

Rapid Response Fund (RRF)

Section 1: Overview of response	
Egypt	Emergency Assistance for Flood-affected people in Egypt
Summary	Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical and Social Services of the Coptic Orthodox Church (BLESS)
Implementation period	June 15, 2020 to September 14,2020 3 months
Geographical area	Egypt: Alexandria governorate: 3 communities (Sekina - El Maragy- El Zawayeda; Greater Cairo: 3 communities (Hode Galal- El Ezba el Bada - Ezbtz Hkayralla)
Sectors of response	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shelter / NFIs <input type="checkbox"/> Protection/ psychosocial <input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> WASH <input type="checkbox"/> Food Security
Targeted beneficiaries (per sector)	The poorest people in the affected communities with a focus on women, children, disabled and elderly people. 90 HH (450 family members)
Requested budget (USD)	60,000 (USD)
Is there an updated ACT Forum EPRP?	No
Section 2: Narrative Summary	
Background	
<p>On the morning of Thursday 12 to 14 March 2020, the country of Egypt was aggressively attacked by rainfall caused flooding in multiple populated areas, causing massive property damages and loss of human life. Eleven governorates in Egypt are vulnerable to flood risks, including Aswan, Luxor, Qena, Asyut, Sohag, Beni Suef, New Valley, and South and North Sinai, according to a report issued by the Ministry of Irrigation¹. Dr. Mahmoud Shahin, director of the analysis department at the Egyptian Meteorological Authority, he said that this level of instability in weather conditions with such strength has not happened since 1994.</p> <p>Moreover, the country depends on a 105-year-old drainage network and has no comprehensive rainfall drainage system²The bad weather wave that has hit the country, causing heavy losses, but the biggest loss was the death of at least 20 people, including children, houses collapse and electrical transistors explode³. People lost their lives and at least six children died, either from electrocution or rubble after heavy rains knocked down their houses⁴. In addition, 20 people were seriously injured while trying to escape of the enormously strong gush of the downpours. Here, lightning also ignited several fires. A technician was also said to have been electrocuted while trying to fix a lightning column that went off due to the rain in the Western New Valley province, local authorities said.</p> <p>Another driver died when storm winds blew his car into a water canal in the southern province of Sohag. meanwhile, Egyptian authorities have also closed down the Luxor International airport, as well as the Mediterranean port of Alexandria and the Red Sea port of Sharm el-Sheikh⁵.</p>	

1 <https://egyptianstreets.com/2020/03/13/heavy-rainfall-brings-flooding-to-egypt-houses-collapse-and-electrical-transistors-explode/>

2 <https://watchers.news/2020/03/13/dragon-storm-egypt-march-2020/>

3 <https://egyptianstreets.com/2020/03/13/heavy-rainfall-brings-flooding-to-egypt-houses-collapse-and-electrical-transistors-explode/>

4 <https://www.arabnews.com/node/1641041/middle-east>

5 <https://www.africanews.com/2020/03/12/egypt-floods-kill-at-least-5-in-cairo-other-cities/>

Electrical transistors exploded and many homes were left with no electricity, and one 60-year-old man was electrocuted as he walked down the street in Menoufia and a woman appeared to have drowned in Heliopolis⁶.

The country's railway authorities suspended train service nationwide, citing the bad weather. The announcement came shortly after two Cairo-bound trains collided near their final destination, injuring 13 people, according to health officials⁷.

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). BLESS field workers acknowledged that hundred people have been gravely affected, losing houses, lacking of medical attention, and material goods. Moreover, the flood has caused almost-radical sweeping of vast areas of agricultural land which means that too many farmers have lost their source of income.

Humanitarian Needs

While communities will require urgent assistance in meeting their current needs while living in destroyed houses, they would also require assistance during the recovery phase in rebuilding back eroded livelihoods and building their resilience against future flood risks.

As many houses were demolished by the effect of the downpours. House ceiling, floor, and walls were destroyed in many areas, Damaged homes no longer offer protection against climatic conditions. Worth noting that in light of the current circumstances which worldwide is passing through the spread of the Coronavirus diseases and the health risks resulting from it. therefore, the health, hygiene, and unprotection risks surrounding people whose homes have been destroyed have become severely higher as this could precipitate the spread of the disease. Additional risks include the impact of Novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-2019) pandemic on the country placing additional strain on the health care sector.

