

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THE GAZA STRIP

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Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Facts and figures

2131 Palestinians killed (with at least 1472 civilians) and 11231 wounded

71 Israelis killed (4 civilians)

220 schools, 18000 homes and 62 hospitals destroyed or damaged.
Source (OCHA, 04.09.14)

The 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal called upon donors to provide USD \$551 million to respond to the immediate humanitarian needs of the population affected by the armed conflict.

The Palestinian Authority estimates that reconstruction will cost over 4 billion dollars.

The SDC's commitment

Amount allocated to the crisis:

CHF 4.15 million

Sectors:

Medical care

Emergency relief

Respect for international humanitarian law



Many houses are completely destroyed or seriously damaged in the Gaza Strip. © SDC

Background

The recent armed conflict in the Gaza Strip has killed more than 2,100 people (including 513 children and 269 women) and left thousands more injured. At the height of the conflict, over 500,000 people were displaced: nearly one-third of the local population. The scale of damages resulting from the 51-day hostilities is unprecedented and resulted in the widespread loss of life and livelihoods. Damage to public infrastructure had a devastating impact on provision of public services, in particular electricity, clean water and healthcare.

The open-ended ceasefire which entered into force on 26 August continues to hold.

Emergency measures taken by the SDC

SDC has allocated an additional CHF 4.15 million for its long term partners on the ground working to meet humanitarian needs created by the armed conflict (see table to the right). SDC also sent experts from the Swiss Humanitarian Aid Unit to support UN agencies working in the areas of water supply and shelter. The SDC Cooperation Office in the Occupied Palestinian Territory is committed to helping the civilian population. As part of its cooperation programme, Switzerland is funding several international and local organisations that are responding not only to the humanitarian crisis, but also to structural problems in the Gaza Strip.

Organisations	(CHF)	Objectives
ICRC	1,000,000	Evacuate and care for wounded civilians, repair sanitation infrastructure and bring emergency medical supplies.
WHO	1,000,000	Distribute medicine and emergency medical supplies
OCHA	1,000,000	Contribute to UN emergency relief funds (OCHA ERF) to respond to the needs of communities most affected by the conflict.
World Food Programme	750,000	Transport and distribution of food to vulnerable families in Gaza.
UNRWA, UNICEF	170,000	Provision of Swiss experts to support institutional capacities and response to the crisis
Gaza Community Mental Health Programme	100,000	Additional support to ensure urgent psychological care for the population directly affected by the conflict in Gaza
Palestinian and Israeli NGOs	100,000	Document the violations by all parties of human rights and international humanitarian law arising from the armed conflict.

Further information

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