



MAP

MEDICAL AID FOR PALESTINIANS

"YOU ARE **HELPING**
TO BRING **LIGHT** IN
THE DARKNESS."

BARONESS MORRIS OF BOLTON, MAP PRESIDENT

ANNUAL REVIEW

2022

A MESSAGE

FROM OUR CEO

“Our optimism is grounded in the remarkable passion and solidarity of our many supporters.”



Last year was the deadliest year in the West Bank as a result of Israeli military action since recording began. For those living under occupation in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, Israeli military and settler violence escalated to terrifying levels. Families woke almost daily to news of deadly attacks and destruction.

Palestinians locked away in Gaza face a devastating mental health crisis, while children are desperately ill with malnutrition as food shortages and blockades to healthcare put thousands of lives at risk. And in Lebanon, the worst economic crisis in decades has pushed Palestinian refugees to the very brink of survival.

In short, MAP's work – and your

support – are more important than ever, and we're deeply grateful for your generosity.

I am extremely proud of the clear, pragmatic and optimistic determination of MAP and our supporters. Through our teams and partners, our work is strongly rooted in local communities so we can respond in the most immediate and impactful way, wherever we're needed.

As you'll read here, over the past year we've been able to provide life-changing support for the most vulnerable across emergency response and complex hospital care, women and children's health, disability and mental health and psychosocial support.

In Area C of the West Bank, we've provided two new mobile health clinics, to transport more doctors and midwives to rural communities who are denied access to healthcare under Israeli restrictions on movement. And we've delivered essential drugs and medical supplies worth over £348,000 to hospitals and clinics in Gaza, benefitting over half a million patients.

MAP midwives reached more pregnant women, mothers and

babies this year in Lebanon's refugee camps, where maternal mortality rates are shockingly high. Our teams also screened for signs of domestic abuse and, through our pioneering vital work to tackle gender-based violence, we've supported 110 women in Gaza to have their cases heard in court.

All of this incredible work is possible thanks to you, our supporters, campaigners and volunteers. Last year alone, 39 medical missions were completed thanks to our UK volunteers donating 815 days of their time. And almost £1 million of hospital equipment was donated – a kindness that's at the heart of every gift we receive.

We face many challenges ahead, but I know that – with your help – MAP will be ready to meet them. Thank you, for the remarkable passion and solidarity you continue to show. I hope you'll be inspired by the incredible work we're delighted to share with you here.

Yours,

Melanie Ward
Chief Executive Officer

MAP IN ACTION

In 2022, MAP responded to crises and emergencies across our three geographical areas of work. We continued to support the long-term development of healthcare services, and we campaigned and advocated for the rights to health and dignity of the Palestinian communities we serve.

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MAP's five areas of focus for change

Lebanon

5,000 highly vulnerable families in nine Palestinian refugee camps received emergency food parcels and winter blankets

Gaza

1,000 vulnerable families were given essential hygiene kits, including items for hand and clothes washing, caring for babies and sanitary protection

The West Bank

22 health workers were provided with life-saving training on primary trauma care

IN PALESTINE AND LEBANON

EMERGENCY ALL AREAS

Your support has enabled us to provide unprecedented levels of emergency support to Palestinian communities



THE WEST BANK, INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM

The UN reports that 2022 was the deadliest year in the West Bank due to Israeli military action and settler violence since recording began in 2005. In February and December 2022, we delivered new ambulances to our partner the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS), which bolstered the vital work of their paramedic teams. And later in the year, we provided urgent trauma training to hospitals in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

GAZA

In 2022, our zero-stock programme helped fill the gaps left by the healthcare system – around 40% of essential medicines were at a critically low level, some with less than a month's supply on the shelves. We ensured that life-saving drugs, such as Surfactant, were available for babies facing respiratory distress, to help their lungs develop. Our neonatal work has contributed to pre-term mortality rates dropping from 11.9 per 1,000 live births in 2019 to 7.9 per 1,000 in 2022.



