

<p>Emergency appeal №: MDRS5002 Emergency appeal launched: 18/10/2023 Operational Strategy published: 28/02/2024</p>	<p>Glide №: CE-2023-000186-PSE</p>
<p>Flash update #4 Date of issue: 11 February 2025</p>	<p>Timeframe covered by this update: From 19/01/2025 to 09/02/2025</p>
<p>Operation timeframe: 26 months (18/10/2023 – 31/12/2025)</p>	<p>Number of people being assisted: 1,363,821 people</p>
<p>Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 185 million IFRC Secretariat CHF 200 million Federation-wide</p>	<p>DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 3 million at the onset of the crisis, 100% replenished CHF 2 million new loan allocation for Lebanon, 100% replenished CHF 1 million new loan allocation for Syria on 9 Oct CHF 300,000 new loan allocation to ME crisis – regional coordination on 9 Oct</p>



This Flash Update focuses mainly on the logistic activities carried out in Egypt and Jordan, following the ceasefire in Gaza, which has enabled ERCS and JNRCS to resume the delivery of humanitarian aid. While the main emphasis is on these two countries, further details on humanitarian operations conducted between October 2023 and November 2024 can be found in the recently published [Operation Update \(1 year report\)](#).

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

Following a 15-month armed conflict and dire humanitarian crisis in Gaza, a ceasefire was implemented on January 19, 2025, allowing for much-needed reprieve for the people of Gaza. In the aftermath, over 560,000 people are estimated to have returned to their places of origin in northern Gaza¹. However, since January 19, there has been a significant degradation of the situation in the West Bank, with intensified military operations and severe movement restrictions impacting Palestinian communities.

The cessation of hostilities in Gaza has allowed for a significant scale-up in the delivery of essential humanitarian aid, primarily through the Egypt and Jordan corridors. This has enabled National Societies and humanitarian partners to more effectively address urgent needs, ensuring that vital assistance reaches affected communities in a timely and coordinated manner. With the resumption of humanitarian activities, **Egypt** and **Jordan** have once again become crucial logistical hubs for aid deliveries into Gaza. In Egypt, humanitarian shipments have resumed, allowing for a more structured and efficient flow of assistance. Similarly, in Jordan, cross-border operations have been reinstated, ensuring the transportation of essential supplies such as food, water, and medical aid. The collaborative efforts of National Societies, IFRC, and ICRC have played a key role in overcoming logistical hurdles, enabling a more systematic approach to aid distribution. These renewed efforts are vital in ensuring that critical humanitarian needs are met as affected populations begin to rebuild their lives.

Despite the ceasefire, Gaza remains in a severe humanitarian crisis, experiencing extensive loss of life, large-scale infrastructure destruction, and worsening living conditions. According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, as of February 4, 2025, at least 47,540 Palestinians have lost their lives, and 111,618 have been injured since 7 October 2023². In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, approximately 905 individuals have lost their lives during the same period³.

The healthcare system in Gaza is facing severe challenges, with hospitals damaged, destroyed, or unable to operate due to critical shortages. Access to clean water and sanitation remains extremely limited, as infrastructure has been heavily impacted, leading to sewage overflows and water contamination. Telecommunications services are largely disrupted, further complicating humanitarian response efforts. The widespread destruction of homes and essential services has left hundreds of thousands displaced, with limited access to medical care, food, and clean water, exacerbating an already dire humanitarian situation. Immediate and coordinated efforts are essential to restore basic services, support affected communities and facilitate recovery.

Lebanon remains in a highly fragile situation, with the ceasefire extended until February 18, 2025, to support ongoing negotiations and stabilization efforts. While large-scale hostilities have decreased, tensions persist, particularly in the south, where the return of displaced communities has been met with significant risks. The crisis has forced over a million people to leave their homes, placing significant strain on resources and services, further increasing vulnerabilities. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as of February 6, 2025, 890,830 individuals have returned to their areas of origin, while 98,986 remain displaced outside their home

¹ [Humanitarian Situation Update #261 | Gaza Strip \[EN/AR/HE\] | OCHA](#)

² [Humanitarian Situation Update #261 | Gaza Strip \[EN/AR/HE\] | OCHA](#)

³ [Reported impact snapshot | Gaza Strip \(4 February 2025\) | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - occupied Palestinian territory](#); Health Cluster's [Unified Dashboard](#).

communities⁴. The international community continues to call for the full implementation of ceasefire agreements, while humanitarian actors remain engaged in monitoring evolving needs and providing critical support to affected communities.

