CADUS at work.

Emergency response in the most complex crises of our time.



Gaza 2025; Photo: Mattia Bidoli

Cadus
international
disaster response

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Gaza, 2025; Photo: Mattia Bidoli

Every crisis puts systems to the test: Wars, disasters, and fragile structures collide, creating gaps in essential services where help often arrives too late, or not at all.

This is exactly where CADUS steps in.

We work in complex crisis environments where medical and technical emergency relief must be delivered under extreme conditions.

Together with **local partners**, we develop solutions that create immediate impact and, ideally, long term change.

Our programs show: Effective humanitarian assistance emerges where experience, innovation, and collaboration come together.



Gaza 2025; Photo: Mattia Bidoli


Sudan 2026 Photo: CADUS

Our Vision:

Saving lives, relieving suffering, and preventing further hardship

Everyone should have access to help when they need it. And everyone should also have the opportunity to become more self reliant by building their own capacities.

That is why we work together with local partners on creative, needs based solutions. We share our knowledge through trainings and advocate for sustainable, respectful humanitarian assistance.

CADUS Gaza Response

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CADUS Gaza Response

In a largely destroyed health infrastructure, rapid assistance can mean the difference between life and death. CADUS helps close critical gaps in care exactly where they are needed.

- **Medical Evacuations** (MedEvacs): Safe transfer of patients between medical facilities.
- **Field Hospital**: Support for a field hospital run.
- **Emergency Response Team**: The Emergency Response Team (ERT) provides medical support for operations by UN agencies and international NGOs, including OCHA, WFP, UNICEF, WHO, UNMAS, and UNDSS, during convoy movements and situational assessments in high-risk areas.
- **Trainings**: In our medical trainings, we teach knowledge and techniques that can save lives in an emergency. Alongside local colleagues from the medical field, it is mainly people without a medical background who receive this training.

* Glossary:
OCHA: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
WFP: World Food Programme
UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
WHO: World Health Organization
UNMAS: United Nations Mine Action Service
UNDSS: United Nations Department of Safety and Security

Emergency Response in Gaza



CADUS staff member Nermen


Medical Evacuation, Gaza 2025

Period: Since February 2024

CADUS is the first German Emergency Medical Team supporting the current humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

The program is coordinated through the WHO EMT structure.

We support emergency departments in local hospitals and currently carry out complex patient transports from North Gaza, as well as medical trainings.



Gaza 2025 Photo: CADUS


Photo: CADUS, Gaza, March 2025

In 2025, our emergency response achieved the following

* Period: 01.01.-31.12.2025

279
MCI patients treated
(Mass Casualty Incidents)

1.852
TSP patients treated
(Trauma / Primary Health Care)

102
patients evacuated
(Medical Evacuations)

24
Training Sessions
conducted

351
people trained and given
medical instruction

And in the first half of 2026, we achieved the following:

* Period: 01.01.-31.07.2026

62
MCI patients treated
(Mass Casualty Incidents)

6.215
field hospital patients treated

135
patients evacuated
(medical evacuations)

34
Training Sessions
conducted

465
people trained and given
medical instruction



Emergency Response Team (ERT)

The Emergency Response Team in Gaza is a **multi agency UN support unit** operating in high risk and complex humanitarian environments, providing rapid medical, security related, and technical support during programs. The ERT does not conduct independent programs itself. Instead, it supports UN agencies and international organizations in carrying out their program more safely and effectively.

The **medical component** is provided by CADUS and ensures prehospital care, triage, and evacuation support for humanitarian personnel and partner organizations.

Press coverage



WHO Podcast
In this episode, our emergency responders talk about the challenges of medical evacuations and emergency care in Gaza under conflict conditions.
01/05/2026

Listen to the podcast



The Times
"Their colleagues are dead but these aid workers refuse to leave Gaza"
04/06/2024

Read the Article



WHO YouTube Channel
“Emergency Medical Teams in Gaza: Saving lives and preserving health”
04/04/ 2024

Watch the Video

CADUS Ukraine Response

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Medical Evacuations and Trainings in Ukraine

Period: Since February 2022

Our goal: To provide acute assistance while simultaneously strengthening local knowledge, skills, and structures.

