteers to ensure that these families are in need of this assistance and that they didn't obtain any cash assistance from ERC during the distribution.

The Cairo governorate invited ERC to participate in a coordination meeting with MoSS requesting ERC to cover cash assistance for 450 families from Alzaraib area. ERC obtained a list of these families from the MoSS.

After filtering this list, it was evident that these families didn't received cash assistance from ERC before, and among them were the families who complained to ERC that they didn't receive this cash assistance.

ERC requested IFRC to use the remaining amounts from different budget lines of the DREF to cover these families but IFRC refused because the request came late two days before the end of DREF.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 <p>Shelter People reached: 2,247 Male: N/A Female: N/A</p>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of beneficiaries reached with temporary shelter support including blankets, mattresses, pillows and clothes	5,000	2,247
Narrative description of achievements		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the floods, ERC deployed its volunteers to distribute mattresses, blankets and kitchen sets from its warehouses. • Coordination meetings with stockholders were conducted to coordinate with them the distribution of other items to other beneficiaries. 		

Challenges

- Disaggregated data was not collected as the distribution was made during the first days following the floods and therefore, the volunteers didn't collect the disaggregated data of beneficiaries.
- Due to COVID-19, the procurement of items was delayed.
- The families that ERC had planned to distribute some shelter assistance to were then identified to have received the same assistance from other organizations and therefore the distribution of these items did not occur.

Lessons Learned

- The coordination meetings between all stakeholders is very important to avoid any duplication during the distribution of humanitarian items, which led to fair distribution between the beneficiaries.
- To ensure that at the onset of a disaster, volunteers are prepared to collect disaggregated data during the distributions.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 4823

Male: 2514

Female: 2309

Indicators:

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households supported through cash assistance	880	982

Narrative description of achievements

- ERC volunteers conducted several assessments and verifications to ensure that the families were in need of the cash assistance and had not obtained cash assistance from another organisation.
- The cash was distributed in two amounts depending on the size and composition of the family:
- Families consisting of 1 to 5 members received 800 EGP per family member.
- Families consisting of 6 or more members received 750 EGP per family member.
- The families who obtained the cash assistance were able to cover the amounts they borrowed from others to repair their houses that were damaged by the floods, as well as to cover some extra expenditures as a result from the floods.

Challenges

- There were many families in need compared to the targeted beneficiaries of DREF and therefore, the initial budget was slightly reallocated in order to provide cash assistance to more beneficiaries than initially planned.
- Some beneficiaries phone numbers were not correct which resulted in ERC volunteers communicating with focal points in their areas to obtain the correct phone numbers of these beneficiaries.
- Some beneficiaries were not existing when ERC volunteers conducted the evaluation.

Lessons Learned

Towards the end of the DREF, ERC received complaints from beneficiaries who were not present during the initial assessments and therefore did not receive any cash assistance. ERC had requested to extend the DREF and use the remaining funds to provide cash assistance to these families however, the request was not accepted. In the future, increased coordination between ERC and IFRC in advance to better understand the existing needs of those affected by the floods could support an extension of the DREF to support these families.



Health

People reached: 5,011 (111 + 5000)

Male: 1,880

Female: 3,231

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people in the targeted areas reached with medical actions	7,000	111
# of people reached with medical care sessions to reduce relevant health risks	7,000	0
# of people reached by NS with services to reduce relevant health risk factors.	7,000	5,000
# of people directly reached with community-based disease control and health promotion programming in the communities:	7,000	5,000
# people provided with direct psychosocial support.	7,000	2,926

Narrative description of achievements

- ERC obtained locations in El Desamey village and Alzaraib area.
- ERC equipped locations by basic furniture to provide its services.
- ERC deployed its doctors in different specialties in these locations to provide medical services.
- ERC conducted several sessions for beneficiaries to reduce health risks including learning them how to follow the Precautionary measures to reduce the spreading of Corona virus.
- ERC psychological teams provided during onset the disaster their services especially for children including, Psychological First Aid, psycho-educational and recreational activities.

Challenges

- Due to COVID-19, the Egyptian authorities decided to close all medical centers, which meant ERC could not reach the target number before the end of the DREF.
- Disaggregated data regarding the psychosocial support was not collected as the services were made during the first days following the floods and therefore, the volunteers didn't collect the disaggregated data of beneficiaries.

Lessons Learned

The community engagement and support assisted in reaching the most vulnerable and needy cases however, the target of 5,000 beneficiaries was not met due to COVID-19. In addition, it is important to have a contingency plan in case of unpredictable circumstances such as COVID-19.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 5,000

Male: 1,832

Female: 3,168

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities	5,000	5,000
# of people provided with hygiene kits	5,000	4,225
# of site and community assessments carried out	TBD	6
% of target population that has access to sufficient safe water	100%	100%
# of people provided with safe water (according to WHO standards) in the affected area.	5,000	5,000

Narrative description of achievements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERC printed posters relating to COVID-19 to inform the community how they can protect themselves from the virus. • ERC 174 conducted awareness sessions through its volunteers relating to hygiene promotion. • ERC distributed 4,225 Hygiene kits to people in affected areas.
Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to COVID-19, the procurement of items was delayed.
Lessons Learned
As part of it's annual operational plan, ERC should emphasize on conducting WASH activities in specific areas such as Alzaraiib area due to the insalubrious direct environment of the beneficiaries (Garbage collection area, etc.).