Humanitarian efforts in **Syria** face severe constraints due to ongoing hostilities, economic instability, and restricted access. Security risks, including violence, movement restrictions, and criminal activity, continue to impede aid delivery. Economic hardships, such as inflation, liquidity shortages, and fuel crises, disrupt operations, particularly in Aleppo, where clashes have critically impacted water access. Unexploded ordnance (UXO) further limits movement, posing risks to both aid workers and civilians. The influx of 473,000 displaced individuals from Lebanon since September 2024 has increased pressure on already strained resources, heightening protection concerns for vulnerable groups, especially women and children. Despite these challenges, efforts persist to secure access, deliver aid, and support affected communities.

Summary of response

EGYPT

Following the ceasefire, the Egyptian Red Crescent Society (ERCS) resumed humanitarian aid shipments to Gaza, facilitating the departure of approximately 1,300 trucks from Egypt. As of February 6, 871 trucks successfully crossed through the Kerem Shalom border point, while more than 300 trucks have been returned or rejected by COGAT. While ERCS continues to coordinate additional truck shipments towards PRCS in Gaza, efforts are underway to enhance logistical efficiency. As of February 9, 2025, PRCS has confirmed the receipt of 452 trucks, amounting to 6,695 pallets out of the more than 17,000 pallets dispatched from Egypt.



Photo: ERCS facilitating the delivery of critical supplies to PRCS in Gaza.

⁴ [Lebanon: Flash Update #58 - Escalation of hostilities in Lebanon, as of 06 February 2025 | OCHA](#)



Photo: Ambulances donated by Kuwait RC and ERCS, successfully delivered to PRCS Gaza with the facilitation of ERCS

Additionally, as of February 9, 2025, PRCS in Gaza has successfully received 12 ambulances, including seven donated by the Kuwait Red Crescent (KRC) and five by the Egyptian Red Crescent Society (ERCS), with ERCS providing support and facilitation. These deliveries, part of a total of 17 ambulances facilitated by ERCS, represent a crucial step in strengthening emergency medical response capacity on the ground. Despite ongoing efforts to streamline the movement of humanitarian assistance, procedural and logistical barriers persist, impacting the efficient flow of aid into Gaza.



Photo: PRCS team receiving humanitarian aid shipments from ERCS.

Coordination among RCRC Movement partners has been significantly enhanced, with the re-activation of a logistics coordination working group involving IFRC, ICRC, PRCS, ERCS, and JNRCS. This group is working to streamline the movement of humanitarian supplies and address logistical bottlenecks. At the same time, ERCS is scaling up its logistics capacity, including the establishment of bonded warehouses, to meet growing demands and facilitate the storage and distribution of aid effectively. Details of ERCS response can be found on our joint dashboard: [IFRC GO - Emergency](#).

In addition to logistics, ERCS remains dedicated to addressing food security for Palestinians. Through its "Humanitarian Kitchen" in North Sinai, located near the Rafah border, ERCS is preparing to distribute hot meals to Palestinian families in Gaza, Palestinians residing in Egypt, and host communities, particularly during the upcoming Ramadan season. Following the ceasefire, ERCS has also reinstated its support services for evacuees arriving in Egypt. These services include Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and First Aid assistance, ensuring evacuees receive the care and support they need during their transition.

JORDAN

Jordan continues to play a critical role as a logistical hub, facilitating the delivery of humanitarian aid to both Gaza and Syria despite ongoing operational challenges. The Jordanian Red Crescent Society (JNRCS), in coordination and with the support of IFRC and ICRC, has been instrumental in ensuring delivery of aid to Syria and Gaza, managing the logistics of receiving, storing and delivering aid, and supporting medical evacuations.

Since the ceasefire, despite ongoing challenges and restrictions, the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) has been actively planning and coordinating the facilitation of approximately 20 trucks via the ICRC and PRCS in the initial phase. Food aid has been prioritized during this phase to address urgent humanitarian needs. Humanitarian diplomacy efforts continue to be deployed to overcome logistical constraints and ensure the unimpeded flow of aid to Gaza and the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS). Additionally, JNRCS is scaling up its logistics operations by expanding warehousing and storage capacity to better manage these complexities, with critical support from IFRC. More details and updated figures can be found on our joint dashboard: [IFRC GO - Emergency](#)

Jordan remains a key transit point for both medical and non-medical evacuees from Gaza, ensuring that individuals in urgent need of medical care receive medical evaluations, treatment, and logistical support before being transferred to third countries for specialized medical assistance.

