On 7 October 2023, Palestinian armed groups in Gaza launched “Operation Al-Aqsa Flood” against Israel, 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 65 per cent are women and children.

Over one 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 12,854 persons mainly from Southern Lebanon.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) reiterates the UN calls for an immediate end to the escalating violence and for a humanitarian ceasefire to avert an even greater catastrophe. Humanitarian access is critical to allow delivery of aid to the most vulnerable and seriously affected populations, as well as a safe passage for third-country nationals trapped in Gaza.
IOM has received requests from governments to help 1,114 people, including women and children, return to their countries of origin.

In Lebanon, IOM is responding to the ongoing displacement and working closely with UN and government partners to prepare for a conflict scenario. Since 8 October, there has been a notable increase in cross-border strikes between Israel and Lebanon, leading to the internal displacement of people in the south of Lebanon and other parts of the country. In response to these developments, IOM’s Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) initiated the daily monitoring of population movements on 10 October. The primary objective of this exercise is to provide essential information for preparedness and response planning. As of 18 October, a total of 12,854 internally displaced persons have been identified by DTM, representing a significant increase of 22.15 per cent (2,329 individuals) from the number of people displaced the previous day.

In Egypt, IOM has handed over 8,005 non-food items to the Egyptian Red Crescent.

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 territory and neighboring countries affected by the ongoing hostilities.

IOM stands ready to support humanitarian efforts, including the evacuation of third-country nationals, provision of shelter, non-food items, health services and psychosocial support, cash assistance, and protection of vulnerable groups.

Your support is critical in our mission to deliver emergency aid to displaced families in neighboring countries to the Gaza Strip.

YOU CAN HELP
DONATE NOW