

# Appeal 2008-2009

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

## The Palestine Red Crescent Society

Appeal No. MAAPS001

Date: 14/12/2007

This appeal seeks 34,585,809 Swiss francs (USD 30,935,428 or EUR 20,961,096) to fund the planned programmes implemented in 2008-2009 as part of the operational alliance. Of this, 3,988,279 Swiss francs (USD 3,567,000 or EUR 2,417,000) is to be channelled through the International Federation Secretariat. The overall budget of the Palestine Red Crescent Society is 86,596,194 Swiss francs (USD 77,456,345 or EUR 52,482,542).

In a world of global challenges, continued poverty, inequity, and increasing vulnerability to disasters and disease, the International Federation with its global network, works to accomplish its Global Agenda, partnering with local community and civil society to prevent and alleviate human suffering from disasters, diseases and public health emergencies.



**The emergency medical teams sometimes have to deliver babies when ambulances with women in labour are kept waiting at checkpoints. Photo: Palestine Red Crescent Society.**

## Current context

The conflict between the Palestinian people and Israel has for many years, and in particular since late September 2000 when the second Intifada began, led to a dramatic deterioration in the humanitarian situation for all people in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt). The more than 4.5 million Palestinians in the occupied Palestinian territories (oPt) and the Palestinian refugees in Lebanon have become increasingly dependent on humanitarian aid from international and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The economy has to a great extent been crippled due to the international financial embargo previously imposed on the government, to the tight closure of both the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as to the internal fighting between Palestinian factions. All of these factors are preventing the government from building a viable and sustainable economy. Internal hostility, with limited dialogue between the authorities in the West Bank and those controlling the Gaza Strip, has further deteriorated the humanitarian situation.

The Palestine Red Crescent is one of the largest and most important humanitarian organizations in oPt. Thanks to its many international partners it is the most reliable provider of health care and social services in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It is also the only provider of secondary health

care services to the Palestinian refugees in the Diaspora. Due to the financial crisis in oPt and serious lack of job opportunities for Palestinians in Lebanon, there are very few options for the Palestine Red Crescent to generate income from its programmes and services. This leaves it vulnerable and dependent on external funding. With years of deteriorating economic and humanitarian conditions, and with periods where the authorities could not provide health care and social services, the importance of the Palestine Red Crescent has increased.

## Programme summary

### Disaster Management

**Target population:** [Click here for the planning and resource summary matrix](#)

The Palestine Red Crescent disaster management programme is based on coordination of decentralized preparedness, mobility, swift response and good management, and on improved surveillance. Key scenarios entail preparedness and response to both conflict and natural disasters. Coordination is based on inter-departmental and inter-branch integration of activities and development of shared goals and objectives. Decision-making is through the Palestine Red Crescent disaster management group to ensure optimal use of resources. The disaster management unit is preparing for potential crises through providing equipment and mobile medical posts, and maintaining contingency stock of non-food relief items. The situation is monitored through four operation/situation rooms throughout oPt. Implementation mechanisms are the rapid damage assessment surveillance system, the advanced medical post and the referral services.

### Health and Care

**Target population:** [Click here for the planning and resource summary matrix](#)

The Palestine Red Crescent runs 30 primary health care centres in oPt and another nine in Palestine refugee camps in Lebanon. The centres in oPt offer preventive, diagnostic and curative medical services, while the centres in Lebanon are focusing on preventive health care. By using the community-based approach, all centres will continue working closely with the communities and the local people, developing programmes in response to local health needs, with a particular focus on women and children. With many of the clinics in oPt being merged with those of the Ministry of Health, immunization programmes are part of the services offered.

Providing emergency medical services is considered to be one of the most important activities of the society. The well organized and professional ambulance service programme is operated from its 36 locations throughout oPt. Its almost 300 staff provide a lifesaving service in an increasingly difficult and challenging environment, where medical personnel are often in positions of danger.

The Palestine Red Crescent secondary health care programme will continue providing curative, surgical and specialized health care services from its six hospitals in oPt, and from another nine hospitals to Palestinian refugees in the Diaspora. The hospital in Cairo is important for treating Palestinian patients transferred to it, in particular from the Gaza Strip, because there is a shortage of professional expertise in this field in oPt.

The Palestine Red Crescent psychosocial programme (PSP) has been growing steadily over the past few years, operating through the educational system in oPt as well as from a few special PSP centres. Together with its partners, the society has developed the programme to become a trendsetter within the Palestinian communities and one which will be expanded to new areas in oPt as well as to the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

The Palestine Red Crescent is mandated by the Palestinian Authority to develop the national blood transfusion service in oPt. Development of the programme started in 2004 and will continue in the coming years, with the overall goal to provide safe blood from healthy voluntary donors to all Palestinians who need it, at any time.

## Capacity Development

**Target population:** [Click here for the planning and resource summary matrix](#)

To facilitate the rapid growth of the Palestine Red Crescent's services over the past six years, and to ensure quality services, the society has an organizational development strategy. This strategy aims to streamline operations, while ensuring effective management of services with a focus on leadership and branch development, capacity building, as well as financial, human resource and logistics systems improvement. To prepare for and follow up on these initiatives the Palestine Red Crescent is investing energy and resources in streamlining the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting processes together with its partners through the operational alliance concept in line with its Strategy 2005-2010 and based on *the seven ones* approach. The Project Planning Process (PPP) approach is being followed and project plans are adjusted to the overall programme implementation within each sector.

## Principles and Values/Humanitarian Values

**Target population:** [Click here for the planning and resource summary matrix](#)

The Palestine Red Crescent has developed a strong base of youth and volunteers in oPt and the Diaspora, engaging national and international people from all sectors, including professionals and academics from various disciplines. The youth and volunteer programme is active in social, cultural, and environmental programmes.