Strengthen National Society		
Outcome 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		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers involved in the operation and actively participating in the activities.	500	1,000
Output S1.1.4: National Societies have effective and motivated volunteers who are protected		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of volunteers involved in the operation who are trained in Security, Code of Conduct and Standards and principles of humanitarian aid.	500	1,000
Progress towards outcomes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) made an insurance for 1000 volunteers, who were involved in this disaster. The insurance has made with the company has contracted with IFRC. ▪ All volunteers have been trained to provide their services during disasters. ▪ All volunteers have been singed code of conduct. 		

International Disaster Response		
Outcome S2.1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Effective and coordinated international disaster response ensured	yes	yes
Output S2.1.4: Supply chain and fleet services meet recognized quality and accountability Standards		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of rented trucks, used in this operation	2	2
Progress towards outcomes		
ERC was rented trucks to facilitate transporting the relief items to the beneficiaries in their places during the disaster as well as to transport the relief items to ERC warehouses beside ERC's cars to deploy the volunteers and transport the relief item as well.		

Influence others as leading strategic partner

Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national, and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues.	yes	yes

OutputS3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of lessons learned workshop	1	0

Outcome S3.2.: The programmatic reach of the National Societies and the IFRC is expanded

Output S3.2.1: Resource generation and related accountability models are developed and improved

Indicators:	Target	Actual
DREF coordinator allocated to support	1	1

Progress towards outcomes

The DREF coordinator was a helpful and supportive to finalize all operations as well as to coordinate with IFRC colleagues to insure that all steps has been done according to the DREF procedures.

D. Financial Report

Please see the final financial report below. There is a budget variance with a remaining balance of CHF 12,781 that will be returned to the International Federation's DREF fund.

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/03-2021/02	Operation	MDREG015
Budget Timeframe	2020/03-2020/09	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 06/May/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDREG015 - Egypt - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 26 Mar 2020 to 30 Sep 2020

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	488,004
DREF Allocations	488,004
Expenditure	-475,223
Closing Balance	12,781

II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction			0
AOF2 - Shelter	170,400	157,970	12,430
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	229,742	255,761	-26,019
AOF4 - Health	15,975	16,381	-406
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	51,919	38,098	13,821
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
Area of focus Total	468,036	468,210	-175
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	6,124	7,012	-889
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	9,585		9,585
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	4,260		4,260
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC			0
Strategy for implementation Total	19,969	7,012	12,956
Grand Total	488,004	475,223	12,782

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2020/03-2021/02	Operation	MDREG015
Budget Timeframe	2020/03-2020/09	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 06/May/2021

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDREG015 - Egypt - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 26 Mar 2020 to 30 Sep 2020

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	433,070	435,931	-2,861
Shelter - Relief	160,000		160,000
Shelter - Transitional		73,727	-73,727
Clothing & Textiles		60,825	-60,825
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	41,250	35,023	6,227
Medical & First Aid	15,000	13,762	1,238
Teaching Materials	2,100		2,100
Utensils & Tools		11,443	-11,443
Cash Disbursement	214,720	241,151	-26,431
Land, vehicles & equipment		1,830	-1,830
Computers & Telecom		1,830	-1,830
Logistics, Transport & Storage	10,000	860	9,140
Distribution & Monitoring	1,000		1,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	9,000	860	8,140
Personnel	12,650	750	11,900
National Society Staff	1,500		1,500
Volunteers	11,150	750	10,400
Workshops & Training	2,500	106	2,394
Workshops & Training	2,500	106	2,394
General Expenditure		6,741	-6,741
Information & Public Relations		6,741	-6,741
Indirect Costs	29,784	29,004	780
Programme & Services Support Recover	29,784	29,004	780
Grand Total	488,004	475,223	12,782

Contact information

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

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

In the Egyptian Red Crescent

- **Chief Executive Officer;** Dr. Ramy Elnazer
Email: ramy.elnazer@egyptianrc.org
Phone: + 20 10 900 000 54
- **Operational coordination:** Mr. Mohamed Mohei
Email: mohamed.mohei@egyptianrc.org
Phone: + 20 10 972 422 22

In the IFRC

- **IFRC North Africa office:** Iliana Mourad, Head of Country Cluster, phone: +216 58 51 08 07 email: Iliana.mourad@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office:** Hosam Faysal, Acting Head of Disaster and Crisis Prevention, Response and Recovery; phone: +961 70538233; email: Hosam.faysal@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

- **IFRC regional office:** Anca Zaharia, MENA Regional Head of Partnership and Resource Development, phone: +961 813 11 918; email: anca.zaharia@ifrc.org

For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

- Dharmin Thacker, Acting Head of Logistics, Procurement and Supply Chain Management, phone: +961 5 428 505, email: dharmin.thacker@ifrc.org

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

- **IFRC Regional Office:** Nadine Haddad, PMER Manager; 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.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.



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