Capacity

ACT member BLESS was established in 1962, to provide a wide range of diaconal services to the poorest communities in Egypt. Through the Coptic Orthodox Church, BLESS is a key social provider to essential services to people in need regardless of religious affiliation etc. BLESS has a wide social network over the entire Egypt, so BLESS can reach most areas and respond rapidly to any emergency (man-made and natural disasters). BLESS has previously responded to similar emergencies in 1994, 2001, 2014, 2016, through its well-trained, competent and multidisciplinary teams.

BLESS contacted local leaders in CSOs, Mosques and Churches in the affected area, and conducted a quick survey to assess how many people were affected and their actual needs. BLESS distributed some food materials, clothes and essential basic needs for children.

BLESS in in direct contact with the church and the Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) to coordinate the efforts to rebuild and offer housing for the people in the city of 15 May.

BLESS ensures active participation of community members in the design of intervention as active community participation ensures that assistance is appropriate and timely, and that community ownership and sustainability of the project are addressed and ensured as well.

Proposed response

The proposed response will provide immediate relief through the cash distribution to 60 houses in (6) communities from the (two) aforementioned governorates. BLESS will provide hygiene promotion and awareness raising of flood safety and environment.

⁶ <https://egyptianstreets.com/2020/03/13/heavy-rainfall-brings-flooding-to-egypt-houses-collapse-and-electrical-transistors-explode/>

⁷ <https://www.severe-weather.eu/recent-events/powerful-frontal-system-hits-egypt-mk/>

The following are the priority areas identified by BLESS in the affected regions,

Target areas	Target population	Target House
Alexandria governorate: 3 communities (Sekina - El Maragy- El Zawayeda)	30 families	20
Greater Cairo: 3 communities (Hode Galal- El Ezba el Bada - Ezbzt Hkayralla)	60 families	40
Total	90 families	60 houses

A consultant for Cash transfers program will be hired to support BLESS and the response team in monitoring the cash transfers and set up measurement system. In addition, standards of house repairing used by BLESS' housing program will be applied in this response.

BLESS will use the Direct Cash Modality, BLESS will ensure sufficient cash flow, and that staff and logistics arrangements are in place to make the cash payments, including organizing of a secure transport and of distribution points.

To ensure high quality implementation for this response, BLESS will dedicate a full-time program manager for this proposed response. The housing program team in the field will be responsible for monitoring and advising for the implementation of the interventions.

Does the proposed response honour ACT's commitment to Child Safeguarding? Yes No
<http://actalliance.org/documents/act-alliance-child-safeguarding-guidance-document/>

Problems	More than 60 houses demolished either completely or partially by flooding in the mentioned target areas in Egypt on March 2020 and families are in need for assistance.
Target beneficiaries	Approximately 90 families (60 % female and 40% male). This includes 30% of children and 10% elderly. 7% of them are disabled and about 20% with chronic diseases) with an average of 450 persons from whom have been affected by the flooding in Alexandria and Greater Cairo.
Main activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid assessment to determine the beneficiaries, identify selection criteria to select among the most needed population. • Hiring cash transfer consultant, he/she will consultant will support BLESS to set up the cash grants measurement system, providing overall technical and programmatic support for the planning, implementation, management of cash transfer process. • Conditional cash grants will be provided to the targeted 60 HH (90 families)⁸. The cash will be distributed per affected houses. • BLESS identifies basic selection criteria such as: extremely poor families with specific consideration to female headed-households, families missing a household head, older people, the chronically ill, orphans and people with disability.

⁸ This response targets repairing of 60 houses. usually in such targeted communities, an extended family consisting of parents like father, mother, and their children, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins and second generation all living in the same house. Therefore; more than 90 families live in the 60 houses targeted in this response.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLESS will support the families for the best use of the cash provided to better address of their needs of safety houses. Other community members will also be encouraged to support the targeted families and Community volunteers will likewise be mobilized. • Accurate health, hygiene, and safety information will be disseminated by BLESS field workers to the affected families. • Conduct Post distribution monitoring.
Specific objective(s)/ Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 60 HH flood affected population received conditional cash grants for rehabilitation of their destroyed homes (450 Individual). 2. 90 families will benefit of awareness raising activities focused around hygiene practices using IEC material.
Overall objective / Outcome(s)	Provide cash assistance to families affected by the flood and support them recover from the impact of floods.

