

Lucerne, 2 December 2019

Principles for the Promotion of Development Cooperation and Emergency Aid for Children, Women and Families in the Holy Land

Preamble

Children's Relief Bethlehem (CRB) is a Christian aid organisation. It finances the Caritas Baby Hospital in Bethlehem and provides help for children, women and families in the Holy Land. By this, the CRB includes Israel, the occupied Palestinian territory (West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem), Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

Within the scope of its mandate and its financial possibilities, the CRB, acting in accordance with the association's intentions and Articles of Association Art. 2 uses its Development and Emergency Aid project funds to support independently active and locally-based partner organisations.

Where possible, the CRB should be involved in project work with local implementing organisations in the occupied Palestinian territory.

In its work, the CRB is inspired by the following principles:

1 General Information

- 1.1 **Option for the Poor and Needy**
Funding measures are primarily directed at those persons and groups of persons (women/ mothers and their children) who, for social, economic, ethnic or religious reasons are disadvantaged, excluded or vulnerable.
- 1.2 **No Discrimination**
The CRB ensures that the support is provided irrespective of origin, religion, nationality, political conviction, gender or other distinguishing features.
- 1.3 **Helping People to Help Themselves**
CRB promotes sustainable and independent development. In case of great need, short-term survival and reconstruction aid can be granted. Support for the CRB must not lead to long-term dependency.
- 1.4 **Visibility**
The partners recognise and acknowledge the support of the CRB and ensure that it is made visible.

The local implementing organisations are also informed about the CRB's contribution and ensure visibility.

2 Project Application

2.1 Those entitled to apply are:

- Caritas Schweiz, for their local partners;
- German Caritas Association, for their local partners;
- local and international organisations that have no formal partnership with those mentioned above;
- individuals.

2.2 Contents of Application

The project applications must be submitted to the CRB office in English, German or French. The application includes the following elements: project description including project budget, description of the implementing organisation, including information about the organisation's financing and annual budget.

2.3 Deadline for Submission

Project applications can be submitted at the end of March for projects in the current year and at the beginning of October for projects in the following year.

2.4 Decision-making

Decisions on the approval of projects are usually taken by the Board in the second and fourth quarter of the year. The decisions of the Board are communicated to the applicants in writing and without justification. No objections are admitted.

The CRB can set priorities and, if possible, supports projects in which the CRB is an important partner or whose financial participation is significant.

2.5 Duration of Support

Projects with a maximum duration of three years will be supported. An extension of the funding period is possible.

3 Benchmarks of Cooperation

3.1 Dignity of every person and focus on long-term self-help

The CRB takes care that the services are provided in such a way that the dignity of every human being is preserved at all times. In the long term, self-help and self-organisation should be facilitated and the vulnerability of the people living in distress as a result of crises should be alleviated.

3.2 Partnership and Networking

When planning and implementing projects, CRB relies on field-tested experience, cultural knowledge and the good integration of local implementing organisations. Cooperation is based on respect and mutual trust. The interlinking of local knowledge and the exchange of experiences is of great value.

3.3 Professionalism and Efficiency

The CRB pays attention to professional program implementation and cost-efficient, careful use of funds.

3.4 Transparency and Accurate Accounting

The funds entrusted to CRB shall be managed in accordance with the general principles of transparent accounting. These requirements must be respected by the partner organisations and the local implementing organisations.

3.5 Claiming and Promoting Ownership

CRB's project support helps to promote the self-responsibility of individuals, groups and communities, to strengthen their empowerment and to enable them to develop strategies to improve their situation.

Project promoters, implementing organisations and beneficiaries provide a clearly identifiable contribution of their own in the sense of "ownership", which must not only be measured in material terms.

3.6 Subsidiarity of Aid

Project support from the CRB does not substitute the obligations for which a State is ultimately responsible; at most it complements these. State institutions are not released from their responsibility to provide social welfare, nor are their duties in this respect undermined.

3.7 Continuity and Sustainability

Support granted by the CRB is focused on continuity. Sustainable problem-solving strategies and developments are promoted which do not create permanent dependencies.

3.8 Code of Conduct and Protection against Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

The CRB ensures that the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement as well as the UN standards for the protection of children and adolescents against sexual abuse and sexual exploitation are observed.

Emergency projects must also comply with the Core Humanitarian Standards.

4 Funding Areas

Due to its conception, mission and holistic approach in the CBH, the CRB exclusively supports projects for mothers and child/young people in the areas of medical and social health care, including psychosocial care. The CRB may also support projects designed to empower women.

4.1 Funding Area Social Affairs

- Projects for the co-financing of health and rehabilitation institutions that help families in need, in particular women/mothers and children, to improve their health and social position;
- Projects that empower vulnerable and disadvantaged women to assume their political, economic and social roles in society;
- Projects that permanently improve the situation of socially vulnerable and disadvantaged children and adolescents providing measures of social rehabilitation and economic integration through teaching and training opportunities;

- Projects that improve the social, economic and legal framework conditions in which women and children live;
- Projects that enable disadvantaged and needy families to receive a forward looking, non-violent and peace-oriented education that fosters acceptance among the population groups;
- Holiday and summer camps: funding only possible in exceptional situations, e.g. in refugee camps or in the Gaza Strip.

4.2 Funding Area Emergency and Reconstruction Aid

- Emergency and reconstruction assistance is provided in situations of war or natural disasters. These include:
- Emergency/survival aid (food, medical aid or basic needs) for needy and disadvantaged families;
- Assistance for economic reconstruction and social rehabilitation.

4.3 Non-funded Projects/Special Grants

- Projects of formal school education;
- Projects of a social welfare nature, except in emergency situations (natural disasters, war or civil war, general extreme economic hardship) and in any case only for a limited period of time;
- No one-off contributions are awarded to organisations (no core funding);
- The promotion of general peace work is omitted.

This policy paper was approved by the Board on 2 December 2019 and replaces the paper "Principles for supporting developmental cooperation and emergency aid for children, women and families in the Holy Land" of March 2016 and the document "The priorities for CRB's project work from 2017 – Criteria" of 4 October 2016.