Beyond its support for Gaza, Jordan continues to play a vital role in cross-border humanitarian operations to Syria. In close coordination with SARC and IFRC, JNRCS has enabled the delivery of 31 aid trucks, ensuring that essential supplies reach affected communities. These shipments, transported through border crossings and directly to SARC warehouses in Damascus, highlight JNRCS's commitment to facilitating humanitarian aid beyond the Gaza response.

LEBANON

Lebanon remains in a fragile situation, with the ceasefire holding but tensions persisting in the south. While stabilization efforts continue, the humanitarian response remains fluid, requiring flexibility and adaptation. The Lebanese Red Cross (LRC) is scaling up its operations, focusing on food security, healthcare, and emergency assistance, while preparing for a potential transition to recovery based on security developments. Humanitarian operations in Lebanon are being implemented under a multi-appeal framework to ensure the LRC receives the necessary support to address urgent humanitarian needs. Currently, two active appeals are supporting the response in Lebanon: the Middle East Crisis Appeal, and the Lebanon Complex Emergency Appeal.

While there are no significant updates on the Middle East Crisis Appeal for this reporting period, humanitarian teams continue to closely monitor the changing situation and ensure it aligns with regional priorities. Efforts are majorly focused on the Lebanon Complex Emergency appeal, while also fulfilling commitments under the Middle East Crisis appeal. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) remain fully operational, supporting ambulance evacuations, mobile healthcare, and blood transfusion services. Mobile Medical Units (MMUs) have been expanded to provide primary

healthcare and vaccinations, particularly through the GAVI project, which has vaccinated 3,000 children in underserved areas. To address rising food insecurity, LRC is distributing food parcels, ready meals, and bread, while preparing a cash transfer program. Shelter assistance, including blankets and essential supplies, continues as LRC reviews its operational capacity and develops scenario plans to adapt to evolving needs.

SYRIA

The humanitarian situation in Syria remains highly complex, requiring a coordinated and flexible approach to address overlapping crises. Humanitarian operations continue under a multi-appeal framework, ensuring that SARC receives the necessary support to respond effectively to urgent needs. Currently, there are three active emergency appeals in Syria: the 2023 Earthquake appeal, The Middle East crisis appeal, and the Syria complex Emergency appeal.

While there are no major updates on the Middle East Crisis Appeal for this reporting period, humanitarian teams remain actively engaged in monitoring the evolving situation and ensuring alignment with regional priorities. Intense work is conducted under the Syria Complex Emergency appeal while ensuring obligations are still met under the Middle East Crisis appeal. Funding allocations and response strategies remain flexible and adaptable, allowing partners to respond effectively to Syria's urgent humanitarian needs despite the challenging operational environment.

Highlighted Needs

EGYPT

The resumption of aid deliveries has significantly increased humanitarian shipments into Gaza, with hundreds of trucks entering daily, enabling a more structured and efficient flow of assistance. However, challenges persist in coordinating large-scale distributions, with key gaps including logistical bottlenecks, fuel shortages for transport, and ensuring aid reaches vulnerable populations in an efficient and equitable manner. The ERCS continues to work closely with IFRC, ICRC, and partner National Societies to streamline humanitarian corridors and mitigate delays, ensuring that critical supplies reach those most in need as quickly as possible.

JORDAN

Jordan remains a critical transit hub, with growing demand for cross-border coordination following the ceasefire. The JNRCS is intensifying coordination efforts with Jordanian authorities, Movement partners, and UN agencies to streamline humanitarian cargo clearance and enhance tracking mechanisms for shipments into Gaza and Syria. These efforts aim to ensure the efficient and timely delivery of essential aid, despite ongoing logistical challenges.

LEBANON

Rising food insecurity remains a critical concern, particularly in areas where displaced populations have settled, placing additional strain on public health infrastructure. Shortages of essential medicines, medical supplies, and health personnel continue to hinder the delivery of adequate healthcare services. The humanitarian response must consider the various vulnerable groups affected by the conflict, including the 875,000 individuals returning to their cadaster of origin, the 112,000 who remain displaced, and the 87,000 crossing from Syria into Lebanon. In response, the LRC is expanding its cash-based assistance program, with a strong focus on health services, food security, shelter, water, sanitation, and recovery efforts. However, the road to recovery and reconstruction remains long, requiring sustained efforts and funding to address both immediate humanitarian needs and the long-term challenges of rebuilding essential infrastructure and services.

