Minister Anand announces new funding for Palestinians amid crises in Gaza and the West Bank

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News release

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The Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Foreign Affairs, announced an additional $100 million in funding to support UN, Red Cross and Red Crescent and NGO partners in delivering international assistance to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza.

Today’s announcement comes as the humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues to intensify and conditions in the West Bank deteriorate amid Israeli settlement expansion and rising extremist settler violence.

This funding brings Canada’s total contributions to international assistance efforts in Palestine to more than $500 million and will help provide emergency medical assistance, food and nutrition, water, sanitation, shelter and protection services while also supporting peace and stabilization initiatives.

Canada calls on Israel to urgently allow the safe, rapid and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian assistance, the protection of civilians, including humanitarian workers, and full respect for international humanitarian law.

Funding announced today reflects Canada's broader effort to address the crises in Gaza and the West Bank. It also underscores Canada's support for peacebuilding efforts to advance the necessary conditions for a lasting peace in support of a two-state solution in which Israelis and Palestinians can live side by side in peace, security and dignity. This week, Canada imposed sanctions against individuals and entities linked to extremist settler violence in the West Bank and joined Australia and the United Kingdom in launching the International Peace Fund for Israelis and Palestinians to support peacebuilding efforts. We continue to call for the disarmament of Hamas, for all parties to uphold their obligations under international law and for the immediate and unimpeded flow of humanitarian aid.

Quotes

> "Today Canada announced $100 million in funding to deliver urgent humanitarian assistance to civilians in Gaza and the West Bank. The funding will be delivered through the UN, Red Cross and NGO partners, bringing our overall humanitarian assistance to over half a billion dollars. In addition, we also launched the International Peace Fund for Israel and Palestine with the UK and Australia to support civil society organizations in their grassroots work to build peace between Israelis and Palestinians. To this end, we put forward a $1.8 million commitment. We will keep working with both Israelis and Palestinians and thank all civil society organizations present in Paris today for their contributions."
>
> *- Anita Anand, Minister of Foreign Affairs*

> “The humanitarian situation in Palestine is devastating as families continue to face unimaginable hardship. Canada has long stood with those impacted by this crisis, and we will continue working closely with trusted partners to ensure life-saving aid reaches families who need it most—as quickly and effectively as possible.”
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> *- Randeep Sarai, Secretary of State (International Development)*

Quick facts

- The UN estimates that more than 3 million people across Palestine require emergency humanitarian assistance, representing a substantial proportion of the population.
- The funding announced today includes:
    - $86.3 million to support the provision of emergency medical assistance, food and nutrition, water, sanitation, shelter, protection and other life-saving assistance
    - $13.7 million in peace and stabilization initiatives will deliver life-saving mine action activities and help strengthen the security sector
- With the funding announced today, Canada will have allocated more than $500 million for international assistance in response to the humanitarian and resilience needs of Palestinian civilians since the beginning of the conflict.
- Canada’s humanitarian assistance funding is largely flexible and unearmarked. It covers a range of sectors, with an emphasis on helping deliver emergency health care, food and nutrition, water, sanitation, shelter and protection to vulnerable populations.

Related products

- Minister Anand to travel to Bahrain, United Kingdom and France

Associated links

- Canada’s response to the crisis in Israel and Palestine
- Joint announcement on the International Peace Fund for Israel and Palestine
- Canada imposes fifth round of sanctions on facilitators of extremist settler violence against civilians in West Bank
- Joint statement in response to the deteriorating situation in the West Bank

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