CADUS currently carries out medical evacuations as well as trainings.

Training formats for 2026: Our training work includes courses on medical evacuations, pediatric trauma care in low resource settings, and trainings to strengthen resilience among medical staff and local structures.

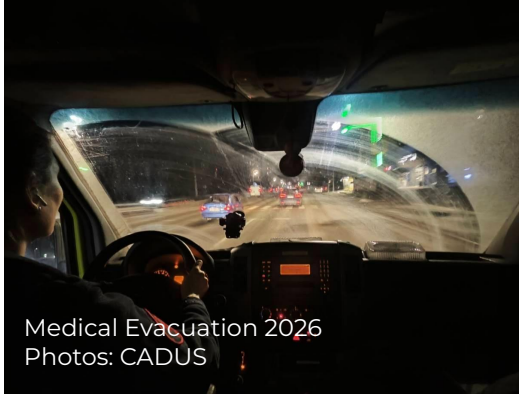


Together with our volunteer training developers from SANA Hospital Offenbach, a comprehensive onboarding took place in Lviv in July 2025.



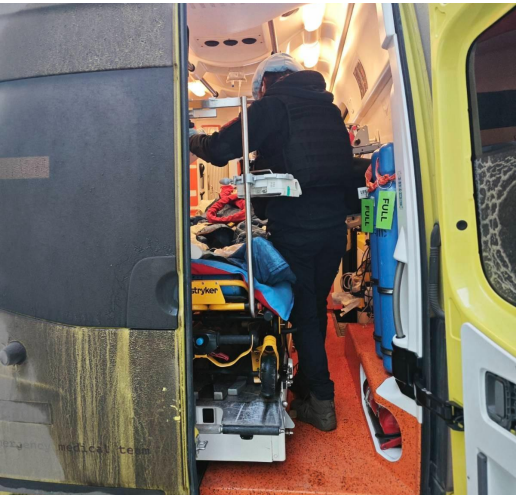
Slowjansk, October 2025. Photo: CADUS, Ruben Neugebauer





Medical Evacuation 2026
Photos: CADUS







In Dnipro, Sloviansk, and Sumy, the CADUS team carries out medical evacuations (MedEvacs).

We also handle complex intensive care transports and specifically strengthen local healthcare capacities.

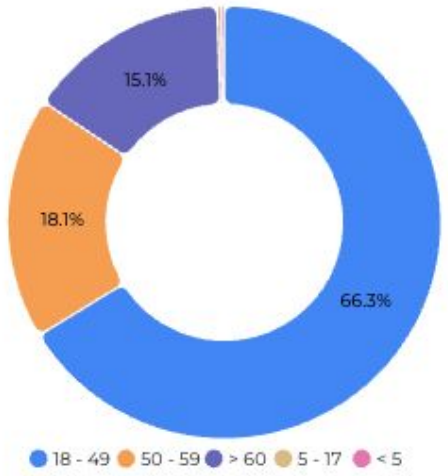
Ukraine – MedEvacs 2025* (medical evacuations)

* For the period 01.01.-31.12.2025

928
Evacuated patients

Distance covered
148,248.8 kilometers

Average Age of Patients



Of whom ICU* patients
399

ICU* patient share
43 %

* Person requiring intensive care treatment

Types of Injuries/Conditions

400 Penetrating injuries
(For example gunshot or shrapnel injuries)

375 Medical condition
(For example blast trauma)

298 Blunt trauma

214 Fractures

96 Amputation

55 Burns

Ukraine – Intermediate Trauma Management Trainings 2025*

* For the period 01.01.-31.12.2025

Training Course:
Advanced Trauma Care

Typical Intermediate Trauma Management Course Content:
- Recognizing life threatening injuries
- Bleeding control and wound care
- Shock management
- Handling fractures, burns, and amputations
- Stabilization before transport

200
People from non medical professions trained

21
Medical professionals trained

146
Female participants

75
Male participants

Please remember:
Behind every number is a person with a story.