SYRIA

The economic crisis continues to place significant strain on response operations, particularly in the procurement of essential goods and medical supplies. Limited humanitarian access due to security concerns remains a key challenge, requiring enhanced coordination to facilitate safe aid deliveries. With winter conditions worsening, displaced families face critical shortages of adequate shelter, heating, and food supplies, making winterization support an urgent

priority. While there have been no recent developments related to spillover hostilities or displacement linked to the situation in Gaza, the needs remain immense under the Syria Complex Emergency. Humanitarian priorities continue to focus on food security, healthcare, shelter and displacement, water, sanitation, hygiene (WASH), logistics, and access, all of which require sustained efforts and resources to meet the growing demands of affected communities. ([Syria Complex Emergency SitRep 5 25 Jan](#))

Operational Risk Assessment

IFRC has established processes to manage risks effectively and to ensure it is balanced with the response actions of National Societies. This approach includes prevention and mitigation of safeguarding risks, financial risks, reputational risks, and other risks related to large-scale emergency operations. This risk management approach is conducted in line within the established IFRC risk management framework and risk registers for the operations are established and regularly updated with a vision to identify, analyze and mitigate the risks affecting the operation. Some of the potential major risks that may affect the operation include:

Security and safety risks: The security situation in Gaza, Lebanon and Syria has been stable post ceasefire in November and December 2024 however there exists possibility of ceasefire breakdown as the deadline in Lebanon and Gaza expire and new conditions or parties not agreeing may lead to resumption of the conflict. The Operation in West Bank since January 2025 exacerbates the uncertainty of the security situation in Gaza. The outcome of recent changes in government in Syria remains to be watched as may further complicate the crisis in case of transition failure.

Funding risk: Funding for the operation has been significantly low. With the resumption of humanitarian activities, additional resources will be required to effectively respond to growing needs and rising operational costs. So far, the EA has managed to raise 17% (31.8M CHF) of the CHF 185 M funding ask leading to a 83% gap. Additional fundraising efforts are being undertaken by SPRM to raise additional funds.

Access risks: The ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon has eased access restrictions that existed during the conflict up to Nov-Dec 2024. Challenges are still experienced in accessing Gaza from Jordan and Egypt and slow clearance of items in the border points is still an impediment to quicker response. Some parts of Norther Gaza and Rafah area in Gaza and South Lebanon are still not accessible due to the cease-fire withdrawal plan in place.

Population movement: Reduced number of persons displaced has been noted with the ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon, however an increased number of returnees into Syria after the political transition in Syria is being witnessed. Ongoing response operations are ongoing in Lebanon and Syria to support the persons who were initially displaced and have not yet returned. The opening of Jordan and Egypt borders with Gaza will enable resumption of medical evacuation of the elderly and sick into these countries and for this cases protection and safeguarding for the evacuees and accompanying persons will be incorporated. Migration monitoring is also embedded in the operation to ensure needs for the migrants are taken care of.

Operation and implementing capacity: The limited funding for the operations have reduced the ability of the implementing National societies to recruit additional staff and increase their operational capabilities e.g. equipment and systems and leading to slow or delayed implementation of some activities. Continued capacity support to the National societies is being provided along the different technical areas and by also providing resources to build systems and infrastructure required for effective response

RESPONSE STRATEGY

Update on the Strategy

Middle East Crisis Emergency Appeal

One year later, the protracted nature of the complex crisis is increasingly highlighting the need for a more integrated approach that combines humanitarian response with long-term development and resilience-building efforts. However, current actions remain heavily focused on immediate response due to the extremely volatile situation. This necessitates prioritizing emergency assistance and direct relief to address the rapidly evolving humanitarian needs. In line with this, the revised Operational Strategy of the Emergency Appeal MDRS5002 was published on November 27.

LEBANON

The escalation of hostilities in Lebanon since September 2024 has led to widespread destruction, displacement, and a worsening humanitarian crisis, further straining an already fragile socio-economic situation. While IFRC initially supported LRC's response through the Middle East Complex Emergency Appeal, the scale of the crisis required a dedicated appeal to ensure a targeted and sustained response. Launched in November 2024, the Lebanon Complex Emergency Appeal aims to provide lifesaving assistance to 600,000 people while integrating country-specific priorities and long-term recovery efforts. The appeal will remain active until December 2026, ensuring flexibility to adapt to evolving needs.

Under this framework, Lebanon's response is now managed separately, while the Middle East Crisis Appeal continues to address regional needs. LRC is reprogramming funds to align with urgent priorities, focusing on a cash-based assistance program to support recovery. However, the transition from emergency response to recovery depends on security developments and sustained donor support, both essential for maintaining effective humanitarian assistance.

