Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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Czechia Helps (also) in the Middle East

Syria → Lebanon → Jordan → Palestine → Iraq → Libya → Yemen → Czech assistance continues

How?

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CZ Reconstruction Programme in the Middle East region

- Healthcare
- Water management
- Psychosocial assitance
- Support for women
- Education
- Livelihoods
- Sanitation
- Energy
- Assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs)

100 mil CZK annually

See for yourself

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CZ Reconstruction Programme in the Middle East region

Complexity
Reconstruction + humanitarian + development dimension

Flexibility
Ability to adapt to current and long-term needs of the areas

Impact
Cooperation with Czech NGOs, UN agencies, ministries, and institutions

Connectivity
Opening doors for Czech companies

Czech Presence
Emphasis on the active participation of Czech entities overseeing the thorough implementation of specific projects

Diversity
Wide range of activities – from healthcare and education to water management, energy, and ecology to expert training, psychosocial assistance, and security

Security
Strenghthening the stability and security of the region neighboring Europe

Targeted Assistance
Helping solve humanitarian crises and security challenges directly in affected countries

Reconstruction
Helping to create conditions for return of refugees to their home countries

Real Impact
Every single project improves the quality of human life

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SYRIA

Duma + Mleha

(EASTERN GHOUTA – SUBURB OF DAMASCUS)

- In two areas heavily affected by conflict and hosting large numbers of internally displaced people, **solar-powered water treatment plants** were built to provide safe drinking water for more than **50,000** people.

- **Duma:** In a city of up to **400,000** residents, Czechia supported the construction of a water plant, solar power system and a distribution network with **nine water points**.

- **Mleha:** Construction of a solar-powered water treatment plant and a main water supply system with eight distribution points in response to severe contamination of local water sources.

- The new networks were connected to two schools and a health centre, helping to reduce disease incidence and enabling further international assistance.

Damascus

- In **Qatana**, in the Damascus countryside, tailoring workshops were set up to train internally displaced women in new livelihood skills.

- In 2024, over **20** women received training. The workshops can accommodate up to **240** participants annually, offering them opportunities to start small businesses or work directly in the centre.

  Similar activities are also implemented in northern Syria, in the provinces of **Aleppo** and **Idlib**.

Homs

- In a war-torn area of **Homs**, a **kindergarten** and **garden for aromatic plant** were established. The project **created job opportunities for hundreds of women** from both host and **displaced communities**.

- Around **50** women per month received training in cultivating and processing medicinal and aromatic plants.

- The project also included the distribution of **6,000** plants per year and a plan for long-term sustainability.

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LEBANON

Baalbek

- **Goal:** to save the lives of preterm babies and improve maternal care.
- We provided equipment for the maternity and postnatal wards at **Baalbek Governmental Hospital**. The project continued with the delivery of a specialized ambulance for neonatal transport.
- The hospital provides almost free care primarily to disadvantaged Lebanese patients as well as Syrian and Palestinian refugees.
- By delivering a Czech-equipped ambulance, Czechia built upon its previous support for this hospital.

Beirut

- We delivered incubators, CPAP ventilators, phototherapy lamps, infant warmers, and hospital beds to **Karantina Hospital**, which was completely destroyed in the 2020 explosion and later rebuilt with the help of international donors.
- This is a national neonatal centre that admits preterm and newborns babies with complications from across Lebanon.

Hay El Gharbeh

(SOUTHERN BEIRUT)

- Czechia supported the **Tahaddi** community centre in Hay El Gharbeh, on the outskirts of Beirut. Over **3,500** vulnerable people from Syrian and Lebanese households received assistance.
- The support included financial aid for **297** families (including 79 women-led households), **5,479** medical consultations, **769** vaccinations, psychosocial care, and distance education for **55** children.

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JORDAN

Zarqa

- **The Life Center in Zarqa** is a much-needed center for children with special needs and also for women who can learn new things through workshops provided here and thus become economically independent or support their families.
- What is the story of the center that Czechia helped equip? One of the programmes offered here is named **after a girl**, **Jenna**, who suffered from extremely brittle bones disease and could not attend a regular kindergarten. Her mother promised her that she would somehow arrange a kindergarten for her, and thus the Jenna Programme in Zarqa Life Center was born.
- Jenna died of pneumonia, but **her legacy lives on** and the center greatly helps children with similar problems.
- The Life Center primarily focuses on **helping Syrian refugees** and the poorest inhabitants of Jordan.

Irbid

- We equipped the neonatal, pediatric, and maternity wards at the **King Abdallah University Hospital (KAUH)** in Irbid, which also cares for Syrian refugees from the main Zaatari refugee camp.
- KAUH is the **main maternity hospital** for northern Jordan (approximately 2 million people), where approximately 3,000 births take place each year, and employs 2,700 people.
- The hospital is also a center for **training and educational programmes**; the projects are interconnected with MEDEVAC missions.

