

REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

SITUATION REPORT #14 04 JANUARY 2024

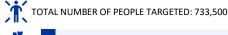
1.90 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN GAZA (as of 03 January)

76,018

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN LEBANON (as of 02 January)

Appeal Status



\$ 5% RECEIVED: \$ 3.4 M

REQUESTED: \$69.13 M



IOM relief items delivered to Al Arish © IOM 2023

ITEMS PROCURED AND DELIVERED TO PARTNERS— SEE RESPONSE SECTION BELOW



46,251Medical Items and Medicines





16,478
Mattresses and Bed Items



18,937

Medical Items and Medicines

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 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 76,018 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.

IOM RESPONSE

In Lebanon, daily cross-border clashes along the Blue Line continue. On 2 January, senior Hamas official Saleh Al-Arouri was among at least six people killed in the southern Beirut suburb of Dahiyeh, raising further concern over a potential spill over of the conflict.

As of 2 January 2024, IOM Lebanon's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)* has recorded 76,018 internally displaced persons (IDPs), showing a 2 per cent increase since 26 December 2023. Most of these IDPs (79 per cent) are located in five districts out of a total 22 districts hosting IDPs — specifically, Sour, El Nabatieh, Baabda, Beirut, and Saida. The displacement covers 407 locations (villages or neighbourhoods) across 320 cadasters throughout Lebanon, spanning all 22 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 81 per cent of IDPs are currently living with host families, while 16 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, IOM, as lead agency for Site Coordination, IOM reviewed the first draft of the Shelter and Site Management Guidance Document to address remaining gaps, defining key activities and funding requirements for a 140,000 displaced scenario under the Lebanon Response Plan (LRP), and continued collaborating with LRC to ensure the progression of planned capacity building trainings focused on Site Management and Site Coordination that will be tailored for site managers, local authorities, and volunteers from civil society.

IOM Lebanon continues working with its partner SHEILD to provide psychosocial support (PSS) to populations affected by displacement including Lebanese, Syrians, Palestinians, as well as host families. In the last week, 295 beneficiaries (226 Women, 42 girls and 27 boys) attended PSS sessions as well as recreational activities for children in the Abbasieh, Tyr, Nabatieh and Al bas areas. Additionally, 28 individuals received case management support in the South. IOM also continues to support one Primary Health care center in Saida (Maarouf Saad), ensuring access to health services to those affected.

On 28 December 2023, IOM targeted 200 newly displaced households with mattresses and blankets in southern Lebanon, to ensure access to essential items in winter. In collaboration with Action Contre La Faim (ACF), 114 blankets and 114 mattresses were distributed in Aadloun and 86 mattresses and 86 blankets were distributed in Kaoutariyet Er-Riz. Three additional distributions are scheduled to take place next week with ACF.

To date, IOM has reached 3,136 persons in Lebanon through its multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance.

In Egypt, IOM, in partnership with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), has dispatched 44 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 — 12 out of 14 trucks carrying the items have now crossed into Gaza, whilst the remaining trucks await clearance at the border.

During December, IOM received 51,366 shelter NFI items from IOM's global stocks. The items include blankets, jerry cans, sleeping mats, tarps and kitchen sets. 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 52,697 shelter NFIs 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. IOM has also received 11,005 NFI and WASH items on behalf of Oxfam in Al Arish on two flights from Belgium. The priormentioned shipments were loaded into 35 trucks, of which three have been confirmed to have crossed the border and arrived in Gaza, while the remainder is currently at the border, awaiting clearance for entry into Gaza.

Between 02 November and 28 December, IOM Egypt supported a total of 715 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, in coordination with Action Contre la Faim (ACF), distributed blankets and mattresses in Aadloun in Southern Lebanon © IOM 2024

*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.

