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Information bulletin

Occupied Palestinian Territory (oPt): Complex Emergency

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Date of issue: 10/07/14	
Type of disaster: Complex emergency	Point of contact: Amelia Marzal
Host National Society: Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS)	

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time.

The situation

- The security situation has dramatically deteriorated, in the first week of July 2014 with so far more than 80 people have been killed and more than 1,500 wounded between West Bank and Gaza, according to figures from Palestinian Ministry of Health. Since the starting of the military operation in Gaza more than 70 people have been killed and more than 400 wounded.
- PRCS staff and volunteers are working across the hour to respond to needs of the Palestinian communities, under a high risk conditions. The EMS station in Gaza, Gebalaya branch, was hit, leading to the injury of three of its staff.
- 400 volunteers have been involved in the operation, and are being included in the standard IFRC volunteers insurance scheme
- Clashes erupted in mid-June 2014 after three Israeli teenagers were abducted on June 13, in West Bank (near Hebron) and their bodies were found on the evening of June 30, 2014.
- Clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinian communities erupted, and it was coupled with increased tension between Israeli settlers and Palestinian community, after the abduction and killing of a Palestinian teenager in Jerusalem on July 2. Protest and violent clashes between Palestinians and Israeli forces are since ongoing through East Jerusalem, Hebron, other areas in West Bank and Palestinian communities in Israel.
- As of July 7 there has been a significant escalation in hostilities in Gaza Strip and southern Israel between both sides. Israeli media reports indicate that the operation will be gradually scaled up, and may include ground operations. This is described to be the worst unrest since an eight-day war in 2012.
- The Palestinian Ministry of Health and the municipality of Gaza City have declared and emergency situation.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

- Since the start of the crisis, on 13 June, PRCS activated the Central emergency operation room in Headquarters in Ramallah and as well as the one in Hebron. One week later the operation room was also activated in Gaza strip.
- Disaster Management Unit, emergency medical services (EMS), volunteers, logistics as well as media support are working together to respond to the

emergency and ready to be mobilised at any moment according to needs and situation.

- The first priority was to make sure that EMS is ready to respond to the emergency with ambulances and volunteer teams trained in first aid to support the service.
- The second priority was to make sure that hospitals and Primary Health centres (PHC) are ready and equipped with enough stocks of medicines, disposables, surgical instruments and a buffer (emergency stock) in case of number of injuries increased during the period.
- The third priority was to mobilize the DM volunteers under the NDRT for need assessment, distributions of relief items, etc.
- PRCS already provided the EMS services to 1,061 injured people (653 in West Bank and 383 in Gaza strip)
- PRCS transported 61 dead bodies (10 in West Bank and 51 in Gaza strip)
- EMS vehicles (122 ambulances), technicians (250) and EMS volunteers (300) were mobilized.
- Shelter and non-food items for 4 families in West Bank were distributed.
- In Gaza strip, PRCS will provide relief assistance to 15 families whose homes were either destroyed or damaged following Israeli bombings
- Primary Health Centres in South of West Bank were activated for emergency situation 24 hours.
- PRCS hospitals in Jerusalem, Hebron and Gaza, provided attention to injured people
- Volunteer teams in most of West Bank and Gaza areas activated and provided first aid services to injured people
- Headquarters distributed medicines and disposables to PHC and EMS centres to replenish the normal stock. But in case of emergency, it will be enough for only three months in a normal situation.
- Relief non-food items were distributed to main branches, where sub-warehouses are located (5,000 families for each).

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

- **PRCS** :Dr. Khalid Joudeh, Director General, email: joudehk@palestinercs.org , phone: +972 2 240 65 15; fax +972 2 240 21 08;
- **IFRC Country Representation**: Amelia Marzal, Palestine Country Representative, Phone +972 59 823 58 88, email: amelia.marzal@ifrc.org

For Resource Mobilization and Pledges

- **In IFRC Zone**: Raefah Makki, Senior Resource communication Officer, Phone: +96170480488, email:raefah.makki@ifrc.org



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The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.



The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.