LEBANON

2022 saw Lebanon's economic crisis worsen. As a result, 93% of Palestinian refugees are living in poverty, struggling to meet their essential needs to survive. MAP, with the support of Penny Appeal and our established local partners Najdeh Association and Beit Atfal Assomoud, provided food assistance to vulnerable families in nine Palestinian refugee camps. Kits included food parcels, nutritional advice and winter blankets.

IN THE WEST BANK

REACHING THE HARDEST TO REACH

MAP's mobile health clinics are providing a lifeline to isolated and marginalised communities

"This clinic provided healthcare services and essential medicines, which in the past we needed but could not get."

Fatima – resident of the Korshan community in the Jordan Valley

For many Palestinians in the occupied West Bank, a lack of permanent healthcare facilities and medical access is a life-threatening issue.

Communities in Area C of the occupied West Bank, which are under full Israeli civil and military control, live with the constant threat of their property and livelihoods being destroyed. Forced evictions, settler violence and limited access to resources like

electricity, water and sanitation services all put significant restrictions on access to basic healthcare.

In addition, movement restrictions, such as checkpoints and roadblocks, poor roads and the high cost of transport means that walking is often the only option to receive essential primary healthcare. As a result, the elderly and people with disabilities are particularly disadvantaged.

That's why MAP's mobile health clinics are such a vital resource. Thanks to our three-year partnership with local NGO the Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS), we're taking critical healthcare directly to isolated and at-risk communities, and reaching those who are the most remote and vulnerable.

The clinics provide immediate medical care and treatment as well as ongoing, long-term support. Each clinic team includes a general practitioner, a women's doctor and a mental health and psychosocial specialist. Each community is visited once a week, meaning thousands of people can be cared for in their own homes and communities.

We want to extend a special thank you to Muzz, our corporate partner. During the holy month of Ramadan 2022, Muzz, alongside their community, raised over \$300,000 towards purchasing two fully stocked mobile health clinics. These will be fully fitted for consultations to ensure people can receive treatment in a private space. Thank you to Muzz for this incredible donation.

22,739
units of
medication
distributed

26
of the most
vulnerable
communities
regularly
visited by
clinics

11,441
cases treated
by mobile
clinics in East
Jerusalem,
the Jordan
Valley and
Hebron

WELCOME TO THE CIRCUS SCHOOL

Building confidence, expressing creativity, exploring potential – circus skills are an innovative way for young people to address challenges

In the occupied Palestinian territory, young people are especially vulnerable to mental health issues because of the pressure and violence they've witnessed. Children with disabilities also face additional barriers, including social stigma and a lack of inclusion – all of which can impact physical and mental wellbeing.

Every child has a right to a safe, nurturing space, where they can play and learn; a chance to build confidence and feel secure.

Our partnership with the Palestinian Circus School (PCS)'s educational programme provides a unique opportunity for children growing up surrounded by extreme stress

and violence. Open to children with a wide range of disabilities, it encourages social inclusion and empowerment.

Skills for life

The aim of the PCS is not merely to learn circus arts. It's designed to help participants achieve personal and social development by nurturing their self-esteem and trust in others. The skills they learn

"When Mohamad plays with the diabolo, I learn how he's feeling. He is happy if he's spinning it high."

Kifaya Ais, mother of Mohamad, who attends the PCS

"Art and culture have become powerful tools for young people to express themselves freely in a context of military occupation."

Mohamad Rabah,
Executive Director of the PCS

through circus classes inspire them to become more confident in a world that can feel very frightening and beyond their control.

The programme involves 'social circus', a psychosocial intervention that uses activities such as acrobatics and trampolining to explore and address challenges faced by children with disabilities. Children learn to work as a team, express themselves freely and find unity in diversity.

