

Call for applications for DERF funding of rapid response interventions answering to the following humanitarian crisis:

Title: Spike in the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank

Country and location(s): The Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

DERF Funding Modality: Applicants are to apply for the DERF Funding Modality *Rapid Response* as per the DERF Funding Guidelines.

Call window for submission of applications: Applications are received and processed on an ongoing basis from 27-3-2025 until 30-4-2025 at 12:00 noon CET.

Please note that the DERF office will be closed from 12 to 21 April and will reopen on 22 April. During this period, applications will not be processed.

Funds allocated for this Call: The DERF allocates a total of up to **DKK 4 million** for this Call. Applicants can apply for **maximum DKK 1 million** each.

Piloting flexible funds and 5% local administration: Under this call, you may (optional) include 10% of *flexible funds* for activities. Furthermore, *local partner administration* is now a lumpsum of up to 5% of total partner costs. Please read carefully all the details about this pilot in the following [Guiding Note](#).

Alert title and location(s)	Alert type, source and date	Crisis type	Information on the humanitarian crisis and emergency relief needs	Known DK org. in crisis location(s)	Assessment of DERF relevance
Title: Spike in the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank Country & locations: The Gaza Strip and the West Bank.	Alert Type: Local Alert Alerting Organisation: Danish Muslim Aid Crisis Start: 18/03/2025 Sources supplemented with: OCHA: Humanitarian Situation Update #275 Gaza Strip; 25-March 2025 OCHA: Humanitarian	Spike in protracted crisis	Background: The humanitarian crisis in Gaza has seen a spike following intensive airstrikes across the region since the early hours of March 18, 2025, marking the end of phase 1 of the ceasefire agreed upon on 15 January. Hundreds have been killed and injured, and civilian infrastructure is damaged and destroyed, including homes, schools serving as shelters, hospitals, and tents of internally displaced people (IDPs). On 20 and 24 March, Palestinian armed groups launched rockets towards Israel, with no casualties were reported. On 20 March, the Israeli military re-deployed forces along the eastern and central sections of the “Netzarim corridor” and announced that movement between northern and southern Gaza would be restricted to the Al Rashid (coastal) Road. (UN-OCHA) The attacks since March 18, 2025, are assessed to be a spike in the protracted crisis between Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, and for this reason, the DERF uses this date as the trigger for opening a call for applications. Humanitarian impact: Gaza: Between 18 and 25 March, 792 Palestinians were killed and 1,663 injured in the Gaza Strip. This escalation has hit an already deeply vulnerable population, who were struggling with severe food insecurity, unmet health needs, inadequate shelter, limited access to education, and widespread loss of livelihoods due to ongoing conflict and longstanding blockades. Now, their situation has deteriorated even further: Gaza’s health-care system is under severe strain, struggling to manage hundreds of casualties amid critical shortages of medical supplies, equipment, blood units, and personnel. Key civilian infrastructure—including homes, hospitals, schools used as shelters, and tents housing internally displaced people—has been damaged or destroyed. Furthermore, military activities and the issuance of displacement orders by the Israeli military have triggered new waves of displacement across Gaza, with over 142,000 people estimated to have been displaced between 18 and 23 March. Since 7 October 2023 and as of 25 March 2025, at least 50,144 Palestinians have been killed and	Number of organisation s present in-country: 21 Number of organisation s with external funding experience (both CSF and DERF grants): 9 Number of organisation s present in specific localities: 4	Critical emergency and/or protection needs: Yes Particularly vulnerable groups: Yes Timeliness of potential DERF funded intervention: Yes Significant funding gap exist: Yes DERF funds available: Yes Recommend: Activate DERF.

	Situation Update #274 West Bank; 20-March 2025 ACAPS – Briefing note 25 March 2025 Site Management Cluster- Palestine: Population Movement Monitoring Flash-Update 21-23 March 2025	113,704 injured. In the same period, more than 1,607 Israelis and foreign nationals have also been killed, the majority on 7 October 2023 and in the immediate aftermath. (UN-OCHA) West Bank: Military operations in the northern West Bank continue to cause casualties, destruction and displacement. Between 11 and 17 March, five Palestinians were killed, and 82 were injured across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. (UN-OCHA) Prioritised Emergency Actions: There is an urgent need for emergency interventions. The key humanitarian priorities identified include, but are not limited to: • Protection and psychosocial support for vulnerable people and restoring family links. • Food Security and Livelihoods - FSL, e.g., through Cash Based Assistance (CBA) • WASH (access to clean water and storage containers, hygiene and sanitation) • Health (access to medical care and emergency health services) • Emergency shelter (tents, as well as medium-term solutions to withstand winter) and Non-Food Items - NFIs (tarpaulins, blankets, mattresses, clothes, and kitchen sets etc.) The types of needs in the West Bank are similar to those in the Gaza Strip, though their scale is significantly greater in the Gaza Strip. Civil society actors are encouraged to assess the space available for humanitarian action and prioritise efforts where they can have the greatest impact, while taking into account and addressing the access and security challenges outlined below. Vulnerability: All people in Gaza are experiencing extreme vulnerability and are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. In the West Bank, vulnerable groups include internally displaced persons (IDPs), women, children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Funding Situation: As of 20 March 2025, UN Member States have disbursed approximately US\$175.6 million out of the \$4.07 billion (4.3 per cent) requested to meet the most critical humanitarian needs of three million out of 3.3 million people identified as requiring assistance in Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. During February 2025, the oPt Humanitarian Fund (oPt HF) managed 87 ongoing projects, totalling \$62.6 million, to address urgent needs in the Gaza Strip (86 per cent) and the West Bank (14 per cent) (UN-OCHA). Humanitarian Access: Since 2 March, the Israeli government has banned the entry of humanitarian aid and any other supplies via all land crossings into Gaza – the longest such closure since October 2023. Gains made during the ceasefire to support survivors have been reversed. (UN-OCHA). Therefore, humanitarian efforts are crippled as the ban by authorities on the entry of any supplies has now entered its fourth week. Although access to Gaza remains severely restricted and the security situation is highly volatile, several humanitarian actors are currently operating in the area and stand ready to deliver and scale up life-saving assistance when conditions allow. These actors include various UN agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), international organisations, and local NGOs. DERF applicants must clearly and thoroughly describe how they plan to reach target groups within the chosen intervention areas and in relation to the planned activities. This information is a key part of the		
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			assessment process and must be addressed in detail in the relevant sections of the DERF Rapid Response application format (sections 2.1a, b, or c). Security: Humanitarian aid workers in the Gaza Strip face a significant risk of injury or loss of life. Between 18 and 25 March, at least eight aid workers were killed, and two humanitarian facilities were hit in Gaza. In total, since 7 October 2023, at least 399 aid workers, including 289 UN staff, 34 Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) staff and at least 76 other NGO staff have been killed in Gaza. (UN-OCHA). When planning and budgeting, applicants should carefully consider the physical and digital security of both implementing partners and target groups. On digital security, data from AccessNow can be used as reference https://www.accessnow.org/guide/staying-safe-online-in-the-context-of-conflict-in-gaza/. Regarding anti-terror regulations, DERF applicants are required to take all necessary precautions to ensure that no transaction related to the intervention—whether directly or indirectly—benefits any individual, group, or entity subject to UN or EU sanctions. All applicants must ensure that their humanitarian interventions are guided by the principles of neutrality and impartiality. Assistance should be provided solely based on needs, without discrimination, and without taking sides in political, religious, or military conflicts.		
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