UN OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

OCHA PRESENCE IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY

Cartography: OCHA Humanitarian Information Centre - September 2004
Base data: PA MoPIC, July 2000, OCHA update 2004
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http://www.ochaopt.org

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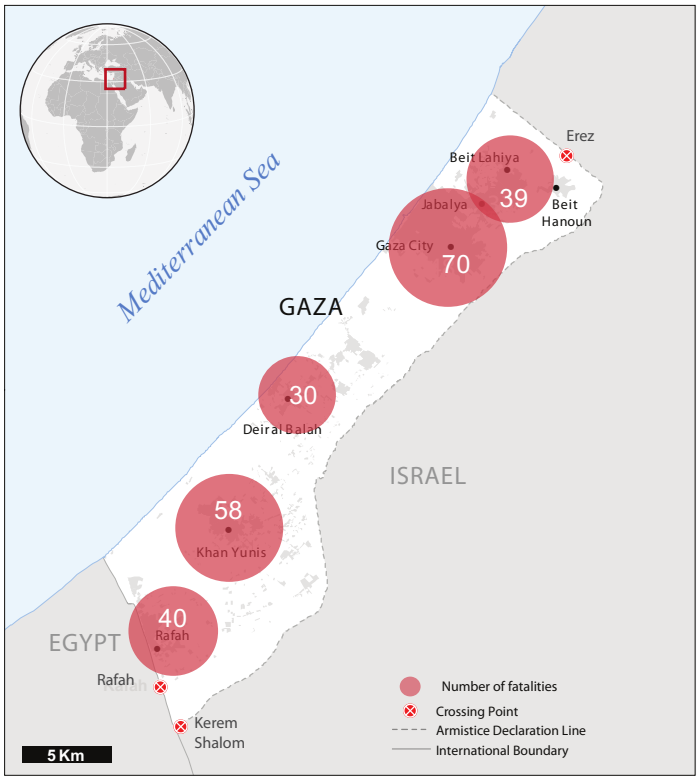
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 17 July 2014)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities
(8 to 17 July)



1.8 million Affected people in the Gaza Strip

33,500 displaced (at least) **22,900** taking shelter in UNRWA schools

28% of essential medicines out of stock

up to **50%** reduction in water supply for household

50% of sewage facilities no longer operating.

Situation Overview

A UN-initiated humanitarian pause took place on 17 July from 10:00 to 15:00. The pause held despite limited exchanges of fire. The pause allowed for the removal of accumulated garbage and the initial clearing away of rubble, and for utility workers to carry out maintenance repairs.

On 16 July , in one widely reported incident, a group of seven children from the Bakr family were struck by a missile strike while playing football on a beach in Gaza city. Four boys aged 10 to 11 were killed and an eight-year-old boy seriously injured.

Damaged structures

84 schools damaged

1,780 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

6 health facilities damaged **13** not operating

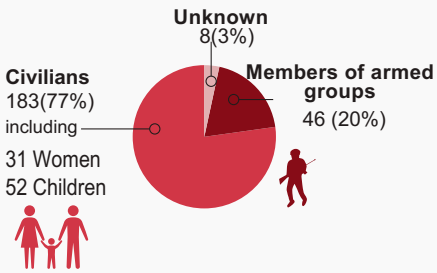
150,000 people in eastern Gaza affected due to damage of WASH facilities

Palestinian Casualties *

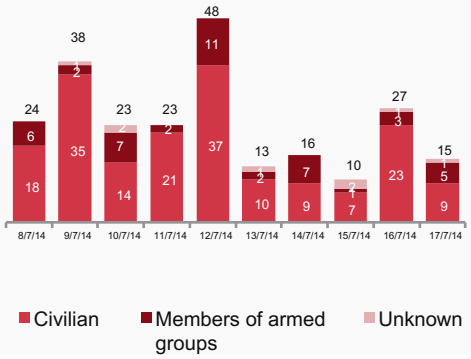
237* Killed

1,764 Injured
521 Children
372 Women

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date

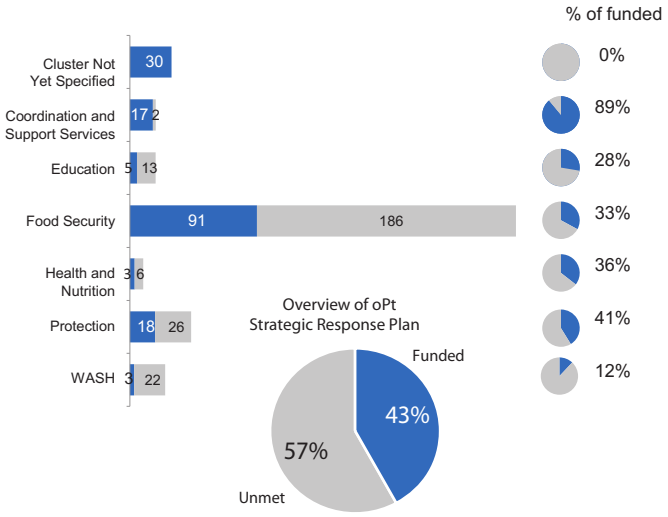


Needs, response and funding

	Needs	Response
Protection	57,900 children require specialised support services; Approx. 100 unexploded bombs have been reported.	Psychosocial teams have reached 448 children. The Protection Cluster continues to monitor and crosscheck information on civilian fatalities.
Shelter and NFI	96,400 individuals are in need of shelter and NFI assistance, including 1,780 families (10,600 persons) displaced and 2,300 families (13,800) whose houses sustained damages but are still inhabitable.	24 UNRWA schools serving as shelters for 22,900 individuals, who received NFIs and hygiene kits. 6,240 other individuals have been provided with shelter assistance to date.
Health	Urgent need of 50 essential drug items and 20 disposables at Gaza hospitals. 8 anesthesia machines, 10 ventilators, 5 electrosurgical units, 20 vital sign monitors, ECG machines, 5 defibrillator machines urgently needed.	Emergency fuel of 26,000 litres of diesel to critical health facilities provided.
WASH	Up to 50% reduction in water supply for households. Only 50% of the sewage pumping and treatment systems operate. More than 30,000 people in Al Junaina and Al Salam area remain without water for the past seven days.	Sanitation workers worked in all refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, removing solid waste, cleaning the streets, and ensuring that water wells remain operational. Damage of water and sewage pipelines in five locations in Jabalia were temporarily repaired
Food	22,900 persons hosted at UNRWA shelters and another 685 displaced families hosted by relatives, are in need of emergency food assistance; 3,600 fishermen are still in need of re-establishing their livelihoods and require assistance in the interim;	WFP & UNRWA continue to provide emergency food rations to IDPs in shelters. WFP continues to provide food assistance to about 2,040 persons in hospitals.600 families are receiving food parcels by the Welfare Association.
Funding	US$ 22 million urgently needed by UNRWA to continue its operations in Gaza and to cover underfunded projects	2 US$ million worth of propsals are being processed by ERF/OCHA to meet underfunded projects in the SRP

oPt Funding by sector (in million US$)

Of the SRP total request of $390 million, $221 million (57%) is for projects targeting the Gaza Strip specifically. Of this $221 million, less than 30% has been received to date. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.



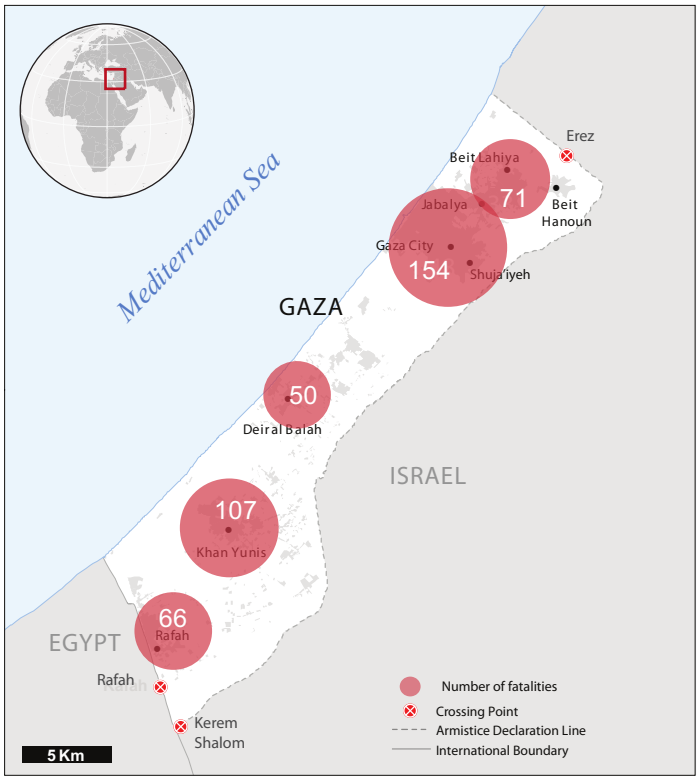
Creation date: 18 July 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on casualities is consolidated based on preliminary information and is subject to change based on further verifications.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 20 July 2014)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities
(8 to 20 July)



1.8 million Affected people in the Gaza Strip

100,000 displaced (at least) **84,000** taking shelter in UNRWA schools

43% of Gaza's territory affected by evacuation warnings or declaration of 'no-go zones'

1.2 million People with no or very limited access to water or sanitation services

80% receive electricity for only four hours a day

Situation Overview

On 17 July the Israeli army launched a ground incursion into the Gaza Strip and intensified airstrikes and artillery shelling, triggering a sharp increase in civilian casualties and mass displacements.

Up to 60 Palestinians, including 17 children and 14 women, are reported to have been killed in the past 24 hours in the Ash Shuja'iyeh area in eastern Gaza City, raising concern about respect for the principle of distinction and proportionality under international humanitarian law. The depletion of stocks and the access impediments are increasingly challenging humanitarian operations.

Damaged structures

85 schools damaged

2,200 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

18 health facilities damaged

2,720 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

Israeli Casualties

2(10%) **Civilians**

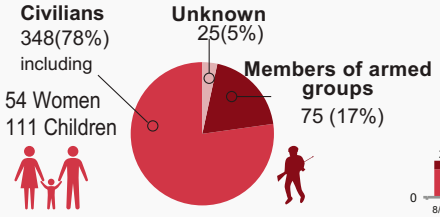
18(90%) **Soldiers**

Palestinian Casualties *

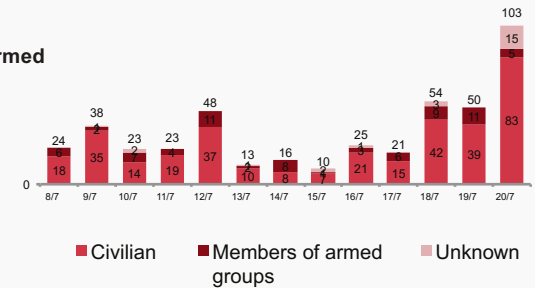
448* Killed

3,008 Injured
904 Children
533 Women

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date

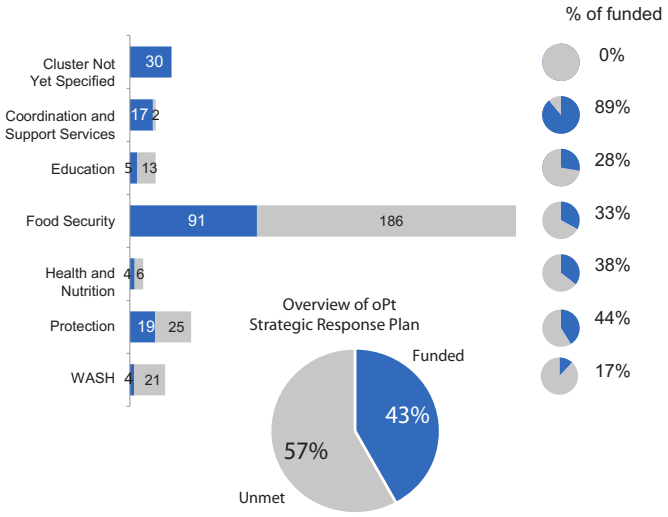


Needs, response and funding

	Needs	Response
Protection	72,390 children require specialised support services; Approx. 100 unexploded bombs have been reported.	Psychosocial teams have reached 755 children, in adition to a free 24-hour Sawa helpline.
Shelter and NFI	119,500 individuals are in need of shelter and NFI assistance, including 2,200 families (13,200 persons) displaced and 2,720 families (16,300) whose houses sustained damages but are still inhabitable.	61 UNRWA schools serving as shelters for 84,000 individuals,other 12 government schools have been used as shelters. 8,900 individuals have been provided with NFIs.
Health	Urgent need of 71 essential drug items and 20 disposables at Gaza hospitals. 8 anesthesia machines, 10 ventilators, 5 electrosurgical units, 20 vital sign monitors, ECG machines, 5 defibrillator machines urgently needed. 18 health-related facilities require repair.	WHO is coordinating with MoH and health sector partners on the most urgent needs for donations, informing donors and facilitating procurement and delivery to Gaza.
WASH	Repair of wells, sewage pumping station and water and sewage lines damaged.Emergency water tankering to current and expected IDPs in shelters is required.	UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters and 9,820 cubic metres of water to refugee families through water wells in eight camps. Oxfam GB is supplying water to IDP shelters in Gaza city,
Food	IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.Food stocks for under 5-year-olds (particularly under 2-year-olds) are running extremely low and require replenishment.	More than 50,000 people received emergency food assistance in the last 24 hours.WFP continues to distribute daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.
Funding	US$ 22 million urgently needed by UNRWA to continue its operations in Gaza and to cover underfunded projects	2 US$ million worth of propsals are being processed by ERF/OCHA to meet underfunded projects in the SRP

oPt Funding by sector (in million US$)

Of the SRP total request of $390 million, $223 million (57%) is for projects targeting the Gaza Strip specifically. Of this $170 million, 43 % has been received to date. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.



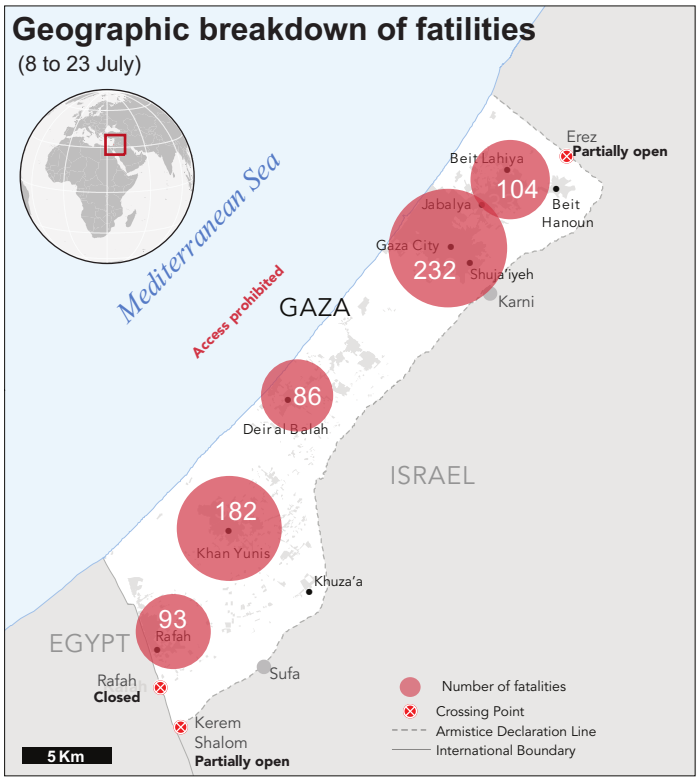
Creation date: 21 July 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on casualities is consolidated based on preliminary information and is subject to change based on further verifications.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 23 July 2014, 15:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities
(8 to 23 July)



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

3,993 Injured
1,213 Children
698 Women

140,000 displaced (at least) seeking shelter in UNRWA schools

1.2 million People with no or very limited access to water or sanitation services

80% receive electricity for only four hours a day

Situation Overview

The killing of multiple members of the same families as a result of the targeting of homes became increasingly frequent in the past few days, with at least five families (36 individuals) almostcompletely erased during the previous reporting period alone.The Israeli military targeted and destroyed or severely damaged over 530 residential properties,including many multi-storey buildings, causing civilian casualties and displacing the survivors.

Intense overcrowding, compounded by the limited access of humanitarian staff to certain areas, is increasingly undermining the living conditions at many shelters and raising protection concerns. Water supply has been particularly challenging, with more than 117,000 IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use.

Humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for International **Humanitarian LawNew humanitarian pause:** to complete search and rescue operations, repair critical infrastructure, and reach isolated areas.
Scale up response to IDPs: by adding shelters and replenishing food, water, and NFI stocks.

Damaged structures

116 schools damaged

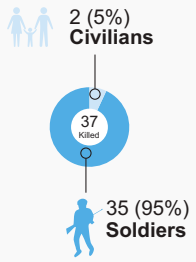
3,230 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

18 health facilities damaged

3,750 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

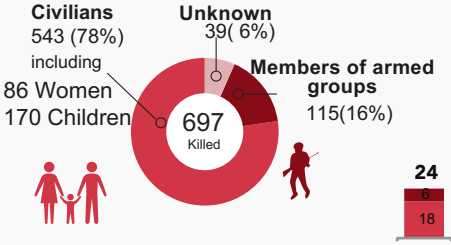
Israeli Fatilities

Fatalities by status

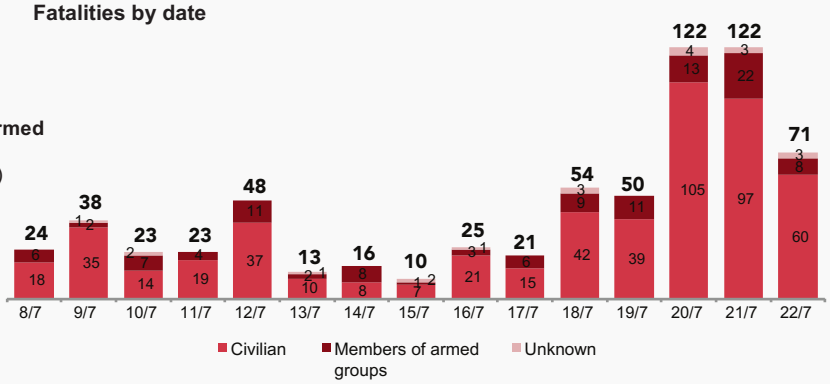


Palestinian Casualties *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date



Needs, response and funding

	Needs	Response
Protection	170,000 children require specialised support services. Approx. 100 unexploded bombs have been reported.	Psychosocial teams have reached 1,196 children, in adition to a free 24-hour Sawa helpline.
Shelter and NFI	135,000 individuals are in need of shelter and NFI assistance, including 2,655 families displaced and 3,175 families whose houses sustained damages but are still inhabitable.	83 UNRWA schools are serving as shelters for 117,000 individuals, also other 12 government schools have been used as shelters. 9,157 individuals have been provided with NFIs.
Health	Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, 3 operation tables and a lighting system for the 5 operation rooms.	WHO is coordinating with MoH and health sector partners on the most urgent needs for donations, informing donors and facilitating procurement and delivery to Gaza.
WASH	Repair of wells, sewage pumping station and water and sewage lines damaged.Emergency water tankering to over 117,000 IDPs is required.	UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA schools and delivered 40,000 tonnes of diesel to water and sewage pump stations. Oxfam GB is supplying water to IDPs in 18 schools.
Food	Over 135,000 IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.	WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs. and hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.

oPt Funding by sector
(in million US$)

HCT will begin preparation of a flash appeal for Gaza

Projects targeting Gaza specifically in the 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) are requesting $221 million, of which 32 per cent ($70 million) has been received. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.

Cluster	Required	Mobilized as of 23 July	Percentage
Education	6.7	2.2	32%
Food Security	183.7	60.5	28%
Health and Nutrition	9.9	1.2	9%
Protection	7.3	3.2	44%
Shelter and NFIs	3.5	0.3	12%
WASH	10.2	2.9	33%
TOTAL	221.3	70.3	33%

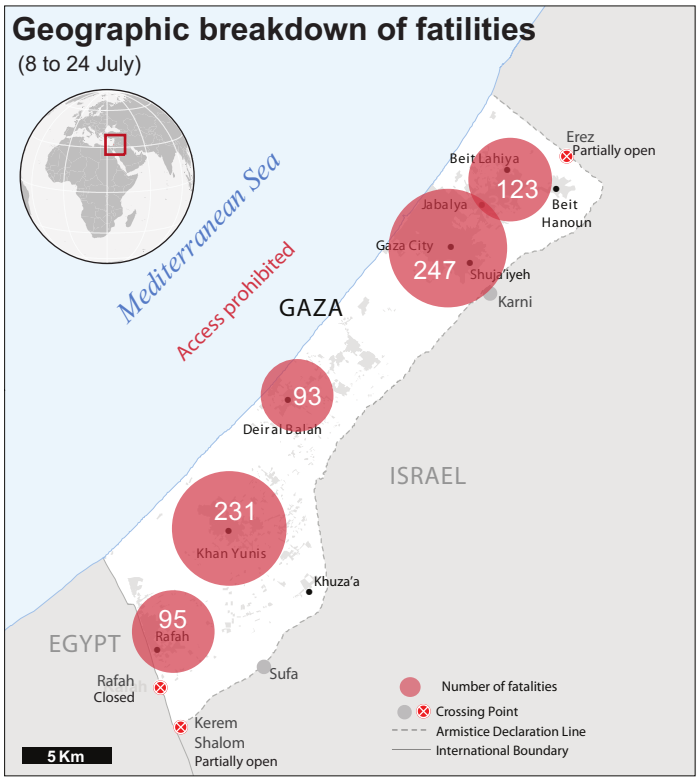
Creation date: 24 July 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on casualities is consolidated based on preliminary information and is subject to change based on further verifications. Figures are changing constantly and lack of access prevents further assessment

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 24 July 2014, 15:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities
(8 to 24 July)



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

5,118 Injured
1,516 Children
1,012 Women

149,000 displaced (at least) seeking shelter in UNRWA schools

1.2 million People with no or very limited access to water or sanitation services

80% receive electricity for only four hours a day

Situation Overview

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 615 residential properties (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. To date, at least 42 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 253 fatalities, since the onset of the emergency. This represents an important loss to the social fabric of Gaza.

Public infrastructure and services continued to be affected by hostilities. The attack on the UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun brings to approximately 120 the number of educational facilities which have suffered damage since 7 July. Since the current emergency started, 85 UNRWA installations have sustained damage. This includes mainly schools and health centres, in addition to a water pump, the Rehabilitation Centre for the Visually Impaired and warehouses containing vital stocks for UNRWA operations. Three UNRWA staff were killed today, including a teacher while returning home after supervising a shelter, bringing to six the number of teachers known to have been killed to date.

Damaged structures

120 schools damaged

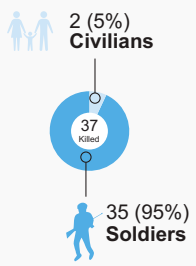
3,333 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

18 health facilities damaged

3,380 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

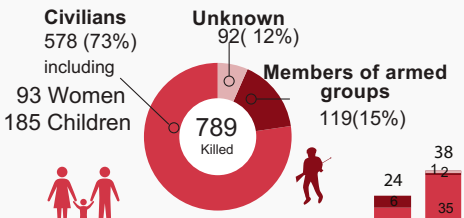
Israeli Fatilities

Fatalities by status

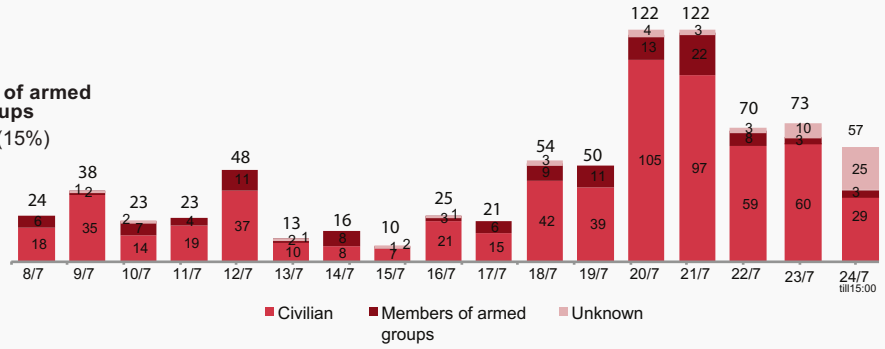


Palestinian Casualties *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date



Key Humanitarian Priorities

Protection of civilians: Ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: Increased access for humanitarian workers and their partners to carry out life-saving and emergency assistance is urgently needed, for example through a regular and meaningful humanitarian pause or coordination requests that are respected. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas of Gaza, such a Ash Shuja'iyeh and Khuza'a; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure; but also to provide a predictable basic level of broader humanitarian assistance to a population in need. The inability of actors to provide humanitarian assistance will undermine the credibility of the operations and could increase the security risks of humanitarian workers.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

oPt Funding by cluster
(in million US$)

HCT have begun preparation of a crisis appeal for

Projects targeting Gaza specifically in the 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) are requesting $221 million, of which 32 per cent ($70 million) has been received. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.

