



MIDDLE EAST HUMANITARIAN CRISIS APPEAL

2-YEAR DONOR UPDATE

TWO YEARS OF HEARTBREAK AND SUFFERING



The information provided in this update is relevant up until October 6, 2025, unless otherwise stated, and does not include recent developments related to the ceasefire and exchange of hostages and detainees.

Now over two years since the escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, the humanitarian situation in Gaza is dire beyond comprehension. The past year has been marked by a widening humanitarian crisis across the Middle East and a deepening humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

Hunger has become rampant, and people are dying of malnutrition.

The extreme humanitarian needs have made your gift all the more important. Medical supplies, critical surgeries, mental health care—these measures can be the difference between life and death. With your support, we continue to work with our Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners on the ground to respond to the needs generated by the ongoing conflict. Our partners in Gaza, the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), are on the frontline of the humanitarian response and remain committed to helping the people most in need, often at great peril to themselves.

Since the escalation of the conflict, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), acting as a neutral intermediary, has facilitated the release of hostages from Gaza, as well as detainees from Israel. Throughout this ordeal, the Canadian Red Cross, together with our Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners, has called for the unconditional release of all hostages.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, new and ongoing conflicts have erupted or escalated over the past year. People across the region have faced terrifying nights of aerial bombardment. Many lives have been lost and those left behind face both physical and mental trauma. No matter where the need, Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement teams have continued to provide vital aid and support communities in their recovery.

The Canadian Red Cross would like to thank the generous individuals, businesses, and organizations who have provided \$10.4 million to the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis Appeal as of September 30, 2025. As part of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Canadian Red Cross continues to support the Movement's tireless efforts to respond to the evolving needs of people whose homes, livelihoods, and access to critical services are severely impacted by the conflict and is committed to helping meet humanitarian needs for the months and years to come.

FUNDS HAVE SUPPORTED:



- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
- Egyptian Red Crescent (through the IFRC)
- Lebanese Red Cross (LRCS)
- Magen David Adom in Israel (MDA)
- Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS)

THANK YOU



A DIRE SITUATION IN GAZA

The ongoing hostilities in the Middle East region are having a catastrophic impact on civilians, especially in Gaza. Ninety per cent of the population in Gaza is displaced, families have been separated, and homes, healthcare facilities and other critical civilian infrastructure have been destroyed. Only a rapid, unimpeded, and sustained flow of aid can begin to address the full scope of needs on the ground.

HERE ARE SOME OF THE CHALLENGES THAT PEOPLE IN GAZA ARE FACING:



Hunger: The PRCS is witnessing a surge in hunger-related deaths and severe malnutrition in Gaza, with food scarce or unaffordable, and health facilities lacking the medicines and nutrition supplies.



Evacuation orders: Repeated evacuation orders are pushing people into increasingly overcrowded and unsafe areas where there is no shelter, clean water, or basic essential services.



Health: Hospitals in Gaza are overwhelmed with cases of severe malnutrition, especially among children, pregnant and breastfeeding women, and the elderly. The lack of infant formula, coupled with malnourished mothers unable to breastfeed, is putting newborns at serious risk.



Water: The water crisis continues to deepen across Gaza, due to the destruction of infrastructure and water networks, increasing the risk of disease outbreaks.



Fuel: A severe fuel crisis is crippling every aspect of life in Gaza. Without fuel, essential services such as hospitals, ambulances, and water supply and sanitation systems cannot operate.

The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement has been on the frontline and remains committed to responding to the humanitarian needs in Gaza. Given the immense need for humanitarian assistance, we urgently call on authorities to fulfill their obligations under International Humanitarian Law to ensure the protection of people who provide critical life-saving assistance.



A VOLATILE SITUATION IN THE WEST BANK

Increased tensions in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, have resulted in heightened risks and increased restrictions on daily life and people's movement throughout the area. Continued military operations in Jenin and other communities and refugee camps in the northern West Bank have destroyed buildings, roads, water pipelines, and other infrastructure. This has forced thousands to leave their homes, leaving them without adequate shelter or access to basic supplies. Many clinics have been damaged or forced to close, further limiting access to vital healthcare.



AN OUTPOST OF HOPE IN RAFAH

Surgeons perform life-saving surgery on a nine-year-old boy suffering from shrapnel injuries at the Red Cross Field Hospital. Thanks to your support, essential staff and medical equipment are available at the hospital to help save lives each day.

It's happening again.

Another mass casualty event. This time dozens of people are arriving with gunshot wounds.

Doctors, nurses, and anyone else available scramble to prepare as ambulances from the PRCS begin to arrive to the Red Cross Field Hospital in Rafah.

Rieke Hayes, a physiotherapist with the ICRC, tries to capture the sheer magnitude of suffering. "It was relentless. Horrific. Day after day, wave after wave. One morning, we had 179 dead and wounded brought to the field hospital. Another day, we had 50. Another day after that, 184—99 per cent of whom had gunshot wounds. A few days later, we received over 240 patients within a few hours."