CADUS Response in Sudan

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Current Situation in Sudan

* As of August 2026

General humanitarian situation

- Over 33 million people, more than half the population, depend on immediate humanitarian assistance, with children particularly affected.
- Ongoing fighting has driven millions into internal displacement and refuge, leading to severely overcrowded camps and emergency shelters.
- The collapse of transport and supply routes is causing acute food insecurity and a looming famine across large parts of the country.

Medical situation

- An estimated 70 to 80% of health facilities in the conflict zones are destroyed, damaged, or out of service.
- The widespread collapse of water, sanitation, and hygiene infrastructure is fueling the rapid spread of infectious diseases such as cholera, dengue fever, and measles.
- Much of the medical staff has fled or has been working for months without reliable pay; at the same time, there is a severe shortage of wound care supplies, emergency medications, and blood products.

Situation at Al Tamayoz Hospital (Khartoum)



As one of the few remaining functional facilities, the hospital serves a catchment area of roughly 1.5 to 2 million people (local population, displaced people, and returnees).

The remaining doctors and nursing staff at Al Tamayoz Hospital are severely understaffed, work under constant overload, and receive their pay only irregularly.



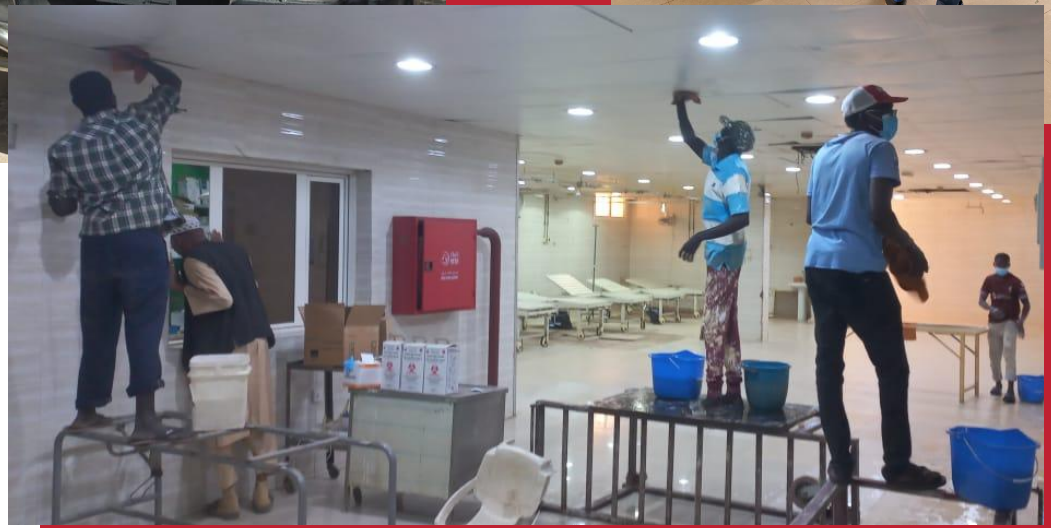
The emergency department is completely inactive and destroyed; nevertheless, parts of the clinic treat around 80 acute patients daily (trauma cases, internal medicine emergencies, infections). Basic supplies such as mattresses are missing, medical equipment is broken or untested, and the power, water, and hygiene supply (WASH/IPC) is extremely unreliable.