Cluster	Required	Mobilized as of 23 July	Percentage
Education	6.7	2.2	32%
Food Security	183.7	60.5	28%
Health and Nutrition	9.9	1.2	9%
Protection	7.3	3.2	44%
Shelter and NFIs	3.5	0.3	12%
WASH	10.2	2.9	33%
TOTAL	221.3	70.3	33%

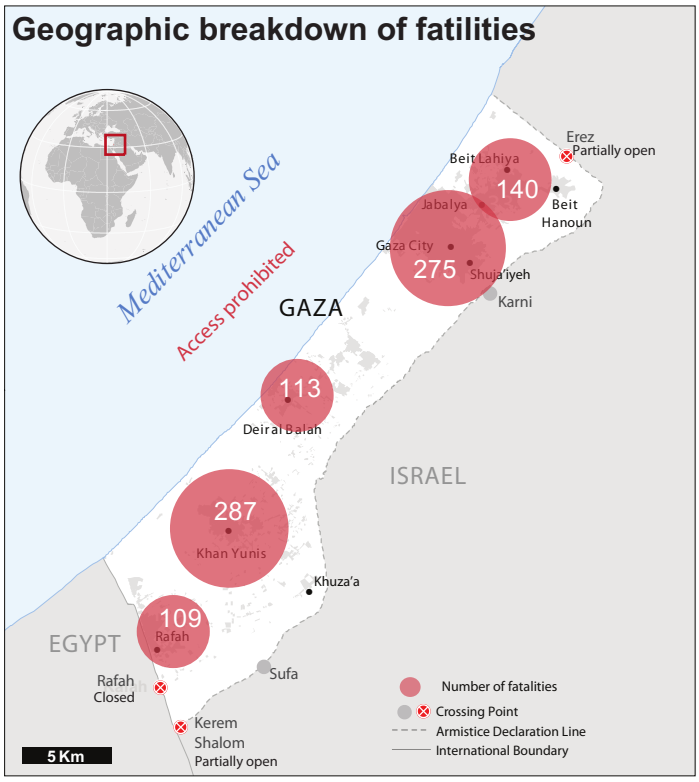
Creation date: 25 July 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified, including the Beit Hanoun school. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 26 July 2014, 15:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

5,500 Injured(at least) 30% Children 20% Women

200,000 Displaced people in UNRWA / government schools & with host families.

1.2 million People with no or very limited access to water or sanitation services

80% receive electricity for only four hours a day

Situation Overview

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that about 685 residential properties (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. At least 44 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 253 fatalities, since the onset of the emergency. This trend of multiple family fatalities continued in the period leading up to the ceasefire yesterday, with four members of the al-Darazin family, including the father, two children aged three and five, and a cousin reportedly killed when a tank shell struck their home in an Nuseirat camp yesterday afternoon.

On 26 July at around 03:10, an Israeli airstrike hit a two-storey building in the Sheikh Nasser area, eastern Khan Yunis, belonging to Sameer Hussein Mohammed An-Najjar. Twenty family members were reportedly killed including 11 children, four of them aged one year or under. Five women, two of them pregnant, were also killed. According to some reports, the family had recently fled the fighting in Khuza'a to take refuge in the Khan Yunis area.

Damaged structures

120 schools damaged

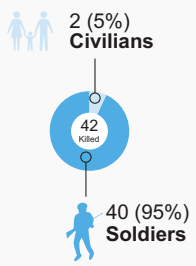
3,333 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

18 health facilities damaged

3,380 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

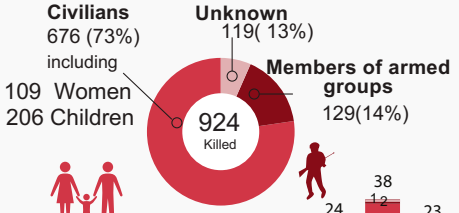
Israeli Fatilities

Fatalities by status

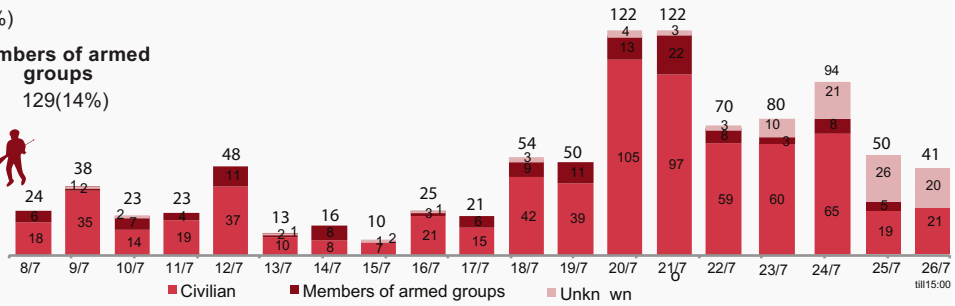


Palestinian Casualties *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date



Key Humanitarian Priorities

Protection of civilians: Ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: Increased access for humanitarian workers and their partners to carry out life-saving and emergency assistance is urgently needed, for example through a regular and meaningful humanitarian pause or coordination requests that are respected. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas of Gaza, such a Ash Shuja'iyeh and Khuza'a; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure; but also to provide a predictable basic level of broader humanitarian assistance to a population in need. The inability of actors to provide humanitarian assistance will undermine the credibility of the operations and could increase the security risks of humanitarian workers.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

oPt Funding by Cluster

(in million US$)

HCT have begun preparation of a crisis appeal for Gaza

Projects targeting Gaza specifically in the 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) are requesting $221 million, of which 32 per cent ($70 million) has been received. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.

Cluster	Required	Mobilized as of 23 July	Percentage
Education	6.7	2.2	32%
Food Security	183.7	60.5	28%
Health and Nutrition	9.9	1.2	9%
Protection	7.3	3.2	44%
Shelter and NFIs	3.5	0.3	12%
WASH	10.2	2.9	33%
TOTAL	221.3	70.3	33%

Creation date: 27 July 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified, including the Beit Hanoun school. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.These numbers do not include at least 90 bodies which were recovered during the ceasefire.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 27 MAY - 2 JUNE 2014

Key issues

- One Palestinian killed by Israeli forces in the Salfit governorate.
- Dozens were injured in multiple clashes across the West Bank, many in East Jerusalem.
- After five weeks of relative calm, two Israeli airstrikes were launched on military training sites in Gaza reportedly in response to rocket firing by Palestinian armed groups, resulting in no injuries.

WEST BANK

One Palestinian killed by Israeli forces; another dies following tear gas inhalation; dozens injured in multiple clashes with Israeli forces

Almost at midnight on 2 June, Israeli forces shot and killed a 31-year-old Palestinian man at Za'tara checkpoint in the Salfit governorate, on the main road between Nablus and the central West Bank. According to Israeli media quoting the Israeli army spokesperson, the man was shot after he opened fire at the soldiers staffing the checkpoint; according to Palestinian sources, the man, who was a local trader in the nearby Huwwara village, was waiting to receive goods, and did not fire at the soldiers. This fatality brings the total number of Palestinians killed by Israeli forces this year to 11.

Another Palestinian man, aged 64, died this week (not included in above total) two days after he was admitted to hospital on 25 May, suffering from tear gas inhalation sustained during clashes between Palestinians and Israeli soldiers in Abu Dis town (Jerusalem). According to medical sources, the man has a history of chronic lung disease.

During the week, there was a noticeable increase in the number of Palestinian injuries in clashes with Israeli forces across the West Bank. In total, 84 were injured, compared to a weekly average of 44 injuries in 2014. Most were as a result of rubber-coated metal bullets (22) or were treated after inhaling tear gas (29), fired by Israeli forces during the clashes.

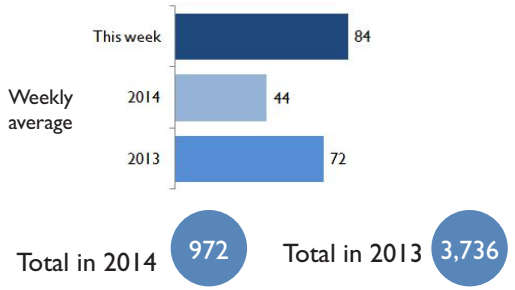
Around 40 per cent of Palestinian injuries (a total of 32) were sustained on 28 May in clashes in different parts of the Old City of Jerusalem, including the Al Aqsa Mosque compound. The confrontations were mainly triggered by marches by hundreds of Israelis in the Old City, commemorating "Jerusalem Day", which also involved attempts by Israeli groups to enter the mosque compound. Four Israeli policemen and seven Israeli civilians were injured after their bus was stoned by Palestinians while traveling on Salah Eddin Street.

A total of 31 Palestinians were also wounded in protests held in solidarity with prisoners on hunger strike. Almost half of these sustained injuries in

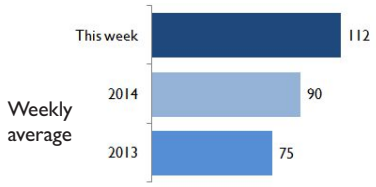
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	11
Equivalent 2013 period:	8

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



protests in Tulkarm city (15) and the remainder in the old cities of Jerusalem and Hebron, and at the entrances of Al Fawar refugee camp and Tuqu' village (in Hebron and Bethlehem, respectively).

Five of this week's injuries were reported in clashes that took place in the course of search-and-arrest operations in Al Mughayyir (Ramallah), Tubas city, Deir Istiya (Salfit), 'Anza (Jenin) and Jenin city. So far this year, 1,890 search-and-arrest operations have been conducted, resulting in 81 injuries, with the majority of these operations taking place in the northern West Bank.

In addition, four Palestinians were injured in weekly demonstrations, including two in Bil'in village against the Barrier, and against the expansion of the settlements of Hallamish in Ramallah and Qedumim in Qalqiliya. Six other Palestinians were injured during clashes that erupted between Israeli forces and residents of Beit Ummar village (Hebron), triggered after an Israeli jeep and a Palestinian car collided near the village; a 15-year-old Palestinian passenger was also injured.

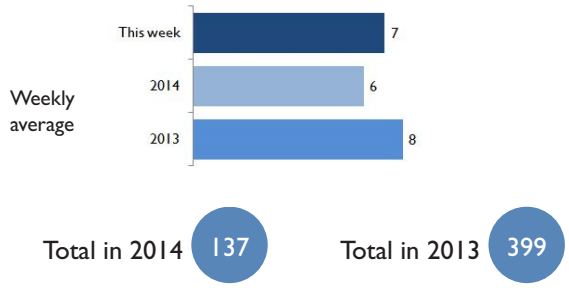
Four Palestinians, including three children, injured in settler-related violence

A total of seven incidents by Israeli settlers led to Palestinian injuries and damage to their property, the same as the weekly average of incidents recorded since the beginning of the year (7).

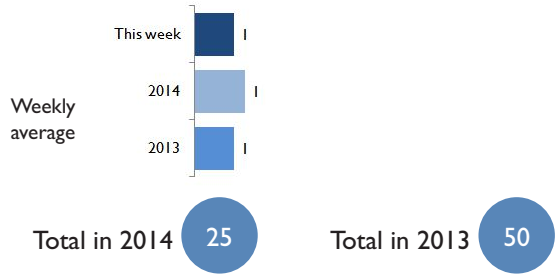
Five of this week's incidents took place in the Nablus governorate, with one resulting in an injury and the others in damage to property. On 29 May, Israeli settlers stoned, without injuring, a shepherd while he was herding his sheep near Bracha settlement. The incident triggered clashes between the settlers and residents of the nearby village of Burin, after which Israeli forces intervened and fired tear gas canisters, injuring another Palestinian. The four other incidents included: cutting down 25 olive and almond trees near Eli settlement (Nablus) on 26 May; allowing sheep to graze on land near Esh Kodesh settlement outpost (Nablus), damaging 45 dunums of land planted with wheat on 27 May; stoning and damaging a vehicle while it was travelling near Bracha-Yitzhar settlements on 28 May; and damaging a newly-erected electricity pole in Burin village on 29 May. Burin village is one of six villages that are regularly exposed to violence by settlers from Yitzhar and Bracha.

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



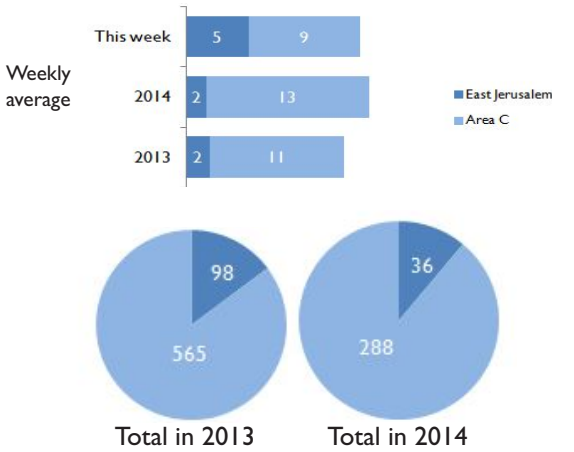
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



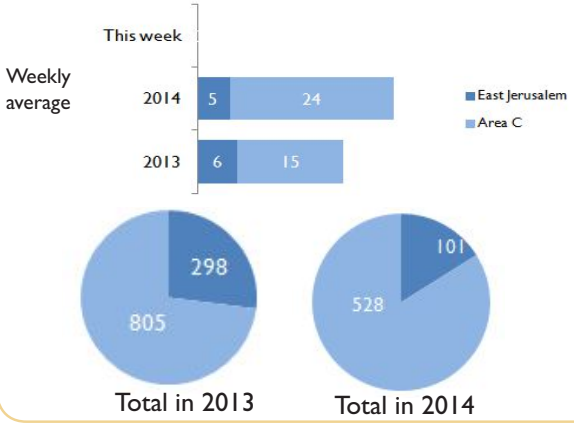
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



The remaining incidents included injuring three Palestinian children after physically assaulting them in the old cities of Jerusalem and Hebron on 28 May and 1 June respectively.

Fourteen structures demolished affecting around 100 people

During the week, the Israeli authorities demolished 14 Palestinian-owned livelihood structures and two stone walls, (nine in Area C and five in East Jerusalem), due to the lack of Israeli-issued building permits. While no displacement resulted from this week's demolitions, around 100 people were affected.

Among the targeted structures in Area C was a 1000 m2 animal shelter in Ras Tira village in Qalqiliya (demolished on 29 May), affecting six families comprising 30 people. Five other car workshops were demolished in Hizma village in the Jerusalem governorate (4 in Area C and 1 in East Jerusalem) on 2 June, affecting the livelihood of 27 people, including 13 children. Also in Hizma, on 2 June, the Israeli authorities sealed three shops and confiscated their goods, affecting four families. The incident took place reportedly because the shops lack building permits and the owners are not paying taxes.

Also in Area C, Israeli forces demolished two stone walls surrounding agricultural land in Qusra village (Nablus) on 1 June; and two agricultural rooms in Wadi Rahhal community in Bethlehem on 2 June, affecting 26 people, including 11 children.

The remaining structures in East Jerusalem demolished on 2 June included two extensions to houses in the At Tur and Ras al Amud neighbourhoods that were used as an aluminum workshop and a storage room respectively; and two animal structures in Silwan. The demolitions affected around 15 people.

On 28 May, Israeli forces temporarily displaced eight families comprising 62 people, including 27 children, from their homes in Humsa al Buqai'a community for a few hours to make way for Israeli military training exercises. The community is located in a closed military area, or a "firing zone", designated for Israeli military training. Such areas encompass about 18 percent of the West Bank (larger than the land allocated to Area A) and are home to 38 small herding communities where some 6,200 people live.

GAZA STRIP

Israeli airstrikes hit military training sites; two fishermen injured

After more than five weeks with no reports of Israeli airstrikes on Gaza, the Israeli air force launched two air strikes on 2 June, reportedly in response to rocket firing by Palestinian armed groups at southern Israeli. The airstrikes struck two military training sites in Khan Younis and in the Az Zaitoun area of Gaza City, resulting in no injuries; however, damage to a greenhouse in Khan Younis was reported. One rocket fired from Gaza reportedly fell in an open field in southern Israel and the other inside Gaza, causing no injuries or damage to property.

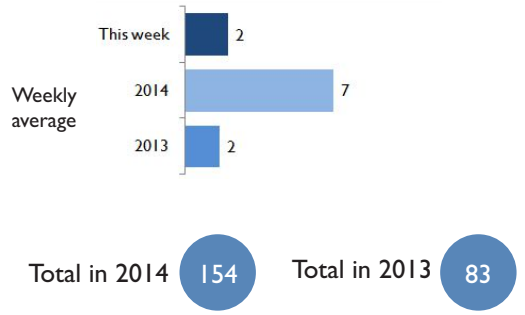
Israeli forces continued to enforce restrictions on Palestinian access to areas near the fence separating Israel and the Gaza Strip, as well as on fishing areas. On at least five occasions, Israeli naval forces opened warning fire towards Palestinian fishing boats approaching or exceeding the six Nautical Mile fishing limit, injuring two fishermen in two incidents (on 27 and 30 May), and arresting 15 others after ordering them to jump into the sea and swim towards the Israeli boats. Most of the detained fishermen were released the next day.

A number of incidents took place near the fence, resulting in no casualties or damage to property.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	0
In 2014 (to date):	11
Equivalent 2013 period:	3

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Also on at least three occasions, Israeli tanks and bulldozers entered approximately 100 meters into Gaza, withdrawing after conducting land leveling.

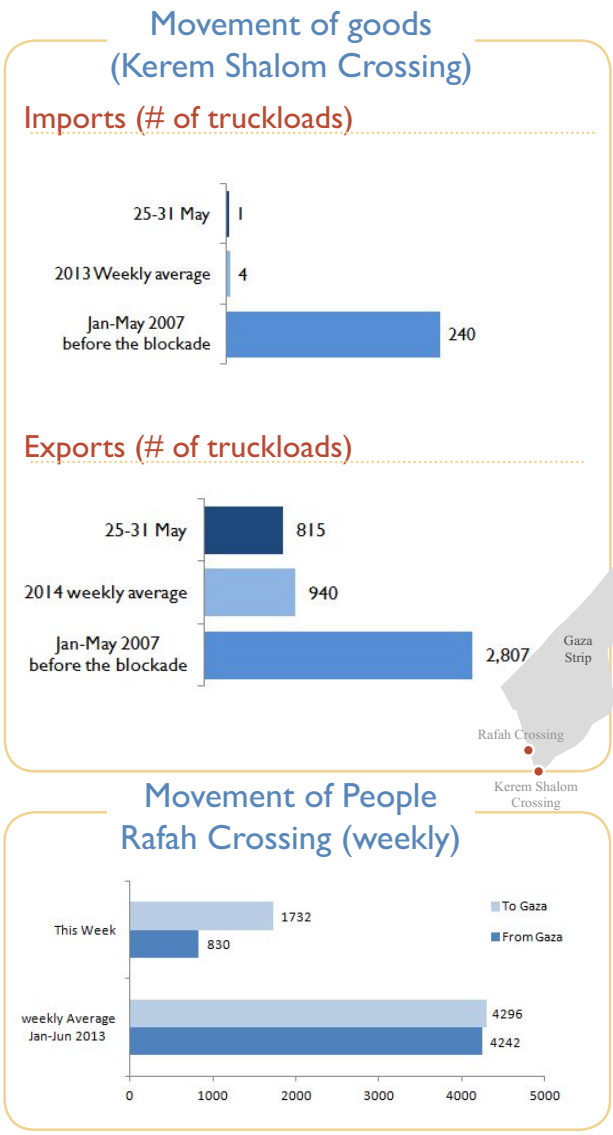
Rafah Crossing re-opened for pilgrims

The Egyptian authorities re-opened Rafah crossing between 1 and 3 June, after closing it for two weeks, allowing over 2,500 people, mainly pilgrims to cross in both directions. According to the Border and Crossing Authority in Gaza, despite the three-day opening, at least 10,000 people are still registered and waiting to cross into Egypt, mainly medical patients, students and holders of visa to third countries.

Since July 2013, the Rafah Crossing has been subject to frequent closures, restricting access to limited numbers of humanitarian cases. The closure of Rafah exacerbates the impact of the longstanding restriction on the access of Palestinians through Erez Crossing with Israel.

Power shortage in Gaza continued

The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) continues to operate at only half of its capacity (two turbines out of four) due to lack of funding and subsequent lack of fuel, producing 60 megawatts (MW) against a peak demand of up to 350 MW. The plant needs around 16 million liters of fuel per month in order to run at full capacity, producing around 120 MW, compared to a monthly average of around 7.6 million liters, which entered since the beginning of 2014. According to the Gaza Electricity Distribution Company (GEDCO), the daily schedule of power cuts is currently up to 12 hours per day, forcing people to rely on unsafe methods to light their houses. The lack of electricity continues to disrupt the routine provision of basic services including health and water. Since January 14, fuel supply to the GPP has been gradually declining mainly due to coordination issues between Gaza and Ramallah. Occasional longer power cuts are being experienced across Gaza as a result.



Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 3 - 9 JUNE 2014

Key issues

- Over 30 Palestinians injured by Israeli forces in clashes across the West Bank.
- A civilian died of wounds sustained when he was shot by Israeli forces while fishing off the shore near the fence in Gaza two weeks ago.
- Salaries of tens of thousands of public sector employees in the Gaza Strip withheld; clashes between the Palestinian Police and protestors.

WEST BANK

Over 30 injured in clashes with Israeli forces

A total of 33 Palestinians were injured during the week by Israeli forces across the West Bank, a decline compared to the weekly average of such injuries recorded since the beginning of the year (44). More than 60 per cent of the injuries were sustained by rubber-coated metal bullets (21) and the rest were treated due to tear gas inhalation (3) and physical assault (3), or hit by live ammunition (3), sound grenades (2) or tear gas canisters (1).

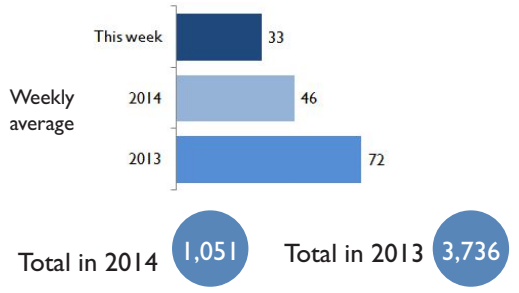
The majority of this week's injuries (21) occurred during clashes that erupted in the context of demonstrations commemorating the 47th anniversary since the beginning of the Israeli occupation and, in some places, also protesting against the Barrier and in solidarity with prisoners under Israeli administrative detention, who are on hunger strike. The largest confrontations were recorded in the Old City of Jerusalem, at the Qalandiya (Jerusalem) and Beituniya (Ramallah) checkpoints, in Ar Ram town (Jerusalem), in Al 'Arrub refugee camp and Beit Ummar village (both in Hebron), and in Ni'lin and Bil'in villages (Ramallah).

In another incident, on 3 June, dozens of Palestinian youth gathered next to a military tower at the entrance of Beit Ummar village (Hebron) and threw stones at Israeli forces positioned there. The latter responded by shooting rubber-coated metal bullets and tear gas canisters, injuring four children (aged between 8 and 17). Israeli forces closed an already existing metal gate at the main entrance to the village on 8 and 9 June, forcing people to use a detour.

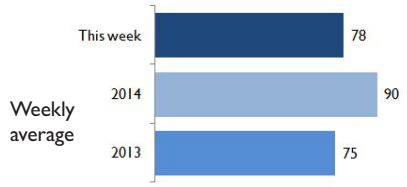
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	0
In 2014 (to date):	11
Equivalent 2013 period:	8

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



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Coordination Saves Lives

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Low level of settler-related violence

A total of three incidents perpetrated by Israeli settlers and resulting in damage to Palestinian property were recorded during the week, a decline compared to the weekly average of settler attacks leading to injuries or damage to property recorded since the beginning of the year (7). Two additional incidents perpetrated this week by Palestinians resulted in damage to Israeli settler-owned property.

On 8 June, Israeli settlers from the Kokhav Hashahar settlement (Ramallah) reportedly set fire to and damaged a six dunum plot of land, belonging to a farmer from the adjacent village of Deir Jarir, planted with wheat. The other two incidents resulted in damage to two Palestinian-owned vehicles, one of which was stoned while travelling on Road 60 in the Ramallah area, and the other which was damaged near the entrance to Beit Ummar village, after the driver abandoned it when he was ambushed by a group of settlers.

In two separate incidents in the Hebron governorate on 3 and 6 June, Palestinians stoned a car and a bus carrying Israeli settlers while travelling near Negohot settlement outpost and Al 'Arrub refugee camp, damaging the vehicles.