Confidence and belonging

Mohamad was born with a genetic chromosome disorder that leads to visual impairment and learning difficulties. For many years, he spent all his time at home, and when he first joined the circus school he was very shy. Then he was given a

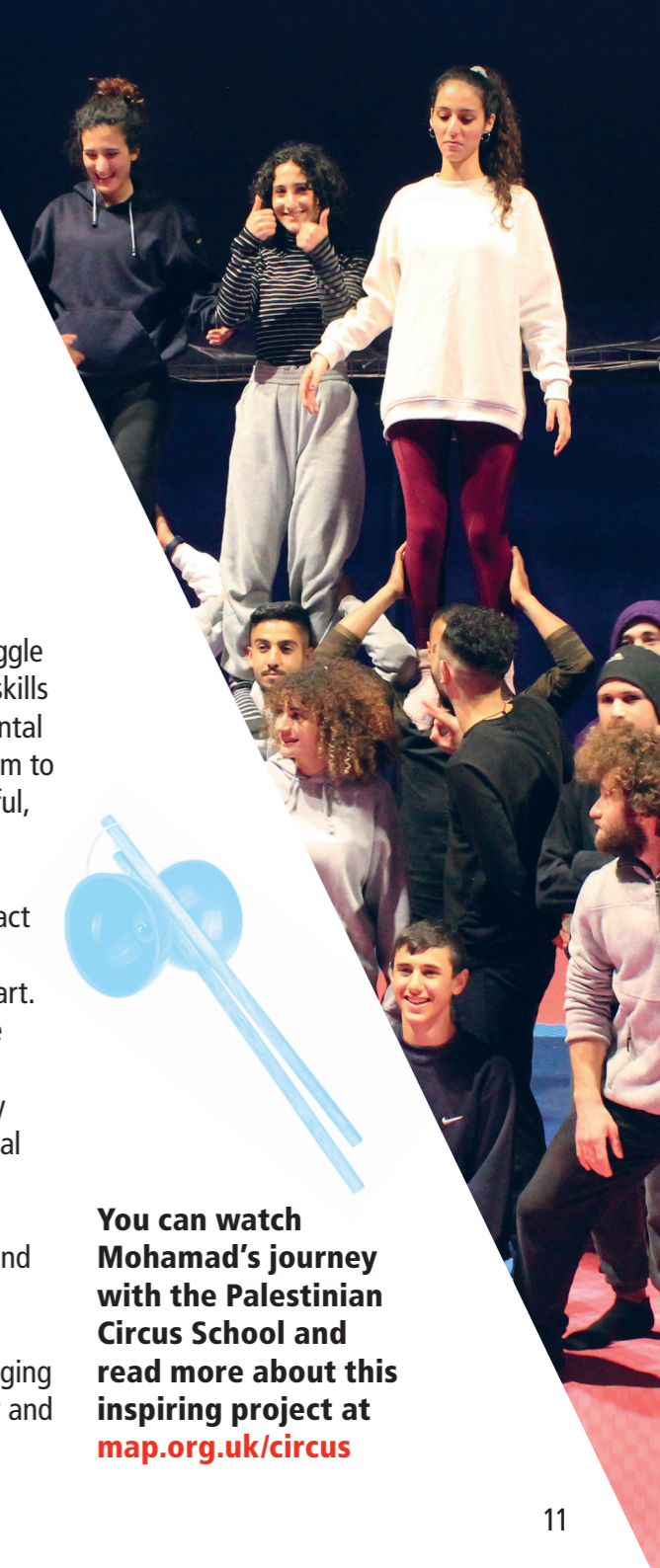
94% of parents saw an improvement in their children's social skills

diabolo toy. Learning how to juggle the diabolo and practising his skills had a positive physical and mental impact, and he can now perform to an audience. He has a wonderful, new-found confidence.

In 2022, we evaluated the impact of PCS by surveying a focus group of 200 children taking part. The results showed an increase in kindness and sharing, while behaviour such as hyperactivity decreased, along with emotional concerns and nervousness.

The circus is offering children and young people an exciting and inspiring way to increase their emotional wellbeing – encouraging them to express their creativity and explore their potential.

