**THE danish emergency relief fund**

**Alert note**

**Section A: Basic information**

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| Organisation: | *Danish Muslim Aid (DM-Aid)* |
| Title of alert: | Humanitarian crisis Gaza |
| Type of crisis: | * *spike in protracted humanitarian crisis (please fill out section D)* |

**Section D: Spike in a protracted humanitarian crisis**

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| d.1 Where is the crisis? *Describe the areas affected.*  Gaza strip, Occupied Palestinian Territories (oPt). On the 2nd of March 2025 Israel cut off aid again to Gaza. Since then, until the 24th of March, Israel has killed around 500 Palestinians ([UNRWA](https://www.unrwa.org/resources/reports/unrwa-situation-report-164-situation-gaza-strip-and-west-bank-including-east-jerusalem)) and cut off power to the last desalination plant providing clean water in Gaza ([CNN](https://edition.cnn.com/2025/03/09/middleeast/israel-electricity-gaza-intl-latam/index.html)). As of today, all of Gaza is under heavy attack again. With the closure of all entry of humanitarian aid and commercial goods the prices for flour, sugar, and vegetable have surged by over 200%, and 6 bakeries has already closed putting the most vulnerable at an even higher risk ([WFP](https://www.wfp.org/news/earlier-food-security-gains-gaza-risk-food-insecurity-concerns-grow-west-bank)). As a consequence, over 1 million Palestinians risk being left without food support ([OCHA](https://www.ochaopt.org/content/humanitarian-situation-update-273-gaza-strip)). With Israel warning this is only the beginning ([NYtimes](https://www.nytimes.com/live/2025/03/17/world/israel-gaza-airstrikes)) it is imperative that the international community act now to support and protect the Palestinians in Gaza.  d.2 What is the nature of the crisis? *Please describe the type of crisis (e.g. armed conflict, famine or other situation where significant portion of the population is acutely vulnerable to death, disease or other disruption) and describe potential local social and political implications (e.g. for specific target groups).*  The armed conflict in Gaza has killed least 48,291 Palestinians and injured 111,722 between 7 October 2023 and 18 February 2025 ([UNRWA](https://www.unrwa.org/resources/reports/unrwa-situation-report-160-situation-gaza-strip-and-west-bank-including-east-jerusalem?utm_source=chatgpt.com)). The death toll surpassed 50.000 on the 24th of March ([CNN](https://edition.cnn.com/2025/03/23/middleeast/50-000-killed-in-gaza-since-start-of-israel-hamas-war-intl)). The majority of those killed are civilians, with women and children accounting for 67% of the total death toll, as confirmed by [UN Security Council briefings](https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15503.doc.htm?utm_source=chatgpt.com). Since January 2024,1.9 million people (90% of the population) have been displaced, multiple times ([UN](https://press.un.org/en/2024/sc15564.doc.htm?utm_source=chatgpt.com)). 92% of homes are either destroyed or severely damaged. Infrastructure collapse has left the population without sufficient food, water, medical care or shelter.  d.3 What information do you have about the situation?  According to the OCHA flash appeal 2025 there is a dire need for food, water and medical care for all residents of Gaza, especially for those in hard-to-reach areas ([OCHA](https://www.ochaopt.org/content/flash-appeal-2025-glance?_gl=1*lre4td*_ga*MTYzNjkzMDM5OS4xNzQyMjk0MTQx*_ga_E60ZNX2F68*MTc0MjU1NDg0NS44LjEuMTc0MjU1NjkyNC42MC4wLjA.)). The appeal requests a total of 3,6 billion USD in order to address the humanitarian needs. As of March 18, only about 4,3% of that has been reached. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza has severely impacted the entire population, with 2.1 million people identified as in need of assistance. Particularly vulnerable groups include children, women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, who face heightened risks due to displacement, lack of access to essential services, and protection concerns.  d.3.1 Do you consider there to be a spike/change in a slow onset/chronic crisis or in a protracted humanitarian crisis? If yes, provide as strong as possible evidence for this current spike.  We consider this a spike in a protracted humanitarian crisis. Israel has on the 18th of March bombed Gaza killing more than 400 Palestinian including 170 children within hours. With the Israeli bombing and the consequent response from Hamas firing rockets into Israel ([Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2025/mar/20/israel-gaza-war-latest-middle-east-news-ceasefire-hostages-netanyahu-hamas-trump?utm_source=chatgpt.com)), the ceasefire is largely considered off or at least highly likely to be off. Nevertheless, the civilians in Gaza are in even higher need now due to Israel closing off the entrée of aid and goods.  d.3.2. Describe as specific as possible when the spike has started.  On the 18th of March Israel bombed Gaza killing more than 400 Palestinian including 170 children. Beforehand, Israel had cut off all aid and goods going into Gaza from the 2nd of March. Consequently, Hamas has fired rockets into Israel. Additionally, Houthis has started firing rockets at Israel further escalating the situation ([CNN](https://edition.cnn.com/2025/03/19/middleeast/israel-houthi-missile-yemen-intl-hnk/index.html)).  d.3.3. How could DERF grants make a difference for the crisis affected population?  Aid and commercial goods have been halted leading to a surge in prices. However, there are still goods available inside Gaza. It is imperative that the international community support the most vulnerable people who have the least access to these products at such a high price. Persons with disabilities, children and pregnant women, and orphans are at risk of not being able to access the goods that are in Gaza at all. A short rapid intervention supported by DERF will allow organisations inside Gaza, in coordination with UN agencies, to support the most vulnerable immediately.  d.4 Are you already responding to this emergency? In which locations/sectors? For which target group? Through which forms of local presence?  After October 2023, DM-Aid together with our partner Taawon and through our network of small organisations in Gaza, have provided more than 7 million DKK in aid (including almost 1.5 million DKK from DERF). DM-Aid with Taawon was able to get medical supplies into Gaza before the Rafah crossing closed, provide winterization items, and provide food and water for tens of thousands of the most vulnerable Palestinians. During the blockade DM-Aid and Taawon was able to provide support of hot meals, food packages, and water by utilizing a strong network of organisations inside Gaza and only buy local products which also supported the Palestinian economy and the Palestinian owned businesses. Since the 18th of March 2025 DM-Aid together with Taawon is preparing a multimillion intervention focusing on food, water and partly restoration of Palestinian agriculture systems to support long term food provision. |