Reactivating the emergency department at Al Tamayoz Hospital

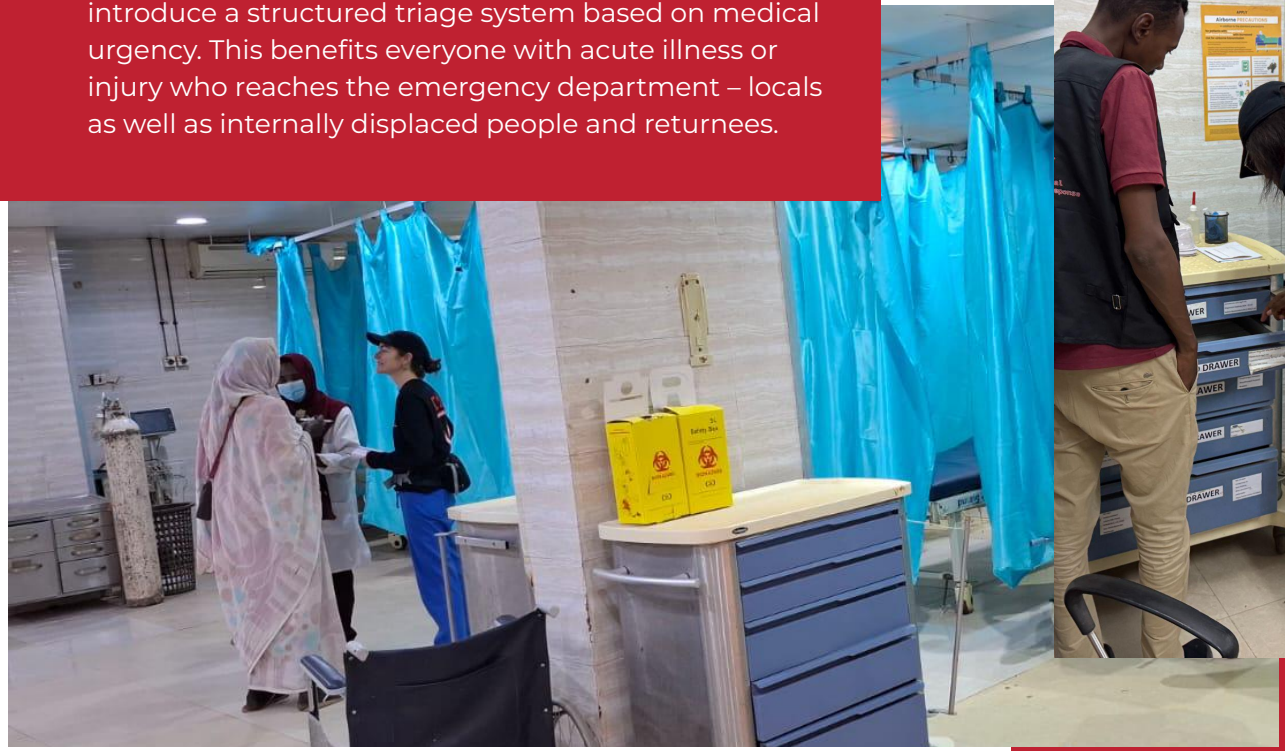
At the center of this project was the reactivation of Al Tamayoz Hospital's destroyed emergency department: as an Emergency Medical Team (EMT), CADUS helped restore continuous 24/7 emergency care and contributed to reducing preventable mortality. To do this, we repaired the existing infrastructure and provided basic supplies and medications to structurally improve the standard of care.







At the same time, we deployed national and international medical staff who worked together with the local teams to systemically strengthen patient management and introduce a structured triage system based on medical urgency. This benefits everyone with acute illness or injury who reaches the emergency department – locals as well as internally displaced people and returnees.