You can watch Mohamad's journey with the Palestinian Circus School and read more about this inspiring project at map.org.uk/circus



THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER

Children's health is at serious risk as food shortages, unemployment and poverty lead to hunger and malnutrition



For many of Gaza's two million residents, finding affordable, nutritious food to feed their children is an increasing daily struggle.

After 16 years of blockade and repeated military attacks by Israel, the basic infrastructure has collapsed. Unemployment is among the highest anywhere in the world, and around 80% of people are dependent on some form of humanitarian assistance.

As a result, more than half of Palestinians in Gaza live below the poverty line. And Gaza's children are bearing the brunt of the devastating lack of food. In a recent malnutrition screening of kindergarten children, a fifth were



1,069 food packages were distributed to malnourished children and their families

diagnosed as needing treatment for poor growth and weight gain, anaemia or wasting.

Tens of thousands of children are currently at risk of chronic malnutrition and severe nutritional deficiencies, which can impact their physical, cognitive and emotional development and lead to irreversible health consequences.

At MAP, we work with our local partner Ard El Insan (AEI) to address this growing problem. By supporting a nutrition centre in southern Gaza, we can help identify at-risk children, and treat conditions and illnesses linked to malnutrition.

We also provide families with essential food packages, fresh meals and supplements – and run food education classes to help parents make the very best of the food available. Thanks to these programmes, knowledge of how to identify the signs of malnutrition has increased from 54% to 96% among parents, and there's a 93% increase in understanding of how to prevent it.

It's currently the only clinic in Gaza treating children and adults with coeliac disease, and we're able to provide families with gluten-free flour, which is unaffordable for most people in Gaza.

Follow Aya's recovery from malnutrition thanks to our community nutrition work at map.org.uk/malnutrition

639 children under five years in Gaza were treated for malnutrition last year

Aya's story

Three-year-old Aya lives in Khan Yunis, southern Gaza. Her parents can't afford drinking water or electricity, and cuts to food aid have reduced their food parcels. Aya was diagnosed with acute malnutrition by the community health screening team supported by MAP and AEI – a course of life-saving therapeutic food helped her recover.



"I noticed progress from the first visit to AEI's centre. I now share my experience with my sisters-in-law, and encourage my neighbours to visit."

Aya's mother

IN GAZA

STANDING UP TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

MAP is tackling gender-based violence with vital support for women and girls, and advocacy training for men and boys

Gender-based violence (GBV) is one of the least reported human rights abuses, but it's widespread across the world. At MAP, we are working to tackle the issue of GBV in Gaza – by both supporting women and educating men to prevent physical, mental and sexual abuse.

Levels of gender-based violence in Gaza are high, with 37.5% of women aged 18-64 having experienced a form of abuse or violence. Of those, 56.6% have experienced psychological violence. In 2022, a report by the United Nations Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) found that Covid-19 and the escalation in Israel's military offensive in May 2021 had significantly increased the number of GBV incidents in Gaza.

Support and protection

MAP works with two local partners to provide inclusive, accessible and comprehensive GBV services – to support acutely vulnerable women and abuse survivors in Gaza. These projects are essential, especially in a conservative society; our services offer women access to healthcare services and psychosocial and legal support, as well as advice in dealing with domestic violence.

Women with breast cancer in Gaza often face further stigmatisation and discrimination and are at high risk of GBV and divorce. We provide empowerment projects, such as advocacy sessions and income-generation projects, to help these women build their independence and confidence.

"I feel that the services changed my life, now I feel dignity. I could never imagine myself living the same life as before; I am able now to express myself better."

H.R. (19 years old)

Awareness and advocacy

As part of the work to create long-term change, we also hold sessions for men and boys. The aim is to raise awareness of GBV and encourage everyone to advocate for the rights of women and girls – a crucial component of this project.

"WE FEEL THAT SOMEONE CARES ABOUT US"

MAP's pioneering programmes are bringing life-saving care to Palestinian women and children in Lebanon

In the Palestinian refugee camps of Lebanon, the latest maternal mortality rate is 46.9 deaths per 100,000 live births. This is a major concern for MAP, and our maternal and child health programme plays a vital role in protecting lives.