Five structures demolished, affecting 36 people

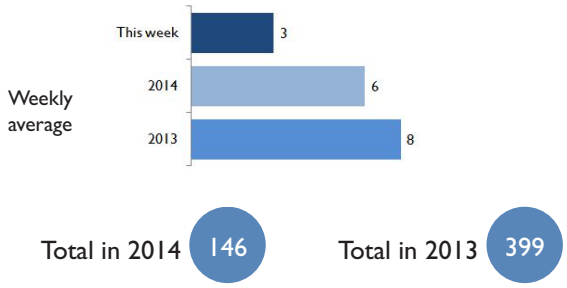
This week, the Israeli authorities demolished a total of five Palestinian-owned structures in Area C of the West Bank due to the lack of Israeli-issued building permits, a significant decline compared to the weekly average of structures demolished in 2014 (14). As in the previous week, none of the demolitions resulted in displacement. There were no demolitions recorded in East Jerusalem.

All of this week's demolitions occurred on 9 June. One of the targeted structures was a newly-constructed house, still uninhabited, located in Far'un village (Tulkarm) at some 120 meters of distance from the Barrier, affecting seven persons. The other four structures were vegetable booths erected along Road 90 in the Tubas governorate, affecting the livelihood of four households comprising 29 people, including five children.

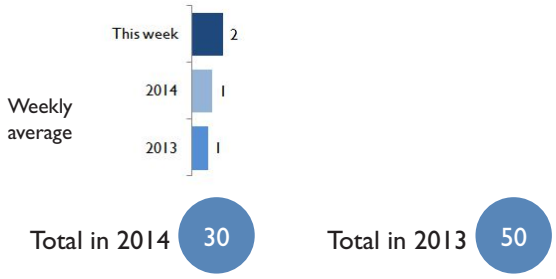
Also this week, the Israeli authorities handed over stop-work orders against four residential structures and eight animal barracks in the Bedouin

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



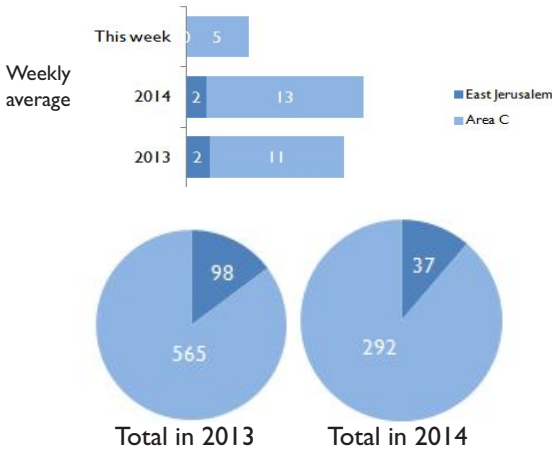
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



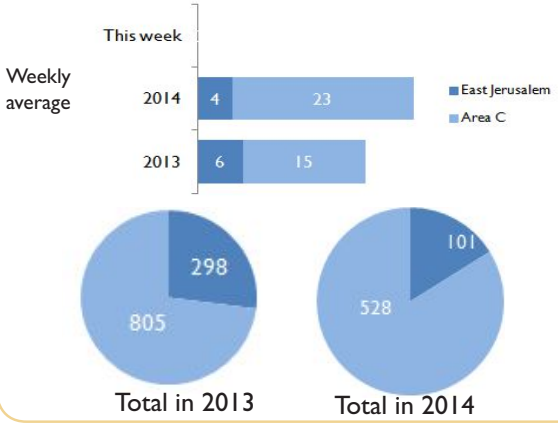
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



community of Khirbet ar Ras al Ahmar in the Tubas governorate. Three of the residential structures were provided by a humanitarian organization. The community is located on the edge of an area designated by the Israeli authorities as a closed military zone for training, or "firing zone". There are a total of 88 communities located in or near "firing zones" in Area C of the West Bank. These communities are among the most vulnerable in terms of humanitarian needs.

GAZA STRIP

A civilian shot near the fence died of his wounds

The situation across the Gaza Strip and southern Israel remained relatively calm. There were no reports of Israeli airstrikes or major clashes, and rockets fired by Palestinian armed groups landed in open areas in southern Israel and in Gaza, resulting in no injuries or damage.

While the Israeli restrictions on access to areas near Gaza's perimeter fence continued, no incidents resulting in casualties were recorded. However, on 8 June, a 51-year-old civilian died of wounds he sustained on 26 May, after being shot by Israeli forces while fishing off the shore, reportedly at 300 meters from the northern section of the perimeter fence. This brings the total number of Palestinian civilians killed by Israeli forces in the Gaza Strip since the beginning of the year to six, of whom four were killed in the Access Restricted Areas (ARAs) on land and at sea, compared to two in the equivalent period of 2013 (both in the ARAs).

Additionally, on at least two occasions this week, Israeli naval forces opened warning fire towards Palestinian fishing boats approaching or exceeding the six-nautical mile fishing limit, forcing them ashore. No injuries or damage was reported. Restrictions on access to fishing areas continue to affect the livelihood of over 35,000 Palestinians who depend on the fishing industry sector as their main source of income.

Update on Rafah crossing

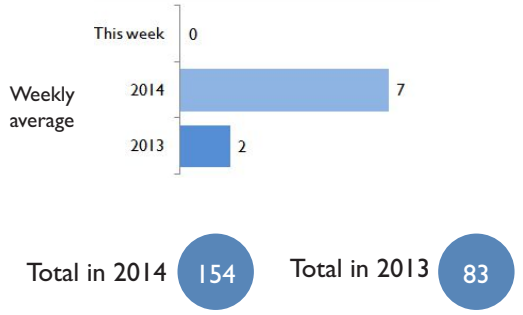
On 4 June, the Egyptian authorities re-closed Rafah Crossing after it was partially re-opened for three days last week, allowing around 2,500 "prioritized travelers", mainly pilgrims, to cross in both directions. According to the Border and Crossing Authority in Gaza, at least 10,000 "prioritized travelers" have registered and are waiting to cross into Egypt, including patients, students and holders of visa to third countries. Since July 2013, the Rafah Crossing has been opened erratically, restricting access to only limited categories of people. This has exacerbated the impact of the longstanding restrictions on the movement of people through the Israeli-controlled Erez Crossing, the main access route to the West Bank.

Latest development: On 11 June, Israeli air force targeted and killed an alleged member of a Palestinian armed group while he was riding on a motorcycle in the Beit Lahiya area. A child accompanying the man and two other civilian bystanders were injured as a result of the attack.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	12
Equivalent 2013 period:	3

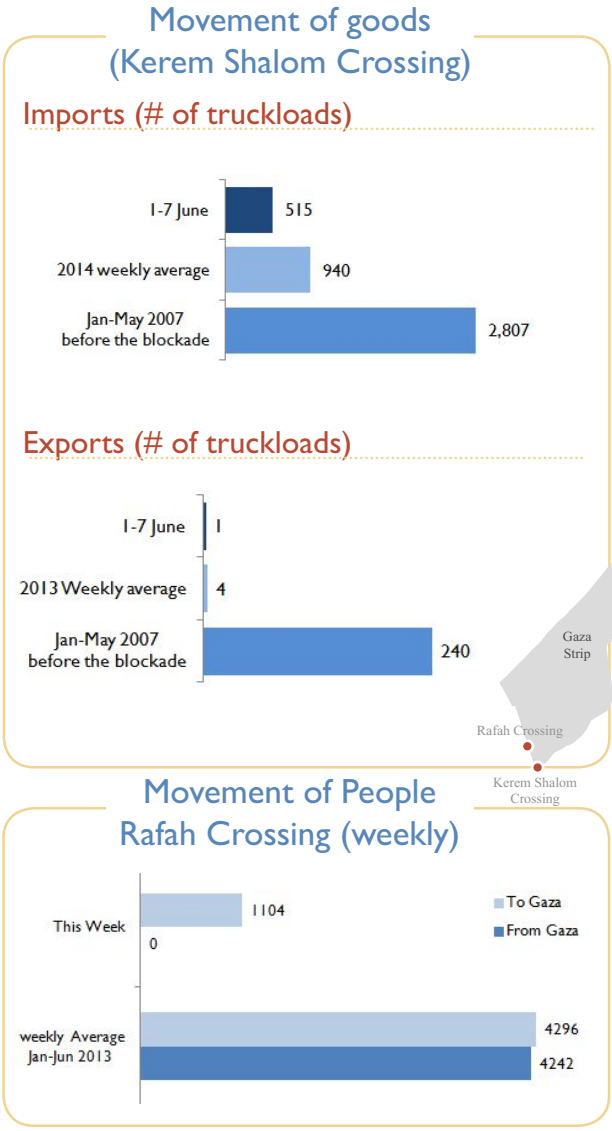
Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Gaza banks closed by local police

Since 4 June to date, the Palestinian Police closed all banks and ATM machines across the Gaza Strip, preventing thousands of people, who have been employed by the Palestinian Authority (PA) before the Hamas takeover in 2007, to withdraw their salaries. This measure was allegedly adopted to

prevent further clashes between employees of the former Hamas-run government and PA employees. The former (approximately 40,000 employees) were protesting the withholding of their salaries by the newly inaugurated National Consensus Technical Government. The Al Mezan Center for Human Rights reported a few cases involving physical assault of people trying to reach the banks by the Police.



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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 10 - 16 JUNE 2014

Key issues

- Massive military operations following the suspected abduction of three Israeli youth; one Palestinian civilian killed and over 70 injured in clashes with Israeli forces.
- Movement restrictions in the context of the ongoing military operations disrupt access to services, markets and workplaces, particularly in the Hebron governorate
- Palestinian child killed during targeting of alleged member of an armed group in Gaza; seven civilians injured and around 25 houses damaged in airstrikes.
- Gaza crossing with Israel partially closed until further notice.

WEST BANK

Massive military operations following the suspected abduction of three Israeli youth; one civilian killed and over 73 injured in clashes

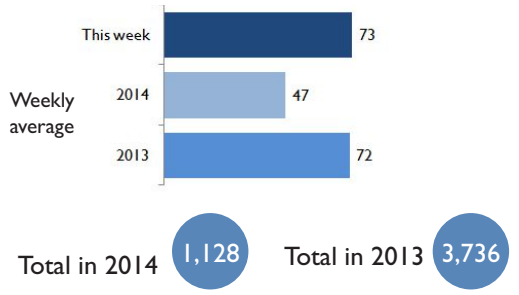
Large scale military operations have been ongoing since 13 June following the suspected abduction of three Israeli youth (two of them aged 16 and one 19), southwest of Bethlehem city (in Area C), with the stated objective of finding and releasing them. The three were on their way back home from the religious high schools (Yeshiva) they attend, in two Israeli settlements in the southern West Bank. While no organization has so far claimed responsibility, the Israeli authorities attributed the act to a Hamas cell.

The military activities have included massive raids, initially focused on Hebron City, but later expanded to other areas. Over the course of these raids hundreds of homes were searched, mainly in Hebron City, and the nearby villages of Taffuh, Beit Kahel, Halhul, Dura, and Beit Ummar; destruction of furniture has been reported in some cases. In one of the searches in Hebron City on 15 June, Israeli forces reportedly exploded the main door of a house, injuring two children. In the context of these operations, Israeli forces imposed multiple access restrictions, affecting primarily Hebron residents (see section below). Overall, more than 200 Palestinians, mostly Hamas and Islamic Jihad activists and leaders (including former PLC members), were arrested as of the end of the reporting period.

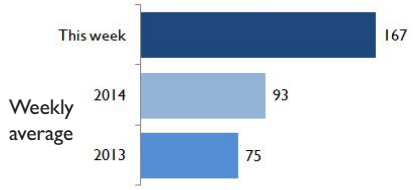
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	12
Equivalent 2013 period:	8

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



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Some of the operations triggered confrontations between Israeli forces and Palestinian residents, which resulted in one fatality and at least 30 injuries. On 16 June at around midnight in Al Jalazon refugee camp (Ramallah), Israeli forces shot and killed a 21 year-old Palestinian man and wounded two others during clashes that erupted following a search operation in the camp. Violent clashes in the same context were also recorded in various localities across the Hebron governorate, including in Hebron city, Halhul, Dura and Beit Ummar, as well as in Al 'Isawiya neighborhood of East Jerusalem, Qatanna village (Jerusalem) and Nablus city.

Additional clashes were recorded this week during demonstrations held in solidarity with over 100 prisoners under Israeli administrative detention, who are on hunger strike, as well as in the regular protests against the Barrier and settlement expansion. A total of 40 Palestinians were injured in these confrontations, the majority (28) on 13 June in Al Aqsa Mosque compound in East Jerusalem, and the remaining in Hebron city, Beit Ummar, Al 'Arrub and Halhul (Hebron), Bil'in (Ramallah) and Kafr Qaddum (Qalqiliya). Two members of Israeli forces were also injured.

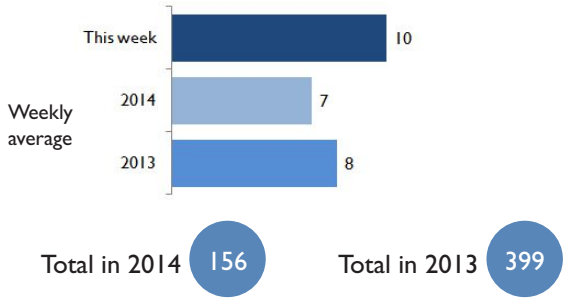
Overall, 73 Palestinians were injured by Israeli forces during the reporting period, well above the weekly average of injuries since the beginning of the year (44). The majority of the injuries were sustained by rubber-coated metal bullets (24), shrapnel from sound grenades or broken windows (22). The remaining were hit by sound grenades (11), live ammunition (3), or pepper spray (4) or a tear gas canister (2) or were treated due to physical assault (5) or tear gas inhalation (2).

Movement restrictions disrupt access to services and workplaces

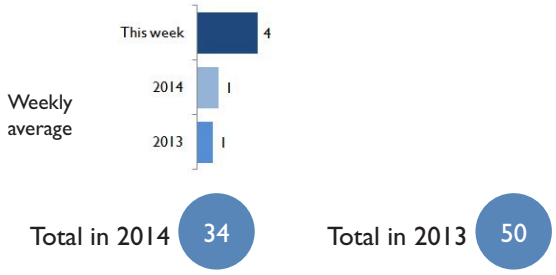
Since 13 June the Israeli authorities have imposed a series of movement restrictions in the context of above military operations, which have disrupted the access of Palestinians to services, markets and workplaces. The bulk of these restrictions were implemented across the Hebron governorate, with focus on Hebron city, or regarding its residents (over 680,000 people or around 25 per cent of the West Bank population, PCBS 2014 estimate).

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



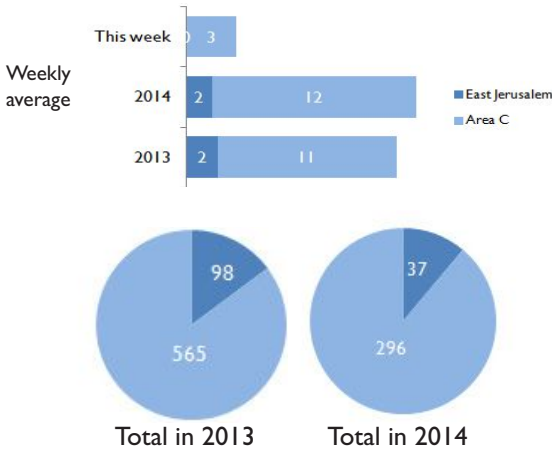
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



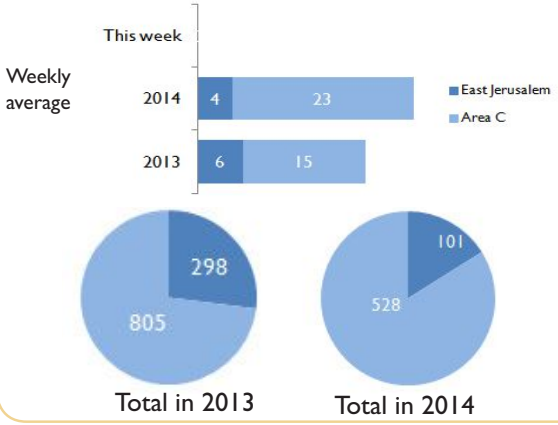
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



Three of the main entrances to Hebron city have been blocked for vehicular traffic, while access through the remaining three routes (Halhul, Nabi Yunis and Al Fahs) is controlled by newly established checkpoints, where Israeli soldiers check people's documentation and search their vehicles (as of the end of the reporting period). While this has resulted in prolonged delays, no cases of denial of access have been reported. Additional routes in the vicinity of Hebron city have been also controlled by new checkpoints, including the main entrances to Halhul, Dura and Idhna towns and Al Fawwar refugee camp, where Palestinian-plated vehicles are being stopped and inspected.

The vast majority of Hebron governorate's residents have been subject to a series of additional movement restrictions, including preventing people from crossing the Wadi An Nar checkpoint, which controls the single route available for most Palestinians between the central and southern West Bank; the invalidation of permits to access East Jerusalem, Israel and some settlement areas; and preventing men between 20 and 50 years of age from traveling to Jordan via the Allenby Bridge.

Additionally, long delays were reported at the Qalandiya and Az Zayem checkpoints leading to East Jerusalem, both for pedestrians and cars, as well as cases of confiscation of permit for West Bank ID-holders.

In the same context, Israeli forces blocked the main entrances to the villages of 'Izbet at Tabib, by placing an earthmound, and 'Azzun (Qalqiliya), by closing the gate at the main entrance to the village, respectively (both in the Qalqiliya governorate), forcing over 9,500 residents to take long detours.

Retaliatory attacks by Israeli settlers

This week recorded a series of incidents involving attacks and intimidation by Israeli settlers against Palestinians, most of which followed the announcement of the suspected abduction of the three Israeli youth. Ten such incidents resulted in Palestinian injuries or damage to their property, slightly above the weekly average of these incidents since the beginning of the year (7). Four incidents perpetrated this week by Palestinians resulted in damage to Israeli settler-owned property.

On 16 June, Israeli settlers gathered at two central road junctions in Bethlehem governorate (Gush Etzion roundabout and Al Khader junction) and blocked them. During the protests, settlers stopped two Palestinian vehicles and physically assaulted the drivers, injuring them, and damaged another car. There were also four incidents of stone-throwing by settlers at Palestinian-plated vehicles that led to the injury of three Palestinians near Qarne Shomoron settlement (Qalqiliya), and damage of cars near Yitzhar junction (Nablus), and Sur Bahir and Silwan neighborhoods (East Jerusalem). During the incident near Qarne Shomoron, settlers also uprooted Palestinian rain-fed crops planted on four dunums of land.

In three additional incidents, Israeli settlers reportedly set fire and damaged Palestinian agricultural property, including ten dunums of land planted with wheat near Giv'at Zeev settlement (Jerusalem); and an agricultural room and 50 olive trees in Husan village, in two separate incidents. Additionally (not included in the count), in the An Nabi Samuel village (Jerusalem) located in the closed area behind the Barrier, Israeli settlers bulldozed two dunums of uncultivated land, which Palestinians claim ownership over.

In four separate incidents between 10 and 15 June in the Hebron, Ramallah and Jerusalem governorates, Palestinians stoned or threw Molotov cocktails at Israeli-plated vehicles, injuring one Israeli (in At Tur in East Jerusalem) and damaging several cars, a bus and the Jerusalem light train.

Decline in demolitions

This week, the Israeli authorities demolished two Palestinian-owned structures in Area C of the West Bank due to the lack of Israeli-issued building permits, and another structure was demolished by its owner in the same context. The three demolitions were reported on 16 June in Al 'Eizariya town (Jerusalem), including a vegetable stand (self-demolished) demolished on 15 June, affecting 15 people, and a car wash and a wooden structure, affecting eight people. This is a significant decline compared to the weekly average of structures demolished in 2014. For the third consecutive week, there were no displacements as a result of demolitions.

GAZA STRIP

Child killed during targeting of alleged militant; escalation in rocket firing and air strikes

On 11 June, the Israeli Air Force targeted an alleged member of an armed group riding on a motorcycle together with a ten-year old child, in the Beit Lahiya area. The man died instantly and the child, who sustained serious injuries, died three days later; two civilian bystanders were also injured. The last targeted killing in the Gaza Strip was reported in early March.

Following this incident and through the rest of the week, Palestinian armed groups launched a number of rockets at southern Israel. A few of the rockets, reportedly heading towards Ashkelon city, were intercepted in the air, while the rest landed in open areas, causing no injuries or damage. One of the rockets landed short and hit a house in Beit Hanoun town, resulting in two Palestinian injuries, including a 15-year-old girl.

In response, the Israeli military launched a series of air strikes targeting alleged military installations in Rafah, Khan Younis, Gaza and the middle areas, during which seven civilians, including a three-year-old child, were injured, and some 25 houses, a school, a clinic run by UNRWA, and a number of greenhouses sustained damage.

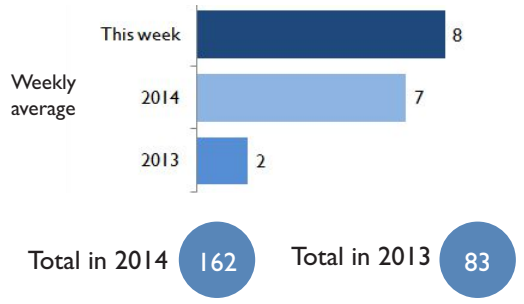
Gaza crossings with Israel partially closed

On 13 June, the Israeli authorities closed the two Gaza crossings with Israel for passengers (Erez) and goods (Kerem Shalom) until further notice, in response to Palestinian rocket fire. Only fuel transferred for public use was allowed via the latter crossing, which on a normal week handles an average of around 800 truckloads of imported goods (not including fuel). Shortages of certain food items (dairy products, fruits and animal feed), cooking gas and fuel are expected in the coming days, unless the crossing is reopened, but humanitarian food distributions are not expected to be impacted, unless the crossing is closed for over two weeks. Palestinian permit holders are prevented from leaving Gaza via the Erez passengers crossing until further notice, with the exception for pre-authorized urgent humanitarian cases and foreign nationals.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	2
In 2014 (to date):	14
Equivalent 2013 period:	3

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces

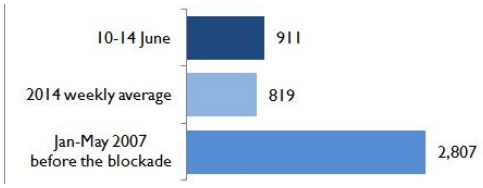


Rafah crossing

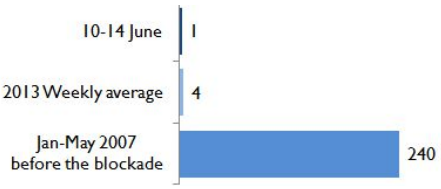
The Egyptian authorities re-opened the Rafah Crossing on 15 June (announced to be opened for four days), after completely closing it for almost 11 days, allowing the exit of pilgrims and prioritized cases. During the two day-opening (on 15 and 16 June), around 1,770 people crossed in both directions. According to the Border and Crossing Authority in Gaza, at least 10,000 "prioritized travelers" have registered and are waiting to cross into Egypt, including patients, students and holders of visa to third countries. Since July 2013, the Rafah Crossing has been opened erratically, restricting access to only limited categories of people. This has exacerbated the impact of the longstanding restrictions on the movement of people through the Israeli-controlled Erez Crossing, the main access route to the West Bank.

Movement of goods (Kerem Shalom Crossing)

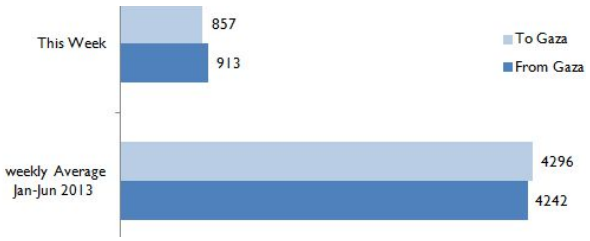
Imports (# of truckloads)



Exports (# of truckloads)



Movement of People Rafah Crossing (weekly)



Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 17 - 23 JUNE 2014

Key issues

- Four Palestinian civilians killed and over 100 injured by Israeli forces in clashes during ongoing military operations in the West Bank.
- A number of Islamic charitable associations raided and shutdown by military order.
- Concern over further deterioration in basic services amidst salaries' crisis in the Gaza Strip.
- Kerem Shalom crossing for goods in the Gaza Strip partially reopened, while the two passenger-crossings (Erez and Rafah) remain blocked.

WEST BANK

Four Palestinians killed and over 100 injured by Israeli forces

The large-scale Israeli military operations, which began on 13 June in the Hebron governorate following the suspected abduction of three Israeli youth, continued and expanded across the West Bank, with the stated objective of finding and releasing the youth, as well as undermining Hamas infrastructure. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has urged all actors to ensure respect for international law, including by avoiding punishing individuals for offences they have not personally committed or by imposing collective penalties.