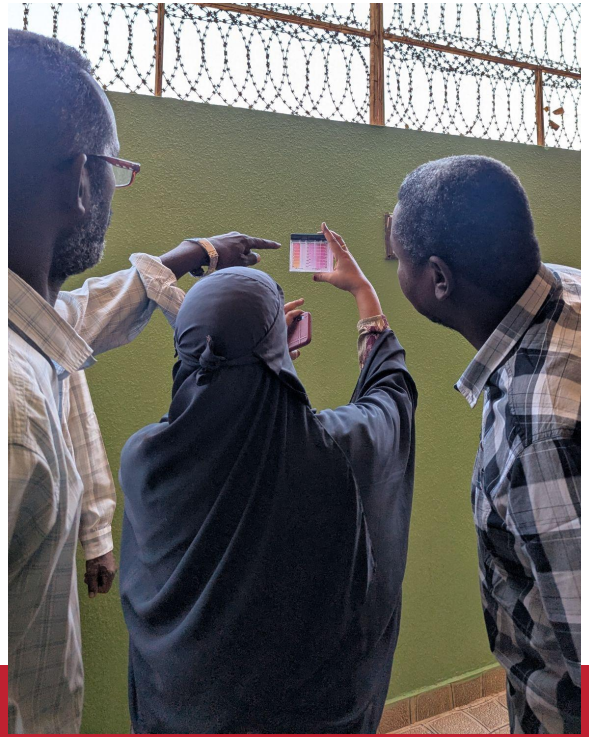




To ensure that care continues beyond the deployment itself, we also focus on training, education, and mentoring: this specifically strengthens the already overburdened local hospital staff before the facilities and equipment are eventually handed over entirely to local structures.









Given the high cholera case numbers in Khartoum, we are consistently building on the hospital's work: alongside medical care, we are implementing concrete measures for hygiene, safe water use, and infection prevention.

We have already distributed 40 water filtration units in cholera hotspots in Khartoum and Red Sea State. In addition, we provide low-threshold WASH and IPC trainings to selected health facilities and health points in both regions, so that hygiene standards and infection prevention remain anchored locally beyond our deployment.





What our Response has achieved so far

40

Water filtration units distributed

5.750

Consultations
of which:

3.069

female

3.197

male

62

pregnancies

Overview of Previous CADUS programs

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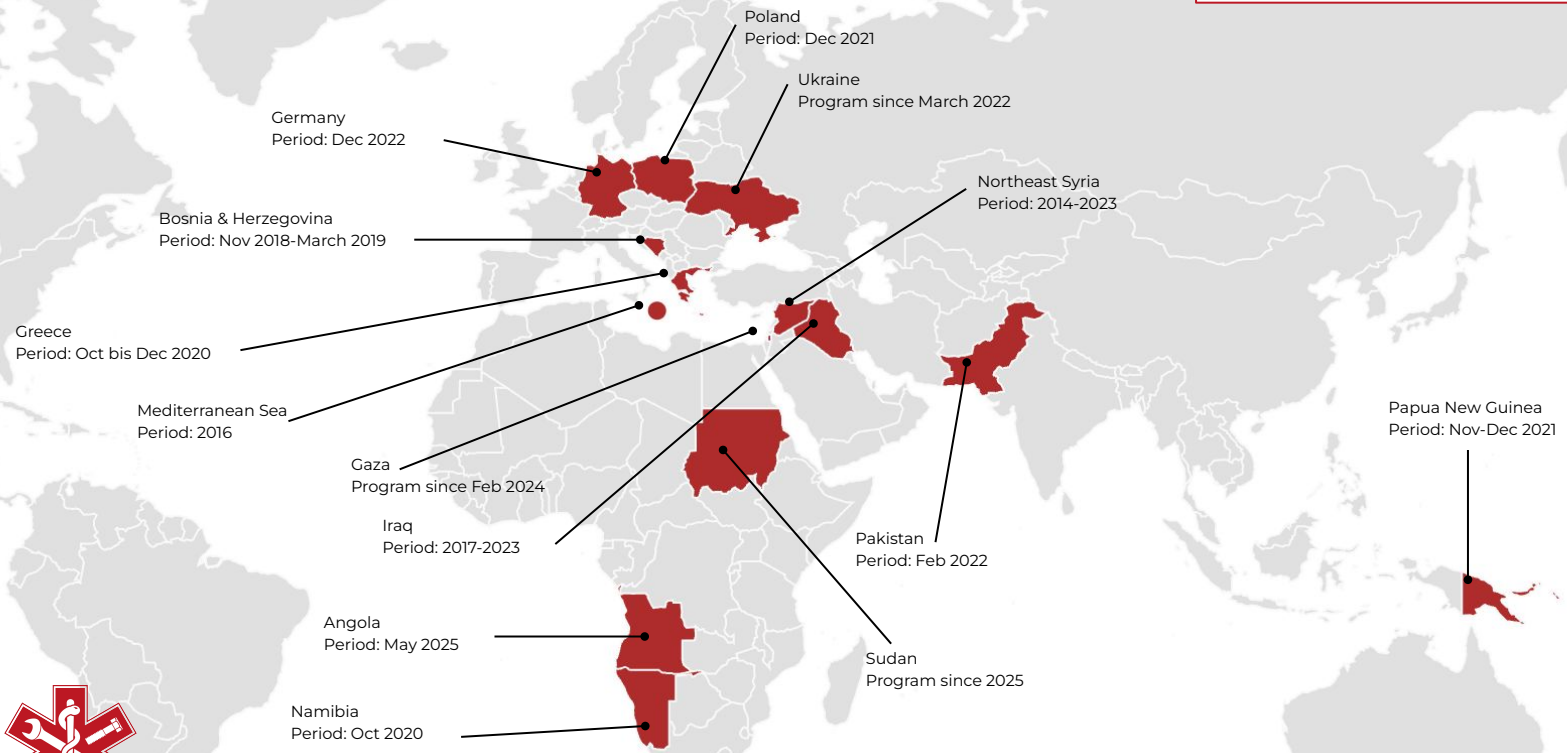
Overview of Previous programs

