

14 MONTHS OF IOM GAZA RESPONSE

REGIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE | OCTOBER 2023 - DECEMBER 2024



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Over the past 14 months, more than <u>44,000 Palestinians</u> — mostly women and children — have been killed in Gaza. Nearly all of Gaza's residents have been displaced — many multiple times. Most are living in temporary shelters, exposed to harsh winter rain and cold. Their physical and mental health is severely impacted. Civilians cannot meet even the most basic human needs — water, shelter, food and healthcare. Essentials, including through humanitarian aid, continue to be denied.

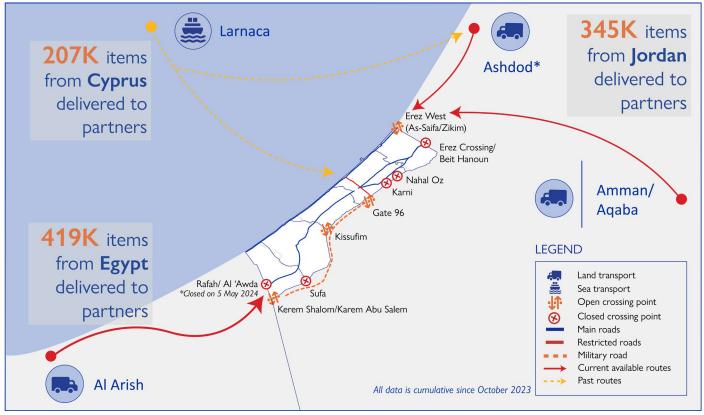
Preparations for winter have been affected by ongoing impediments to the movement of supplies into Gaza, including by insecurity, restricted access, hostilities, unexploded ordnance and fuel shortages. The food crisis worsens by the day across the Gaza Strip. Famine is imminent. Meanwhile, the complete breakdown of public order has fuelled a surge in the looting of aid trucks. Despite extraordinary challenges, humanitarian workers persist in their efforts to deliver vital aid. As stated by the United Nations, humanitarian workers must have safe, rapid, unimpeded and sustained access to all people in need across Gaza. As the Secretary-General has stressed, the delivery of aid must be predictable and sustained.

IOM RESPONSE

In October 2023, IOM urgently mobilized resources and expertise to establish a regional response. Drawing on experience in mass displacement crises both regionally and globally, IOM has applied its knowledge in shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and site management to enhance the assistance reaching people in Gaza. IOM teams are delivering essential life-saving items to partners on the ground who distribute aid to the affected population in Gaza.

IOM is strengthening technical expertise on the ground in Gaza by providing experts in site management, shelter, WASH and logistics through a staff loan programme to UN partners. In line with its global co-leadership, IOM loanees to UN partners support site management and coordination in Gaza and play a key role in delivering humanitarian aid. Utilizing the IOM Common Pipeline Programme, in-kind donations and bilateral partnerships, IOM quickly procures and transports essential WASH and shelter non-food items (S/NFIs) via Egypt, Cyprus or Jordan. IOM also facilitated the transport of donated items from government and business partners.

DELIVERING AID INTO GAZA



Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official IOM endorsement/acceptance. *Items in Ashdod were originally sent directly to Gaza from Cyprus via JLOTS. Due to the closure of JLOTS the items were warehoused in Ashdod by a third party consignee before dispatched to northern Gaza.

CYPRUS

The Cyprus maritime corridor began operations in May 2024, given the closure of most land borders and humanitarian corridors. IOM scaled up efforts through strategic partnerships with key donors and partners, leveraging both in-kind donations and the IOM Common Pipeline Programme to streamline the delivery of essential items through this maritime route. With the official closure of the Joint Logistics Over-the-Shore (JLOTS) floating pier, items from Cyprus were redirected to a warehouse by a third-party consignee in Ashdod and dispatched to northern Gaza.

JORDAN

2 JRMS field hospitals in Gaza supported & supplies for additional hospital pre-positioned in Amman, including tents, generators and portable air conditioning units

1,880 medical items & surgical supplies provided to JRMS hospitals in Gaza

84,000 medicines, medical supplies, midwife kits & vaccines provided from partners delivered to JRMS via IOM

In partnership with Jordanian Royal Medical Service (JRMS), IOM supports the expansion of the health response in Gaza. This initiative addresses critical needs by aiding the capacity and deployment of the JRMS level II field hospitals in Gaza city and Khan Younis. It includes the provision of critical medical supplies, medicines, vaccines, midwife kits, surgical items, generators, air conditioning units, tents and other items required for the day-to-day running of the hospitals. Additionally, IOM collaborates with NGOs to secure additional donations, enhancing these hospitals' capacity to provide a comprehensive approach to health by integrating physical, mental, and social well-being support.

IOM is enhancing the operational capacity of the IOM Common Pipeline Programme by expanding warehousing facilities in Jordan to position essential items effectively. These efforts are strengthened through partnerships within Jordan, including the Jordan Hashemite Charitable Foundation (JHCO) and the logistics cluster, in close coordination with relevant authorities.

EGYPT

- 272 trucks & over 44 shipments of WASH and S-NFI items dispatched
- 700 third-country nationals, with 41 family members/relatives, evacuated (Nov-Dec 2023)
- 150 individuals supported through family reunification (Nov-Dec 2023)
- 4 burn victims medically evacuated with family escorts to Cairo, in coordination with the ERC (Nov-Dec 2023)

Through partnerships with key international NGOs, IOM has leveraged its extensive local and global logistics networks to facilitate the movement of humanitarian supplies to Egyptian border crossings with Gaza, enhancing the sustainability and efficiency of operations. Despite supply chain disruptions by the closure of the Rafah border on 5 May 2024, IOM continues to coordinate with authorities and support partners' aid delivery to Gaza. A key partner is the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC), the sole approved entity for humanitarian aid operations in Egypt, handling large volumes of aid such as essential health services and food supplies.

IOM supported the ERC in the medical evacuation of four burn victims into Egypt for specialized treatment and provided support to a burn unit at Al-Salam Hospital.

Additionally, IOM trained 110 frontline healthcare workers and paramedics at the Egyptian Ambulance Organization (EAO) on International Trauma Life Support and Basic Life Support to support patients from Gaza in Egypt. IOM also provided medication, supplies, equipment and 108 Emergency Backpack kits to EAO's frontline operations. IOM will continue to support the Ministry of Health and ERC to better facilitate smooth operations for evacuees and patients.



An IOM health team ensures that a family is fit for travel from Egypt home to their country of origin. Photo: IOM 2023



Pallets of essential aid items are received at a Jordanian airport for delivery to Gaza. Photo: IOM 2024

THE WAY FORWARD

IOM will continue its aid delivery efforts by expanding its Common Pipeline Programme, increasing the volume of emergency supplies accessible to local and international partners for use in Gaza. This expansion will involve streamlining procurement processes and improving access through all available supply routes to Gaza. Prioritized items will be prepositioned in key locations around Gaza. IOM is actively building partnerships with local and international actors on the ground to diversify distribution paths and expand the reach of essential aid to the affected population.

To strengthen resilience against winter hazards, IOM is procuring and delivering essential materials to winterize makeshift shelters as well as thermal supplies, enabling families to withstand nighttime temperatures that may drop below 5° C (41° F). Immediate intervention is critical to provide safe and adequate shelter, clean water and well-managed sites to protect the dignity, safety and survival of the most vulnerable populations.