There is a special focus on education and skills development, community and emergency health services and promoting the dissemination of the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement and International Humanitarian Law (IHL). Such dissemination among staff, volunteers, local health providers and the general public are two of the highest priorities of the society. For the coming year there will be workshops, school visits and appearances on radio and television, and special events around 8<sup>th</sup> May- World Red Cross Red Crescent Day. The society's website will also be a valuable tool. Contributing to reducing intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion, and promoting respect for diversity and human dignity are the overall goals.

## Needs

Global Agenda Goals	2008 budget in CHF (million)			2009 budget in CHF (million)			Total budget in CHF (million)		
	Total PRCS Budget	Required	Channelled through Federation	Total PRCS Budget	Required	Channelled through Federation	Total PRCS Budget	Required	Channelled through Federation
Disaster management	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7
Health and care	33.9	11.9	1.3	36.0	12.1	1.3	69.9	24.0	2.6
Capacity development	0.8	0.2		0.8	0.2		1.6	0.5	
Principles and values/humanitarian values	7.1	4.6		7.2	4.7		14.3	9.4	
Coordination			0.3			0.3			0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>42.2</b>	<b>17.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>44.4</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>86.6</b>	<b>34.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>

The total value of the Palestine Red Crescent programmes for 2008-2009 is 86,596,194 Swiss francs. Of this total, 34,585,809 Swiss francs is requested from the operational alliance partners. To be able to run its humanitarian programmes without interruption, the Palestine Red Crescent needs long term funding. In addition, to continue improving its internal systems and procedures the society is looking for further technical support from its many partners. Dictated by the unstable economic and political environment, these systems need to be flexible enough to be adjusted at any time to the rapidly changing needs of the beneficiaries.

## Working in partnership

Since it was established in 1968 as the only Red Crescent Society providing humanitarian services to the Palestinian refugees in the Diaspora, long before it moved into the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Palestine Red Crescent has enjoyed long-term relationships based on solidarity. The main partners today in terms of financial and technical assistance are from within the Movement, based on the humanitarian needs and good reputation the society has built up over the years in a rapidly changing and difficult environment.

The work of the Palestine Red Crescent is by its nature based on close cooperation with the community and voluntary groups in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Hence the society enjoys good relationships with a large number of national partners due to this extended community-based approach. Over the years there has also been good cooperation with governmental-based Palestinian agencies as well as international organizations, and the United Nations agencies. But the most reliable support to the Palestine Red Crescent has been coming from its Red Cross and Red Crescent partners. From 2007 the Palestine Red Crescent has adopted the operational alliance concept, encouraging all its partners to support this working modality based on the seven ones, embracing bilateralism as well as multilateralism on equal terms.

### Partners of the Palestine Red Crescent:

Programme support	Governmental agencies	International organizations	UN agencies	Red Cross Red Crescent partners
Health and care	Ministries of Health, Social Affairs and Transport, Spanish Coop.	ACPP <sup>1</sup> , Care International, CISP <sup>2</sup> , KKF <sup>3</sup> , Map-UK, Medecins du Monde, Norwegian Palestine Committee, NORWAC <sup>4</sup>	UNDP, UNICEF, UNRWA,	Danish, Canadian, Federation, Finnish, French, German, Hellenic, ICRC, Italian, Irish, Japanese, Lebanese, Netherlands, Norwegian, Qatar, Spanish, Swedish, Swiss, United Arab Emirates, Yemen
Capacity development	Ministry of Education, Civil Defence		UNESCO	American, British, Canadian, Federation, German, ICRC, Netherlands, Norwegian.
General Support	PA president's office, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spanish Coop., Swiss Development Cooperation, Netherlands Embassy			American, Arab RCRC Organization, Arab Syrian, Bahrain, Egyptian, Federation, German, Hellenic, ICRC, Icelandic, Japanese, Libyan, Monaco, Netherlands, Norwegian, Spanish, Swedish, Turkish, United Arab Emirates

<sup>1</sup> Asamblea de Cooperacion por La Paz.

<sup>2</sup> Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli.

<sup>3</sup> Karl Kahane Foundation.

<sup>4</sup> Norwegian Aid Committee.

<b>How we work</b>	
<p>All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a> and is committed to the <a href="#">Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere)</a> in delivering quality and accountable assistance to the most vulnerable. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for a full description of the national society profile, please access the Federation's website at <a href="http://www.ifrc.org">http://www.ifrc.org</a></p>	
<p>The International Federation's activities are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".</p>	<p><b>Global Agenda Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.</li><li>• Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.</li><li>• Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.</li><li>• Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.</li></ul>
<b>Contact information</b>	
<p>For further information specifically related to this Appeal, please contact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>In the Palestine Red Crescent Society:</b> Younis Al-Khatib, president; email: <a href="mailto:younis@palestinercs.org">younis@palestinercs.org</a>, phone: + 972 2 2406515; fax: + 972 2 2406518.</li><li>• <b>In the Federation Palestine representation:</b> Ola Skuterud, Federation representative; email: <a href="mailto:ola.skuterud@ifrc.org">ola.skuterud@ifrc.org</a>, phone + 972 2 2400484/5; fax +972 2 2400484.</li><li>• <b>In the MENA Zone (temporarily Amman):</b> Marwan Jilani; Head of Zone; email: <a href="mailto:marwan.jilani@ifrc.org">marwan.jilani@ifrc.org</a>; phone: +962-6-5694911; fax: +962-6-5694556.</li></ul>	

[Click to access the detailed 2008-2009 plan; planning and resource summary matrix; budget summary](#)