More information about our operations and areas of work at cadus.org



CADUS Academy Projects

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CADUS Academy

Since the early days of CADUS, knowledge transfer and practical trainings have been a core part of our work.

We train teams and individuals directly in program contexts as well as in Berlin.

In addition, we develop new formats and create long term training structures with the goal of translating our field experience into training content and making this knowledge more accessible, effective, and sustainable.









HEAT: Training for Response

The Hostile Environment Awareness Training (HEAT) by CADUS is an intensive, practice oriented training originally developed to prepare CADUS volunteers and staff members for work in dangerous and unstable regions.

If capacity allows, these trainings are also open to external participants. Journalists, for example, currently make use of this offer.

Find more information and current dates here.



Response Area Trainings & Capacity Building

We strengthen people locally through relevant trainings and programs so they can sustainably help themselves and others over the long term. This creates assistance that is **independent** and **sustainable**.

Selected Training Programs:

- Pediatric emergency trainings (Ukraine)
- Intermediate Trauma Management (Ukraine)
- Basic Life Support (Ukraine)
- Stop the Bleed / TCCC, life saving immediate measures in conflict zones (Gaza)

Our goal is to enable people to act safely and effectively even in difficult and insecure situations. **Capacity building** means exactly that: **developing skills** and **gaining knowledge**. Supporting people so they can solve problems independently instead of remaining permanently dependent on outside assistance.

