

### 1.90 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN GAZA (as of 27 December)

### 74,471

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN LEBANON (as of 26 December)

## Appeal Status

 TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE TARGETED: 733,500

 5%


RECEIVED: \$ 3.4 M

REQUESTED: \$69.13 M



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

## ITEMS PROCURED AND DELIVERED TO PARTNERS — SEE RESPONSE SECTION BELOW

 **46,251**  
Medical Items and Medicines

 **24,985**  
Hygiene and Dignity Kits

 **16,298**  
Mattresses and Bed Items

**18,171**  
Medical Items and Medicines Pipeline Items

 **3,100**  
Tarpaulins

 **8**  
Food and Baby Kits

 **5,000**  
Kitchen Sets

 **360,000**  
Bottles of Water

 **60,766**  
NFI 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 2023, nearly 85 per cent of the population is estimated to be internally displaced, with many forced to move repeatedly in search of safety. Rafah is to date the most densely populated area in Gaza, with a large portion of IDPs seeking shelter in extremely overcrowded spaces and dire living conditions – a situation further compounded by the cold winter and rain that has led to the flooding of tents and other makeshift shelters. Access to basic services remains severely limited—the lack of food, water, fuel, basic items and poor hygiene practices, further exacerbate people’s living conditions, amplifying protection and mental health risks, as well as the risks associated to the spread of disease. The health system is

on the brink of collapse, with only 13 out of 36 hospitals partially functioning at three times their capacity (WHO).

Long clearance procedures for humanitarian aid trucks at the border, the intense ground operation and fighting, frequent disruption in communication, along with insecurity, blocked roads, and scarcity of fuel, pose significant challenges to humanitarian operations.

In addition to the situation in Gaza, the deteriorating security situation along the border areas between Israel and Lebanon has led to the internal displacement of about 74,471 persons in Southern Lebanon.

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, from a combination of internal funding provided by headquarters as a front-loading effort to kick start operations and meet the most urgent needs, in-kind donations and donor contributions.

## CONTACTS

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## IOM RESPONSE

In Lebanon, daily cross-border clashes along the Blue continue. As a result, access to those areas 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 26 December 2023, IOM Lebanon's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)\* has recorded 74,471 internally displaced persons (IDPs), showing a 3 per cent increase since 19 December 2023. Most of these IDPs (78 per cent) are located in five districts out of a total 23 districts hosting IDPs — specifically, Sour, El Nabatieh, Baabda, Beirut, and Saida. The displacement covers 400 locations (villages or neighbourhoods) across 318 cadasters throughout Lebanon, spanning all 23 districts in all eight governorates. Notably, 65 per cent 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 80 per cent of IDPs are currently living with host families, while 17 per cent have opted for rental housing. Around 2 per cent are housed in collective shelters, another 1 per cent have relocated to their secondary residences. The number of collective sites of individuals displaced by the conflict stands at 14.

Last week, the IOM Lebanon, jointly with Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and the Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) hosted a Capacity Building Workshop on Shelter and Collective Site Coordination Training. This comprehensive five-day training was attended by 15 participants (10 men and 5 women) representing diverse international and national NGOs. The primary goal of the training was to enhance participants' understanding of site coordination and management while bolstering their training skills, aiming to create a pool of trainers capable of supporting site coordination and management training initiatives across the country.

Emergency response kits (trauma kits, non-communicable disease kits, and interagency emergency health kits) were distributed on 28 December, in accordance with the distribution plan coordinated with the Ministry of Public Health. In addition, IOM Lebanon carried out a second delivery of medical supplies; 471 items were delivered to Resala scouts and Islamic health association in the South on 27 December. IOM also continues to support one Primary Health care center in Saida (Maarouf Saad), ensuring access to health services to those affected.

IOM Lebanon continues working with its partner SHEILD to provide psychosocial support (PSS) to populations affected by displacement, as well as host families. In the last week, 174 beneficiaries attended PSS sessions in the Abbasieh, Tyr and Jibshit areas. Additionally, 28 individuals received case management support in the south.

On 28 December 2023, IOM assisted 200 newly displaced households with mattresses and blankets in southern Lebanon, to ensure access to essential items in view of the winter season. 114 blankets and 114 mattresses were distributed in Aadloun. In Kaoutariyet Er-Riz, IOM distributed 86 mattresses and 86 blankets. These distributions are carried out through the organisation Action Contre La Faim (ACF) in the south.

To date, IOM has reached 2,936 persons in Lebanon through its multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance.

In Egypt, in coordination with ERC, 36 IOM trucks carrying essential humanitarian items have crossed the Rafah border crossing point 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 received a second shipment from IOM's global stock of 22,553 items, bringing the total to 46,366 items. This second shipments includes blankets, jerry cans, sleeping mats, tarps and kitchen sets—all items have been loaded on trucks and are awaiting clearance to cross into Gaza.

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 48,497 shelter and NFI items on behalf of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in Al Arish on a total of eight flights; four flights from ECHO through the UN Humanitarian Response Depots (HRD) in Dubai and Brindisi, one from Belgium, and three flights 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, Kerem Shalom or 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 loaded those on trucks awaiting clearance to cross into Gaza.

Between 02 November and 28 December, IOM Egypt supported a total of 714 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.



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

\*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.