**SITUATION**

On the morning of Tuesday the 14 March 2020, Egypt was aggressively attacked by heavy rainfall caused flooding in multiple populated areas, causing massive property damages. More than 1000 houses were totally/partially demolished by the wild effect of the strong gush of water. Also, extensive areas of agricultural land were destroyed by the effect of the downpours. Means of livelihood and income were negatively impacted. The floods claimed more than 30 human lives including children. People lost their lives due to various causes e.g. electric shock, fall of the ceilings of their shelters, and fall from the above. In addition, 20 people were seriously injured while trying to escape of the enormously strong gush of the downpours. Nationwide, an estimation of 100,000 people are 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.

**NEEDS**

The floods have put Egypt in a state of crisis. The flood affected persons find themselves in a desperate situation, with many unmet vital humanitarian needs such as access to:

- ☒ sufficient food
- ☒ safe shelter and basic non-food items
- ☒ basic health services and facilities
- ☒ safe drinking water, as well as sanitation and hygiene infrastructure
- ☒ livelihood activities
- ☒ protection services
- ☐ adequate nutrition

The dire situation is further compounded for the flood affected people with vulnerabilities across Egypt (Alexandria governorate, Bahera Governorate, Greater Cairo; Beni Suef, El Minia, Asuit and Qena Governorates in Upper Egypt) affecting more children, women, elderly and people living with disability. There is a pressing necessity to provide immediate assistance to minimize loss of life and to ensure that the needs of the most vulnerable are covered first.

**STAKEHOLDERS**

The following national and international entities are present and doing their best to respond to the crisis:

| ☒ National government | The Ministry of Social Solidarity (MoSS) with BLESS and some NGO’s have provided a quick emergency relief such as food and clean water. In one area in Cairo governorate, the MoSS announced that will donate EGP10,000 ($630) to the families who lost a family member, and EGP5,000 ($315) to people who lost their homes. Faith based Organizations (churches and El Azhar in Egypt) have distributed boxes of food and blankets to those affected by the flood. In addition, to the worship facilities were opened to accommodate the affected people in 15 May neighbourhood (part of greater Cairo) to protect people who lost their houses as a result of the unexpected deluge. |
| ☒ Military presence | Provided some logistical support. |
| ☒ National NGOs | BLESS is Collecting data. However, NNGO’s liaise with other local and INGOs during interventions to avoid overlap of geographical and sectoral coverage, they take a big role in implementation. |
| ☒ | Civil society groups | Provided clothes, blankets, food and clean water for affected families. |
| ☒ | Faith based groups | Provided heavy clothes, blankets, food and clean water. Child care essentials. |
| ☒ | Host communities | The church and the mosque hosted the affected people and the homeless people to protect them from the physical hazards. |
| ☒ | Affected communities | Actively participate in updating needs assessment; feedback to stakeholders on needs and quality of intervention. |

The emergency response is currently being coordinated by BLESS. To ensure that the humanitarian response is well coordinated and complementary, the ACT member will take part in meetings with all relevant sector stakeholders such as governmental bodies, MoSS, MoA, Municipalities and other NGO’s and establish an open line of communication with crisis affected persons and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.

**ACT Alliance**

- ACT Alliance member (BLESS) has been working in Egypt since 1962, now helping/planning to help people affected by the floods
- ACT Alliance member (BLESS) works in areas affected by the floods, and is assessing the impact of the disaster to better understand the needs and vulnerabilities
- ACT Alliance member (BLESS) is currently monitoring the situation and is preparing a rapid needs assessment to have an in-depth context analysis and better understanding of existing vulnerabilities.
- ACT Alliance member (BLESS) is monitoring the situation and emergency teams are ready/preparing to respond according to the results of a contextual analysis and rapid needs assessment.
- In collaboration with relevant stakeholders, the ACT member BLESS has identified a gap in food security, Shelter and non-food items and has resolved that if funded, it will have the capacity to properly bridge the identified gap.
- The ACT member (BLESS) is planning on submitting a Rapid Response Funding proposal to provide Shelter/NFI to ensure that the floods affected persons’ basic needs are met with regards to Shelter/ NFI.
- ACT Alliance member (BLESS) is ready to respond, providing Shelter/ NFI, hygiene kits and awareness, to the affected population in the coming months.
- Furthermore, ACT Alliance member (BLESS) will engage in advocacy on the national and international level to ensure that the voices of those affected by the floods are amplified.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Director of Operations, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org)

For further information please contact:

BLESS contact: BLESS Director, Hani Riad: (bles@blessegypt.org)
ACT Regional Representative, Rachel Luce (Rachel.Luce@actalliance.org)
ACT Regional Humanitarian Programme Advisor, George Majaj (George.majaj@actalliance.org)

ACT Web Site address: http://www.actalliance.org