SYRIA

The humanitarian situation in Syria remains highly complex, requiring a coordinated and flexible approach to address overlapping crises. Humanitarian operations continue under a multi-appeal framework, ensuring that SARC receives the necessary support to respond effectively to urgent needs. The humanitarian response in Syria is structured as a coordinated effort to maximize resources, align donor requirements, and address operational constraints. The ongoing response is supported through three key appeals:

- Middle East Crisis Appeal, focusing on the broader multi country response.
- Earthquake Appeal, which will close at the end of February after addressing earthquake-related humanitarian needs.
- Syria Complex Emergency Appeal, focuses on providing immediate life-saving assistance while fostering long-term recovery and resilience in Syria, prioritizing vulnerable populations such as women, children, the elderly, displaced individuals, and returnees. Supported by SARC's local presence and the IFRC network, the approach combines urgent relief with sustainable recovery efforts, including livelihoods support, essential services restoration, and community resilience building.

Given the challenging operational environment and strict donor compliance requirements, IFRC and its partners are working to ensure flexible funding allocations while adhering to necessary regulations.

Coordination and Preparedness

Since the onset of the crisis in October 2023, the IFRC has worked closely with Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners, as well as external stakeholders, to ensure a coordinated and effective response. Regular coordination meetings are held between Partner National Societies, IFRC, and ICRC, ensuring strong Movement and Membership coordination at the country level, while the MENA Regional Office provides strategic oversight in collaboration with

regional departments, partners, and donors.

In Egypt, coordination efforts between ERCS, IFRC, and ICRC have intensified to address logistical challenges in delivering humanitarian aid into Gaza. Regular coordination meetings focus on improving operational efficiency, ensuring that shipments move through established corridors without unnecessary delays. To enhance humanitarian shipments with PRCS, ERCS is developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for receiving, sorting, processing, and tracking aid shipments, as well as managing the trucks transporting these supplies across the border into Gaza. In addition to that, IFRC works closely with the ERCS in its coordination efforts with PRCS for operational and reporting means. ERCS senior management also coordinates closely with the National Crisis Management Cell and government officials to facilitate aid flow.

In Jordan, the JNRCS has intensified diplomatic efforts to advocate for unimpeded humanitarian access. Alongside IFRC and ICRC, JNRCS is actively engaging with authorities, UN agencies and diplomatic missions to streamline border processes and transit procedures. Additionally, JNRCS has strengthened its engagement with and participation in high-level coordination forums with the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Jordan Hashemite Charity Organization, reinforcing its role in regional humanitarian diplomacy

In Syria, IFRC has increased coordination efforts with Movement partners, deploying a Rapid Response Membership Coordinator to support SARC's operations. Close coordination is ongoing with SARC, PNSs, and ICRC at strategic, operational, and technical levels, ensuring an effective response to the Syria Complex Emergency. ([Syria Complex Emergency SitRep 5 25 Jan](#)).

In Lebanon, IFRC is actively supporting coordination efforts with LRC, PRCS-L, ICRC, and PNSs, working across strategic, operational, and technical levels to ensure a collective response to the ongoing emergency. LRC is also in close coordination with the national Disaster Risk Management Unit, contributing to an updated recovery plan that includes scenario planning for different potential developments.

Furthermore, additional items to address upcoming winter needs have been identified and highlighted through the Middle East crisis preparedness mobilization table. In-kind contributions from the IFRC network are encouraged but must be well-coordinated with National Societies to align with local priorities in line with the relevant mobilization guidelines, IFRC will facilitate and support those coordination efforts. For more detailed information on the mobilization tables, please click [here](#).

B. FUNDING

As of February 9, 17% of the funding requirements of the revised Emergency Appeal have been covered⁵. There remains a substantial funding gap across all countries, with actual funding significantly below the required amounts. This highlights the urgent need to secure additional resources to meet essential humanitarian needs.

The IFRC expresses its gratitude to donors and kindly encourages further contributions to fill the **83% percent funding gap** to enable the National Societies in the region, with the support of the IFRC, to continue with humanitarian assistance efforts as well as the required preparedness actions. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the National Societies in the region, with the support of the IFRC, to continue with the preparedness efforts and provide humanitarian assistance and protection to people on the move.

⁵ Income including soft pledges (2%)

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Reference documents

Click here for:

- [Link to IFRC Emergency landing page](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.