

Tearfund *Inspire* trip Egypt – March 2010



Overview

This study tour will provide a fantastic opportunity to see how you are part of Tearfund's vision in action. You'll visit organisations that Tearfund works with, and gain a deeper understanding of how they are working with churches and Christians to bring transformation to the poorest and most marginalised people in Egypt. In addition to visiting the partners there will be a chance for you to do some practical work with them. You will have the opportunity to discuss what you experience and pray with others on the tour. The partners you visit will draw strength and encouragement from spending time with you. And Tearfund will equip you to share the stories you gain with churches back home, and to make the most of your experiences in Egypt.

Partner information

We hope to visit two Tearfund partners in Cairo to see how God is using them to transform people's lives:

Think and Do – run community-based projects to meet the needs of those living in poverty in Upper Egypt. The projects supporting the community include vocational training, projects for the elderly, working in orphanages, sports ministry and providing loans for small businesses. They include Bible teaching and prayer in all their projects and are continually seeing people come to faith.

Council for Services and Development (CSD) – is responsible for community development within the Evangelical Community Council. They provide training on community development for lay leaders in order to promote local development through churches. They also provide training for ministers and lay leaders in the theology and principles of integral mission. CSD has helped to create a network of churches to agree complementary strategies and policies to address the challenge of HIV in Egypt.

Why visit Egypt?

Egypt has a population of over 70 million, with an estimated increase to 85 million by 2010. Greater Cairo, with 17 million people, is already the largest city in Africa and the Middle East. Rapid population growth has resulted in millions living in abject poverty in shanty towns. The majority of the population is Sunni Muslim, but there are an estimated 10 million nominal Coptic (Orthodox) Christians who form the largest Christian community in the Middle East.



Tearfund is continually monitoring the security situation in Egypt. The group will be accompanied by local partner staff, and will only travel to areas considered secure.

Practical information

Price: in the range of £750-£900 + flights (final costing will be available nearer the time of the tour)
Dates: 1–14 March 2010 (depending on flights – exact dates to be confirmed)
Orientation: Saturday 30 January 2010
Reunion: Saturday 3 April 2010

There are ten places on this study tour, which will be led by two Tearfund staff members. We wish take Tearfund volunteers from across England and Wales who are keen to see the work of our partners first hand in order to tell local churches and groups about their experiences, and ask them to share a passion for ending poverty through giving and praying for Tearfund's life-changing work, and campaigning for justice.