

Principles for the funding of projects and emergency aid in favour of children, women and families in Bethlehem and the region

Lucerne, November 23, 2022

Preamble

Children's Relief Bethlehem is a Christian non-profit association whose work is based on the legacy of its founder, Father Ernst Schnydrig and is certified as a charitable organization in Lucerne (Switzerland).

Children's Relief Bethlehem finances and operates Caritas Baby Hospital (CBH) in Bethlehem/Palestine. As stated in the statutes in Art. 2, Para. 3, Children's Relief Bethlehem also supports projects for the benefit of children, women and families in Bethlehem and the region and carries out emergency aid in those areas.

1 Project funding objective of Children's Relief Bethlehem

With this project aid, Children's Relief Bethlehem (CRB) supports the physical and psychological well-being of children, women and families in Bethlehem and the region.

CRB promotes projects that contribute to the association's visibility and the consolidation of Caritas Baby Hospital's position in the local community.

2 Principles of project funding

A project fund and a disaster fund are available for project support, the amount of which the board determines case by case in the CRB's annual budget.

Projects with a period of no more than three years receive support.

Particular attention is paid to the following:

Priority is given to the poor

Support measures prioritize the disadvantaged and the vulnerable. The focus of the work is to be directed at children, mothers, families and adolescents.

No discrimination

Support is provided irrespective of origin, religion, nationality, political conviction, sexual orientation or other distinguishing characteristics.

Self-help approach

CRB promotes sustainable and self-reliant development projects. In the event of urgent crises, short-term survival and reconstruction aid can be provided through the disaster fund.

Promote ownership (does not apply to disaster fund)

CRB's project support strengthens the ownership of individuals and groups of people on the ground and supports projects that promote the active participation of beneficiaries and enable them to develop their own strategies to improve their situation.

3 Eligibility criteria

3.1 Region

CRB primarily supports projects in Bethlehem and its surrounding region (Occupied Palestinian Territory: West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem) as well as in Israel. Projects in other countries can be considered in duly justified exceptional cases.

3.2 Funding areas

3.2.1 Social projects

- Projects to co-finance health and rehabilitation facilities that help needy families, especially women/mothers and children, to improve their health and social situation;
- Projects that encourage women exposed to violence and disadvantaged women to assume their political, economic and social role in society;
- Projects that sustainably improve the situation of socially vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people through measures of social rehabilitation and economic integration by providing teaching and training opportunities;
- Projects that improve the social, economic and legal conditions in which women and children live;
- Projects that provide disadvantaged and needy families with a forward-looking, non-violent and peace-oriented education that strengthens acceptance between different population groups.

3.2.2 Infrastructure

Investments in infrastructure or repair work in social institutions (e.g. NGO schools, homes, women's shelters, etc.) can be supported. Here, the costs are only covered after presentation of the paid invoices.

3.2.3 Emergency and reconstruction aid

Emergency and reconstruction assistance is provided in situations of war or natural disaster. This includes in particular:

- Immediate/survival assistance (food, medical aid, or providing basic needs) for deprived and disadvantaged families;
- Assistance for economic reconstruction and social rehabilitation;
- Assumption of the costs of formal schooling in emergency situations.

3.3 Non-funded projects

- Running costs of formal school education;
- Projects that have a social assistance component;
- Lump-sum contributions to organizations (no core funding);
- Purely political peace work.

4 Guidelines for the implementation of the projects - Duties of the project partners

The following guidelines must be observed during project implementation:

Dignity of every person at the center

The partners engage to ensure that the dignity of every human being is respected at all times.

Protection from physical, psychological and sexual violence and abuse

The highest priority is given to the protection of persons, especially children and young people, from physical, psychological and sexual abuse as well as from sexual exploitation or violence. Abuse is in no way tolerated.

Acting in partnership and networking

When planning and implementing projects, CRB relies on project partners who are familiar with the conditions on the ground.

Professionalism and efficiency

The project partners are responsible to implement the projects financed by CRB according to the contract and to pay attention to the efficient use of funds.

Use of the funds

The allocated funding may only be used to cover the expenses of the project agreed upon.

There must be no duplication of funding. Therefore, the financing of the overall project must be documented to CRB in order to exclude the possibility of duplicate financing.

Transparent accounting

The subsidies granted by CRB are to be managed according to the principles of transparent accounting. CRB may request the inspection of audit reports.

Visibility

Partners and implementing organizations are fully aware of and appreciate CRB's support and ensure that, where possible, this is made visible in their publications and promotional materials by boosting CRB's logo-presence and/or text.

Reporting

After completion of the project, a final report on the activities carried out as well as a financial report on the project expenses and their financing must be submitted to Children's Relief Bethlehem. For projects with a longer duration, an interim report may be requested.

5 Project application

5.1 Eligibility to apply

Applications can be submitted by organizations or institutions that are implementing a specific, qualifying project either themselves or together with local partners. In substantiated exceptional cases, individuals may also submit applications.

5.2 Content of the application

CRB provides a project application form to be submitted in English or German to the Head Office of Children's Relief Bethlehem.

The following documents are required:

- Project description (incl. impact and indicators to measure the impact)
- Project budget
- Information on the implementing organization
- Annual report of the implementing organization

Only fully completed applications will be reviewed.

5.3 Submission deadline

Project applications can be submitted until the end of January and the end of July for the current year. Emergency aid applications can be submitted at any time.

5.4 Decision making

Decisions on the approval of projects are usually taken by the CRB Board in the first and third quarters of the year. The Board's decisions are communicated to the applicants in writing and without justification. Appeal is not possible.

This policy paper was approved by the Board on November 23, 2022 and replaces the document "Principles for the Promotion of Development Cooperation and Emergency Aid for Children, Women and Families in the Holy Land" dated December 2, 2019.