Amman

- **Al Bashir Hospital** in Amman is the largest public hospital in Jordan serving the poorest residents of the capital city with a population of 4 million people. What is the story of the center?
- We helped **increase the hospital's capacity** mainly with new beds, incubators, and basic equipment for the neonatal ward.

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PALESTINE

Bethlehem

- Czechia has repeatedly supported the maternity ward and the neonatal intensive care unit at **Holy Family Hospital**. We have been supporting this hospital since 2016.
- The hospital is operated by the **Sovereign Order of Malta** and is renowned for its neonatal ICU, which provides care for more than **400** preterm babies every year.
- Holy Family Hospital admits patients **regardless of religion**, including **the poorest** and **most disadvantaged** from across the Bethlehem and Hebron governorates.

Beit Sahour

- Czech aid enabled the installation of solar panels on the roof of the **Arab Women's Union** community centre, reducing electricity costs by up to half. We have been supporting the centre since 2018.
- The savings help finance salaries for **socially disadvantaged women** and **people with special needs employed by the centre**.
- The project supported the **sustainable operation of the centre**, which includes a **kindergarten** for **120** children, a **kitchen**, **workshops**, and **accommodation for those in need**.

Beit Jala

- Czechia provided equipment to the specialized medical facility **Bethlehem Arab Society for Rehabilitation (BASR)** which offers advanced surgical and rehabilitative care to patients from across the Palestinian territories. We have been supporting the BASR organisation since 2021.
- As part of the project, operating equipment was delivered – including surgical tables, hospital beds, a chemical sterilizer, and other medical devices from Czech manufacturers.
- The hospital also performs orthopaedic surgeries, which are essential for the **rehabilitation of children with physical disabilities**. Child patients account for approximately one quarter of all procedures.

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IRAQ

Basra

- Czechia supported the production of **robotic kits for Iraqi youth**. Children assemble them on their own while learning the **basics of mechanics**, **programming**, and **other technical skills**.
- Thanks to Czech support, more than **100** kits were created and are now used in schools by **hundreds of boys and girls**.
- The project, implemented by **Science Camp Basra**, is extremely **popular among young people** and has the potential to continue even without further Czech assistance.

Najaf

- We provided essential assistance to burn victims by equipping the burn intensive care unit at **Najaf Burn Center**. The project is also linked to the **MEDEVAC** programme of the Ministry of the Interior.
- The hospital treats approximately **2,500** patients annually.

Erbil

- Czechia supported the renovation of a school in the village of **Qafar**, near Erbil. **Classrooms**, **sanitary facilities**, and the **brick perimeter wall** were repaired.
- In an area where **electricity** is available for only a few hours a day and the return of original residents after displacement is still incomplete, this support represents a **significant improvement in conditions for children's education**.

Training of Iraqi Pilots in the Czech Republic

- A cooperation between the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** and the **Ministry of Defence of the Czech Republic**.
- An annual two-week training programme for approximately **10** members of the Iraqi Air Force.
- The training takes place on a suitable simulator, as Iraq operates Czech-made **L-159 aircrafts**.

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LIBYA AND YEMEN

Humanitarian and Stabilization Assistance

Libya

- **ICRC** – We supported the **tracing of missing people**, **restoring contact between relatives**, and **monitoring conditions in detention facilities**. This aid contributes to **stability** and helps reduce migration flows to Europe.
- **UNICEF** – Czechia funded a **wastewater facility** at the Draa Libya school as part of the Green School programme. The project improved hygiene for **1,500 pupils**, **reduced health risks**, and **enabled water reuse**.

Yemen

- **People in Need** – We contributed to the repair of **water systems** and **securing access to drinking water** and **sanitation** in southern Yemen. The project supports **schools** and **local communities**.
- **CARE Czech Republic** – Support for **water**, **hygiene**, and **sanitation** for **displaced and host communities** in Al Qanawis, Hodeidah Governorate.
- **ICRC** – A Czech financial contribution enabled the provision of healthcare in remote areas where no other aid is available. Yemen remains one of the world's most serious humanitarian crises.

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CZECH AID CONTINUES

- **Our support continues.**
  For the period 2025–2027, the Czech Republic has allocated another CZK 300 million to support people affected by the conflict in the Middle East.

- **Fast, targeted, meaningful.**
  The Reconstruction Programme combines humanitarian aid, recovery, and development, responding flexibly to new challenges.

- **Building on successful projects.**
  We provide assistance on the ground and at the international level – together with the EU, the UN, and other partners.

- **Czech know-how in action.**
  Czech companies, experts, and non-governmental organisations will once again be involved. Together, we are changing lives for the better.

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The official account of the Middle East & North Africa Department of the Czech MFA