CADUS
Climate Emergency Responder

Trainings for climate related emergencies

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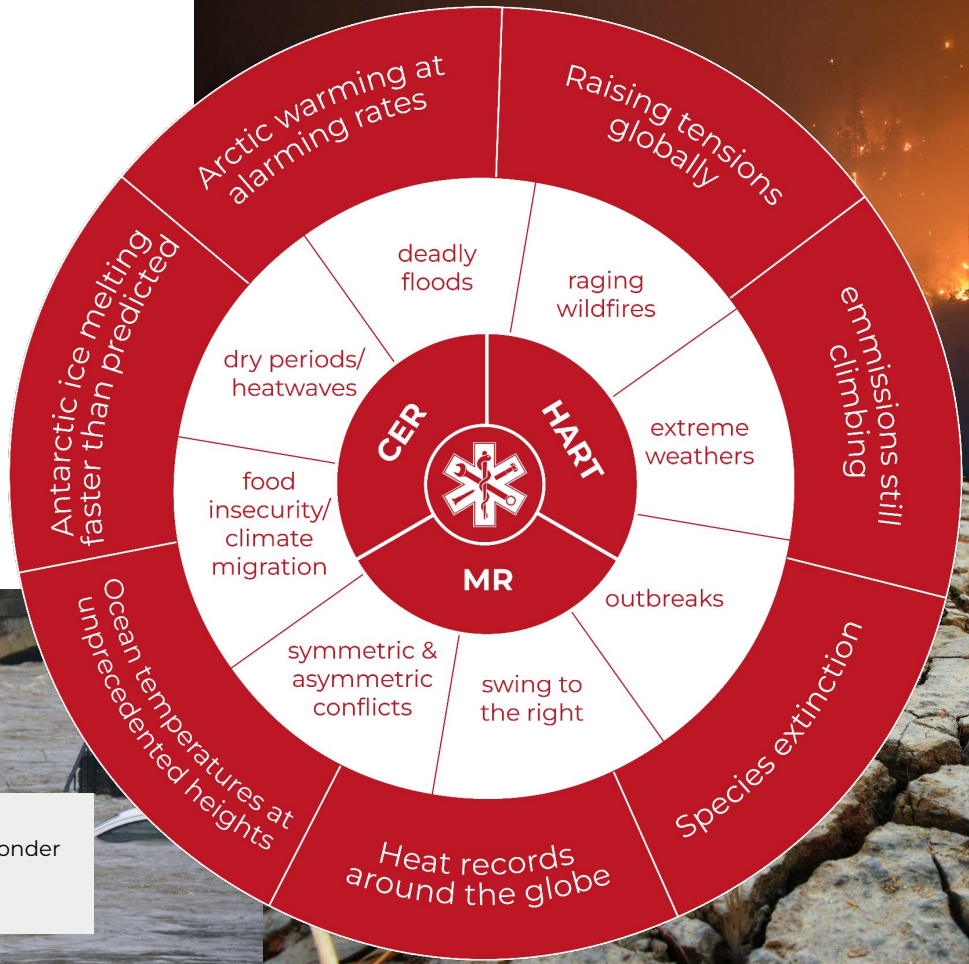
With the Climate Emergency Responder (CER), CADUS is working to offer low threshold training programs through which participants can gain solid foundational knowledge in climate and civil protection, medical emergency response, communication, logistics, risk management, and much more.

Participants benefit from the experience CADUS has gained through more than ten years of medical and technical emergency response work.



Explanation
CER= Climate Emergency Responder
HART: Hazard Area Response
MR: Migration Response

Civil society engagement has demonstrated impressively in recent disasters how decisive its role can be. Volunteers on the ground are often the first to respond. They can act quickly, flexibly, and without unnecessary bureaucracy.

The challenge for the future is to integrate this willingness to help more effectively and to train people specifically for climate related emergencies.

In the face of multiple crises, it is no longer enough to rely solely on established structures, national systems, and international emergency plans.

To close operational capacity gaps, build solidarity based support systems, and prepare for future crises, **voluntary engagement** outside established organizations must be recognized as a **fixed component** of national crisis preparedness and strengthened through open, easily accessible training programs.

This creates additional capacities for preparedness, rapid response capability, and more resilient domestic structures that can also become effective internationally in the long term.

This is exactly where our project begins.

Open and digital

Our training programs will be **digital open source** offers accessible to everyone interested.

The basic modules will require no prior knowledge and will be available online, provided under open licenses. This means anyone can participate anytime, easily, and at their own pace.



Selected Basic Courses (Status: November 2025)

Construction and Structural Basics
Introduction to tools and materials. Repairs on wooden, brick, metal and roof structures, as well as windows and doors. Serves as foundational knowledge for all other modules.

WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene)
Water treatment, distribution and storage, wastewater and waste management, hygiene in emergency settings. Includes advanced topics such as infection prevention and control during outbreaks of communicable diseases.

Flood Response and Water Rescue
Fundamentals of water dynamics, levee systems and pumping techniques, safety protocols. Advanced content includes swiftwater rescue, boat operations and rope systems.

Confined Space Rescue and Rope Techniques
Rescue techniques relevant in industrial accidents, building collapses or natural disasters. Training includes life-saving methods, breathing and protective equipment, teamwork and mental resilience.

Health and Heatwaves
Medical implications of heat exposure, triage, cooling and protective measures, planning and operation of cooling centers, and community-level prevention strategies.