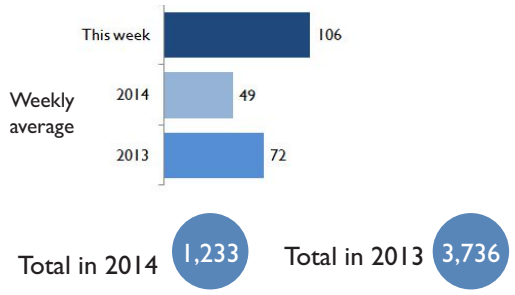
Many of the operations triggered widespread clashes between Palestinian residents and Israeli forces in dozens of cities, villages and refugee camps, during which four Palestinian civilians were shot with live ammunition and killed, including a 15-year-old boy killed in Dura village (Hebron) on 20 June, two men (both aged 30) killed in Ramallah city and 'Ein Beit al Ma' refugee camp (Nablus city) on 22 June; and a 22-year-old man who died on 25 June (outside of the reporting period) of a critical injury he sustained on 20 June in the Qalandiya refugee camp (Jerusalem). These fatalities bring the total number of Palestinians killed during post-13 June military operations to five.

Additionally, a total of 106 Palestinians, including 28 children, were injured during the clashes, including by rubber-coated metal bullets (37) and live ammunition (18), or treated due to physical assault (30) or tear gas inhalation (20) or after being hit by a tear gas canister (1). Over half the injuries occurred in clashes, mostly at night, which took place in refugee camps: Ad Duheisha and Ayda (Bethlehem), Al 'Arrub (Hebron), Balata and 'Askar (Nablus), Al Far'a (Tubas), Jenin (Jenin), and Qalandiya (Jerusalem).

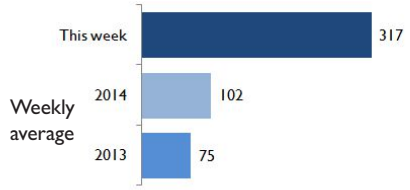
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	4
In 2014 (to date):	16
Equivalent 2013 period:	8

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



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Coordination Saves Lives

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Overall, Israeli forces conducted more than 300 search-and-arrest operations during the reporting period, some of which resulted in damage to property in homes searched. A total of 340 Palestinians were arrested during these operations, mostly alleged Hamas and Islamic Jihad members, including dozens who were released in 2011 in the context of a prisoner swap (the 'Shalit deal'). A significant proportion of those arrested are being held under administrative detention orders, imprisonment without charge or trial. Consequently, the total number of administrative detainees in Israeli prisons increased since the beginning of the current operations from approximately 190 to at least 340, according to the Prisoners Support and Human Rights Association (Addameer).

Also this week, on 21 June, a Palestinian youth (aged 18), from the Palestinian Bedouin community of Hamamat al Maleh in the northern Jordan Valley, was found dead near an Israeli military base. Community members suspect that the youth was shot by Israeli soldiers while grazing his sheep in the area. While an autopsy was carried out, its results are not yet available.

Raids and closure of charitable organizations

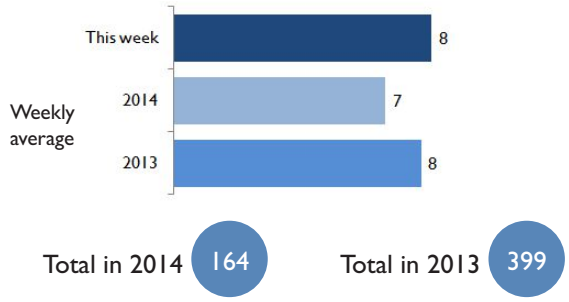
In the context of current military operations, the Israeli army raided a number of Islamic associations, allegedly linked to Hamas, confiscated computers and other equipment, and shutdown some by military order. These measures are expected to disrupt the delivery of services and assistance to thousands of beneficiaries.

The main affected association was Hebron's Islamic Charitable Organization. On 20 June, Israeli forces raided the headquarters of the organization, confiscated equipment, sealed the main door and affixed on it a closure order in force through the end of 2014. Three of the organization's branches in the Hebron governorate (Ash Shyyoukh, Bani Naim and Beit Ula) were also raided. The organization employs 680 staff and provides assistance to some 6,000 beneficiaries, including in the areas of education, food, shelter, and social safety nets for poor families.

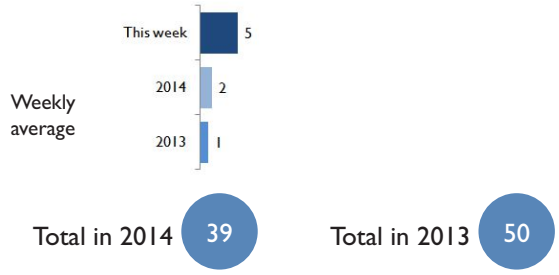
Other affected Islamic associations, which were raided and had equipment confiscated, included the Muslim Youth Association (Hebron), which runs 12 schools across the Hebron governorate (3,500 students), the Medical Islamic Relief, in Jenin,

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



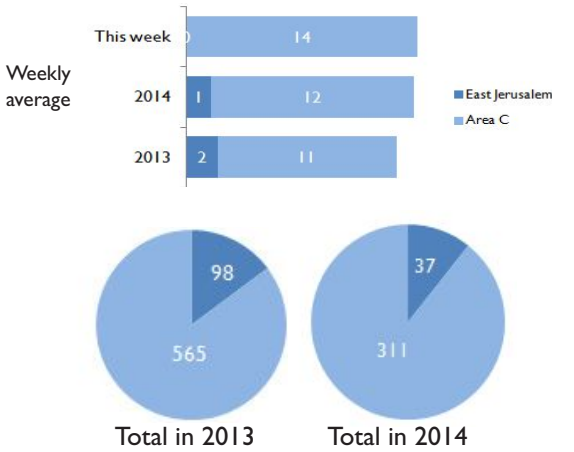
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



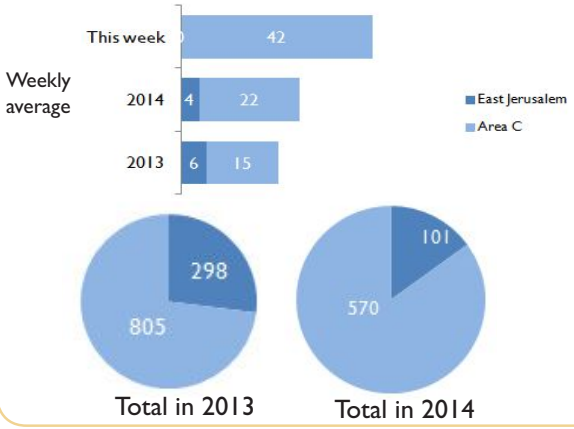
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



the Zakat charitable society in Tulkarm, and a small charitable society and women's association in East Jerusalem; the latter two were also shut down.

Movement restrictions continue disrupting access to services and places of work

Most of the movement restrictions imposed last week following the start of the current operations, primarily across the Hebron governorate, have remained in place, disrupting access of people to services, markets and workplaces, and resulting in significant economic losses. During the reporting period, three of the main entrances to Hebron city remained blocked for vehicular traffic, while access through the remaining three routes was controlled by checkpoints. Access to nearby localities has been closed intermittently during the week over the course of search and arrest operations.

The vast majority of Hebron governorate's residents have remained subject to a series of additional movement restrictions, including preventing men aged between 16 and 50 from crossing the Wadi an Nar checkpoint, which controls the single route available for most Palestinians between the central and southern West Bank; the invalidation of permits to access East Jerusalem, Israel and some settlement areas; and preventing men between 20 and 50 years of age from traveling to Jordan via the Allenby Bridge.

In the northern West Bank, the main entrances to 'Izbet at Tabib and 'Azzun villages (Qalqiliya) have remained closed for the second consecutive week, forcing residents to use a long detour to reach main services and workplaces in Qalqiliya city and increasing transport costs. Around 280 residents of 'Izbet at Tabib are forced to use a 17 km detour, and 10,000 residents of 'Azzun are forced to travel 40 km back and forth, up from 7.5 km before the closure.

Six Palestinians injured by Israeli settlers

This week recorded eight incidents perpetrated by Israeli settlers against Palestinians that led to injuries or damage to property, almost the same as the weekly average of these incidents since the beginning of the year. Another four incidents involved Palestinian attacks on Israeli vehicles, which resulted in damage to the vehicles.

Latest developments: since 24 June there has been a gradual relaxation in the access restrictions to and from Hebron city, however the situation remains fluid with some obstacles being removed and subsequently redeployed.

Overall, six Palestinians were injured by Israeli settlers during the week. Two of them were farmers injured while working their land: one stabbed in the Ar Ramadin village (Hebron) (22 June) and the other stoned near Bracha settlement in Nablus (20 June). Four other Palestinians were attacked while traveling near settlements in four separate incidents, near Yitzhar settlement in Nablus, on Road 60 in Hebron and Sinjil in Ramallah (by stoning) and near Talmon settlement in Ramallah (by shooting of gas canister).

In two other incidents on 19 June, settlers threw stones at Palestinian houses in Al Bireh city (Ramallah), damaging a house and a car; and also slashed tires and sprayed graffiti on ten Palestinian cars in the Beit Hanina neighbourhood of East Jerusalem.

In four separate incidents on 18, 19 and 21 June in the Ramallah and Jerusalem governorates, Palestinians stoned or threw Molotov cocktails at Israeli-plated vehicles, causing damage to four cars and a bus; no injuries were reported.

Increase in demolitions and displacement across Hebron governorate

On 17 and 18 June, the Israeli authorities demolished a total of 14 Palestinian-owned structures in Area C of the West Bank, due to the lack of Israeli-issued building permits, displacing 42 people, around half of whom were children, and affecting at least 50 others. Almost 80 percent of the demolished structures (11) were in the Hebron governorate, compared to only seven percent since the beginning of 2014.

Affected structures in the Hebron area include six houses and an animal shelter in Bani Na'im village, a house under construction in Idhna village, a water cistern used for irrigation in Hebron city, and an agriculture room in Al Fawwar refugee camp. Also in the Hebron area, the Israeli authorities destroyed a segment of a road (700 meters long) located in Area C, which connects the community of Khallet al Maiyya to a main road; the targeted segment was

paved almost three years ago with the support of an international donor. The remaining structures demolished this week include two residences and a water cistern in Al Khadr village (Bethlehem), displacing 22 people, including eight children.

Also this week on 21 June, a dairy factory and farm, owned by Hebron's Islamic Charitable Organization (see above) and located in an Area C part of Hebron city, was issued a 72-hour warning, prior to its demolition due to the lack of a building permit, on the basis of a demolition order that was pending since 2002.

Finally, on 23 June, the Israeli military issued a demolition order against the family home of two Palestinians (a man and his son) from Idhna village (Hebron), who were arrested over a month ago, as suspects in the killing of an Israeli policeman in Hebron city in April 2014. Thirteen (13) people, including eight children, are at risk of displacement. The policy of punitive demolitions by the Israeli authorities was officially suspended in 2005 and, with the exception of one case in East Jerusalem in 2009, not implemented since then.

GAZA STRIP

Ten civilians injured across the Gaza Strip

Tension in Gaza remained high for the second consecutive week. The Israeli air force launched a number of airstrikes across the Gaza Strip, targeting primarily military training sites. Nine Palestinian civilians, including four children, were injured by shattered windows, and at least two houses, four workshops and a storage warehouse (all in Gaza City) were damaged. Palestinian armed groups continued firing rockets at southern Israel, some of which landed in open areas, while others were intercepted in the air, resulting in no injuries or property damage. One of these rockets landed short in Beit Hanoun town, damaging a house.

An additional Palestinian youth was shot and injured on 20 June by Israeli forces stationed at the fence after they opened fire at a group of youths who threw stones at them. In another incident, a Palestinian man was detained by Israeli forces while he was reportedly trying to cross the fence into Israel while carrying a hand grenade. Also this week, Israeli tanks and bulldozers entered approximately 100 meters into Gaza and conducted a land-levelling operation before withdrawing.

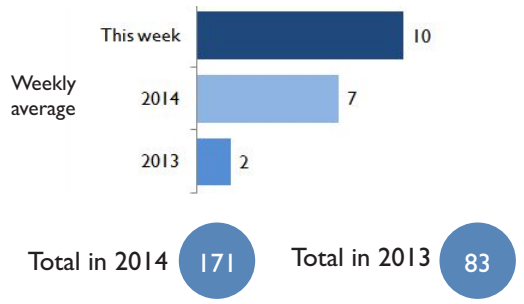
On at least six occasions during the reporting period, Israeli naval forces opened warning fire towards Palestinian fishing boats approaching or exceeding the Israeli-imposed six-nautical-mile fishing limits. While no injuries were reported, fishing equipment was damaged. In one of these incidents, on 19 June, Israeli forces reportedly ordered two fishermen to jump into the water and swim towards the navy boat before arresting them and seizing their boat and fishing equipment. The two fishermen were released shortly later, without their boat.

Latest development: On 24 June, one child was killed and three others injured when a rocket fired by a Palestinian armed group fell short near a house in the Beit Lahiya area of North Gaza.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	0
In 2014 (to date):	14
Equivalent 2013 period:	3

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Also this week, on 19 June, five members of a Palestinian armed group were killed, reportedly due to the collapse of an underground facility they operated.

Kerem Shalom crossing partially re-opened

After last week's partial closure for two days, the Israeli authorities re-opened Kerem Shalom crossing on 17 June, for imports only. The already limited exit of goods has been halted since 9 June, reportedly due to the break-down of a scanner, and

did not resume. Consequently, two shipments of agricultural produce scheduled to exit Gaza this week to international markets were stopped. Since the beginning of 2014, only 84 truckloads of select agricultural produce were allowed to exit Gaza, compared to a weekly average of 240 truckloads of a wider range of exports during the first half of 2007, prior to the imposition of the blockade.

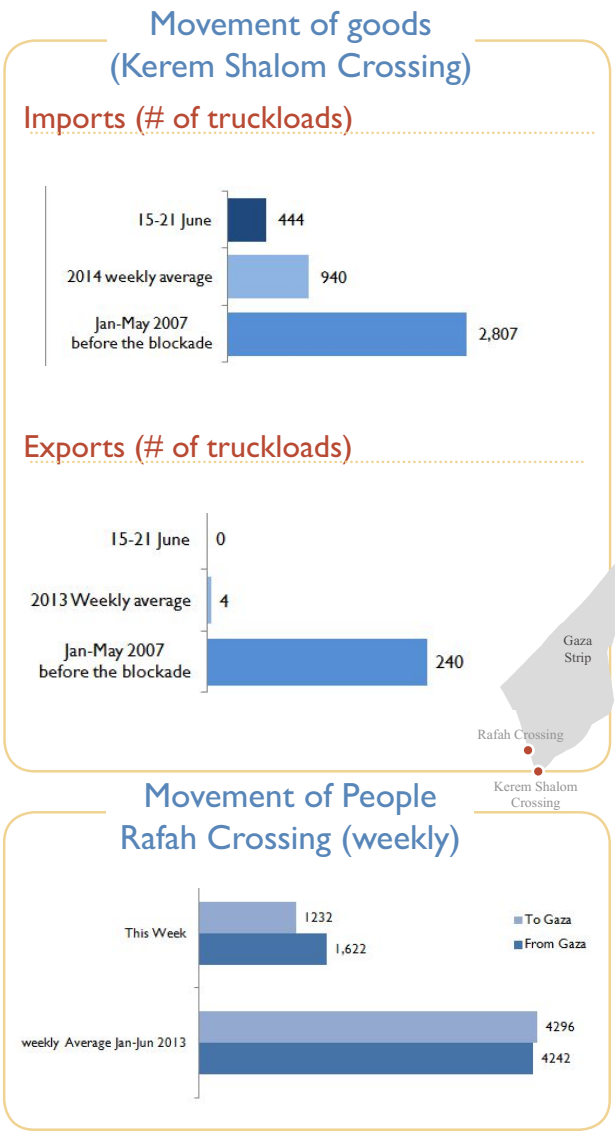
Access of Palestinian people via Israel and Egypt almost totally blocked

The Erez passenger crossing has remained closed since 13 June preventing the vast majority of permit holders (primarily patients, senior businessmen and staff of international organizations) to leave or enter Gaza. Only pre-authorized urgent humanitarian cases and foreign nationals were exceptionally allowed to cross.

Additionally, on 19 June, the Egyptian authorities closed the Rafah Crossing after opening it for four days. During those days (15-18 June), around 4,600 people, mainly pilgrims and prioritized cases, crossed in both directions, and 107 were denied access to Egypt for unknown reasons. According to the Border and Crossing Authority in Gaza, at least 10,000 "prioritized travelers" have registered and are waiting to cross into Egypt, including patients, students and holders of visa to third countries.

Gaza Power Plant at risk of shutting down

By the end of the reporting period, the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) depleted its fuel stock, including its emergency reserves, and was about to shut down completely. This followed the exhaustion of the funds contributed by the Government of Qatar to cover fuel supplies. On 25 June, however, a limited quantity of fuel was delivered to the GPP via the Kerem Shalom Crossing, thus preventing its immediate shut down; the source and mechanism for the funding of this consignment is unclear. The GPP needs at least 260,000 liters of fuel per day to continue operating at the current level (two turbines). Should the GPP shut down, the scheduled power outages would increase from 12 to 18 hours per day on average. The power cuts disrupt the daily life of the entire population of 1.7 million people, as well as the provision of vital services, such as health, water and sanitation.



Concern over further deterioration in services amidst salaries' crisis

There is increasing concern about a potential further deterioration in services, as the Civil Servants Union in Gaza called for a general strike to protest the non-payment of salaries to most public employees. Approximately 40,000 people employed by the former Hamas government, including some 18,000 in the security services, 6,000 in the health sector and 5,000 in the education sector, have received only partial salaries since August 2013 and no payment since last April. Public institutions in Gaza have indicated that an increasing share of their staff has been absent from work due to their inability to afford transportation costs.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 24-30 JUNE 2014

Key issues

- The bodies of three abducted Israeli youths found near Hebron city.
- One Palestinian civilian killed and another 60 injured in clashes with Israeli forces across the West Bank; a total of six Palestinians killed and nearly 240 injured by Israeli forces in the West Bank since 13 June.
- Rocket firing and air strikes in Gaza and southern Israel continue; a Palestinian child killed and 25 Palestinians and three Israeli civilians injured.
- Concern over further deterioration of health services in the Gaza Strip, due to the energy crisis and shortages of essential drugs.

WEST BANK

Israeli forces locate the bodies of the three abducted Israeli youths

On the evening of 30 June, the bodies of the three Israeli youths abducted on 12 June were found near Halhul town (Hebron). Media reported that they were killed shortly after their abduction. Israeli military operations focused immediately after on certain areas of the Hebron governorate, reportedly to capture the two Hamas members accused of the killings. . Military operations have been widespread in the West Bank since 13 June,

The United Nations Secretary-General strongly condemned the killings and called upon all parties to "abide by their obligations under international law and to refrain from any actions that could further escalate this highly tense situation."

Israeli military operations continue; one Palestinian fatality and 60 injuries in clashes

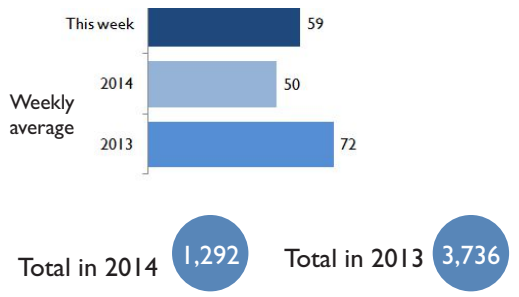
The Israeli military operations that started on 13 June continued during the reporting period, including raids and search and arrest operations in refugee camps, villages and cities across the West Bank. These operations triggered violent clashes with Palestinian residents, which resulted in the injury of 32 Palestinians, including six with live ammunition and 18 with rubber-coated bullets. Also this week, on 25 June, a 22-year-old Palestinian man died of injuries he sustained in clashes that took place during the previous reporting period (20 June) in Qalandiya refugee camp, bringing

Latest development: On 1 July, an Israeli military undercover unit shot and killed a Palestinian youth in the Jenin refugee camp; the circumstances of the killing are disputed.

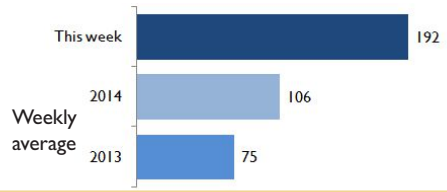
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	17
Equivalent 2013 period:	8

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



the number of Palestinian civilians killed in these circumstances since the beginning of the operations to six. Additionally, a 78-year-old woman died of a heart attack, shortly after Israeli forces exploded the main door of her house in Al 'Arrub refugee camp, as part of a search operation (not included in the above count).

In one of the operations conducted in As Samu' village (Hebron) on 25 June, an Israeli undercover unit broke into the house of a wanted Palestinian man and shot him several times with live bullets, severely injuring him; the circumstances of the incident remain unclear. The man was subsequently arrested and transported to an Israeli hospital for medical treatment.

Overall, during the reporting period, Israeli forces conducted 192 search-and-arrest operations, during which 183 Palestinians were arrested. While most of the operations took place across the Hebron governorate, certain localities in other West Bank areas were also targeted; in the village of Awarta (Nablus) at least 200 houses were searched leading to the arrest of two Palestinians. Operations targeting Islamic charitable societies, allegedly linked to Hamas, continued across Hebron governorate, including in Yatta, Surif, Beit Ummar, Beit Ula and Sa'ir; confiscation of computers and files, as well as damage to furniture was reported.

Additional clashes were recorded during the weekly demonstrations against the Barrier in Ni'lin, Bil'in (Ramallah) and Al Ma'sara (Bethlehem) villages; against settlement expansion in An Nabi Saleh village (Ramallah), and against access restrictions in Kafr Qaddum (Qalqiliya); the latter clashes resulted in the injury of five Palestinians.

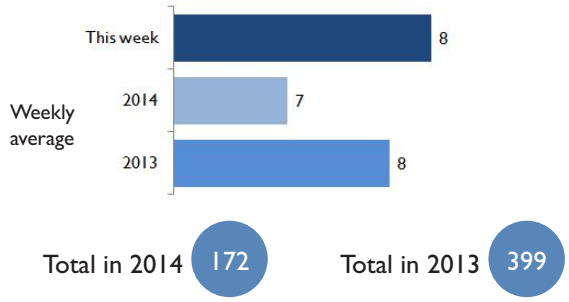
Concern over potential wave of retaliatory attacks by Israeli settlers

On Monday night, following the announced discovery of the bodies of the three Israeli youths, Israeli settlers gathered at several junctions in the southern West Bank (including Gush Etzion, Beit Ummar, north Halhul and Haggay settlement junctions) and threw stones at Palestinian-plated vehicles, causing minor damages.

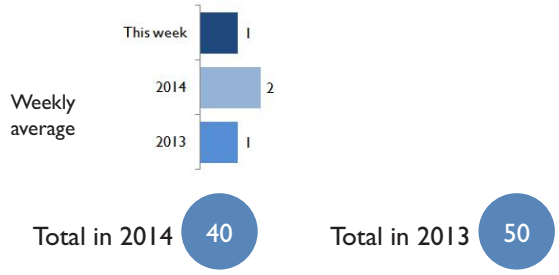
A series of incidents were also recorded in the Israeli-controlled part of Hebron city (H2), including the stoning of Palestinian houses; one of the incidents led to clashes with Palestinian residents, which resulted in the injury of one Palestinian, who was

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



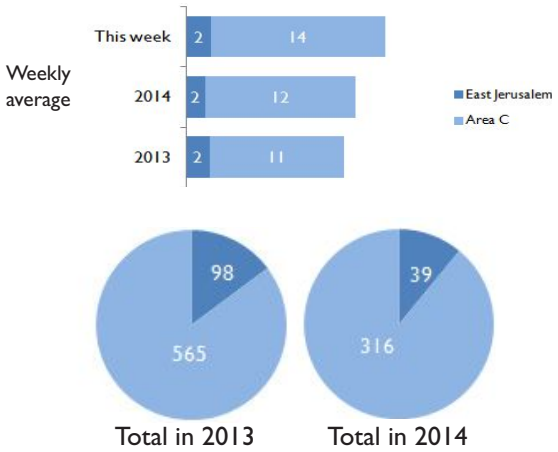
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



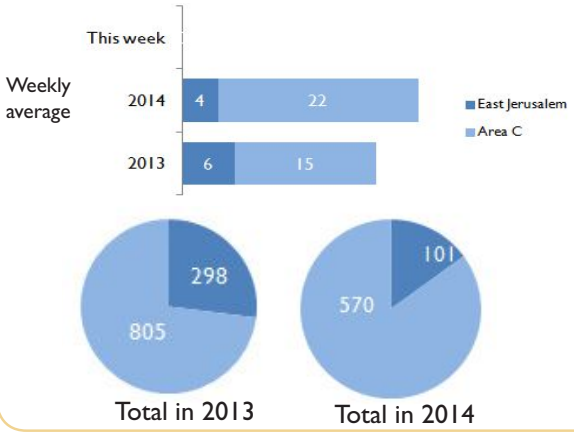
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



physically assaulted by an Israeli soldier who intervened. A similar incident earlier in the week (25 June) in the H2 area of Hebron, resulted in the injury of ten Palestinians, including two children and two women, who were physically assaulted by soldiers who intervened when Israeli settlers threw stones at Palestinian houses. Since the beginning of 2014, a total of 59 Palestinians were injured in the West Bank by Israeli forces during settler attacks.

