## Israeli International Aid

Israel consistently provides humanitarian relief to people throughout the world, bettering -- and saving -- the lives of millions.

Israel has established numerous humanitarian relief groups that alleviate the suffering of people worldwide.

- In 1958, Israel established the Foreign Ministry's Center for International Cooperation, known today as Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV).<sup>1</sup>
  - MASHAV aids developing countries by providing expertise in fields such as water management, childhood education, public health, and emergency relief.<sup>2</sup>
  - o MASHAV has trained over 100,000 members all around the globe.<sup>3</sup>
  - Some of MASHAV's recent projects include:
    - Developing health clinics in West Africa to combat the Ebola outbreak.<sup>4</sup>
    - Providing necessary relief supplies to the almost 600,000 people affected by flooding in Myanmar.<sup>5</sup>
    - Bringing much needed food to the drought-stricken Horn of Africa, specifically providing milk and meals for children.<sup>6</sup>
- The Israel Forum for International Humanitarian Aid (IsraAID) is a non-governmental organization that, over the past 15 years, has provided humanitarian relief in 39 countries.<sup>7</sup>
  - IsraAID has assisted over 1 million people, and distributed more than 1,000 tons of relief supply.<sup>8</sup>
- Based in Israel, Save a Child's Heart has provided life-saving heart operations to 2,300 children, half of whom are Palestinian Arab, Jordanian, or Iraqi.<sup>9</sup>
- The Fast Israeli Rescue and Search Team (FIRST) played a vital role in saving missing persons after natural disasters in countries like Peru, Mexico, and Greece.
- The Israeli Defense Force (IDF) Medical Corps and Home Front Command unit has responded to earthquakes all over the world, including, but not limited to: Haiti, India, and Turkey. **Thousands of lives were saved, thank to the IDF**.<sup>11</sup>
- In 2016, the United Nations World Health Organization ranked **IDF's emergency** response team first in the world. 12

<sup>4</sup> Jewish Virtual Library. MASHAV Recent Accomplishments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *Israel on the Frontline of International Aid*. 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Jewish Virtual Library. MASHAV History, Mission & Overview.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Times of Israel. Gavin Rabinowitz. *When Israeli Volunteers Help Syrian, Iraqi, and Pakistani Refugees*. September 23, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> IsraAID. *PROJECTS*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *Israel's Humanitarian Aid Efforts* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *Israel on the Frontline of International Aid*. 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs. *Israel Humanitarian Aid*. 2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The Times of Israel. Judash Gross. UN Ranks IDF Emergency Medical Team as 'No. 1 in the World'. November 13, 2016.