This is the **last fully functional field hospital in Rafah** and is consistently over-capacity due to the immense needs for healthcare. **For many, it can be their last hope.**

Thanks to your support and the Government of Canada, the Canadian Red Cross, in collaboration with the ICRC and several other national societies, continues to operate the field hospital, despite the enormous challenges. With your help, we have provided surgical equipment, medicines, diagnostic equipment, disinfection materials, and personnel.

Your caring spirit ensures the field hospital can continue delivering life-saving care to people in greatest need, against all odds.

RED CROSS FIELD HOSPITAL FACTS*



Opened: May 2024

Location: Rafah, Gaza

Capacity: 90 beds, 350 patients daily (operating over capacity)

Departments: Surgical; obstetric/ gynecological, maternal, and newborn; pediatric; and outpatient, inpatient and emergency departments, with additional mental health supports.

Staffing: 230 local and international staff

YOUR IMPACT



Patient consultations: 168,522

Babies born: 696

Surgeries performed: 9,678

**As of October 10, 2025*

VOICES FROM THE RED CROSS FIELD HOSPITAL



HANI

“We’re supposed to work in safe zones. But in reality, nowhere is safe for us.”

Hani Mahmoud Wadi is an ambulance driver for the PRCS, stationed at the field hospital. His friend and colleague was struck by four bullets while responding to a call and died. “Losing Alaa could have been a reason for me to stop, but I also feel that I need to continue the path he left behind.”

Hisham Mhanna / ICRC



MALIK

At six months of age, Malik had just reached an exciting milestone for babies. He started trying to stand. Then came the airstrike. Despite being shielded by his uncle, Malik suffered deep shrapnel wounds and a broken pelvis. He is now recovering in a bed at the Red Cross Field Hospital, his legs suspended mid-air in casts. “I want to see my baby boy walk,” says his mother.



ICRC

ANASTAZIA

“The psychological trauma is quite palpable. Many of these children have seen the devastation of their homes and the suffering and loss of loved ones,”

says Anastazia, an emergency room nurse from Canada. Her strongly held conviction that healthcare is a fundamental human right drives her to be there for her patients’ physical needs, mental needs, and to treat them with care and humanity. She’s deployed to the Red Cross Field Hospital in Gaza not once, but twice.

VOICES FROM THE RED CROSS FIELD HOSPITAL



YAZAN

Yazan is eleven years old and has been living in a tent with his family in Khan Younis for a year. He was on a simple errand for his mom, bringing some freshly baked bread to his grandmother. He was almost there when there was an airstrike. Shrapnel hit his neck, head and arms. He received care and began his recovery at the Red Cross Field Hospital.



Hisham Mhanna / ICRC

Ghaydaa Abu Samman / ICRC



RAMZI

Ramzi Awaja is a mental health and psychosocial support specialist working at the Red Cross Field Hospital. “I feel that my job is to connect with everybody as much as I can—but given the amount of suffering and hardships that we see every day, it ends up with me absorbing the sadness and pain from the patients faster than I can release it. But as psychologists ourselves, we know that we have to regularly release the emotions that we’ve absorbed.”



ICRC

QAMAR

“Life goes on and we must move forward,”

says Qamar Zourob, a university student who had to have her leg amputated at the field hospital after being hit by a bullet. She was also fitted with a prosthetic leg and received psychosocial support at the hospital. Every couple of weeks, Qamar visits the hospital to speak to patients who have recently undergone amputations. She hopes she can inspire others and let them know there is light at the end of the tunnel. “One day, when all of this is over, I want to do normal things like hang out with my friends, go to university, and follow a routine.”

Magen David Adom mobilize staff and volunteers to provide emergency medical care to people injured in the conflict, train members of the public on first aid, provide support to displaced communities, and train community emergency response teams to respond quickly in remote areas where usual resources cannot reach.



AIRSTRIKES AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

The Role of Magen David Adom in Israel

The escalation of conflict between Israel and Iran in 2025 cast a long shadow over the region, bringing with it scenes of destruction, resilience, and the unyielding dedication of emergency responders.

As explosions lit up the night sky and most of the population sought safe shelter, the staff and volunteers of Magen David Adom (MDA), Israel's National Society and national emergency medical service, sprang into action. Teams rushed to the scenes of explosions, tended to the injured, and transported people to hospitals.

"We know we need to do our best, but on the other side we know we are at risk," said Omri Hochman, head of the Kiryat Shmona branch, about possible air strikes that have escalated since the devastating attacks of October 7, 2023.

These efforts extended beyond the ambulance sirens and flash of red lights. They represent a lifeline to people grappling with fear, injury, and loss, and a testament to the unwavering spirit of those determined to save lives. Amidst the turmoil, the rapid, coordinated response of MDA demonstrates not only technical ability but also the profound humanity required in times of crisis.



