

## **Brief: Emergency Appeal for the Palestinian People in Gaza and Lebanon**

### **Appeal information**

We've launched the **Emergency Appeal for the Palestinian People in Gaza and Lebanon**, in which you can make your donation right away. With your support, Union Aid Abroad–APHEDA's partner organisations the MA'AN Development Center and the Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organization will continue to provide access to water, food, hygiene kits and humanitarian aid to people in Palestine and Lebanon.

**Donation link:** <https://palestinian-people-emergency-appeal.raisedysite.com/>

### **Previous appeal report**

In October 2023, at the onset of a humanitarian crisis of historic proportions, we received an urgent request for assistance from our partner of 35 years MA'AN Development Center. In 12 months, we raised \$1 million through our Gaza Emergency Appeal.

This money went directly to the humanitarian relief efforts of MA'AN which provided essential necessities to nearly 1.1 million people, working in collaboration with UN Agencies and local NGOs in Gaza.

The money raised through Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has helped provide tens of thousands of families with:

- Fresh locally grown vegetables
- Hot prepared meals
- Packets of freshly baked bread
- Milk products for children

## **The Situation in Gaza and Lebanon**

### **Gaza:**

The past year has been among the darkest in Gaza's history, and conditions continue to deteriorate. Displaced residents are witnessing unimaginable devastation: families, especially children, are perishing in fires, and essential supplies like fuel, food, and medicine are nearly inaccessible, leaving people thirsty, hungry, and deprived of basic necessities.

Hospitals have been reduced to rubble, shelters are under bombardment, and there are no safe zones within the Gaza Strip. As of October 16th, at least 42,409 Palestinians in Gaza have lost their lives, including 11,355 children, 6,297 women, and 2,955 elderly people. At least 7,883 individuals are missing and presumed dead under the rubble, with over 99,153 injured.

Currently, 1.9 million Gazans face emergency levels of food insecurity, with 495,000 facing famine-like conditions, according to the latest report from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) for the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Relentless bombing campaigns are decimating entire communities—600 families have been completely wiped out, their names permanently removed from the civil registry. The situation in northern Gaza has worsened to a catastrophic level, with UNICEF Director Catherine Russell warning that every person remaining there “is at imminent risk of dying.”

### **Lebanon:**

Since October 8, 2023, Israeli air strikes, attacks, and ground incursions have forced over 200,000 people in Lebanon to flee their homes, resulting in 2,593 deaths and over 13,047 injuries as of October 24. The humanitarian situation in Lebanon has surpassed the severity of the 2006 war, as reported by OCHA amid escalating hostilities.

The healthcare sector is under severe strain, with facilities, staff, and resources frequently caught in the crossfire, further weakening Lebanon's already fragile health infrastructure.

As more displaced people seek refuge in areas like Akkar, the demand on healthcare, waste management, and shelter services is placing significant pressure on local communities and resources.

### **About our partner organisations**

We are fundraising to support the emergency relief efforts of two of our historic partner organisations:

- **The MA'AN Development Center** is an independent, secular civil society organization that has partnered with Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA for nearly 40 years. MA'AN works to advance social justice, economic and political rights, Palestinian self-determination, and development while combating poverty, promoting gender equality, and fighting marginalization across the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Despite the destruction of its Gaza

offices and the loss of colleagues and loved ones, MA'AN continues to deliver critical emergency aid to marginalized communities under the most challenging conditions.

- **The Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organization (PWHO)** is a grassroots group founded by refugee women in Lebanon to foster resilience and create practical solutions for their community. Their early childhood education program in Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut is one of Union Aid Abroad–APHEDA’s longest-standing partnerships, supporting children’s educational and emotional development while enabling women to pursue work opportunities. In response to recent Israeli bombings in Beirut, PWHO is now mobilizing emergency aid for affected camps. For instance, residents of the Burj el Barajneh camp, one of their locations, have been evacuated and relocated to nearby camps and surrounding areas.