Since 2008, MAP has run a pioneering midwifery service that offers expectant and new mothers access to much-needed antenatal

3,815 expectant and new mothers, and their newborns, received home visits in 2022

and postnatal care. It's the only service of its kind for Palestinian women in Lebanon, providing comprehensive reproductive healthcare information and services, family planning and ongoing postnatal support.

As well as life-saving medical care, our midwives and nurses are helping to bring hope and dignity to women most at risk.

Crucially, each midwife's visit is around 45 minutes long. This allows time for a detailed health assessment of both mother and baby, as well as time for women to discuss their concerns and experiences. Unlike in hospitals, where the role of the midwife is often limited to delivery,

690 women attended group health education sessions on pregnancy, newborn care, nutrition and parenting support



45 minutes is given for each visit to allow for a full health assessment

MAP's midwives support women throughout their pregnancies and then for six months after childbirth, building a crucial bond of trust.

Hanadi* has suffered two miscarriages in the past. She'd heard about the work of MAP's midwives in her camp, so when she found she was pregnant again she sought their help.

"It's been a great experience," Hanadi explains. "The MAP nurse, Lamis, followed me throughout the pregnancy and after birth. I feel like she's part of my family, she is very close to my heart. I feel comfortable and relaxed when she visits despite all the challenges that I am facing."

Uniquely, the MAP team also screens for postnatal depression and signs of domestic violence, ensuring we support women's mental and physical health.

We also organise group health education sessions on topics related to pregnancy, newborn care, nutrition and parenting support, led by our midwives. This programme has successfully improved breastfeeding rates and reduced anaemia and other pregnancy-related complications.

You can read the full interview with Hanadi on our website at map.org.uk/midwives

"The home visits reduce the stress that pregnant women and new mothers in the camp feel. When we receive visits from the MAP midwives and nurses, we feel that someone cares about us and our health and wellbeing."

Raneem*, 24-year-old mother from the Ein el Hilweh Palestinian camp



* name has been changed to protect the identity of those involved

IN SAFE HANDS

Our safe spaces are giving Palestinian children in Lebanon respite from the extreme daily stress and trauma

For Palestinian families living as refugees in forced exile in Lebanon, the deplorable social, economic and environmental conditions of the camps are an unimaginable reality.

Parents face a daily struggle to find work, food and even the most basic healthcare for their families. There's an ever-present sense of exclusion and isolation, alongside the constant fear of violence and discrimination. And for children in particular, growing up in a crowded

refugee camp puts them at high risk of emotional and psychological distress.

MAP's community-based mental health and psychosocial support programmes run in partnership with UNICEF. Our local partners work with children through creative, learn-through-play activities designed to help build confidence and resilience. In safe, fun spaces, children have the chance to put aside their stress and anxieties and develop a greater sense of belonging and security.

The project is structured to ensure different needs are met across a wide range of age groups. But at its core, our work focuses on promoting the mental health, psychosocial and developmental wellbeing of children, their families and the wider community.

We aim to reduce the chances of long-term psychological damage by tackling the underlying issues affecting children in Lebanon's camps. That includes all forms of child maltreatment, from psychosocial distress to gender-based violence and health issues often linked to dire living conditions.

The project helps strengthen families' coping abilities, and community networks, so both parents and children are better equipped to withstand the ongoing stress and marginalisation. It's a crucial way to ensure that children, especially the most vulnerable, are protected from violence, exploitation and the instability that surrounds them.

Together with our local partners, we've established 14 child-friendly community centres across the camps. Open daily, they provide uniquely focused activities and support for children as young as three right up to 17.

14,817 children and young people benefitted from psychosocial support in 2022

1,539 children receiving specialised psychosocial support through individual intervention plans

6,975 caregivers took part in activities to promote wellbeing and protection of children

26,821 children and young people participated in activities in schools and child-friendly spaces

"I learned the technique of throwing a bad word into the imaginary trash and replacing it with a good word. I was very happy, now I could get rid of all the bad words I received."