On 29 June, a 9-year-old Palestinian child was physically assaulted and injured by a group of Israelis in the Shu'fat area of East Jerusalem; according to witnesses, the latter tried to abduct the boy.

In another two incidents during the week, a group of Israeli settlers from Qedumim and Eli settlements reportedly cut down a number of olive trees belonging to farmers from the adjacent villages of Kafr Qaddum (Qalqiliya) and Qaryut (Nablus). The precise scope of damage could not be assessed, as Palestinian access to both areas is restricted and requires prior coordination with the Israeli authorities. In the southern West Bank, Israeli settlers from Betar Illit settlement reportedly set fire to an agricultural room and damaged an irrigation network on a plot of land belonging to farmers from Husan village (Bethlehem). Also in the Bethlehem area, Israeli settlers from Bat Ayin settlement cut down 15 olive trees belonging to family from Beit Ummar village.

Movement restrictions in Hebron continue

Most of the access restrictions affecting Hebron residents that were imposed upon the start of the military operations have remained in place during the reporting period, despite some fluctuations.

Male residents of Hebron governorate aged between 16 and 50 continued to be prevented from crossing the Wadi an Nar checkpoint, which controls the single route available for most Palestinians between the central and southern West Bank, as well as from traveling to Jordan via the Allenby Bridge. Permits to access East Jerusalem, Israel and some settlement areas remain invalid. In addition, the Israeli Civil Administration announced this week that the upcoming measures aimed at facilitating Palestinian access to East Jerusalem during the month of Ramadan will not apply to Hebron's residents.

Latest development: On 2 July, the body of a 16-year-old Palestinian boy from East Jerusalem was found dead in West Jerusalem. Palestinian sources claim that the boy was abducted and subsequently killed by a group of Israelis, in retaliation for the killing of the three Israeli youths. Residents of Shu'fat neighborhood in East Jerusalem, protesting the killing, clashed with Israeli Police forces, resulting in dozens of Palestinian injuries.

While access restrictions around Hebron city were eased during most of the reporting period; on 30 June they were re-imposed, and in some cases tightened, following the finding of the three Israeli youths' bodies. All entrances to Hebron city, and the adjacent towns of Halhul, Idhna and Tarqumiya, have been either totally blocked or are controlled by checkpoints.

Houses of two suspects of Israeli youths' killings partially destroyed

Shortly after the discovery of the bodies of the three Israeli youths, Israeli forces evacuated the families of the two individuals suspected of the killings from their respective apartments in Hebron city, and conducted explosions in both of them, partially destroying the apartments. Six persons, including four children, relatives of the two alleged perpetrators were consequently displaced. A one year old infant was injured by shrapnel of glass from the explosion of one of the houses and a boy (aged 16) was injured by a rubber-coated metal bullet in clashes that erupted following the explosion. According to an IDF spokesperson, cited in the Israeli media, the explosions were carried out in order to blow up the doors, fearing that they might be booby-trapped.

Additionally, on 1 July, the Israeli High Court of Justice sanctioned the punitive demolition of parts of the house of the family of a Palestinian from Idhna village (Hebron) suspected of the killing of an Israeli police officer in April 2014. The policy of punitive demolitions by the Israeli authorities was officially suspended in 2005 and, with the exception of one case in East Jerusalem in 2009, not implemented since then.

Demolitions and confiscations

This week there were no reports of demolitions in Area C of the West Bank, due to the lack of Israeli-issued building permits. However, Israeli forces

delivered stop-work orders against a number of residential and commercial structures in Area C of Tulkarm city and in Barta'a ash Sharqiya village (Jenin); a requisition order affecting dozens of dunums of land planted by Palestinians near Ma'ale Shomron settlement (Qalqiliya). Also this week the Israeli authorities confiscated 15 water tanks provided by an international donor to the Area C community of Khallet an Nahla in Bethlehem; another 11 tanks were damaged

In East Jerusalem, the Israeli authorities partially demolished an uninhabited building located in the Shu'fat Refugee Camp, on the "West Bank side" of the Barrier, due to the lack of permit. The structure was being renovated through a community-based initiative. Also in East Jerusalem, the Municipality demolished a commercial booth in the Old City.

Latest development: On 2 July, the Israeli army blew up with explosives the abovementioned family residence in Idhna, displacing eight persons, including four children.

GAZA STRIP

Escalation in hostilities: Palestinian child killed and 25 Palestinian and three Israeli civilians injured

Israeli air-strikes in Gaza and Palestinian firing of rockets towards southern Israel continued every day during the reporting period. One of the rockets fired by a Palestinian armed group on 24 June dropped short in Gaza, hitting an area near a house in Beit Lahiya, killing a threeyear-old child and injuring another three children. Another rocket hit a plastic factory in the city of Sderot, setting it ablaze, and injuring three Israeli civilians (28 June).

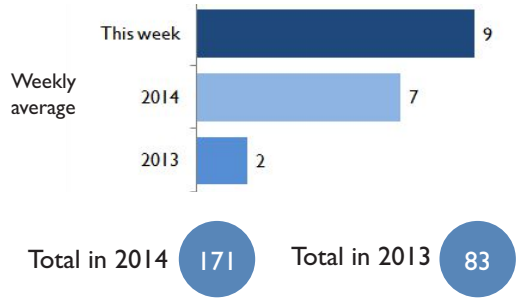
A series of Israeli air strikes conducted on 24 and 25 June targeting alleged military sites and open fields resulted in the injury of ten civilians, including five children; as well as in significant damage to property, including at least eight houses, two workshops and 450 trees. On 27 and 29 June, the Israeli Air Force targeted and killed two members of an armed group while they were travelling in the Beach refugee camp, and targeted and killed another member in the Al Qarara area, injuring two others. Since the beginning of 2014, Israeli forces have killed at least 5 members of armed groups in similar operations. Another child was injured on 29 June in an air strike on a military base in Khan Younis.

In another incident on 27 June, an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was detonated near the fence, damaging an Israeli military vehicle which was patrolling the area. Israeli forces responded by shelling an area in Khan Younis, injuring 8 civilians, including 2 children and 3 women. In two incidents, on 26 and 28 June, Israeli forces stationed at the fence opened fire towards Palestinians collecting scrap metal and others present in the area, respectively, injuring 3 civilians.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	0
In 2014 (to date):	14
Equivalent 2013 period:	3

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



On at least three occasions during the reporting period, Israeli naval forces fired warning shots towards Palestinian fishing boats approaching or exceeding the Israeli-imposed six-nautical-mile fishing limits. While no injuries were reported, some fishing equipment was damaged as a result.

Update on Gaza crossings: limited opening of Rafah along ongoing closure of Erez

On 29 June, the Egyptian authorities re-opened Rafah Crossing after 11 days of complete closure, allowing over 2,000 people, mainly pilgrims, and some humanitarian cases to cross in both directions. According to the Border and Crossing Authority in Gaza, due to the frequent long closures, at least 10,000 prioritized travelers are registered

and waiting to cross into Egypt, mainly medical patients, students and holders of visa to third countries. In June 2013, prior to the change in the modality of operation of the crossing, an average of 1,860 people crossed through every day.

The Erez crossing between Gaza and Israel, which was accessible for a limited number of permit holders, has remained closed since 13 June, allowing only pre-authorized urgent humanitarian cases and foreign nationals to leave and enter Gaza.

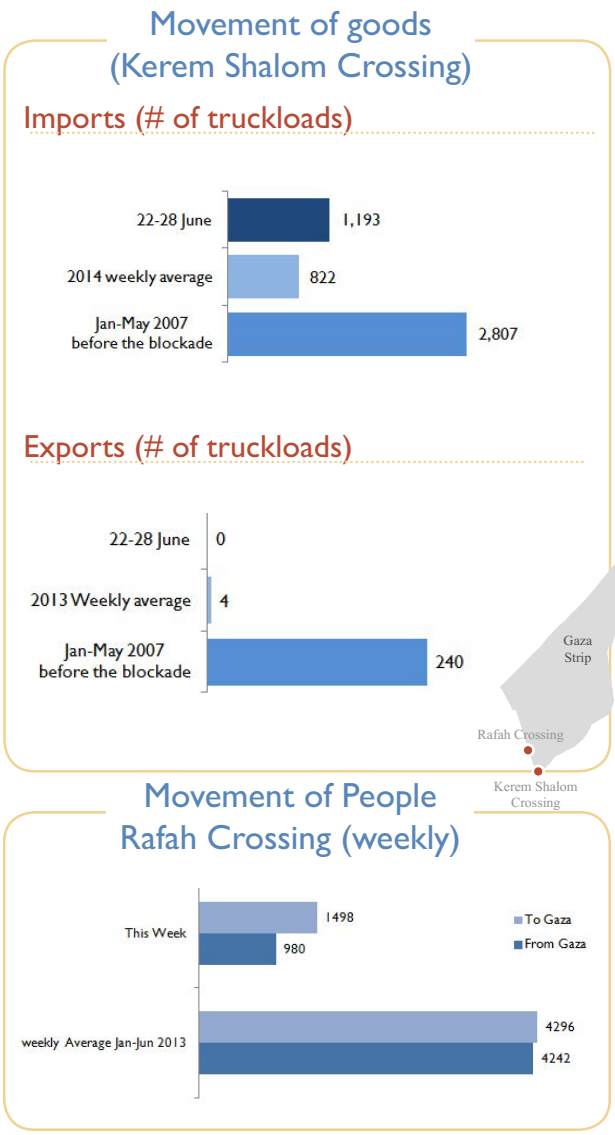
The Kerem Shalom commercial crossing remained open during the week, allowing in around 1,190 truckloads of imported goods, however, since 9 June, no exports were allowed out of Gaza, reportedly due to technical difficulties with the scanning equipment used at the crossing. While the exit of goods from Gaza to the West Bank and Israel, the main markets for Gazan products, has been banned since the imposition of the blockade in 2007, following the easing of the blockade in 2010, small amounts of agricultural exports are allowed to overseas markets.

Gaza Power Plant continues to operate at half capacity

Following the exhaustion of Qatari funds donated for the purchase of fuel for the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) on 25 June, the Ministry of Energy is purchasing limited amounts of fuel allowing the GPP to operate at half of its capacity, running two of its four turbines. Currently, Gaza receives less than 45 per cent of the required power supply and as a result is experiencing scheduled power outages of 12 hours per day. Electricity shortages, combined with the lack of fuel, continue to affect the delivery of basic services. The Energy Authority is considering redirecting electricity supply to keep the operation of specific vital installations, including hospitals, major water wells as temporary measures, which would entail increasing power cuts in other areas, affecting households.

Concern of further deterioration in the health sector

Health services have been particularly affected by the power cuts, which disrupted the routine functioning of the health system, and led to a halt in all non-urgent elective surgeries. Emergency fuel reserves required to run the back-up generators at



hospitals are at less than a third of their capacity, sufficient to cover less than two weeks only.

This has been compounded by ongoing shortages: about one quarter of essential drugs and more than half of medical disposable items are at zero stock level at the Central Drugs Store. 200 pallets of medicine and medical disposables were sent from the West Bank to Gaza last week, however, WHO indicates that this shipment will not cover the current shortages.

As a result of this deterioration there has been a sharp increase in the volume of patients seeking medical treatment outside Gaza, including in the West Bank and East Jerusalem. According WHO, during the month of May, the number of applications for permits to leave Gaza via Erez for health treatments increased by nearly 50 per cent compared to the monthly average in 2013.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
For more information, please contact Mai Yassin at yassinm@un.org or +972 (0)2 5829962.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 1 – 7 JULY 2014

Key issues

- A 16-year-old Palestinian boy from East Jerusalem was abducted and killed by Israelis in retaliation for the killing of three Israeli youths abducted on 12 June
- More than 550 Palestinian civilians were injured by Israeli forces during clashes across the West Bank, including 455 (83 per cent) in East Jerusalem.
- For the first time in five years, Israeli forces carried out the punitive demolition of parts of the house of the family of a Palestinian suspected of killing an Israeli police officer.
- Gaza fishing area reduced to three nautical miles.
- Egyptian authorities re-closed Rafah crossing.
- "Salary crisis" in Gaza continues.

WEST BANK

Clashes spread across the West Bank; one Palestinian killed and over 550 injured

Widespread protests and violent clashes erupted between Palestinian residents and Israeli forces throughout East Jerusalem, following the abduction and killing of a 16-year-old Palestinian boy from Shu'fat neighborhood of East Jerusalem on 2 July. The Palestinian boy was burned alive by a group of Israelis, reportedly in retaliation for the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths near Hebron whose bodies were found on 30 June. The unrest spread to other parts of the West Bank. As a result, nearly 570 Palestinian civilians were injured by Israeli forces, including 31 Palestinians by live ammunition, 290 by rubber-coated bullets, 60 by tear gas canister, 146 due to tear gas inhalation, and 36 due to physical assault. Clashes were also recorded at different locations inside Israel.

The majority of the clashes during the reporting period took place in East Jerusalem, during which 453 Palestinians were injured, including 275 (60%) in Shu'fat neighborhood. Seventeen Israeli force members were also injured by stone-throwing by Palestinians during these clashes. Infrastructure of the Jerusalem light rail in Shu'fat and Beit Hanina neighborhoods was set on fire by protestors.

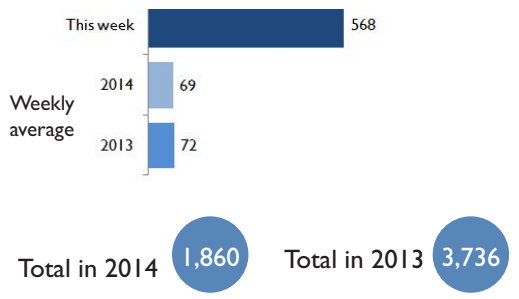
Israeli military operations, including raids on Palestinian villages and search-and-arrest operations, continued this week. Israeli forces

Recent developments: Following the escalation in tension in recent weeks, on 7 July, hostilities escalated in Gaza and South Israel. For more on the these events and their humanitarian impact, see OCHA Situation Updates http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_sitrep_09_07_2014_.pdf

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	2
In 2014 (to date):	19
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces

raided several villages, mainly in the northern West Bank, triggering further clashes with Palestinian residents. In addition, Israeli forces conducted at least 86 search-and-arrest operations, during which 153 Palestinians were arrested, the majority (66) from Jerusalem governorate. In one such operation in Jenin refugee camp, Israeli special forces killed an 18-year-old Palestinian man; the circumstances of the killing remain disputed.

Most access restrictions on Palestinians from Hebron lifted; Ramadan access to Jerusalem curtailed

As of 7 July, Israel lifted most of the movement restrictions on access to East Jerusalem and Israel that were imposed on Palestinians from the Hebron governorate, following the abduction of the three Israeli youths on 12 June. These applied to 23,000 workers with permits and 3,700 businessmen. In addition, all Palestinians from Hebron are now allowed to travel to the central and northern West Bank via the Wadi Nar checkpoint, as well as to Jordan, and those who meet the Israeli age criteria will be now allowed to enter East Jerusalem for the Friday prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque.

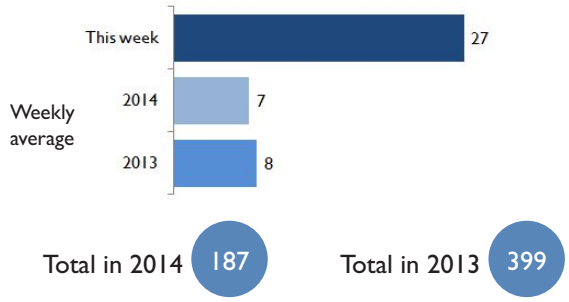
Ramadan Access:

Estimates provided by the Israeli authorities indicated that on the first Friday of Ramadan (4 July), around 11,000 Palestinian worshippers holding West Bank IDs entered East Jerusalem through the checkpoints around the city. This is around 90 per cent decline compared to the numbers of worshippers who crossed in the first Friday of Ramadan 2013. Access restrictions imposed by the Israeli authorities, in particular on Hebron residents are considered to be the reason of this decline. On the first Friday of Ramadan, only Palestinian men over 50 and women over 40 who hold West Bank IDs, excluding residents of Hebron, were allowed to enter Jerusalem through four checkpoints (Qalandiya, Gilo, Shu'fat and Zeytoun) without permits to visit Al Aqsa mosque. In 2013, men above 40, women and girls of all ages, and boys below 12 were allowed access.

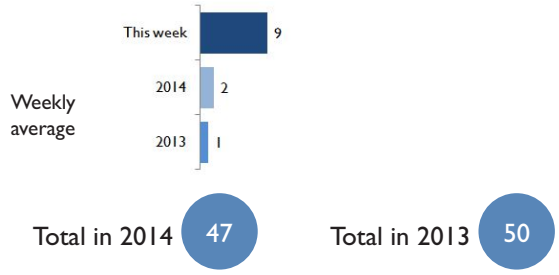
Most of the young men (under 50) who were able to cross the checkpoints had either commercial or work permits; according to field reports, the ones who proceeded to the Old City of Jerusalem were denied access and turned back at one of the flying checkpoints deployed in and around the Old City

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



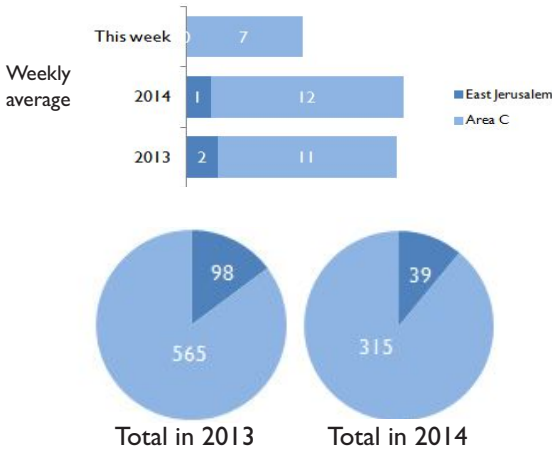
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



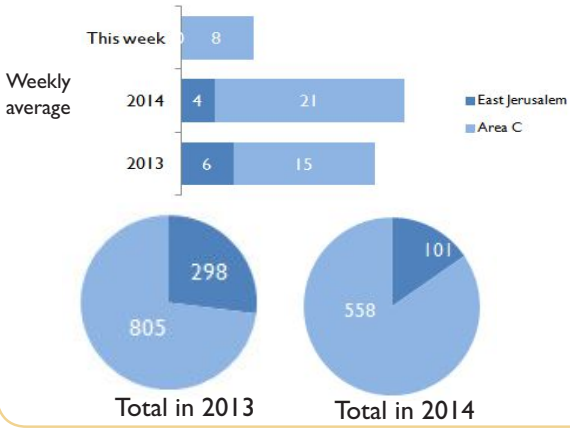
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



on the grounds that they are under 50 years of age. As a result, thousands prayed on the surrounding streets of Jerusalem's Old City. According to media reports, a few thousands attended the noon prayers comparing to hundreds of thousands (200-250,000) in 2013 (Jerusalem).

Spike in confrontations between Palestinians and Israeli settlers

Violent clashes between Palestinians and Israeli settlers erupted throughout the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, triggered by the discovery of the bodies of the three Israeli youths and the subsequent abduction and killing of the 16-year-old Palestinian boy, resulting in a number of injuries and property damage on both sides.

Multiple attacks by Israelis settlers and other Israelis against Palestinians were recorded across the West Bank, including incidents of physical assaults, stone-throwing at Palestinian vehicles and houses, gathering at the entrances of Palestinian villages, blocking roads, setting a livelihood structure on fire, and spraying anti-Arab graffiti, among others. There was also a reported attempt to abduct another Palestinian boy. The majority of the incidents took place near Israeli settlements, as well as inside Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem and West Jerusalem.

Eleven of all the incidents recorded resulted in the injury of 13 Palestinians, including three women and another 17 incidents caused damage to Palestinian tens of vehicles and houses. In one incident, an Israeli shot and injured a Palestinian man near the northern entrance of Ar Ram town (Jerusalem).

Also during the period, six Israelis were injured as a result of stone-throwing by Palestinians at Israeli vehicles travelling on roads in the Jerusalem and Jericho governorates. Another Israeli woman sustained injuries after being sprayed with pepper gas by Palestinians in the Old City of Jerusalem. Also in Jerusalem, Palestinians threw Molotov cocktails at a house in Beit Hanina that has been taken over from Palestinians by Israeli settlers two years ago, at Beit Amos settlement in Silwan, at an Israeli military base near Al 'Isawiya and another near 'Anata. Molotov cocktails were also thrown towards Israeli forces in Shu'fat and at Rockfeller Museum.

Additionally, five new settlement outposts, erected in memory of the Israeli teens, were reported in the strategic E1 area to the east of Jerusalem, in the Gush Etzion block, and on lands that belong to the Palestinian villages of Halhul, Beit Einoun and Surif in Hebron governorate. In the latter incident, Palestinian residents protested the settler take-over of land, during which a Palestinian man was attacked and severely injured by Israeli settlers. On 7 July, the caravans in the two settlement outposts in Beit Einoun and Surif were removed by the Israeli police and army forces.

Demolitions in Ramadan and punitive demolition of a Palestinian house;

The Israeli authorities demolished seven Palestinian structures built without Israeli-issued building permits in Area C of the West Bank on 3 July; and partially damaged another structure in Area A as a punitive measure on 2 July. These are the first demolitions recorded since the start of the Muslim month of Ramadan; in previous years demolitions were suspended or declined significantly during this month. Overall, eight people, including four children, were displaced and 49 were otherwise affected by this week's demolitions.

On 2 July, Israeli forces partially destroying with explosives a house in Idhna (Hebron) belonging to the family of a Palestinian suspected of killing an Israeli policeman in April; the demolition was executed a day after the Israeli High Court sanctioned it on punitive grounds. As a result, eight people, including four children, were displaced, and eight others affected. Two 13-year-old boys were injured by an unexploded ordnance left behind by the Israeli forces after this incident. The Israeli authorities officially suspended the policy of punitive demolitions in 2005, and apart from a house in East Jerusalem in 2009, did not demolish any houses in this manner until the policy was revived this week.

The seven structures in Area C included five animal shelters, a guest room and an oven, in Al 'Aqaba village in Tubas, affecting 41 people, including 21 children. Also in Area C, the Israeli authorities ordered the demolition of 17 houses, five livelihood structures, a community center and a mosque in Bethlehem, Hebron, Ramallah and Jericho governorates; and confiscated a bulldozer owned

by the Palestinian Ministry of Public Works, while it was being used for opening an agricultural road near Migdalim settlement (Nablus). In addition, Israeli forces raided a dairy factory associated with an Islamic Charitable Society in Hebron city and confiscated its equipment. Raids on Islamic associations, allegedly linked to Hamas, have been taking place in the context of Israeli military operations launched following the abduction of the three Israeli youths.

GAZA STRIP

Escalation in the Gaza Strip and Israel; Palestinian fishing zone reduced to three nautical miles

During the reporting period, Israeli forces conducted a series of airstrikes targeting alleged military sites and open fields across Gaza, leading to the injury of 19 Palestinian civilians, including six children and six women, and causing damages to at least 10 houses, other structures and 30 dunums of greenhouses. Palestinian armed groups continued to fire rockets at several towns in southern Israel, as well as at Israeli forces near the fence separating Gaza and Israel. Some of the rockets were intercepted in the air or hit open areas, however, on 7 July a rocket hit a residential building in Sderot, injuring two Israelis and causing damage. Also, two Israeli soldiers were injured on two separate occasions near a military base close to former Sufa military base and in Eshkol Regional Council.

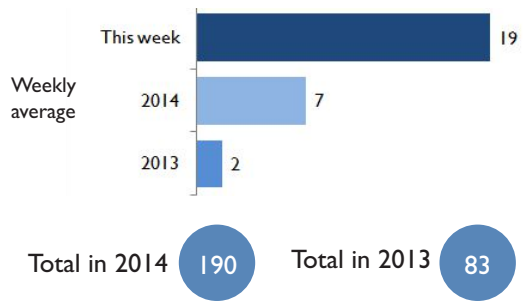
On 4 July, Israeli forces positioned near the fence east of Al Maghazi Camp, opened fire at Palestinian territory, injuring a Palestinian farmer while he was working his land. In another incident, armed Palestinians fired a shell at Israeli forces positioned on the border, east of Al Maghazi Camp. The forces responded by firing four tank shells and opening fire towards the source of firing; no injuries were reported.