Reporting Schedule

Type of Report	Due date
Interim Report	7 August 2020
Final narrative and financial report (60 days after the ending date)	14 November 2020
Audit report (90 days after the ending date)	14 November 2020

Monitoring and evaluation

In cooperation with local leaders, BLESS will take the responsibility of follow up and monitoring the progress of the project implementation. BLESS will dedicate a project manager for this response who will be responsible for the program delivery and reporting.

in coordination with other related programs like hosing program, PME, relief committee and BLESS senior managers. In addition, BLESS staff will be conducting field visits to provide oversight and support the implementation teams.

The final financial and narrative report, as well as the audit will be prepared based on the guidelines set by ACT Alliance reporting and will be in conformity with ACT guidelines.

Section 3: ACT Alliance coordination

Coordination

BLESS is in direct coordination with local government offices to rebuild the damaged houses. BLESS maintains good coordination with different bodies “governmental and CSO’s and NGO’s” to better implement the relief work and make sure no duplication and the assistance is provided on a complementary basis.

BLESS is already in partnership with many UN organizations e.g. UNICEF, ILO, UNFPA; However, BLESS does not attend any UN cluster meeting in Egypt.

BLESS will make sure that all project communication and/ or IEC material will mention clearly that BLESS is a member of the ACT Alliance, following ACT Alliance guidelines.

Implementation arrangements

The local leaders with the religious leaders in each target communities will work together to provide a list of the poorest affected and needy people. As BLESS will work directly through the local dioceses and churches who exist on the ground. Since BLESS represents the HQ of the Coptic Orthodox Church which is the mother church for local dioceses.

BLESS will hire a cash transfers program’s consultant. The consultant will support BLESS to set up the cash grants measurement system. He/she will be responsible for providing overall technical and programmatic support for the planning, implementation, management, and monitoring of cash activities and will be assisting the Project Manager in the running and operations of all field locations.

BLESS will coordinate with the local dioceses and churches who exist on the ground, also BLESS will coordinate with other organizations and government entities may be work or support the targeted areas.

Human resources and administration of funds

A project manager will be assigned to carry out the responsibilities of the overall response management, include the coordination and completion of response on time within budget and within scope. The Project Manager will ensure that Act Alliance will be updated in case of changes or refinements should take place. Field coordinators, program officers, field workers, and volunteers will be responsible for field implementation under full supervision of the PM.

BLESS Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Unit will be responsible to support the M&E and reporting tasks.

The human resources and administration of the fund will be managed according to policy and standards of BLESS. BLESS has its own financial policy and housing program standards, which the team must follow to keep the transparency and accountability. An audited financial report is budgeted and will be submitted to ACT Alliance Secretariat as per the reporting guidelines and deadlines.

BLESS will receive the RRF transfer to its bank account in Cairo. Funds will be transferred to the field through the bank network that BLESS uses for day-to-day activities. BLESS relief Committee will meet on a monthly basis to review the RRF’s functioning and advise the project Manager and BLESS senior management on changes or refinements that should be made to reach the intervention's objectives.

Communications

BLESS has its own structure and communications policy, the field manager will coordinate with the Program Director, both are based at BLESS HQ, to plan with the field. At the field level, the staff and volunteers will be in touch with the local dioceses, churches, and mosques. The field staff will also communicate with local CSOs, NGOs and other faith-based organizations. Visibility materials will be used for the project sheets and activities where it will show that BLESS is the implementing partner with funding from the ACT Alliance. Any press statement relevant to the project will be approved and done by BLESS senior management. BLESS will also follow the branding and communications policy of the ACT Alliance.

BLESS HQ will communicate with the field through its regular communication channels. Local churches, community leaders and community volunteers will be in touch with the beneficiaries to discuss the response implementation and results. In addition, the field-based personnel will conduct home visits to provide support and adequate health messages to the beneficiaries. Phone, GSM and Internet communication are restored and can serve prompt exchange. A BLESS focal point will be responsible for follow-up on communication with beneficiaries.