Wildland and Forest Fires
Fundamentals of fire behavior, ground-based firefighting, aerial support and key human factors during deployments.

Environmental Analysis
Measuring and assessing environmental hazards including air and water quality and pollutants. Use of modern detection equipment, data processing and decision-making for response operations.

One Health: Human, Animal and Environment
Understanding the interconnectedness of human, animal and environmental health in crisis settings. Strategies for early detection and prevention of climate-related health risks.

Disaster Logistics
Planning and implementing aid distribution under challenging conditions such as damaged infrastructure, limited resources and time pressure.

Infection Prevention and High-Consequence Infectious Diseases (IPC/HCID) Hygiene protocols, personal protective equipment, screening and isolation procedures, waste management, safe patient flows and community-level awareness and prevention.

CADUS Makerspace

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Innovation meets Response – the CADUS Makerspace

Germany's first humanitarian creative workshop: This space is used for response planning, preparation, and carrying out operational support work in the technical and medical fields.





We also connect here with other makerspaces in our response areas and worldwide in order to enable collaboration across borders.

We make the makerspace available to other (humanitarian and scientific) organizations as well to strengthen cooperation within the humanitarian sector. Partnership opportunities like these are at the core of our vision.

From coach bus to Mobile Intensive Care Unit

To strengthen the war-affected medical infrastructure in Ukraine, we launched the project "Mobile Intensive Care Unit" (MICU) in autumn 2022.



From coach bus to Mobile Intensive Care Unit

Idea



To make MedEvac operations more effective, we decided to convert a coach bus into a mobile intensive care unit.

The advantage: more patients can be transported with fewer staff and less material. It uses a vehicle particularly suited for long-distance transfers.

Conversion



A considerable amount was installed to transport patients over long distances:

Six seats, four securely fixed intensive care treatment units with stretcher mounts. In addition, four further seats for personnel and sufficient storage space at each position for permanently installed equipment such as monitors, ventilators, perfusors and suction pumps, as well as two defibrillators at each position.

Interior planning



A real challenge for everyone involved: integrating electricity, oxygen and water supply, as well as medical equipment, into a confined space while still leaving enough room to work and manoeuvre with the stretchers.

In Response



Already after arriving in Ukraine in October 2022, three transports with a total of 25 patients were carried out.

Meanwhile, the MICU bus is in regular operation in the Dnipro region under the leadership of the local emergency medical service.

The pitch deck for the MICU is available here!

Behind every line and every number are people whose lives would be in acute danger without emergency response.

Every single deployment shows how urgently this work is needed. And how much it achieves.

To keep carrying out medical evacuations, supporting hospitals and field hospitals, and expanding our training programs, CADUS needs your support.

DONATE

Emergency relief is resource intensive. With your donation, you help us continue saving lives, relieving suffering, and preventing further hardship.

Link to online donation form
Link to corporate donations
Donation Account:
CADUS e.V.
Volksbank Berlin
IBAN DE55 1009 0000 2533 5240 04
BIC BEVODEBBXXX

ORDER INFO MATERIAL & DONATION BOXES

Do you run a bar and would like to place a CADUS donation box? Or do you think your favorite place is still missing one? Then write to spenden@cadus.org and we will gladly send you information material and a donation box.

ORGANIZE A SOLIDARITY EVENT

Whether it is a solidarity reading, solidarity tattoo event, a small fundraiser, or a large benefit concert, we are always impressed and grateful for what grows out of our community.

If you have an idea for a solidarity event or are currently planning one, get in touch with us. We support you wherever possible. Just send an email to: spenden@cadus.org

START A FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Whether for a birthday, company celebration, or wedding, there are many occasions where donations can be collected. Support our emergency relief operations and projects with your own online fundraising campaign and invite your friends, family, and wider network to contribute. You can easily start your own online fundraising campaign here.

STAY INFORMED

Subscribe to our Newsletter, to stay updated on our current emergency relief programs and projects and follow us on Instagram, Blue Sky und LinkedIn.

Thank you for your support!



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