On 6 July, the Israeli air force targeted a group of Palestinians, allegedly members of armed groups, at Al Bureij Camp entrance, resulting in two fatalities and one injury. Another six members of armed groups were injured on 3 and 6 July when rockets exploded at their launching sites. On 7 July Israel launched a military operation codenamed "Protective Edge". Also, on 7 July, seven bodies of Hamas members were recovered from a tunnel east of Rafah that was reportedly targeted by the Israeli Air Force.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	10
In 2014 (to date):	24
Equivalent 2013 period:	3

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



On at least two occasions during the reporting period, Israeli naval forces fired warning shots at Palestinian fishing boats approaching or exceeding the Israeli-imposed six-nautical-mile fishing limits. While no injuries were reported, some fishing equipment was damaged as a result. On 6 July, the Israeli Minister of Defence approved the reduction of the Palestinian fishing area in the Gaza Strip from six to three nautical miles citing security reasons.

Update on Gaza crossings: Rafah crossing is closed again

This week, the Kerem Shalom commercial crossing with Israel remained open but functioning partially, allowing the entry of limited amounts of goods, mainly food, fuel and medical supplies. No exports have been allowed out of Gaza since 9 June, reportedly due to technical difficulties with the scanning equipment used at the crossing. The Erez Crossing has remained closed since 13 June, allowing only pre-authorized urgent humanitarian cases and foreign nationals to leave and enter Gaza.

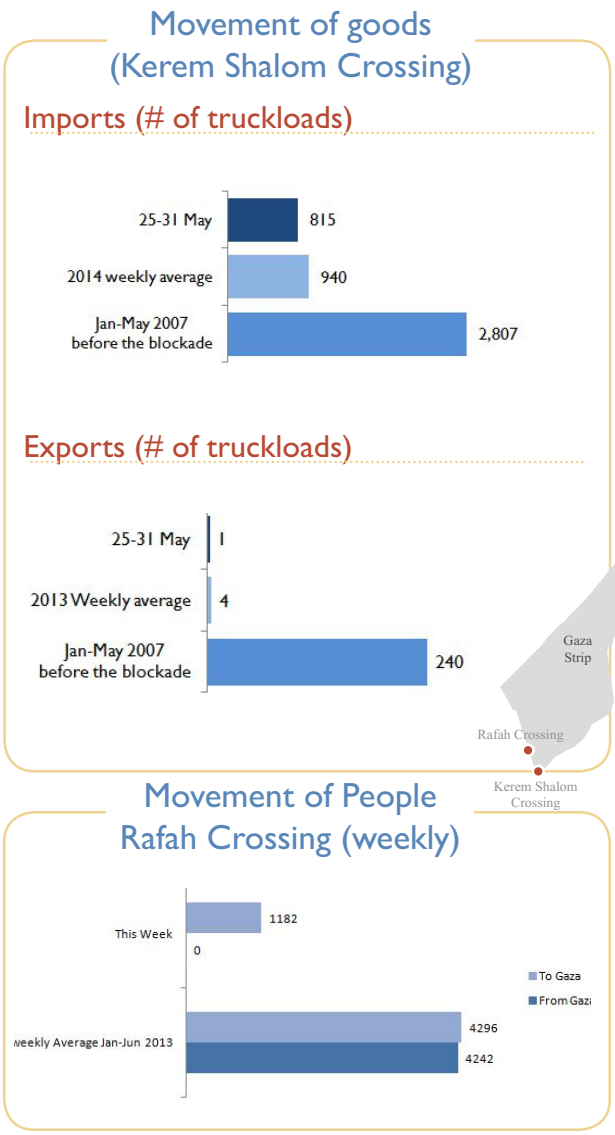
On 2 July, the Egyptian authorities re-closed the Rafah crossing after opening it for three days during which around 3,300 people, mainly pilgrims and prioritized cases, crossed in both directions. According to the Border and Crossing Authority in Gaza, at least 10,000 "prioritized travelers" have registered and are waiting to cross into Egypt, including patients, students and holders of visa to third countries. Since July 2013, the Rafah Crossing has been opened sporadically, restricting access to only limited categories of people.

Gaza Power Plant continues to operate at half its capacity

The Gaza Power Plant is currently running on half capacity following a commitment from the Palestinian Energy Authority to provide fuel throughout the month of Ramadan. However, fuel reserves are sufficient to operate the GPP for at the current capacity for less than 1.5 days and it is reported that due to the increased electricity demand combined with the lack of fuel, domestic power cuts have increased as electricity is prioritized for essential facilities such as hospitals or water facilities. Power cuts continue to disrupt the routine delivery of basic services.

Mounting concerns over ongoing salary crisis in Gaza

This week, a number of ATM machines and security cameras were vandalized by unknown gunmen in Gaza. In protest, the eleven banks decided to completely cease operations. It is believed that these incidents are connected to the ongoing salary crisis of former de facto government employees in Gaza. Approximately 40,000 staff in the security services, health and education sectors have not been regularly paid since August 2013 and have received no payment since April 2014.



Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
For more information, please contact Mai Yassin at yassinm@un.org or +972 (0)2 5829962.

Key issues

- One fatality and over 200 injuries in clashes across the West Bank; most of the these clashes were in protest of Israeli military operations in the Gaza strip.
- Palestinian access to East Jerusalem for Friday prayer during Ramadan significantly below last year, primarily due to tighter Israeli restrictions.
- **Gaza Crisis:** for daily reports and updates on the Gaza emergency see: http://www.ochaopt.org/content.aspx?id=1010361

WEST BANK

One Palestinian killed and over 200 injured in clashes

Widespread clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinians across the West Bank have resulted in the death of one and the injury of 209 Palestinians, including 21 children. The vast majority of injuries were caused by live ammunition (56) and rubber-coated metal bullets (119). Tear gas inhalation (26) and physical assault (7) injuries accounted for the remainder.

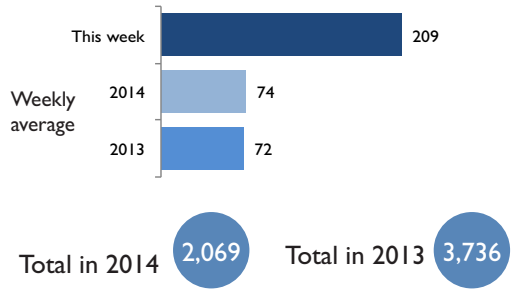
Most of the clashes during the week took place in the context of demonstrations protesting the Israeli military operation in the Gaza Strip launched on 7 July. Heightened tension and clashes across the West Bank have been ongoing since 13 June, almost without interruption, resulting in the killing of seven Palestinians, including one child, and the injury of 1,000 others by Israeli forces. Initially, the clashes took place in the context of the massive search and arrest operations that followed the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths and boys in the southern West Bank, and subsequently in protest of the abduction and killing of a 16-year-old Palestinian boy from East Jerusalem, on 2 July.

This week, on 14 July, Israeli forces shot with live ammunition and killed a 19-year-old Palestinian man near the entrance of As Samu' town (Hebron governorate). While Palestinian youth have been throwing stones at Israeli-plated vehicles in this area during the day of the incident, according to Palestinian sources, no stone-throwing was ongoing at the time of the shooting. This brings the total number of Palestinians shot and killed by Israeli forces since the beginning of 2014 to 20, compared to nine and three in the equivalent period of 2013 and 2012, respectively.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	20
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces

Ninety per cent of this week's injuries (209) occurred during clashes in the Hebron governorate, including in the Israeli-controlled part of Hebron city (H2), in Al 'Arrub and Al Fawwar refugee camps, and in the villages of Dura, Bani Nai'm, Yatta, Beit Ummar, Khursa, and Halhul. Other clashes resulting

in injuries occurred also at key checkpoints: Qalandiya, which controls Palestinian access to East Jerusalem through the Barrier, 'Atara, on the main route between Ramallah and the northern West Bank, and Jaljuliya in Qalqiliya, which controls access to a Barrier enclave and to Israel.

Additionally, Israeli forces injured five Palestinians with live ammunition during the weekly demonstration against access restrictions in Kafr Qaddum (Qalqiliya). The last time Israeli forces use live ammunition against demonstrators in the area was in May 2014.

Also this week, on 13 July, 15 Palestinian worshippers were injured in the Al Aqsa mosque compound during clashes with Israeli forces, while protesting the entry of Israeli religious groups to the compound.

During the week, Israeli forces carried out a total of 109 search-and-arrest operations across the West Bank, some of which triggered clashes and resulted in 15 injuries: in Al Janiya (Ramallah), Jaba' (Jenin), and 'Ein al Ma' refugee camp (Nablus).

Settler-related incidents: three Palestinians and three Israelis injured

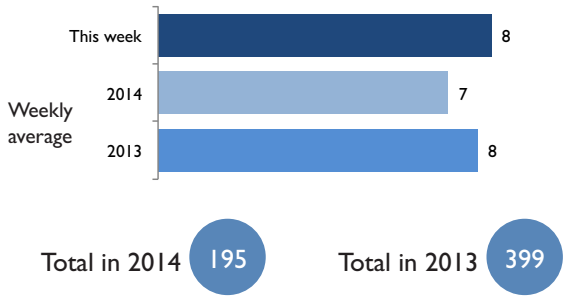
This week recorded a total of eight settler-related incidents affecting Palestinians, which led to the injury of three Palestinians, including a child, and damage to some cars and a house. The number of incidents remains around the weekly average of incidents documented since the beginning of the year. In the same period, Palestinians injured 3 Israelis.

In one incident on 8 July, Israeli settlers physically assaulted and injured a Palestinian man at the entrance of Beit Iba village (Nablus) while he was en route to work. According to Palestinian sources, the attack was part of a failed attempt to kidnap him. Israeli settlers also threw stones at Palestinian-plated vehicles driving on West Bank roads in the Ramallah and Salfit governorates and East Jerusalem, damaging three cars, and threw Molotov cocktails at a house in the Old City of Jerusalem, causing damage to the house.

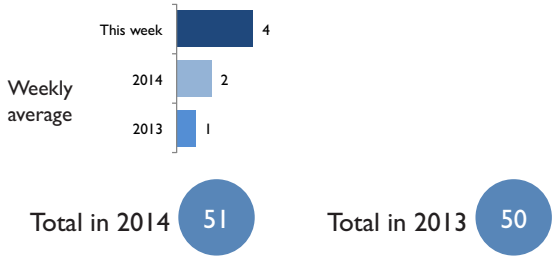
An Israeli settler was injured after being stoned by Palestinians while driving in the Hebron governorate, and two other Israelis were physically assaulted and injured by Palestinians in the Old City of East Jerusalem.

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



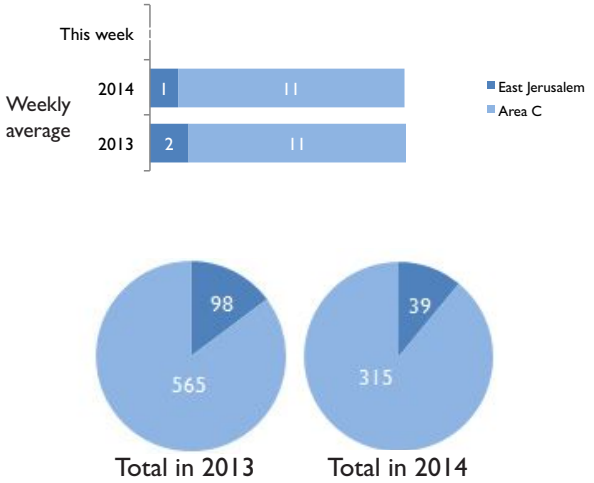
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



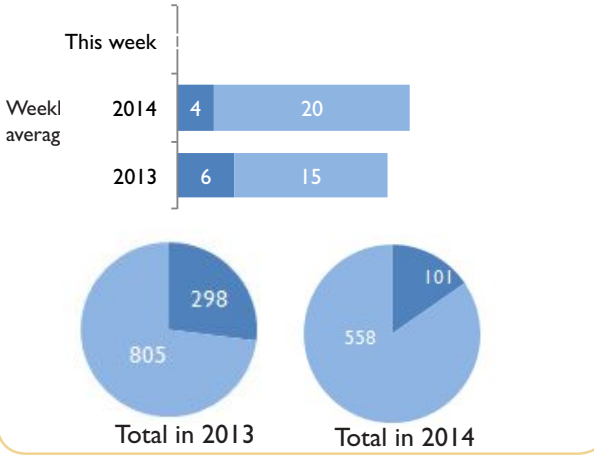
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



Latest development: On 16 July, the Israeli authorities issued punitive demolition orders against the family homes of three Palestinians from Hebron city who are suspected of the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in June 2014.

Access and movement on the second Friday of Ramadan

The number of Muslim worshippers who could gain access to Al Aqsa mosque compound for Friday prayers so far since the beginning of the month of Ramadan was significantly lower this year than compared to last year. According to estimates obtained from the Israeli authorities, over 9,990 crossed the checkpoints leading to East Jerusalem on the second Friday of Ramadan (11 July), as opposed to approximately 137,550 who crossed on the same occasion last year.

Only Palestinian men over 50 and women over 40, who hold West Bank IDs, were allowed to enter Jerusalem without permits through four checkpoints (Qalandiya, Gilo, Shu'fat and Zeytoun). In 2013, men above 40, women and girls of all ages, and boys below 12 were allowed access without permits. Also, as was the case last week, Palestinians under 50 who managed to cross the checkpoints with work or commercial permits, were denied access to the Old City of Jerusalem and turned back at one of the flying checkpoints deployed around the Old City. As a result, thousands prayed in the streets surrounding Jerusalem's Old City. In addition to the tighter access restrictions imposed by the Israeli authorities, the increasing tension recorded since mid June may have also contributed to the decline

First self-demolition in East Jerusalem during Ramadan

This week, two Palestinian families self-demolished their residential extension and parking space for lack of an Israeli-issued building permit to avoid the demolition of the whole building in Sur Bahir neighborhood in East Jerusalem. Twenty persons including seven children were affected. This is the fifth demolition incident taking place in the West Bank, and the first incident in East Jerusalem, since the start of the month of Ramadan. In previous years demolitions were suspended or declined significantly during this month.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.

For more information, please contact Mai Yassin at yassinm@un.org or +972 (0)2 5829962.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

WEEKLY REPORT 15 – 21 JULY 2014

Please note: There will be no Protection of Civilians report next week due to the upcoming holidays. The next report will cover a two-week period

Key issues

- One Palestinian killed and 464 injured in clashes during protests of Israeli military operations in Gaza.
- Three families served with punitive demolition orders.
- **Gaza Crisis:** Click here for the daily reports and updates on the Gaza emergency.

WEST BANK

Escalation in clashes during protests against Israeli military operations in Gaza

Clashes between Palestinian civilians and Israeli forces in the context of protests against the ongoing Israeli military operation in the Gaza Strip escalated during the week. An upward trend in clashes and casualties has been ongoing since 13 June: first in the context of the massive search and arrest operations that followed the abduction and killing of three Israelis (2 children and one youth), which the Israeli authorities attributed to Hamas, and then in the context of protests in the aftermath of the abduction and killing of a Palestinian child by Israelis.

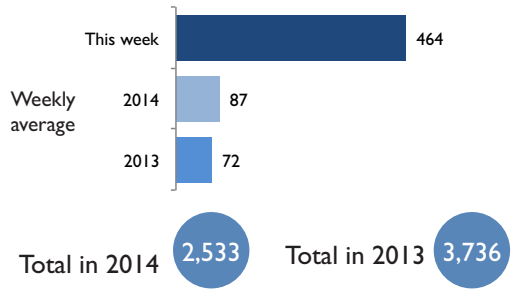
In total, this week Israeli forces killed one Palestinian and injured at least 464 others, including 69 children, in multiple incidents across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. The number of injuries represents an over two-fold increase compared to the previous reporting period, when the protests began.

This week also recorded a sharp increase in injuries by live ammunition compared to the previous week, 143 vs. 56, accounting for nearly a third of all injuries; 35 of those injured by live ammunition were children. Of the remaining injuries, 249 (54 per cent) were hit by rubber or rubber-coated metal bullets, while most of the rest were physically assaulted or treated due to tear gas inhalation. During the clashes, Palestinians threw stones, and, in some cases, Molotov cocktails and fireworks, resulting in the injury of nine members of Israeli forces, according to Israeli media sources.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	21
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces

During one of the clashes that took place on 21 July at the northern entrance to the town of Ar Ram (Jerusalem), Israeli forces shot with live ammunition and killed a 22-year-old Palestinian man. Initial reports indicate that Palestinians had been throwing Molotov cocktails at the time of the incident. This incident brings the total number of Palestinians killed in the West Bank since the beginning of 2014 to 21, compared to nine in the equivalent period of 2013.

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Coordination Saves Lives

Scan it! with QR reader App

The incident with the largest number of injuries (61) occurred on 18 July in East Jerusalem, at Al Aqsa mosque compound, in clashes following protests against the military operation in Gaza.

Decline in settler violence; serious attack recorded in Hebron city

The number of settler attacks resulting in Palestinian injuries or damage to their property declined this week compared to the weekly average since the start of 2014 (3 vs. 7). Palestinian stone throwing at Israeli vehicles in the West Bank continued.

On 19 July, a group of about 40 Israeli settlers stoned three Palestinian houses in the Israeli-controlled part of Hebron city (H2), and subsequently physically assaulted their residents and sprayed them with pepper spray: six Palestinians, including two children and an elderly man were injured. Some 6,000 Palestinians living in the vicinity of Israeli settlements in Hebron's old city, have been subject to systematic harassment and violence by Israeli settlers, compounding the impact of the access restrictions to and within the area imposed by the Israeli authorities.

In another incident on 15 July, Israeli settlers threw stones at a Palestinian-plated vehicle driving on Road 60 near Sinjil (Ramallah), leading to the injury of a 62-year-old man and causing damage to his vehicle.

During the period in four separate incidents, four Israeli settlers, including an infant and a woman, were injured as a result of stoning by Palestinians of Israeli-plated vehicles travelling on roads in the Jerusalem, Ramallah and Hebron governorates.

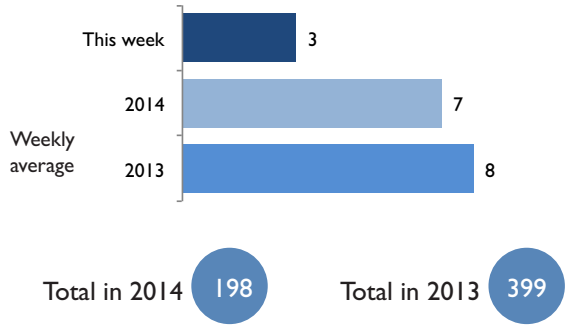
No demolitions recorded; three families receive punitive demolition orders

No demolition was recorded this week in Area C or East Jerusalem. In previous years, the month of Ramadan had seen a halt or significant reduction in demolitions.

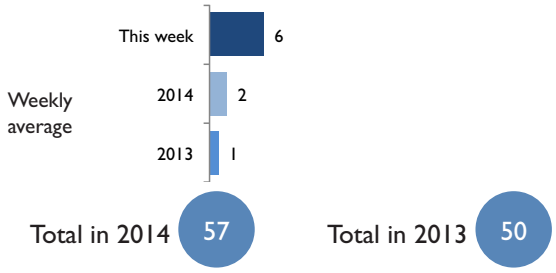
On 16 July, the Israeli authorities served punitive demolition orders for the family homes of three Palestinians suspected of the abduction and subsequent killing of three Israeli youths in Hebron, in June 2014. The demolition orders state that the measure "aims to deter potential terrorist attacks and to help maintain security in the area."

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



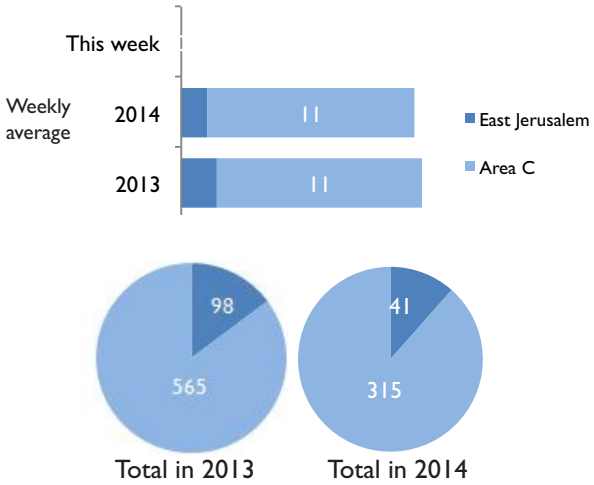
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



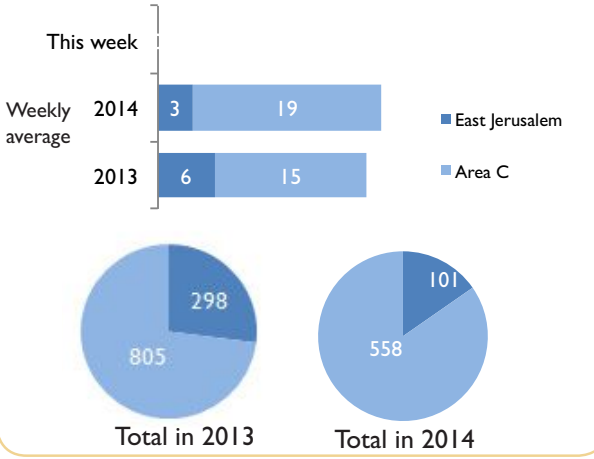
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



Latest developments: on 22 July, Israeli forces shot and injured a Palestinian man, who died later on of his wounds, during clashes at the main entrance to Husan village (Bethlehem). Another 19 year old Palestinian was killed the following day in the same area during clashes that erupted following the funeral of the former, after being struck in the head with a tear gas canister shot by Israeli forces.

questioning, and none have been tried or charged in connection to the incident.

Shortly after the discovery of the bodies of the Israeli youths on 30 June, Israeli forces evacuated the families of two of the suspected perpetrators from their apartments and conducted explosions in both of them, partially destroying the apartments. Six people, including four children, were consequently displaced. According to an IDF spokesperson cited in the Israeli media, the explosions were carried out in order to blow up the doors, fearing that they might be booby-trapped. If implemented, the demolitions will result in the displacement of an additional 28 people, including 13 children.

These punitive demolition orders follow the Israeli High Court of Justice's sanctioning of a punitive demolition, which was carried out on 1 July 2014, of parts of the house of the family of a Palestinian from Idhna village, Hebron, suspected of killing an Israeli police officer in April 2014.

With the exception of one such demolition in East Jerusalem in 2009, punitive demolitions were halted in 2005 following recommendations of a military commission that found that the practice did not act as a deterrent.

Tight restrictions on access to East Jerusalem for the Ramadan prayer continue

According to Israeli authorities, the estimated number of Palestinian Muslims who crossed checkpoints (Qalandiya, Gilo, Shu'fat, Zeytoun, As Sawahira ash Shariqiya and Ash Sheikh Sa'd) to access Al Aqsa mosque compound on the third Friday of the month of Ramadan was significantly lower this year compared to last year. The Israeli authorities estimate that some 16,301 people crossed the checkpoints leading to East Jerusalem on Friday, 18 July, as opposed to approximately 114,416who crossed on the same occasion last year.

The sharp decrease is attributable to the stringent access restrictions imposed by Israeli authorities. Access was restricted to Palestinian men over 50 and women over 40. In 2013, men above 40, women and girls of all ages, and boys below 12 were allowed access without permits. Also, as was the case last week, Palestinians under 50 who managed to cross the checkpoints with work or commercial permits, as well as male Jerusalem ID holders, were systematically turned back at multiple flying checkpoints in and around the Old City of Jerusalem. As a result, thousands prayed in the streets surrounding Jerusalem's Old City.

On 15, 16 and 17 July, Israeli settlers and other Israeli groups, accompanied by Israeli forces entered the Aqsa mosque compound. On 16 July, Israeli forces prevented Palestinian Muslims from entering Al Aqsa mosque compound, for several hours, while settlers/Israelis were allowed entry.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
For more information, please contact Mai Yassin at yassinm@un.org or +972 (0)2 5829962.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Hostilities in Gaza and Israel

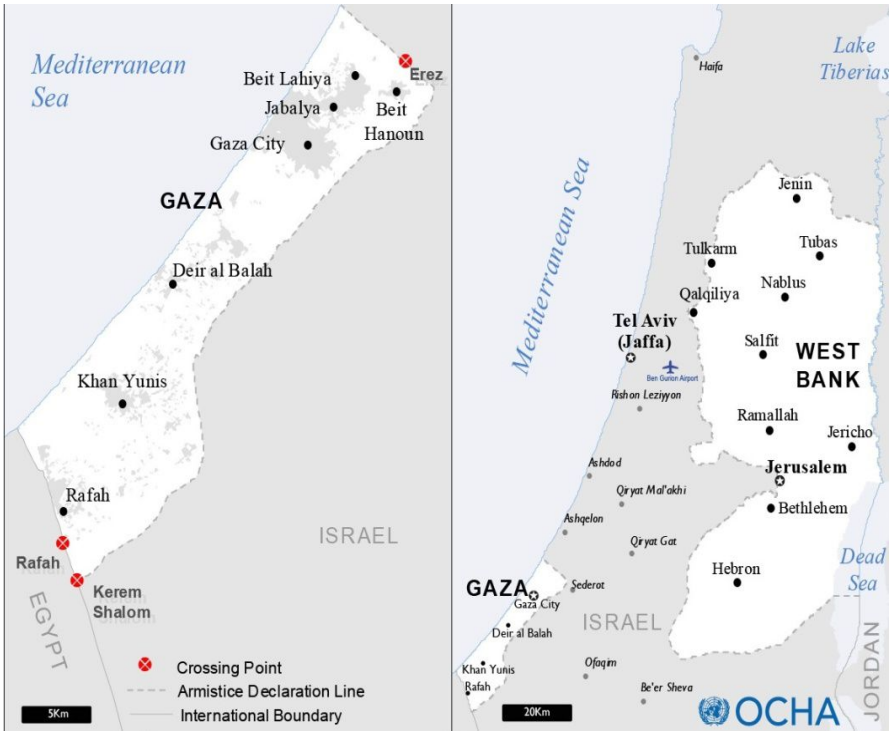
Situation Report (as of 9 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 7 July (1800 hrs) to 9 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 10 July.