Section 4: Budget Summary



					RRF Budget	RRF Budget
					EGP	USD
INCOME						
INCOME - Received by Requesting Member via ACT Secretariat, Geneva						
Date	Donor Name	Donor code	Payment advice #			
		D1			0	0.00
TOTAL INCOME					0.00	0.00
EXPENDITURE						
	Item	Type of Unit	No. of Units	Unit Cost	Appeal Budget	Appeal Budget
				EGP	EGP	USD
DIRECT COSTS						
1 Personnel						
1.1.	Program Manager (1 person @100%time for 3 months)	person month	3.00	8,000	EGP 24,000	\$ 1,530
1.2.	Program Coordinators (2 persons@33% time for 3 months)	person month	1.98	7,000	EGP 13,860	\$ 880
1.3.	Field workers (6 Persons @ 33% time for 3 months)	person month	5.94	4,000	EGP 23,760	\$ 1,510
1.4.	Financial Manager (1 person 20% time)	person month	0.60	12,000	EGP 43,200	\$ 2,750
1.5.	Accountant (2 person @ 33% time for 3 months)	person month	1.98	4,000	EGP 47,520	\$ 3,030
1.6.	Monitoring and Evaluation officer (1 person @50%time for 3 months)	person month	1.50	8,000	EGP 12,000	\$ 760
TOTAL Personnel (BLESS local contribution)					EGP 140,340	\$ 8,170
2 PROGRAM ACTIVITIES						
2.1.	Shelter and settlement / Non-food items					
2.1.1	Cash grant for House repairs	HH	60	15,000	EGP 900,000	\$ 57,320
TOTAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES (Act contribution)					EGP 900,000	\$ 57,320
2 PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION						
2.1.	Cash transfers program's consultant	Lump sum			EGP 12,000	\$ 760
2.2.	Financial Audit	Once	1	20,000	EGP 20,000	\$ 1,270
TOTAL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION (Act contribution)					EGP 32,000	\$ 2,030
3 PROGRAM LOGISTICS						
Transport (of relief materials)						
3.1.	Transportation for follow up visits	Lump sum			EGP 10,200	\$ 650
3.2.	Fuel				EGP -	\$ -
Warehousing						
3.3.	Rental of warehouse		-		EGP -	\$ -
Handling						
3.4.	Salaries / wages for Drivers				EGP -	\$ -
TOTAL PROGRAM LOGISTICS (Act contribution)					EGP 10,200	\$ 650
TOTAL DIRECT COST (Act contribution)					EGP 942,200	\$ 60,000
4. INDIRECT COSTS: PERSONNEL, ADMINISTRATION & SUPPORT						
4.1.	Staff salaries				0	\$ -
4.2.	Office Operations					
4.2.1	Office Utilities	per month	3	5,000	EGP 15,000	\$ 960
4.3.	Communications					
4.3.1	Telephone and fax				0	\$ -
4.4.	Other					
4.4.1	Insurance				0	\$ -
TOTAL INDIRECT COST (BLESS local contribution)					EGP 15,000	\$ 960
					1%	1%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE					EGP 1,097,540	\$ 69,130
BLESS Local contribution					EGP 155,340	\$ 9,130
Requested through ACT Alliance Contribution					EGP 942,200	\$ 60,000

Section 5: Annexes (mandatory)

Provide the following annexes:

Key information (mandatory):

- I. Annex 1 – Contact and bank details
- II. Annex X – Contract of good faith
- III. Results of RNA

ACTION

The ACT Secretariat has approved the use of US\$ 60,000 towards the budget from its Rapid Response Fund and would be grateful to receive contributions to wholly or partially replenish this



SECRETARIAT: 150, route de Ferney, P.O. Box 2100, 1211 Geneva 2, Switz. TEL.: +4122 791 6434 – FAX: +4122 791 6506 – www.actalliance.org

payment. Should there be an appeal for this emergency, the RRF payment will be considered as an advance.

For further information please contact:

BLESS contact: BLESS Director, Hani Riad: (blessegypt.org)

ACT Regional Representative, Rachel Luce (Rachel.Luce@actalliance.org)

ACT Regional Humanitarian Programme Advisor, George Majaj (george.majaj@actalliance.org)

ACT website address: <http://www.actalliance.org>

Alwynn Javier

Global Humanitarian Coordinator

ACT Alliance Secretariat- Geneva