11-year-old Sara* from Al Beddawi camp

*name has been changed to protect the identity of those involved



TAKING ACTION FOR PALESTINE

MAP's Advocacy and Campaigns Team is focused on breaking down barriers to Palestinian health and dignity – political, economic and social. In 2022, we pursued change through five key areas of impact...

Promoting policy

In 2022, MAP resumed cross-party delegations to the West Bank for British parliamentarians, run jointly with the Council for Arab-British Understanding (Caabu).

On his return from the delegation, Bambos Charalambous MP, the Shadow Middle East Minister, stated that the UK must, "Ultimately look to systemic change rather than piecemeal improvements."

He told MAP, "I'll never forget visiting the clinic in a Bedouin community that has been placed under a demolition order. I'll never forget seeing babies in incubators, abandoned sometimes for months because

their mothers had not been granted the permits to remain with them."

In Westminster, we promoted our paper 'Systematic Discrimination and Fragmentation as Key Barriers to Palestinian Health', and supported parliamentarians to raise the issues, pushing for increased aid and action to tackle the root causes of health needs.

MAP also gave evidence to the International Development Committee's inquiry into aid for refugee host countries about the dire conditions Palestinians face in Lebanon, urging the UK to help ensure sustainable access to healthcare.

Public mobilisation

Last year, we continued to mobilise our supporters in the UK and around the world to press for international action to address the barriers to Palestinians' health and dignity. Our work promoting human stories and raising awareness resulted in more than 14.6 million impressions and 300,000 engagements across our social media channels.

More than 30,000 people signed up to our 'Every Palestinian' campaign, pledging to stand up for Palestinians' equal rights to health and dignity.

And in October's Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we highlighted the stories of women from Gaza and the West Bank, illustrating how barriers to patients' freedom of movement obstructs access to potentially life-saving care. More than 600 people wrote to their MP to demand an end to barriers to breast cancer care for Palestinians.

Shifting narratives

We work with the media to promote understanding of the health and humanitarian context in the occupied Palestinian territory and Lebanon, and to amplify the voices and perspectives of those affected. Our staff and partners were featured by mainstream media outlets including the Guardian and the Independent, and specialist outlets such as Middle East Eye, the New Arab and the Lancet.

We also hosted a virtual media delegation to Gaza to enable journalists to hear directly from patients and experts about the dire healthcare situation and the physical and psychological impact of Israel's discriminatory permit system. Delegates included the Middle East Correspondents at the BBC and Thomson Reuters Foundation, and the Guardian Global Development's Commissioning Editor.

Strengthening networks

MAP works with like-minded networks of local, UK and international civil society, academia, health practitioners and donors to pursue change together.

In July we joined 15 other British NGOs including Christian Aid, Islamic Relief and CAFOD, calling for an immediate end to the 16-year closure of Gaza. In August, alongside 13 other UK NGOs, we raised the alarm about attacks on Palestinian civil society and human rights defenders, calling on the UK government to "support Palestinian civil society as its institutions are targeted by Israel's repressive measures." In December, the UK government affirmed that "civil society organisations play an important role in upholding human rights and democracy and they must be able to operate freely in the Occupied Palestinian Territories."



Communities taking the lead

MAP seeks to ensure Palestinian voices are heard at all levels, and that the partners and communities we work with have the skills, knowledge and opportunities to pursue their rights locally and internationally.

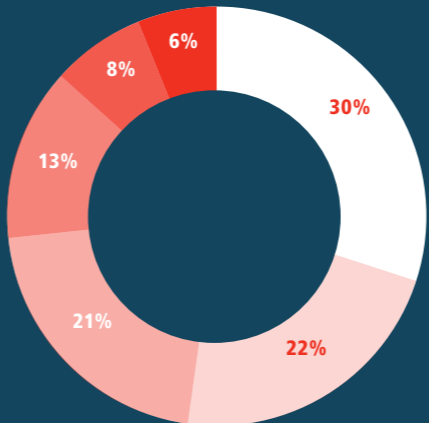
MAP provided training in advocacy skills for our partners in the West Bank, including the Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS), with which MAP works to provide mobile clinic services to marginalised Palestinian communities.