Highlights

- 23 Palestinian civilians, including seven children, have been killed in Gaza, since the start of "Operation Protective Edge", on 7 July.
- The targeting and destruction of residential properties in Gaza is the main cause of civilian casualties.
- Some 150 homes have been destroyed or severely damaged by Israeli airstrikes, displacing about 900 people who are being hosted by relatives.
- Gaza hospitals treating injuries are affected by severe shortages of medical supplies and fuel needed to operate backup generators.
- Indiscriminate rocket firing by armed groups from Gaza has targeted main Israeli population centers, but has resulted in no casualties, so far.



1,800,000 Affected people in the Gaza Strip	**4,000,000** Under threat of rocket fire in Israel	**35** Palestinians killed **300** Palestinians injured	**150** Houses destroyed or severely damaged in Gaza	**25,000,000** Liters of raw sewage dumped to the sea due to damage to a pumping station

Situation Overview

Overview

On the night of 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups. Israeli attacks have so far included heavy aerial and navy bombardment throughout the Gaza Strip, targeting military installations, rocket launching sites and the residences of alleged members of armed groups. Israeli media reports indicate that the operation will be gradually scaled up, and may include ground operations.

Prior to the start of the operation and throughout, Palestinian armed groups, including Hamas' military wing, have shot hundreds of rockets towards Israel, reaching the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem metropolitan areas and other localities as far as 100km from the border with Gaza. However, the vast majority of the rockets have fallen in open areas, while dozens of others

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

targeting built up areas have intercepted by the Iron Dome missile interception system. A total of four Israelis, including two civilians, have been injured as a result of rockets, alongside limited damage to property.

Since the start of the operation, at least 35 Palestinians, of whom at least 23 were civilians, including seven children, have been killed by Israeli bombardment. Approximately 300 others, including 71 children and 66 women, have been injured, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Heath in Gaza. At least 35 residential buildings were reportedly targeted and destroyed, resulting in the majority of the civilian casualties recorded so far, including an attack on 8 July in Khan Younis that killed seven civilians, including three children, and injured another 25. In most cases, prior to the attacks, residents have been warned to leave, either via phone calls by the Israel military or by the firing of warning missiles.

It is estimated that 150 houses in Gaza have been totally destroyed or rendered uninhabitable, and another 1,900 have sustained damage during airstrikes and shelling. So far, some 900 people have been displaced and are being hosted by relatives. No emergencies shelters have yet been opened. Damage was also inflicted on one sewage pumping station and two key water facilities disrupting the provision of water and sanitation services. Hospitals operated by the Ministry of Health (MoH) are functioning and treating injuries, despite severely depleted medical supplies and long electricity outages.

The streets of Gaza are mostly empty and almost all shops are closed. Due to a general strike, most government institutions were also closed, except for medical facilities. The Erez passengers crossing with Israel is open only for foreigners and urgent humanitarian cases, while the Rafah crossing with Egypt remains closed. The Kerem Shalom commercial crossing is functioning partially, allowing for the entry of only urgent humanitarian supplies and fuel. The Gaza Power Plant continues to function at half of its capacity, while electricity outages of 12 hours per day continue.

The Humanitarian Coordinator and the Director of UNRWA Operations in Gaza have both declared an emergency and set up mechanisms to coordinate emergency assistance. Local emergency coordination mechanisms, including by the Palestinian Civil Defence (PCD), the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and Gaza City Municipality, have been also set up to provide first responses, as needed. There is coordination at the field level between PCD and PRCS for ambulances and search and rescue operations.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment has increased dramatically since mid-2013, following the halt of the illegal tunnel trade by the Egyptian authorities, exacerbating the impact of the longstanding access restrictions imposed by Israel. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has also been undermined due an ongoing energy crisis.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

- At least 23 civilians, including seven children, have been killed over the course of Israeli bombardments. Approximately 300 Palestinians, including 71 children and 66 women, were injured during the attacks, according to the Ministry of Heath in Gaza.
- At least 35 homes were reportedly targeted and destroyed, causing the majority of civilian casualties. Initial information on some of these cases raises the concern that no effective prior warning was provided to the affected families.
- An urgent need for the deployment of psychosocial support teams, particularly targeting affected children, by Protection Cluster members has been identified.
- Protection Cluster members have reiterated their call to all actors to abide by the rules of International Humanitarian Law, including the prohibition on the targeting of civilians and civilian objects and on the launching of disproportionate attacks.

35

Civilian homes targeted and destroyed

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

- 50 housing units have been totally destroyed and another 100 seriously damaged and rendered uninhabitable, according to estimates by the Ministry of Housing and Public Works (MoHPW) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) in Gaza.
- Some 700 housing units sustained structural damages and about 1,200 sustained minor damage, according to estimates by the MoHPW and the MoSA in Gaza.
- An estimated 150 families, comprising about 900 people, have been displaced and most of them are being hosted by relatives. Most of these families are in need of Non-food item (NFI) kits, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kit, kitchen sets etc. They will also require cash assistance to cover rental fees and furnishing of new accommodations.
- NFI interventions are estimated to be needed for about 11,100 individuals who haave suffered minor damage to their homes.

150
Families displaced due to the loss of their homes

Health

- Hospitals operated by the Ministry of Health (MoH) are functioning despite severely depleted medical supplies: 28 per cent of the essential drug items and 54 per cent of disposables are currently out of stock in Gaza's Central Drug Store. Gaza requires US$ 3.2 million monthly to secure the needed drugs and disposables.
- The operation of hospitals has been also disrupted in recent months due to electricity outages. Hospitals need 10,000 liters of fuel daily to operate the standby electric generators and most report low fuel reserves. Some ambulance services have been stopped due to lack of fuel.
- Most primary health care clinics, except one UNRWA clinic, are also functioning, although residents are venturing onto the streets only for the most urgent needs. One governmental health clinic has temporarily relocated to a school in Khan Younis, due to its proximity to a police station.
- PRCS has activated its contingency plan and its prepared to receive normal cases from Shifa hospital in Al-Quds hospital, to allow the latter to allocate more resources to deal with casualties.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) has appealed to the international community for support in providing essential medical supplies in a coordinated manner, according to the specific needs of the MoH. UNRWA has appealed for US$ 400,000 to replenish its own medical stocks.

28%
Of essential medicines out of stock in Gaza's Central Drug Store

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Israeli airstrikes and shelling have inflicted damage to a number of WASH facilities disrupting the provision of water and sanitation:
    - A sewage pumping station (Al Muntada) housing four pumps, serving over half of Gaza City area, which was damaged. As a result, raw sewage is now discharged into the sea. Engineers estimate that full rehabilitation would take as long as one month. Losses are estimated at US$ 1 million.
    - The main water carrier line to the Beach Refugee Camp, serving 70,000 people, which has been destroyed. Gaza Municipality is supplying water to the Camp from an alternative source, at the expense of a reduction in the supply to other areas.
    - One water well serving 15,000 people in Alnasser neighborhood of Gaza City has been hit and significantly damaged. Estimated losses stand at US$ 100-150,000. Residents are forced to purchase water from private vendors.

25m liters
Of raw sewage dumped to the sea due to damage to pumping station

- Cluster members were prevented from assessing on the field the damage and delivering assistance due to the ongoing hostilities.
- An extension of an Islamic Development Bank project to provide emergency fuel to the most essential WASH, health and solid waste collection installations has been approved for implementation, and coordination for distribution is ongoing

Education

- 13 public schools have sustained damage during bombardments. Assessments could not be conducted yet due to ongoing hostilities.
- Two schools in Khan Younis are being currently used as a Health Clinic and a Civil Defence center, respectively. No school is being operated as shelter for IDPs.
- Cluster members have not been able to mount any response due to the ongoing hostilities.

13
Schools sustained damage

Food Assistance

- So far all type of basic commodities are available on the market without changes in prices. The commercial stock of wheat is sufficient to cover the needs of the population for approximately 19 days. Stocks of WFP commodities at cooperating partners' warehouses and bakeries could be utilized to meet emergency needs.
- UNRWA continues operating its 12 food distribution centres across Gaza, assisting more than 830,000 refugees, while WFP does so regarding 177,000 non-refugees.
- WFP has programmed 500 emergency vouchers. Emergency voucher shops are in close vicinity to UNRWA and public schools, which will be used as shelters for potential displaced people.
- WFP is providing additional food rations in Gaza to people that have been affected by the violence. Currently WFP provides additional assistance to more than 820 people, while more than 200 people are being reached in hospitals

Over 1 million
receive food aid (regular caseload)

General Coordination

Following the declaration of an emergency by UNRWA and the Humanitarian Coordinator an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) has been set-up at the UNDP Compound in Gaza, and is managed by OCHA. In parallel, an UNRWA operations room has been established at the UNRWA Field Office in Gaza. The EOC's primary role is to centralize information management and coordinate operational responses among HCT members and clusters, as well as with UNRWA, ICRC, and local emergency bodies. Under the EOC, an OCHA-led Humanitarian Information Cell (HIC) has been set-up in Jerusalem responsible for reporting, communication and humanitarian advocacy. A sub-group of the EOC in Gaza led by OHCHR has been designated to monitor casualties.

HCT representatives met today with the Israeli Ministry of Defense (COGAT) in Tel Aviv and discussed ways to facilitate humanitarian operations in Gaza, including access of humanitarian goods and staff. An Israeli Operations Room will be working at the Erez crossing as of 9:00 AM on 10 July, with the presence of an HCT representative.

Local emergency coordination mechanisms of the Palestinian Civil Defence (PCD) and the Palestinian Red Crescent have been put in place to provide first response. The High Council for PCD also declared a state of emergency and has set up an emergency operations room to coordinate operations with other governmental institutions. There is coordination at the field level between PCD and PRCS for ambulances and search and rescue operations.

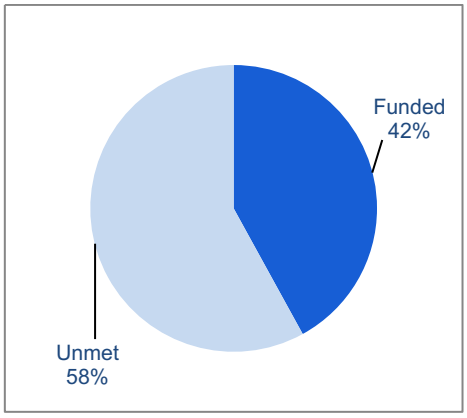
Funding

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received $164 million (42 per cent) out of a total request of $390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Less that 30 per cent of the funds requested for projects targeting Gaza specifically have been mobilized. Projects targeting Gaza and the West Bank jointly are fully funded, however, such projects only represent $68.2 million of the SRP total request. Funding across clusters has been uneven however, no clusters are on track with funding at the mid-year point with the exception of Coordination. Food Security interventions, which represent the bulk of humanitarian assistance in Gaza, are only 30 per cent funded.

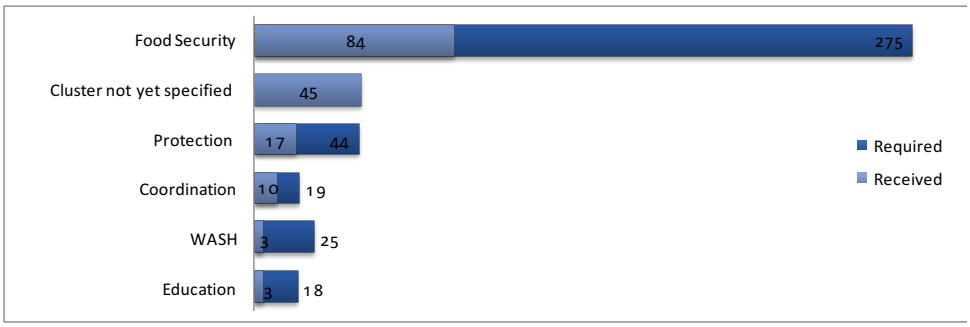
The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza. While the ERF balance currently stands at $4 million, $2 million worth of proposals are already being processed to meet previous underfunded, critical SRP projects. The ERF is therefore in urgent need of replenishment to ensure the fund's ability to provide rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations.

Although operations for UNRWA continue in all areas, there is an urgent need for funding to cover the $22 million of UNRWA's Emergency Appeal shortfall, already projected by the Agency. Currently, the most urgent funding needs include funding to continue the food assistance programme and additional resources to procure additional non-food items ($1 million) and fuel for critical installations ($2.5 million).

Overview of oPt Strategic Response Plan



Funding by sector (in million US$)



Background on the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started on 11 June, when Israeli forces targeted and killed an alleged member of an armed group, along with a child accompanying him, and Palestinian factions responded by shooting rockets at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket firing.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the longstanding access restrictions imposed by Israel. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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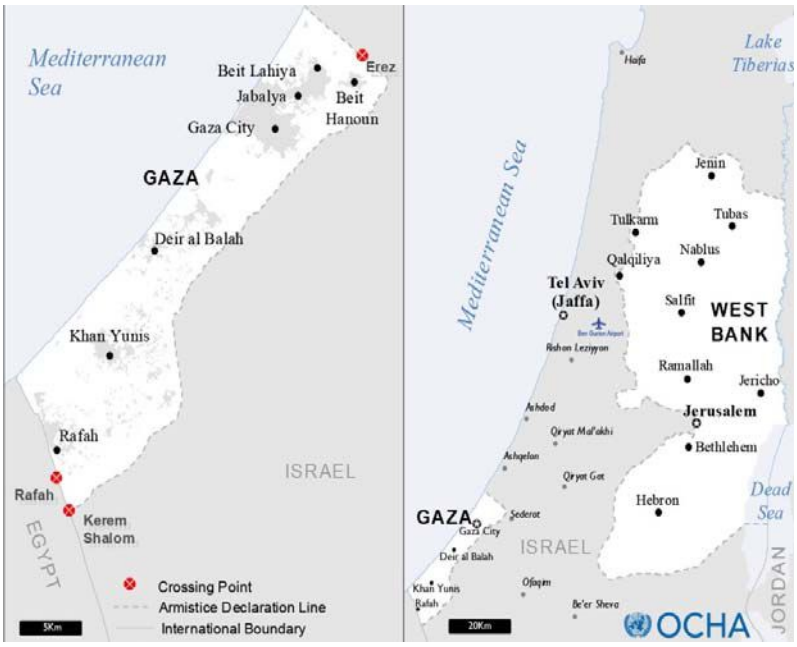
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 18 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 17 July (1500 hrs) to 18 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 19 July.

Highlights

- An Israeli ground incursion, alongside intense shelling and airstrikes, triggered mass displacement and a sharp increase in casualties overnight.
- The impact of hostilities on Palestinian children has been particularly devastating: 59 killed (11 in the past 24 hours) and 637 injured since 8 July; around 58,000 are estimated to be traumatized.
- 48,000 persons hosted at UNRWA shelters and another 700 displaced families hosted by relatives, are in need of emergency food and other assistance.
- The vast majority of households receive electricity only four hours a day, due to damage to ten feeder lines; water supply has been further undermined.



268	2,296	1,890	48,000	80%
Palestinians killed, including at least 193 civilians, of whom 59 are children and 33 women[1]	Palestinians injured, of whom 637 are children and 393 women[2]	Families whose homes are destroyed or severely damaged rendering them uninhabitable.	Displaced people hosted at 43 UNRWA schools	Of the population receive electricity 4 hours a day.

Situation Overview

On the night of 17 July, the Israeli military launched a ground incursion into the northern and southeastern Gaza Strip, involving infantry troops, backed by tanks, engineering, and intelligence units. According to the Government of Israel, the objective of the ground offensive is to destroy tunnels leading into Israel, to prevent the infiltration of Palestinian armed groups and subsequent attacks. This came a few hours after a failed attack by a Palestinian armed cell that reached southern Israel through a tunnel.

The incursion was preceded by a heavy barrage of artillery fire from Israeli troops, combined with intense shelling from gunboats, as well as airstrikes, which continued until 8 am today. The level of fear among the civilian population across Gaza, children in particular, rose dramatically. Tens of thousands, particularly in areas closer to Israel in northern Gaza and middle

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.
[2] Data on injuries is provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

areas, began fleeing rapidly their homes in the dark, amidst bombardments. Nearly 25,000 reached 43 UNRWA schools habilitated as emergency shelters or temporary safe spaces, bringing the total number of displaced people hosted by UNRWA to 48,000. It is estimated that more than 11,000 additional people have been displaced since the start of the emergency, after their homes were destroyed or severely damaged, and are currently hosted by relatives and neighbors.

Prior to entering Gaza, the Israeli military announced that the "No Go" zone along Gaza's perimeter fence had been expanded from 300 meters to 3 kilometers from the fence. Tens of thousands of people residing within this area in the Rafah and Khan Younis governorates have received Israeli warnings to evacuate their homes.

Initial reports indicate that the ground incursion and related shelling resulted in extensive damage to electricity infrastructure, including up to ten lines from Israel, from which most electricity in the Gaza Strip is purchased. As a result, some 80 per cent of the population is receiving electricity during only four hours a day, down from 12 hours previously. This has further undermined the operation of water and sewage facilities, many of which have been damaged, disrupting or cutting water supply to over half of Gaza's population. Repairs on two of the ten lines were carried out this morning, following prior coordination with the Israeli military.

Since the end of the humanitarian pause yesterday afternoon and until today at 15:00, at least 11 Palestinian children have been killed during Israeli attacks. This brings the death toll among Palestinian children since the start of the emergency to 59, or 22 per cent of all fatalities.

Yesterday at around 5:30 pm, an Israeli missile fired from the air hit the house of the Shuheebar family in the Sabra neighborhood west of Gaza City, killing three children of the same family - Afnan and Waseem, both 8 years old, and Jihad, 11 years old - while they were feeding poultry, which their family keeps on the rooftop. Another two children, 8 and 16 years old were injured, the first of whom is in a critical condition.

Human rights organizations estimate that since the start of the emergency the Israeli army has targeted and destroyed approximately 300 homes, many of which were the residences of alleged members of armed groups. The targeting of civilian homes is a violation of international humanitarian law, unless the homes are being used for military purposes. Attacks against military objectives must be proportionate, offer a definite military advantage in the prevailing circumstances at the time and precautions must be taken to prevent harm to civilians and civilian property /infrastructure. In case of doubt, buildings ordinarily used for civilian purposes, such as homes, are presumed not to be legitimate military targets.

Since the start of the emergency a total of 268 Palestinians have been killed, of whom, according to preliminary information, at least 72 percent (193 people) are believed to be civilians, 18 per cent (47 people) are members of armed groups, and the status of the remainder (28 people) cannot be determined as of yet. The proportion of civilians among the fatalities, is well above the one recorded during the previous large offensive in the Gaza Strip in November of 2012 ("Operation Pillar of Defense"), when 60 per cent of the fatalities were civilians (99 out of 165). This continues to raise concerns about respect for the principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack under international humanitarian law.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel also continued during the past 24 hours with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. Since the start of hostilities, one Israeli civilian has been killed and a few others injured by rocket and mortar fire. One Israeli soldier has been also killed during the ground incursion, possibly by friendly fire.

"It is outrageous that children in Gaza continue to pay such a heavy price in a conflict for which they have no responsibility. Children on both sides of the conflict must be protected from this senseless violence. Those who are in a position of command have an obligation to keep children out of the line of fire", Maria Calivis, UNICEF Regional Director for the Middle East & North Africa.

Updates on Gaza Crossings
Erez: Open for humanitarian cases only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): The authorities in Gaza announced that the crossing is closed until further notice.
Kerem Shalom: closed yesterday due to two separate security incidents and remained closed today. Although usually closed on Fridays, CLA Erez had expressed its willingness to keep the crossing open, if necessary. Kerem Shalom will be closed tomorrow as per its regular operating schedule.
Rafah: No updates available. Reports indicate that around 200 civilians gathered at Palestinian side of the crossing last night, seeking refuge due to the ground incursion.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 58,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past ten days.
- Explosive remnants of war present a major hazard to the population, particularly to children. Risk education targeting children remains a major need.

58,000

Children in need of psychosocial support

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law.
- The Protection Cluster continues to monitor and crosscheck information on civilian fatalities.
- On 17 July, the Gaza emergency PSS teams conducted 12 visits to injured children in hospitals and homes throughout the Gaza Strip, including to one of the child survivors of the attack which took place on Gaza beach on 16 July. Since 7 July, the Gaza PSS teams have conducted a total of 427 PSS reaching 460 children.
- Since the beginning of the emergency, Save the Children has provided PSS to 467 displaced children who are either staying with host families or who are hospitalized due to injuries suffered from attacks.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by Explosive Remnants of War. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Emergency PSS teams are working at half capacity due to funding constraints.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- An estimated 1,890 families (approximately 11,300 individuals) whose homes have been either totally destroyed or sustained major damage, rendering their homes uninhabitable, require emergency NFI kits, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions, such as nylon and tarpaulin, are needed for 2,410 families (14,400 individuals) whose houses sustained damages but are still inhabitable.

1,890

Displaced families in need of NFIs and cash assistance

Response

- 47,500 people provided with shelter at 43 UNRWA schools.
- On 17 July, truckloads with mattresses, family hygiene kits, and other supplies were distributed to UNRWA shelters.
- In addition to UNRWA's provision of shelter assistance, a total of 7,700 individuals have been provided with shelter assistance to date by different cluster members.

Gaps and Constraints

- Emergency shelter kits for 1,890 families are available in stock and will be distributed by NFI agencies when the security situation allows.
- Cash assistance for 1,890 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses (US$ 9,450,000) is needed.

- Shelter NFIs (nylon and tarpaulin and/or assistance to replace broken glass and repair of damaged windows and doors) for 13,000 families are needed in the medium term.
- The lack of security continues to impede delivery of the most urgent shelter/NFI assistance.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Most WASH facilities across Gaza impacted, and some paralysed, due to lack of electricity and infrastructure damage; specific information could not yet be collected.
- According to yesterday's reports from WASH partners, only 50 per cent of the sewage pumping and treatment systems are still operating. The mixing of sewage and water constitutes a serious public health hazard of waterborne diseases.

50 per cent

Of sewage pumping and treatment systems no longer operate

- Due to the ground incursion, eastern wells supplying Gaza City are not accessible for operation which affects access to water for a large number of people. The affected population figures are not yet known
- The landfill of Juhor Ad Dik is not accessible due to the ongoing military ground incursion, which affects the accumulation of solid waste at secondary waste collection sites in Gaza City, with associated public health risks.

Response

- UNRWA's sanitation staff worked in all refugee camps in the Gaza Strip, removing solid waste, cleaning the streets, and ensuring that the 11 water wells in Jabalia, Beach, Khan Younis and Rafah camps remain operational.
- UNRWA distributed four trucks containing family hygiene kits and other items to shelters on 17 July.
- UNRWA provided 9,034 litres of emergency fuel to Nuseirat sanitation office.

Gaps and constraints

- As a result of heavy airstrikes, shelling and the ongoing military ground incursion, new information about WASH needs could not be collected.
- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Al Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital in Gaza city was evacuated yesterday, including 17 patients in serious condition, staff and international activists, and subsequently shelled and damaged.
- 16 health-related facilities damaged since July 7 (two hospitals, twelve clinics and two nursing care centres) require repair.

13

Primary health centres closed

- 13 out of a total of 54 Ministry of Health (MoH) primary health centres (PHC) are closed due to their geographic location near targeted sites.
- Updated information on required drugs, disposables, medical equipment and specialists to be provided tomorrow

Response

- 13,270 people visited UNRWA clinics on 17 July, up from nearly 9,000 on 16 July, as a result of the humanitarian pause.
- On 17 July, the distribution of 135,000 litres of fuel to MoH hospitals through a grant from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) was completed; the fuel reserves of hospitals are sufficient to operate their standby generators during the coming three weeks.

Gaps and constraints

- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.

- Reduced access for referral cases out of Gaza.

