Donor Responses

International Aid for Palestine
February 2024
Sweden

We refrain from commenting on the report.

— Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs Press Office, 25th January 2024

United Kingdom

Support for Palestinian civilians is a key UK priority. For the current 2023/2024 financial year, we have so far announced almost £60m in additional humanitarian funding for the Occupied Palestinian Territories, trebling our budget to £87m (around $111m). This compares to a 2013 budget of £69.5m.

— A Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office spokesperson, 26th January 2024

Denmark

We have no comments to add to the data that you present in your mail. They correspond well with our data.

We would like take the opportunity to mention that Denmark has provided roughly 22.8M USD in extra ordinary support to Palestine since 7 October 2023 and we remain committed to continue strong humanitarian support in 2024.

— Denmark Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Office, 26th January 2024
Iceland

From 2015, Iceland has been a constant donor to Palestine, with increased contributions in 2023 due to the humanitarian situation in Gaza. However, in 2013 (and 2014), Iceland seconded higher number of experts to work for UN organizations (in WB and Gaza and neighboring countries for UNRWA) than in the latter years. See an overview of the numbers 2013-2022 extracted from OECD’s ODA database:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donor</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>2.29</td>
<td>2.15</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>0.54</td>
<td>0.81</td>
<td>1.02</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.88</td>
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— Aegir Thor Eysteinsson, Press Officer - 29th January 2024

New Zealand

The OECD data provided only includes bilateral development funding, and therefore, does not include our multilateral funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Please see updated data below that takes into account New Zealand’s humanitarian support to the UNRWA. We recommend including New Zealand’s contributions to UNRWA in your dataset as it provides a more accurate picture of New Zealand aid to Palestinian refugees.

- In 2013, New Zealand provided NZ$1.25 million (US$0.76) to UNRWA
- In 2022, New Zealand provided NZ$1 million (US$0.61) to UNRWA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2022</th>
<th>% change (2013-2022)</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>$1.23</td>
<td>$0.47</td>
<td>-61.77%</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Zealand (inclusive of UNRWA funding)</td>
<td>$1.99</td>
<td>$1.08</td>
<td>-54.27%</td>
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— A spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade - 30th January 2024
Canada

Canada supports the West Bank and Gaza through different channels, including bilateral, multilateral and humanitarian assistance. The proportion of Canada’s bilateral support varies according to context and needs, and does not reflect Canada’s total contribution to the region over the years, which also includes multilateral and humanitarian assistance. For instance, since October 7, 2023, Canada announced $60 million in humanitarian assistance to address the urgent needs of vulnerable civilians in this crisis, including a matching fund of $13.7 million that leveraged the generosity of Canadians.

Canada stands firmly with the Israeli and Palestinian peoples in their right to live in peace, security, with dignity and without fear.

— Jason Kung, as a spokesperson from Global Affairs Canada - 30th January 2024

Norway

Norway provides support in Norwegian kroner (NOK), not in USD. In the period 2013 to 2022, Norwegian aid assistance to Palestine, the West Bank and Gaza, was maintained at approximately the same level in NOK, with an increase from NOK 630 million in 2013, to NOK 667 million in 2022. However, due to currency-fluctuations, the amount in NOK can be represented as a decrease in assistance when reported in USD in 2022.

We would like to point out that in 2023, Norwegian assistance to Palestine amounted to more than $100 mill. (NOK 1 215 million).

— Ane Jørem, Senior adviser, Communication unit - 30th January 2024
United States

Since 1993, the U.S. government has provided more than $7.6 billion in assistance to Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza—primarily through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). USAID has used the funds to provide humanitarian relief, increase economic opportunity, strengthen the provision of public services, improve local governance, and support civil society and youth in the region. USAID does not fund UNRWA. U.S. funds to UNRWA are provided by the Department of State.

The U.S. government resumed USAID’s West Bank and Gaza program using Economic Support Fund assistance in April 2021 after suspending the program in January 2019, and our assistance has been increasing since 2021.

As Administrator Samantha Power said, “Continuing the scale up of life-saving humanitarian aid that began during last week’s pause is absolutely critical to meet the needs of the nearly 2.2 million people requiring humanitarian assistance in Gaza – including now what is estimated to be around 1.9 million internally displaced people. Since the beginning of the conflict, President Biden and officials across his administration have been working to clear diplomatic hurdles, to navigate complex logistics, and to work through issues that pop up daily to get as much aid as possible into Gaza.

— USAID spokesperson - 1st February 2024