Project: Disaster Relief Resource Management CRM (ReliefConnect)

PHASE 3: Data Modeling & Relationships

Introduction

In this phase, I built the architectural core of the ReliefConnect application. I defined and implemented the digital skeleton with the objects, fields, and relationships that will hold all critical information. I designed the data model to be scalable, efficient, and intuitive to support the disaster management system.

Tandard & Custom Objects

To build the database structure, I used a combination of standard Salesforce objects and custom objects that I built specifically for the project's needs.

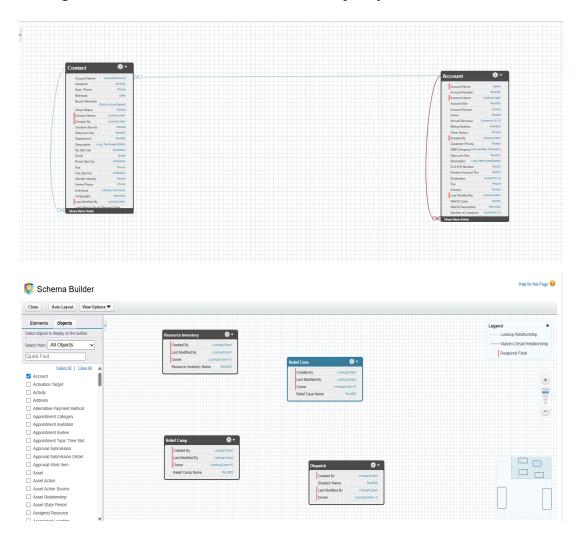
Standard Objects I Used:

- **Account:** I used this to store and manage organizations like NGOs, Government Agencies, and Corporate Donors.
- Contact: I configured this object to store details of individuals associated with Accounts, such as volunteers and agency officials.
- Campaign: I utilized Campaigns to track and manage specific, large-scale relief efforts (e.g., "Gujarat Flood Response 2025").
- User: I used this object to manage the internal Salesforce users for the system.

Custom Objects I Built:

- Relief Case (Relief_Case__c): I built this as the central object of the application. Each record represents a specific, actionable need logged from the field.
- **Resource Inventory (Resource_Inventory__c):** I created this object to track the tangible relief supplies available from various NGOs or warehouses.
- **Dispatch (Dispatch_c):** I designed this as a junction object to connect a Relief Case c to Resource Inventory c items, acting as a fulfillment record.

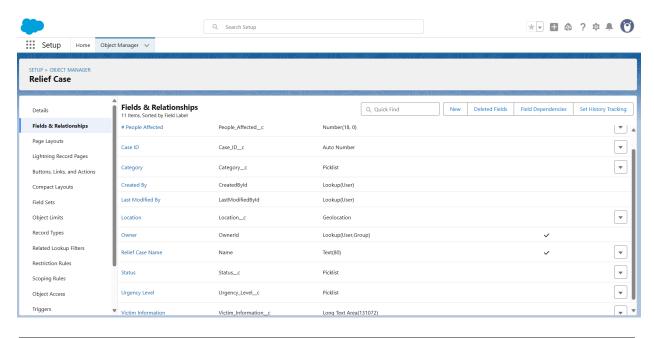
• Relief Camp (Camp_c): I built this object to represent a physical relief camp, holding details like location coordinates and capacity.



📝 Fields & Data Types

I created the following critical fields for the core Relief_Case__c object.

Field Label	API Name	Data Type	Purpose & Description I Defined	
Case ID	Case_IDc	Auto-Number	A unique, system-generated identifier for each relief case.	
Status	Status_c	Picklist	Tracks the case lifecycle: New, Assigned, In Progress, Fulfilled, Closed.	
Urgency Level	Urgency_Levelc	Picklist (Formula)	Automatically calculated. Values: Critical, High, Medium, Low.	
Category	Category_c	Picklist	The type of aid required: Medical, Food/Water, Shelter, Infrastructure.	
Location	Location_c	Geolocation	GPS coordinates of where the need is, crucial for mapping and routing.	
# People Affected	People_Affectedc	Number	The number of individuals who require this aid.	
Reported By	Reported_Byc	Lookup(User)	The field volunteer who logged the case.	
Related Camp	Related_Campc	Lookup(Camp _c)	The relief camp this case is associated with.	
Victim Information	Victim_Infoc	Text Area (Encrypted)	A secure field for sensitive personal information.	



Record Types & Page Layouts

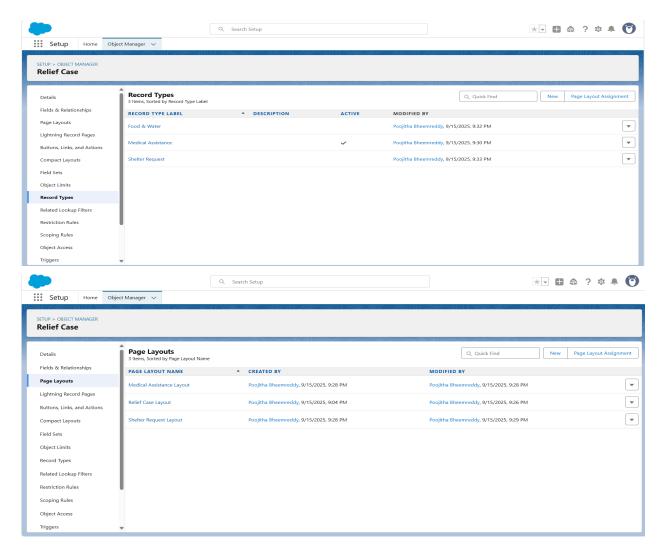
Recognizing that not all relief cases are the same, I created Record Types and Page Layouts to build customized user experiences for different scenarios.

