

REGIONAL RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

SITUATION REPORT #23 18 APRIL 2024

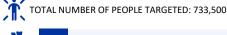
1.70 million

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN GAZA (as of 16 April)

92,621

INTERNALLY DISPLACED IN LEBANON (as of 16 April)

Appeal Status



25051/52 40214

RECEIVED: \$ 9.2 M REQUESTED: \$69.13 M



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HIGHLIGHTS

- New <u>Flash Appeal</u> for the occupied Palestinian territory requests US\$2.8 billion to meet the critical needs of over 3 million people in Gaza and the West Bank between April and December 2024. This appeal represents only part of the US\$ 4.089 billion that the UN and its partners estimate is required to meet the needs of the most vulnerable.
- As per WHO, an <u>estimated</u> 6,000 critical trauma patients and 3,000 patients with serious chronic conditions need to be urgently evacuated from Gaza.
- Amid <u>relentless</u> bombardment, the decimation of vital services, imminent famine, nearly 90 per cent of all schools and universities in Gaza are destroyed or damaged.
- In an emergency Security Council meeting on 14 April, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres <u>urged</u> adversaries 'to step back from the brink' of a wider conflict. The war in Gaza has triggered regular clashes between Iran's regional allies—such as Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Houthis— and Israel.
- The Commissioner-General of the UN relief agency for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) <u>briefed</u> the Security Council on 17 April as the humanitarian crisis in Gaza worsens, telling ambassadors that life-saving deliveries are being blocked by Israel as part of an "insidious campaign" to push it out of the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The latest large-scale escalation of conflict in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory on 7 October 2023 has led to an unprecedented humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza. Intense Israeli bombardment and ground operations as well as heavy fighting between Israeli forces and Palestinian armed groups continue to be reported across much of the Gaza Strip.

As of 14 April, UNRWA estimates that some 75 per cent of Gaza's population (1.7 million out of 2.3 million people), more than half of whom are children, are displaced. Most are living in makeshift structures, tents, or out in the open. 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. According to <u>UNRWA</u>, as of 14 April, there has been no significant change in the volume of humanitarian supplies entering Gaza or improved access to the north.

During April, an <u>average</u> of 181 aid trucks have crossed into Gaza per day via the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) and Rafah land crossings. This remains well below the operational capacity of both border crossings and the target of 500 trucks per day. On 11 April, UN relief chief <u>said</u> that safety of aid workers and civilians "remains paramount" in Gaza and welcomes all efforts to increase the amount of aid and delivery methods be it sea, air and most importantly by land.

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. Your support is critical in our mission to deliver emergency aid to displaced families in Gaza and in surrounding countries impacted by the crisis and hostilities.



IOM RESPONSE

LEBANON

92,621 IDPs have been recorded as of 16 April 2024

9,157 individuals have been reached with multi-sectoral humanitarian assistance.

In Lebanon, as of 16 April 2024, IOM Lebanon's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) has <u>recorded</u> 92,621 internally displaced persons (IDPs), showing a slight decrease of one per cent since 02 April 2024. Most of these IDPs are in five districts out of a total of 23 districts hosting IDPs — specifically, Sour, Nabatieh, Baabda, Bent Jbeil, and Saida. The displacement covers 445 locations (villages or neighborhoods) across 365 cadasters throughout Lebanon, spanning 23 districts in all eight governorates.

Notably, 61 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 IDPs are displaced from. 83 per cent of IDPs are currently living with host families, while 13 per cent are renting their shelters. Around two per cent are housed in collective shelters, and another two per cent have relocated to their secondary residences. The number of collective shelters for people displaced by the conflict stands at 18.IOM continues to support the Lebanese Government to strengthen emergency preparedness and response capacities in the country.

During the past two weeks, the Site Identification, Verification, and Assessment SoP was finalized. In collaboration with DRM, the Shelter and Site Coordination team will ensure preliminary approval from governors for identified sites before conducting any verifications or assessments. Site Coordination supported the revision of 'Site Management Guidance Document', providing technical inputs and addressing comments, and supported DTM, National DRM, and LRC DRR with the 'Understanding Displacement Tracking and Household Registration of IDPs in Lebanon'. Site Coordination is also supporting UNRWA in addressing Site Management and Coordination capacity gaps through tailored capacity-building support from Site Coordination Partner, NRC.

IOM Lebanon, through its implementing partner SHEILD, continues to respond to the emergency in southern Lebanon by distributing core relief items to IDPs. On 15 April, 300 mattresses and 300 blankets (600 total) were distributed in Haret Saida, South Lebanon through SHEILD to 300 IDPs. In addition, IOM and SHEILD continue to implement protection activities including Psycho-Social Support sessions, recreational activities, and case management to IDPs and host communities in Sour and Nabatieh.

EGYPT

741 Third Country Nationals and family members supported.

229 trucks transporting donated items by NRC and Oxfam have been loaded, and 185 trucks successfully crossed the borders into Gaza.

108 Emergency Kits donated to the Egyptian Ambulance Organization to assist medical evacuees.

In Egypt, Since November 2023, IOM Egypt supported 741 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 (including medical referrals and fit-to-travel checks) at the request of their respective Embassies.

Between 7-14 April 2024, it was reported that 1,403 trucks have crossed into Gaza (72% of increase compared to the week before – Eid and Ramadan included), 81% of these trucks crossed via Karem Shalom. 229 trucks transporting donated items by NRC and Oxfam, coordinated by IOM, were loaded and 185 trucks have successfully crossed the borders into Gaza in the past reporting period.

IOM Egypt has donated 108 Emergency Kits to the Egyptian Ambulance Organization which was donated to IOM by Direct Relief. The kits will be used to support the assistance provided to the Palestinian medical evacuees that are evacuated into Egypt for treatment.



Distribution of Core Relief Items © IOM Lebanon 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.

