

1.90 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN GAZA (as of 19 December)

72,437

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN LEBANON (as of 19 December)

Appeal Status



TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE TARGETED: 733,500



5%

RECEIVED: \$ 3.4 M

REQUESTED: \$69.13 M



Core relief items delivered to Action Contre la Faim (ACF)'s warehouse in Tyre, Southern Lebanon © IOM

ITEMS PROCURED AND DELIVERED TO PARTNERS — SEE RESPONSE SECTION BELOW



46,242

Medical Items and Medicines



24,985

Hygiene and Dignity Kits



16,078

Mattresses and Bed Items



18,171

Medical Items and Medicines



3,100

Tarpaulins



8

Food and Baby Kits



5,000

Kitchen Sets



360,000

Bottles of Water



62,026

NFI Items

Pipeline Items

SITUATION OVERVIEW

On 7 October 2023, Palestinian armed groups in Gaza launched “Operation Al-Aqsa Flood”, injuring, killing, and capturing many Israeli forces and civilians. In response, the Israeli authorities declared a state of war and began a campaign of heavy bombardments on Gaza – resulting in the injuries and deaths of thousands of Palestinians, out of which more than 70 per cent are women and children.

Over 1.90 million people fled their homes in Gaza since violence erupted on 7 October and hundreds of thousands of civilians have little-to-no access to basic commodities including food, water, electricity and fuel. In addition, the deteriorating security situation in the West Bank and border areas between Israel and Lebanon has led to the internal displacement of about 72,437 persons mainly from Southern Lebanon.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) [echoes the call](#) of the United Nations Secretary General António Guterres for a lasting and immediate humanitarian ceasefire to allow critical aid to reach those in urgent need across the Gaza Strip. IOM also shares

the grave [concerns](#) raised by UN officials as humanitarian efforts in Gaza are near collapse due to intensive fighting and lack of access.

The people of Gaza must have immediate access to safe shelter, medical care, food, hygiene and sanitation facilities and ensure that family members are not separated. Civilians and humanitarian aid workers must be protected. Safe humanitarian access is critical to allow delivery of aid to all affected populations, as well as a safe passage for third-country nationals, family members and medical evacuees from Gaza.

IOM is urgently [appealing](#) for USD 69 million to support its response to the rising critical humanitarian needs of hundreds of thousands of civilians in the occupied Palestinian territories and neighboring countries affected by the ongoing hostilities. IOM's funding received to date is around 3.4 million USD, received from a combination of internal funding streams in headquarters as a front-loading effort to kick start operations and meet the most urgent needs and in-kind donations from ECHO European Humanitarian Response Capacity (EHRC).

CONTACTS

Donor Relations Division
drd@iom.int

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IOM RESPONSE

In Lebanon, daily cross-border clashes along the Blue Line between the Israeli Defense Forces and Hezbollah continue. As a result, access to those area has been severely restricted due to security concerns. Nearly all organizations have temporarily suspended or significantly decreased operations in conflict-heavy border areas. As of 19 December 2023, IOM Lebanon's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)* has recorded 72,437 internally displaced persons (IDPs), showing a 13% increase since 12 December 2023. Most of these IDPs (79%) are located in five districts out of the total 21 districts hosting IDPs — specifically, Sour, El Nabatieh, Aley, Beirut, and Saida. The displacement covers 399 locations (villages or neighbourhoods) across 309 cadasters throughout Lebanon, spanning all 21 districts in all eight governorates. Notably, 65% of the total IDPs are located in three districts, Saida, Sour, and El Nabatieh, likely because these districts are close to where the majority of the IDPs are displaced from. Around 77% of IDPs are currently living with host families, while 19% have opted for rental housing. Around 2% are housed in Collective Shelters. Another 2% have relocated to their secondary residences. The number of collective sites of Lebanese displaced by the conflict stands at 14.

Site management capacity-building activities continue - the capacity building workshop on Shelter and Collective Site Coordination was conducted this week utilizing a joint curriculum developed by site coordination partners IOM, the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC). A total of fifteen staff members engaged in coordination and service provision activities in the fourteen sites from the UN, national and international NGOs attended the workshop.

Distributions of medical kits will take place over the next two weeks following the arrival of medical items and kits, in accordance with the distribution plan coordinated with the Ministry of Health. IOM also continues to support one primary health care center in Saida (Maarouf Saad), ensuring access to health services to those affected. This week, IOM participated in the *Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS) National Emergency Preparedness and Response Programme* launch and will assist in the translation of the programme and distribution of key messages.

IOM Protection focal points participated in the South Protection Sector Working Group meeting and presented an overview of migrants in Lebanon, including those in the south, specifically focusing on key demographics, the migrants' legal framework in Lebanon and new risk assessment since October 2023. IOM also briefed partners

on the protection services that are currently being provided in coordination with its partner SHEILD and discussed ways for other agencies to support. On 21 December 2023, IOM delivered 800 mattresses and 800 blankets to Action Contre la Faim's (ACF) warehouse in Tyre, south Lebanon. Over the next two weeks, ACF and IOM will distribute these items to newly displaced IDPs in southern Lebanon to ensure access to essential items in view of the winter season as well. To date, IOM has reached 1,350 persons.

In Egypt, IOM, in partnership with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), has dispatched 33 trucks towards the Rafah border crossing for onward [distribution](#) inside Gaza. IOM's first ECHO in-kind donation of 21,200 non-food items including hygiene kits, jerry cans, buckets, kitchen sets, water filters, mattresses, and blankets and IOM's procurement of 30,000 boxes (360,000 bottles) of water, have now crossed into Gaza. IOM received a second in-kind donation from ECHO of 13,720 non-food items that includes additional kitchen sets, water filters, and blankets. Four out of 15 trucks carrying the items have crossed into Gaza, whilst the remaining trucks await clearance.

IOM is expecting an additional 23,813 items including blankets, jerry cans, sleeping mats, tarps and kitchen sets from IOM's global stocks after the delivery the first 23,813 items this week in Al Arish.

IOM also continues to provide supply chain support to various partners in receiving and transporting their items through Egypt through to Rafah (Gaza). To date, IOM received 26,908 shelter NFIs items on behalf of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in Al Arish on a total of six flights; four flights from ECHO through the UN Humanitarian Response Depots (HRD) in Dubai and Brindisi, one from Belgium, and one flight from Germany. Part of the shipment has crossed the border and arrived to Gaza, and the remaining items are in Al Arish awaiting clearance through Nitzana and Rafah before crossing into Gaza. IOM has also received 11,005 NFI and WASH items on behalf of Oxfam in Al Arish on two flights from Belgium and has uploaded those on trucks awaiting clearance to cross into Gaza.

Between 02 November and 19 December, IOM Egypt supported a total of 720 Third Country Nationals (TCNs), family members, and evacuees with various types of assistance including accommodation, land transport, air transport, protection assistance, and/or medical assistance (referrals, fit-to travel checks, medical referrals, etc.) at the request of their respective Embassies.



IOM relief items ready for shipment from Nairobi to Al Arish © IOM 2023

*The DTM Mobility Snapshot is produced jointly with the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) and the government's Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Unit and is the leading source of displacement data for Lebanon.