Record Types for Relief Case: To ensure the right data is collected from the start, I created the following Record Types for the Relief_Case__c object:

- Medical Assistance
- Food & Water
- Shelter Request
- Infrastructure Support

Custom Page Layouts: I assigned a unique Page Layout to each Record Type, showing only the most relevant fields. For example:

- I designed the **Medical Assistance Layout** to feature a prominent section for "Patient Details" and required fields like "Type of Medicine Needed."
- I designed the **Shelter Request Layout** to have a section for "Housing Requirements" with fields like "Number of Tents Required."



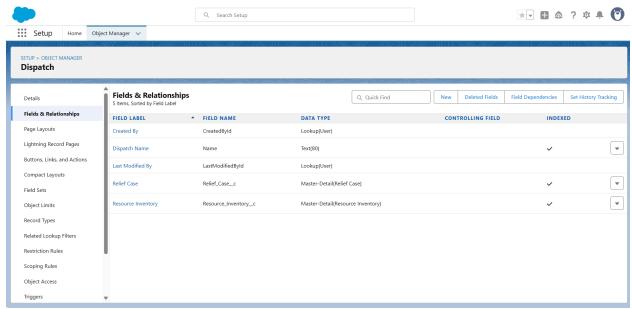
The Schema Builder

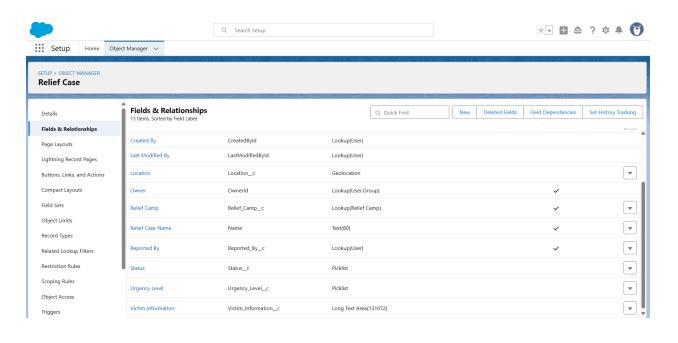
I used the Schema Builder to create a visual representation of the entire data model I built, showing all objects and their relationships in one place. This served as the blueprint of the application.

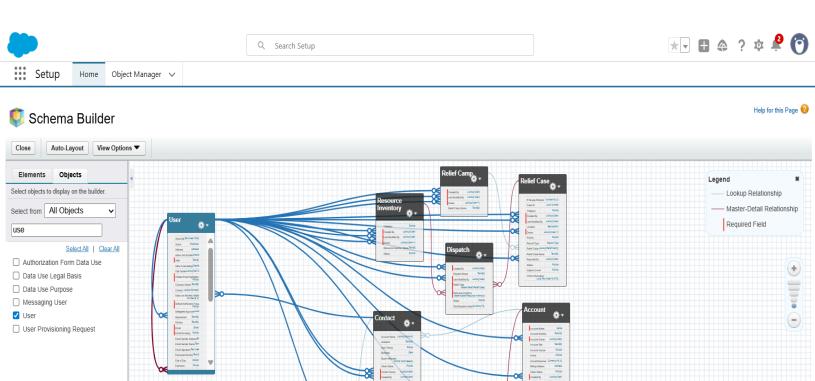
Relationships Explained

I chose the right relationship types to ensure data integrity and security.

- Lookup (Loosely Coupled): I used this basic relationship to link two objects while keeping them independent.
 - **Example:** I created a lookup from Relief_Case__c to Camp__c. The case is related to the camp, but the case record can still exist on its own if the camp is deleted.
- Master-Detail (Tightly Coupled): I created this strong parent-child relationship where the child record cannot exist without the parent.
 - **Example:** I set up a master-detail relationship from the Dispatch_c object to Relief_Case_c. A dispatch record is meaningless without the case it is fulfilling.
- Junction Object (Many-to-Many): I used a junction object for many-to-many relationships.
 - Example: The Dispatch_c object I built acts as a bridge, creating a many-to-many relationship between Relief_Case_c and Resource_Inventory_c.







Connection (Parent → Child)	Relationship Field (on Child Object)	Туре	Business Rationale
Relief_Casec → Dispatchc	Relief_Casec	Master- Detail	A Dispatch record is a child of a Relief Case and cannot exist without it. Deleting a case will cascade-delete all related dispatch records.
Resource_Inventory_c → Dispatch_c	Resource_Inventoryc	Master- Detail	A Dispatch also requires a link to the inventory that was used. This creates a junction object to link Cases and Inventory.
Campc → Relief_Casec	Related_Campc	Lookup	A Relief Case can be associated with a Camp, but the two are independent. A case can exist without a camp, and vice-versa.
User → Relief_Casec	Reported_Byc	Lookup	This links the case to the specific field volunteer (User) who logged it, establishing accountability.
Account → Contact	AccountId	Lookup	This is a standard relationship linking an NGO Coordinator (Contact) to their NGO (Account).

Advanced & External Data

- Compact Layouts: I customized the compact layouts for key objects to show information at a glance in the mobile app. For Relief_Case__c, I set it to show the Status, Urgency Level, and Location.
- **Hierarchical Relationships:** I identified that this special relationship could be used in a future phase to model escalation paths for high-urgency cases.
- External Objects: I identified a potential use case for External Objects to connect to a live feed from the India Meteorological Department (IMD), allowing for real-time weather warnings within the application.