At the UN Human Rights Council in March, MAP supported Dr Mohammed Iskafi, Emergency Programme Director of the PMRS, to address Member States. Dr Iskafi stated:

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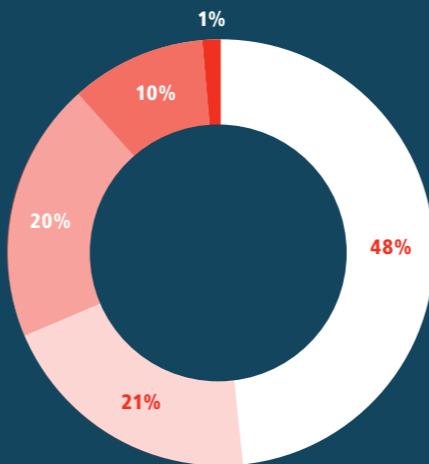
"It is vital that states ask why Palestinian communities must rely on emergency mobile clinics, and why Palestinian health workers come under attack... The answer is impunity... for Israel's decades of systematic discrimination and violations of international law."

Our Income



30%	Individuals
22%	Major Donors, Trusts and Corporates
21%	Institutional and Charity
13%	Legacies
8%	Gift Aid
6%	Community and Challenge Events

Our Expenditure



48%	Emergency Preparedness and Response
21%	Women's and Children's Health
20%	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
10%	Disability
1%	Advocacy and Campaigns

Accountability

To promote trust and confidence among all our stakeholders in the work of MAP, we focus on the efficient use of funds raised for our development and humanitarian aid programmes. We ensure that funds are directed to appropriate projects and that we comply with international regulations and industry standards. MAP has a comprehensive project approval and control process which is implemented in line with best international practice.

Diversity and Inclusion

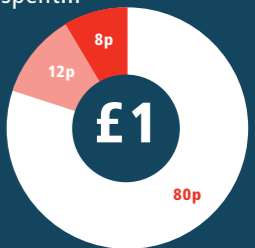
MAP is committed to diversity and inclusion in the workplace and in our programmes, and is working to strengthen our approach in this area. Our staff are 68% women and the majority are Palestinian. We are a Living Wage Employer.

Transparency

MAP works to be as transparent as possible about our governance, our activities and our finances. We publish the names of our trustees and directors, details about our activities in Palestine and Lebanon, and our annual review and fully audited annual accounts on our website.

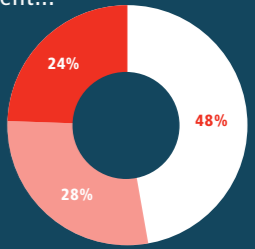
FINANCES

For every £1 spent...



80p	Programmes
12p	Fundraising
8p	Organisational Support

Where it's spent...



48%	Gaza
28%	West Bank
24%	Lebanon

Safeguarding of vulnerable people

Given the environments within which we work and the complexity of some of our projects, the protection of children and vulnerable adults is critical. We are committed to maintaining the highest standards within our organisation and partners, and to the regular review of our policies and protocols and the training of all staff.

Core humanitarian standards

MAP works in accordance with humanitarian principles. Accountability to the communities we work alongside is central to our ethos. The Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) sets out nine commitments that humanitarian organisations make throughout their programme delivery. The CHS Commitments' overall aim is to put people at the centre of humanitarian response. As a member of the CHS Alliance, we work in line with the commitments and continuously review our practice.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Protecting the data of the people we support, our donors, and our partners is of paramount importance. Our processes are in accordance with GDPR and our team is fully trained to keep your data safe and communications in accordance with your wishes.

Thank you for your support this year



33a Islington Park Street +44 (0)20 7226 4114
London N1 1QB info@map.org.uk
United Kingdom www.map.org.uk



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