# **Urgent Action Needed for Sexual and Reproductive Health Services**



## **Humanitarian Context**

**IPPF** 

On the 19th of January 2025, a fragile ceasefire came into effect in Gaza, ending 15 months of intense violence. The destruction left behind is staggering. **Over 48,000 Palestinians have been killed**, more than **110,000 injured**, and **69% of all buildings** in the Gaza strip have been **damaged or destroyed**.

Healthcare infrastructure has collapsed, There have been 617 attacks on healthcare facilities leaving 85 primary healthcare centers completely non-functioning, leaving only 41% of centers partially operational.

IPPF Member Association, the Palestinian Family Planning and Protection Association's (PFPPA) only center in Gaza was destroyed. Many families are now returning home to find their houses reduced to rubble and essential services non-existent.

- 50,000 pregnant women and breasfeeding are at risk due to the loss of antenatal care, safe delivery options and food poverty.
- Infectious diseases are spreading and risks of famine are rising.
- Gender-based violence (GBV) has escalated, yet survivors have few avenues for protection, medical care, or psychosocial support.
- Border closures have led to limited SRH supplies crossing into Gaza

   49% of ordered contraceptive commodities have made it through. Some areas, such as northern Gaza, were inaccessible for months at a time.

The path to true recovery will be neither short nor simple. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates it will take at least \$10 billion over the next five to seven years to rebuild Gaza's health system.

### **Our Response During the Attacks**

During the crisis, **PFPPA provided care despite displacement, personal loss, and damaged facilities**. The team endured casualties, including one fatality and several injuries.

With support from the IPPF Arab World Regional Office and the humanitarian team, PFPPA continued delivering lifesaving SRHiE and SGBV services in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, national organisations, WHO, and UNFPA. **Their front-line team in Gaza of 42 health care workers:** 

- Delivered 235,000 SRH services to 59,000 internally displaced people via ten mobile health teams.
- Provided first-line care for survivors of gender-based violence, including emergency contraception and referrals for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).
- Offered psychosocial support via a free helpline, assisting nearly 1,500 people..
- Referred over 5500 people for additional services, 40% were survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.
- Trained local healthcare providers in SRHiE and SGBV response to strengthen preparedness.





In Gaza and the West Bank they:

- **Distributed 2161 dignity** kits and 228 safe delivery kits to midwives and women unable to access clinics.
- Conducted 900 educational campaigns and distributed 50,000 materials to raise awareness of SRH and GBV services.

"The crisis is far from over. Now we must help rebuild not only our structures but also the lives of women and girls"

> Ammal Awadallah Executive Director, PFPPA

# **Helping Communities Recover**

To restore and expand SRH services in Gaza and the West Bank, **we need urgent funding to**:

- Rebuild and expand healthcare services: Establish three new static clinics and restore PFPPA's destroyed centre and office in Gaza.
- Strengthen maternal and newborn health: Provide home visits by midwives for highrisk pregnancies and ensure postnatal care for new mothers.
- Deliver medical care to remote areas: Expand mobile medical campaigns in the most affected parts of the West Bank.

- Ensure dignity, and safe deliveries for women and girls: Distribute dignity kits, psychosocial support kits and clean delivery kits.
- Support survivors of GBV and young people: Establish youth support groups, survivor networks, SGBV awareness campaigns, and safe spaces.
- **Tackle malnutrition** among mothers and infants: Provide food packages to pregnant and breastfeeding women.
- Improve access to digital support services: Upgrade hotlines and mobile applications to provide emergency assistance and SRH/ GBV referrals.



### Why Support PFPPA?

With over 60 years of experience in Jerusalem, Gaza, and the West Bank, **PFPPA provides urgent**, **locally led humanitarian assistance**. Its expertise, partnerships, and focus on SRH and GBV ensure donations directly benefit those in need. As a civil society partner and active in key coordination clusters, PFPPA maximizes contributions to protect health, dignity, and lives, prioritising SRH in alignment with IPPF's commitment to gender equity.

#### How You Can Help

Now is a pivotal moment. The global roll-back on women's rights is already threatening access to comprehensive SRH healthcare. The fall in humanitarian funding including the reinstatement of the Global Gag Rule, USAID and UNFPA cuts are putting millions at risk. Survivors of sexual violence will be left without adequate protection, increasing trauma and vulnerability.

We are seeking to raise \$1.000,000 to fund these critical interventions. This is the time to act. We must invest in Gaza's recovery, rebuild its healthcare system, and secure the future for Palestinian women, girls, and marginalised communities.

Play a part in rebuilding Gaza's future. Contact the IPPF donor relations team.