The Middle East Humanitarian Crisis Appeal provided funding for key IFRC personnel in the areas of logistics, health, humanitarian diplomacy, and monitoring and evaluation in the Middle East region.



RESCUING PEOPLE FROM THE RUBBLE IN LEBANON

Lebanon has been in the midst of a complex humanitarian crisis for many years; however, after the October 2023 escalation of hostilities in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory, Lebanon has experienced increasing hostilities in the south that has resulted in the displacement of people. The conflict escalated even further in September 2024, claiming thousands of lives, destroying homes, health facilities, schools, and other vital infrastructure.

From October to December 2024, the Canadian Red Cross was one of several partners contributing to the Lebanese Red Cross's (LRCS) efforts by supporting their conflict preparedness and response activities.

During the period from October 2024 to April 2025, the LRCS Emergency Medical Services (EMS) played a pivotal role in Lebanon's humanitarian conflict response.

Amid the intensifying conflict, these teams delivered life-saving pre-hospital care and transportation to people impacted by the conflict across South Lebanon, Bekaa, and parts of Beirut. In total, EMS teams conducted more than **41,000 ambulance missions** and served more than **50,000 patients**, including urgent evacuations, emergency treatments, and transport of the injured and deceased.



With your help, this appeal supported **three Urban Search and Rescue stations** in Lebanon by supplying specialized equipment like battery-powered cutters, lifting tools, and search cameras. These tools improve the ability of teams to find and rescue people quickly and safely in conflict or disaster areas.



STANDING AT THE READY IN EGYPT

You have helped the Egyptian Red Crescent Society scale up their response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. The Egyptian Red Crescent Society stands ready to deliver food and other aid into Gaza when conditions allow.

Thanks to your generosity, the Egyptian Red Crescent Society (ERCS) has been a lifeline for families affected by crisis, coordinating the delivery of all aid into Gaza from Egypt. This is a significant effort and includes aid on behalf of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, as well as UN agencies, international NGOs, and others.

However, following the closure of the Rafah border crossing in May 2024, their ability to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid has been severely constrained, as have medical evacuation pathways for people in Gaza. When conditions allow, the ERCS scrambles to transport desperately needed aid, including food and medicines into Gaza as quickly as possible.

When border crossings are fully open, the ERCS also carries out medical evacuations from Gaza. Once in Egypt, they provided people evacuated and their families with basic health and mental health support, food, water, and relief items. Special attention is given to pregnant women, children and people with chronic illnesses. From the beginning of the operation until the end of the ceasefire in March 2025, the ERCS facilitated the transportation of **7,277 medical evacuees** and **15,752**

accompanying family members to receive medical treatment. Every journey meant hope for a desperate parent, sick child, or injured mother.

Your commitment also helped Red Crescent teams to manage the largest logistics operation in their history. During the 2023-2024 ceasefire period alone, the ERCS coordinated approximately **9,500 truckloads of aid**, including more than 2,000 for the PRCS Society, alongside deliveries for UN agencies and international organizations.

Through the IFRC, this appeal supported the ERCS health and mental health activities as well as their logistics operations. Thanks to you, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is standing at the ready to deliver vital aid to those in need in Gaza.

“All aid bound for Gaza is received here; inspected, sorted, coded, and verified to meet the agreed standards before crossing into Gaza. The Egyptian Red Crescent’s logistics centre is the link between need and response.”

-AMIRA EHAB, Egyptian Red Crescent Society

A Red Cross staff member speaks with a woman during an aid distribution of hygiene items, food, and blankets at the Baalbek Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon.

HUMANITY DURING INHUMANE TIMES

As we mark two years since the escalation of the conflict in the Middle East, we are reminded of the extraordinary generosity and compassion shown by our donors. Your support has been a lifeline for countless families facing unimaginable hardship in the occupied Palestinian territory, Lebanon, Israel, and beyond. Thanks to your commitment, the Canadian Red Cross and our partners have delivered vital aid—food, water, medical care, and hope—to those most in need, often in the most challenging and dangerous circumstances.



Together, we have raised an incredible **\$10.4 million** for the Middle East Humanitarian Crisis Appeal as of September 30, 2025.

The Canadian Red Cross joins our Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement colleagues calling for an immediate political solution to stop this humanitarian tragedy.

Looking ahead, even if hostilities were to cease immediately, humanitarian needs will remain great for years and even decades. With your continued support, we will remain steadfast in our commitment to deliver life-saving assistance and advocate for those whose voices are too often unheard.

Thank you for standing in solidarity with those impacted by this terrible crisis.



“The best part of my job is seeing the smile come back on the face of a child who had forgotten how to smile. It’s hard, since the circumstances that affect them also affect us. But to see a child’s heart start to heal is what keeps me going. It reminds me that humanity doesn’t have to end along with the lives of our loved ones.”

- AMNA AL-AKHRAS, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Specialist



**Thank you
for your generous support.**

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