Food Security Sector

Needs

- 47,500 persons hosted at UNRWA shelters and some 700 displaced families hosted by relatives, are in need of emergency food assistance.
- At least 36 fishing boats have been destroyed or sustained damage since the beginning of the emergency. 3,600 fishermen are still in need of re-establishing their livelihoods and require assistance in the interim.
- A minimum of 2,000 farmers require urgent food assistance, as well as other interventions to re-establish their livelihoods, due to damage sustained to livestock, agricultural lands, crops and facilities.

37,780

Palestinians received food assistance

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in 36 UNRWA shelters.
- Regular food distribution from UNRWA and WFP through their partners to more than one million people has continued.
- WFP, in partnership with Oxfam GB, continues to provide food vouchers to 685 families hosted by relatives.
- WFP continues to distribute daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.

Gaps and Constraints

- As movement is increasingly impeded due to the security situation, access to affected areas and people remains restricted. This has been further compounded by Israeli military ground operations.
- Ongoing military operations pose a risk to the continuation of regular emergency food distributions, potentially leaving thousands of people without access to food.

Education

Needs

- In the last 24 hours, there were no reports of additional schools damaged, perhaps due to decreased access following the ground incursion. In total, 84 schools have been affected by shelling due to their close proximity to targeted sites and are in need of repairs.

84

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

- Nothing to report.

Gaps & Constraints

- Restrictions on movement to assess impact of hostilities on school infrastructure.
- Still no information available about the condition of the 12 schools located in the Access Restricted Area (ARA).
- Insufficient pre-positioned supplies, such as school tents and teaching/learning materials, to respond to likely scale of need.

General Coordination

UNRWA's Emergency Operations Room (EOR) has switched to 24 hour operations mode, primarily to monitor IDP movement at night. The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) operated by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) convened a meeting in Gaza today with local Heads of Agencies and Cluster Leads to discuss the new situation resulting from ground incursion, including the possibility to open up more shelters (also government shelters), pre-positioning of stocks, the need for a new humanitarian pause, and priority activities to be carried out during such a pause.

On 17 July, the HCT met with donors to discuss preliminary needs and requirements related to the current Gaza emergency. OCHA presented a joint proposal on behalf of the HCT, reflecting the priorities identified by the various clusters and sectors based on preliminary information, in advance of full assessments.

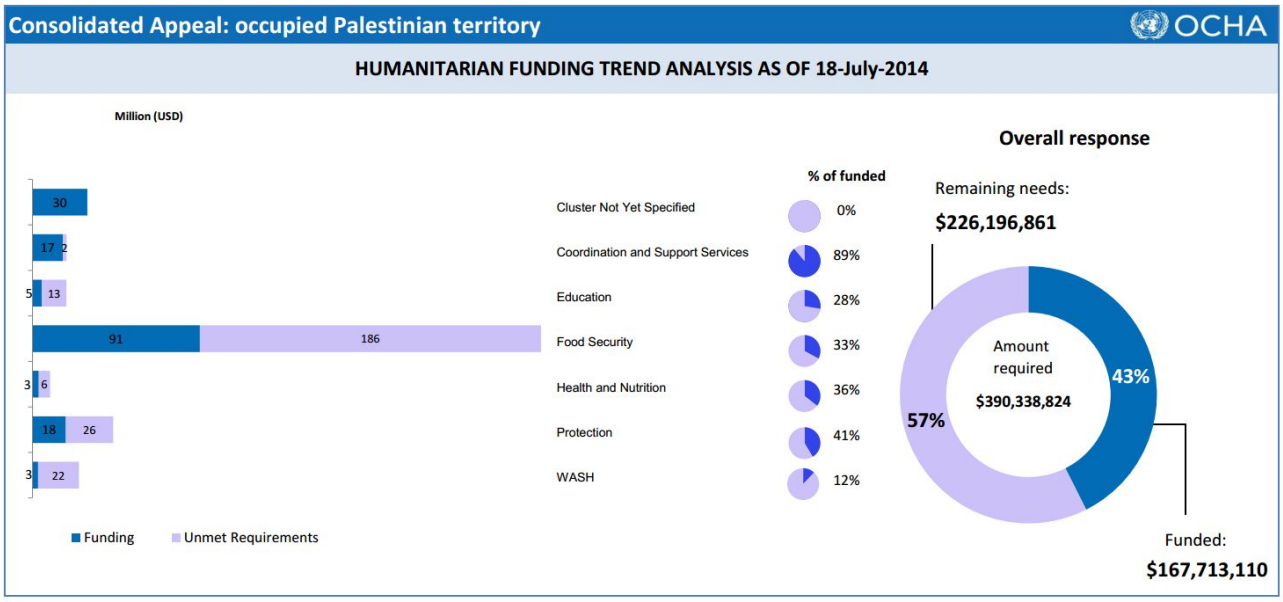
Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on initial cluster / sector analysis it is estimated that US $ 40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have also made a preliminary estimate of a further US $87 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. All estimates are based on initial information; revisions, as new assessments come in, will be communicated to donors.

UNRWA has issued an emergency flash appeal worth $60 million to respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs of the people of Gaza, including the tens of thousands taking shelter in its facilities. New funding will enable UNRWA to respond to needs in shelter, food, health and psychosocial of internally displaced persons (IDPs), while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 168 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding. The HCT is currently undertaking an exercise to identify the most urgent SRP projects that if funded would help support the response in Gaza, as well as any new needs.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. Currently, the ERF is processing one project application in regards to the Gaza emergency. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started on early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and Palestinian shooting rockets at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket firing.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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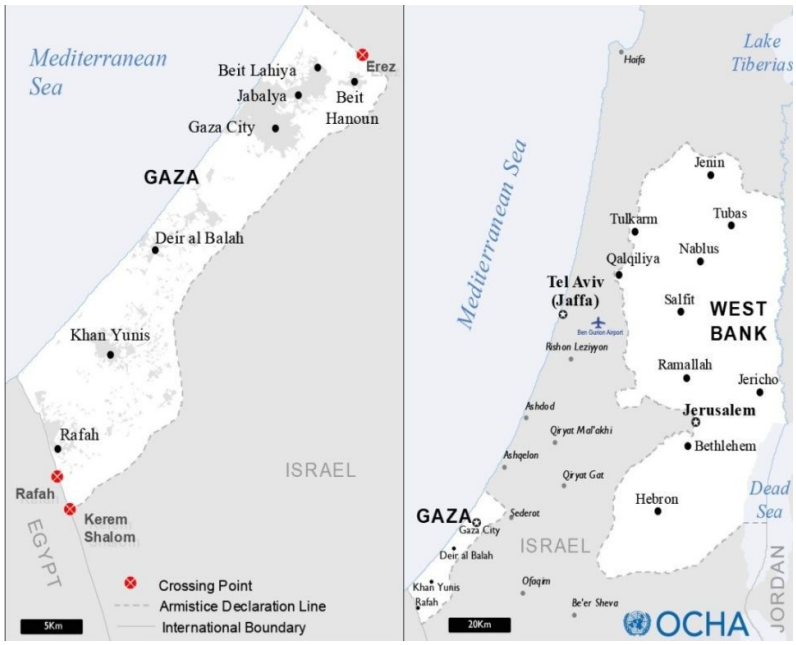
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 19 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 18 July (1500 hrs) to 19 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 20 July.

Highlights

- The Israeli ground operation continues, resulting in at least 69 Palestinian fatalities in the last 24-hours, the highest death toll recorded in one day since 7 July.
- According to preliminary information, the Palestinian fatality toll since the start of the emergency is now 336, including at least 228 civilians (68 per cent) and 77 children.
- Indiscriminate rocket fire from Gaza at Israel continues, resulting in the second civilian fatality since 7 July, in addition to several injuries.
- Displacement is increasing with over 50,000 displaced Palestinians taking shelter in 44 UNRWA schools, exceeding the peak number in Agency facilities during the conflict in 2008/09.



Latest developments:
Amid an escalation of violence in Gaza, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is leaving for the region on Saturday to support regional and international efforts for a ceasefire.
As of 18:00, the number of displaced Palestinians seeking shelter in UNRWA facilities exceeds 60,000 in 49 schools.

336	2,268	900,000	50,000	80%
Palestinians killed, including at least 228 civilians, of whom 77 are children and 56 women[1]	Palestinians injured, of whom 65t are children and 463 women[2]	People affected by lack of adequate access to water and sanitation services	Displaced people hosted at 44 UNRWA schools	Of the population receive electricity 4 hours a day.

Situation Overview

The Israeli ground incursion into Gaza continues accompanied by intensive airstrikes, artillery fire and shelling. This has led to a sharp increase in Palestinian casualties; since the last situation report, at least 69 persons, including at least 18 children and

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[2] Data on injuries is provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

3 women, have been reported killed, the highest number of fatalities in a 24-hour period since the current emergency began on 7 July.

Overnight fatalities include incidents in which multiple family members were killed; nine people, including two sets of brothers in Khan Yunis; eight members of the Abu Jarad family, including four children, in Beit Hanoun; two children from the 'Olwan family in the east of Gaza City; and three brothers of the Sha'at family near Khan Yunis. In all these cases, according to the preliminary reports, those killed were in, or adjacent to, their homes.

The Palestinian fatality toll from Israeli air, naval and ground strikes in Gaza is at least 336 Palestinians, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including at least 228 civilians (68 per cent of total fatalities), including 77 children and 56 women, 53 members of armed groups and 55 persons whose status cannot yet be determined. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 2,268 Palestinians, including 657 children and 463 women, had been injured as at 06:00 on 19 July. The proportion of civilians among the fatalities is above that recorded during the most recent large offensive in the Gaza Strip in November 2012 ("Operation Pillar of Defense"), when 60 per cent of the fatalities were civilians (99 out of 165).

Since 7 July, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, causing a large number of civilian casualties. Human rights organizations have reported on multiple occasions about incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such reports, along with the high proportion of civilian casualties, continue to raise concerns about respect for the principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack under international humanitarian law.

Thousands of Palestinians continue to flee their homes. Displacement is expected to continue rising posing an increasing challenge for national and international humanitarian organizations to deliver protection and assistance. On19 July, it is reported that the IDF warned residents of areas in the central Gaza Strip, including al-Bureij and Maghazi refugee camps, to evacuate the area to Deir el Balah; over 165,000 people live in this area. There are concerns regarding the safety of people fleeing, as there have been reports of people being injured or killed while trying to flee.

The number of displaced Palestinians seeking shelter in UNRWA schools in Gaza has escalated sharply in the past 48 hours and now exceeds 50,000 in 44 schools, straining the Agency's capacity to cope. This figure equals the peak number of people seeking shelter in Agency facilities during "Operation Cast lead" the 2008/2009 conflict. This is in addition to the more than 11,000 people who have been displaced , after their homes were destroyed or severely damaged, and are currently hosted by relatives and neighbours.

"The number of displaced persons doubled in one day and more than 25,000 moved to our schools only yesterday; we are very concerned. These men, women and children are relying on us to provide them with shelter, and the reality is that UNRWA only had relief supplies in stock for about 35,000 people. We are procuring additional supplies now but remain critically short of funds." Director of Operations for UNRWA in Gaza, Robert Turner, 19 July.

The ground incursion and related shelling has resulted in extensive damage to electricity infrastructure, with some 80 per cent of the population receiving electricity during only four hours a day, down from 12 hours previously. Shelling and airstrikes have also caused an increase in damage to wells, sewage pumping stations and water and sewage lines. Water supply for an estimated half of the population of Gaza (900,000 people) has been cut or severely disrupted. The demand and pressure on the private sector water tankering system is increasing and prices are soaring.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel also continued during the past 24 hours, albeit with a lower frequency than previous days, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. The second Israeli civilian killed since the start of hostilities was reported in a Bedouin community in southern Israel today, with four members of his family injured. On 19 July, it was also reported that two Israeli soldiers were killed by Palestinian combatants who had crossed into Israel; in total, it is reported that at least three Israeli soldiers have been killed and 21 soldiers injured during the military operation, according to Israeli media sources.

Updates on Gaza Crossings

Erez: Closed as per regular Saturday operating schedule. However, three trucks of medicines for ICRC are exceptionally scheduled to cross Gaza today at 1500.

Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): The authorities in Gaza announced that the crossing is closed until further notice.

Kerem Shalom: Kerem Shalom: Closed as per regular Saturday operating schedule. Expected to open tomorrow. In case of sudden closure, the CLA Erez have informed the UN Access Coordination Unit (ACU) they would redirect trucks to Erez crossing.

Rafah: Open today from 09:00-15:00. No goods entered on 17 or 18 July.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 72,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past ten days.
- Explosive remnants of war present a major hazard to the population, particularly to children. Risk education targeting children remains a major need.

72,000

Children in need of psychosocial support

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law.
- The Protection Cluster continues to monitor and crosscheck information on civilian fatalities.
- As of 18 July, eight psychologists from the Youth Empowerment Center are providing psychosocial support for IDPs in UNRWA schools in Jabalia refugee camp.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by Explosive Remnants of War. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Emergency PSS teams are working at half capacity due to funding constraints.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

- A shelter update for 19 and 20 July will be included in tomorrow's report.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Water supply for an estimated half of the population of Gaza (900,000 people) has been cut or severely disrupted.
- Several areas are experience sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, raising the risk of health problems.
- Insufficient amount of water comes via the water networks in some schools hosting displaced people in Rafah due to low pressure resulting from lack of electricity and damage to the infrastructure.
- Due to the increase in the number of displaced persons, additional displacement shelters are planned to be set up, which will require additional water through emergency tankering.
- Hosting families are also in need of water.
- The demand and pressure on the private sector water tankering system is increasing and prices are soaring.

900,000

people are affected by the lack of adequate access to water and sanitation services

Response

- UNRWA provided water tankering to more than 50,000 displaced persons in 44 UNRWA shelters.

- Technicians continued to repair damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- As a result of heavy airstrikes, shelling and the ongoing military ground incursion, new information about WASH needs could not be adequately collected.
- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Beit Hanoun hospital was hit on 18 July; partial damage sustained to the roof of the administrative building.
- Critical shortage of medical supplies in hospitals due to the increasing number of injuries following the ground incursion.
- Thirteen out of a total of 54 Ministry of Health (MoH) primary health centres (PHC) are still closed due to their geographic location near targeted sites.
- 18 health-related facilities damaged since July 7 (three hospitals, twelve clinics and three nursing care centers) require repair.

18
Health facilities damaged

Response

- Nineteen of UNRWA's 21 health centers are functional with most staff reporting daily for work.
- Three trucks of medicines for ICRC were scheduled to enter Gaza through the Erez crossing at 15:00 today.

Gaps and constraints

- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- Reduced access for referral cases out of Gaza.

Food Security Sector

Needs

- 50,000 persons hosted at UNRWA shelters and some 1,780 displaced families (12,460 persons) hosted by relatives, are in need of emergency food assistance.
- At least 3,600 fishermen are in need of re-establishing their livelihoods and require assistance in the interim.
- A minimum of 2,500 farmers require urgent food assistance, as well as other interventions to re-establish their livelihoods, due to damage or loss sustained to livestock, agricultural lands, crops and facilities.

64,415
Palestinians received food assistance

Response

- Regular food distribution to more than one million people has continued by UNRWA and WFP through their partners
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, distributed 7,770 bread packets and tins of tuna to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- Dan Church Aid provided complementary food packages (ready-to-eat) to 3,000 displaced families hosted in UNRWA Shelters in northern Gaza.
- Welfare Association provided food assistance to 1,770 families (12,390 persons) in different Gaza governorates
- WFP continues to distribute daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.

Gaps and Constraints

- As movement is increasingly impeded due to the security situation, access to affected areas and people remains restricted. This has been further compounded by Israeli military ground operations.
- Ongoing military operations pose a risk to the continuation of regular emergency food distributions, potentially leaving thousands of people without access to food.

Education

Needs

- In the past 24 hours, another school has sustained damage. Since the start of the emergency, 85 schools have been damaged due to their proximity to targeted sites and need repairs.

85

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

- To respond to the need for temporary shelter for displaced families, there is ongoing coordination between UNRWA, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Affairs and ICRC to open at least two government schools in North Gaza Strip on 20 July and arrange the transition of displaced persons.

Gaps & Constraints

- Restrictions on movement impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities on school infrastructure.
- Still no information available about the condition of the 12 schools located in the Access Restricted Area (ARA).
- Insufficient pre-positioned supplies, such as school tents and teaching/learning materials, to respond to likely scale of need.

General Coordination

UNRWA's Emergency Operations Room (EOR) has switched to 24 hour operations mode, primarily to monitor IDP movement at night. Today, there was a meeting of the EOC Secretariat in Ramallah under the Ministry of Social Affairs, with HCT members in attendance. The EOC in Ramallah is set up to support the relief operation in Gaza, connecting with the EOC in Gaza and improving information management and coordination.

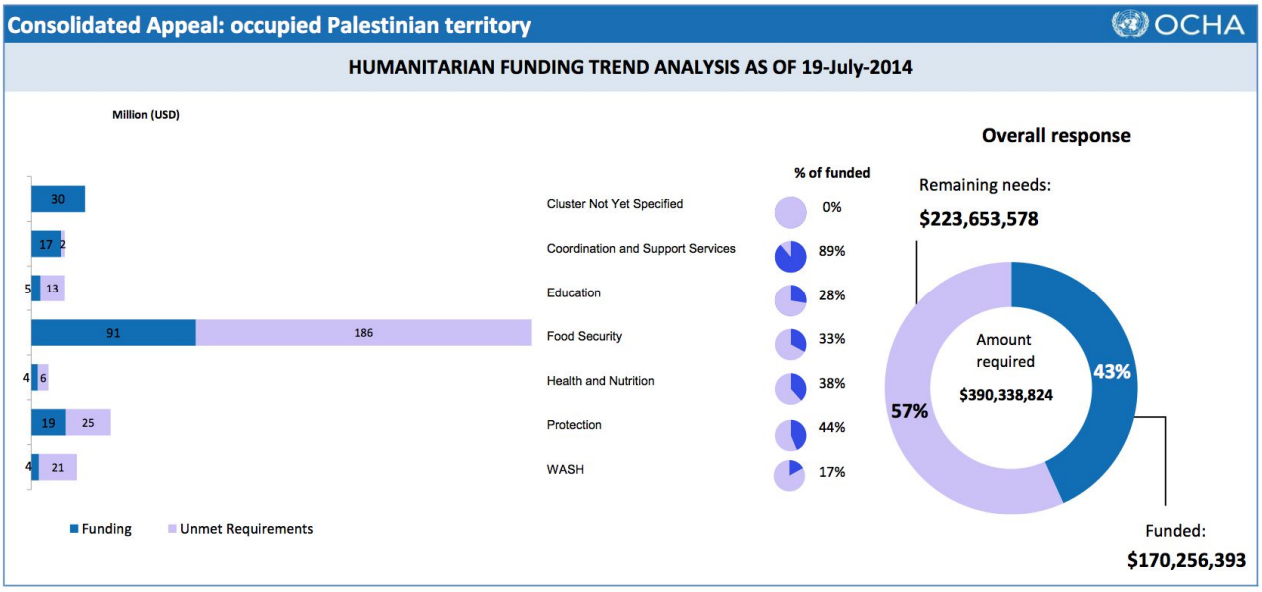
Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on initial cluster / sector analysis it is estimated that US $ 40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have also made a preliminary estimate of a further US $87 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. All estimates are based on initial information; revisions, as new assessments come in, will be communicated to donors.

UNRWA has issued an emergency flash appeal worth $60 million to respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs of the people of Gaza, including the tens of thousands taking shelter in its facilities. New funding will enable UNRWA to respond to needs in shelter, food, health and psychosocial of internally displaced persons (IDPs), while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding. The HCT is currently undertaking an exercise to identify the most urgent SRP projects that if funded would help support the response in Gaza, as well as any new needs.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. Currently, the ERF is processing one project application in regards to the Gaza emergency. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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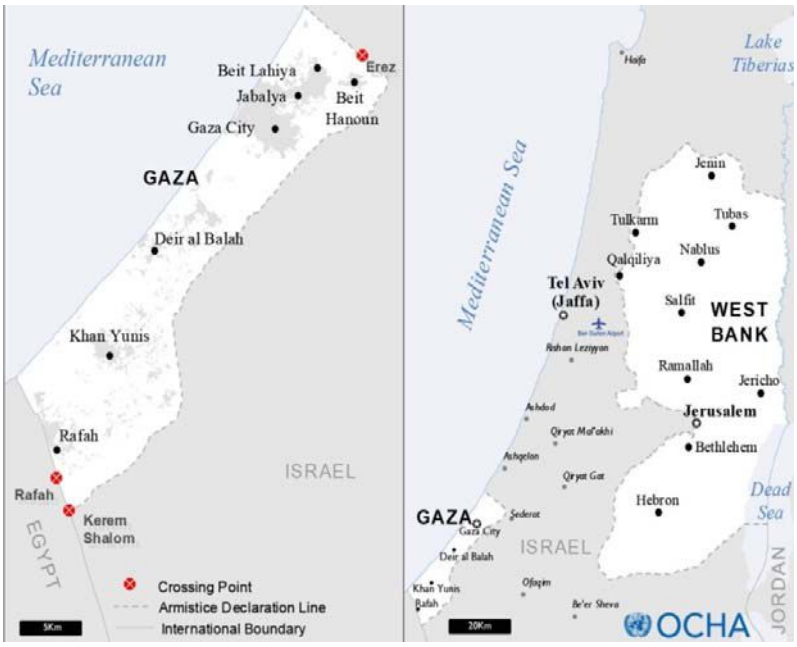
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 20 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 19 July (1500 hrs) to 20 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 21 July.

Highlights



- Up to 60 Palestinians, including 17 children and 14 women, are reported to have been killed in the past 24 hours in the Ash Shuja'iyeh area in eastern Gaza City, raising concern about respect for the principle of distinction and proportionality under international humanitarian law.
- 16 Israeli soldiers have been killed in the past 24 hours, including 13 in Ash Shuja'iyeh.
- A brief humanitarian pause to evacuate the wounded and the dead from Ash Shuja'iyeh, could only be partially implemented due to the resumption of hostilities; search and rescue efforts have continued.
- Mass displacement escalated in the past 24 hours across Gaza, including up to half of Ash Shuja'iyeh's residents. The cumulative number of IDPs has exceeded 100,000, including nearly 84,000 at UNRWA schools.
- The rapid depletion of stocks, along with bombardments and access restrictions in urban areas, are increasingly challenging efforts by humanitarian agencies to supply food, water, mattresses and hygiene items to those displaced.

375	20	3,008	>100,000	43 %
Palestinians killed, including at least 270 civilians, of whom 83 are children and 36 women[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 18 soldiers.	Palestinians injured, of whom 904 are children and 533 women[2]	Displaced, including 84,000 hosted at 61 UNRWA schools	of Gaza's territory affected by evacuation warnings or declaration of 'no-go zones'

Situation Overview

The last 24 hours have been the deadliest recorded since the start of the Gaza emergency, following an escalation in the Israeli ground offensive. This has taken place as the offensive, previously focused on the margins of population centers, expanded into some of the most densely populated areas, including Ash Shuja'iyeh neighborhood, in the eastern part of Gaza City. The

[1] These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.
[2] Data on injuries is provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

latter area has been subject to the most intense artillery shelling and airstrikes recorded since the beginning of the emergency, alongside fierce fighting on the ground, that continued overnight and into the morning. This resulted in 60 Palestinians, including 17 children and 14 women, killed, according to reports by human rights organizations, as well as 13 Israeli soldiers (figures could not yet be verified). There has been also widespread destruction of buildings and infrastructure. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) negotiated a two-hour humanitarian pause to allow ambulances and medical teams to evacuate the wounded and the dead, as well as search and rescue of people trapped under the rubble. The pause entered into force at 13:30, was interrupted in the middle by crossfire, and subsequently extended until 16:30; evacuation and rescue efforts have continued after the end of the pause.

Until yesterday, the majority of Ash Shuja'iyeh's 92,000 residents had remained in their homes, despite Israeli warnings during the previous days. However, upon the intensification of bombardments, it is estimated that up to half of them have now fled to Gaza City. Along with the influx of people from other affected areas, this has led to an exponential increase in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

By this afternoon, over 100,000 are believed to have fled their homes, with UNRWA hosting nearly 84,000 in 61 schools operated as emergency shelters, including all UNRWA schools in Gaza city. The number of IDPs hosted by UNRWA has exceeded the equivalent figure during the three-week long "Cast Lead operation" in 2008-9 (51,000 people), which was the deadliest escalation recorded in Gaza since 1967. Additionally, an unknown number of IDPs have taken refuge at 12 government schools, of which only one is currently being managed as an emergency shelter by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and deemed safe, as well as with relatives. Hundreds of other IDPs have sought refuge in the compound of Shifa Hospital, the main medical facility in the Gaza Strip, adding to the burden on overwhelmed doctors and medical staff. Finally, it is estimated that over 13,000 IDPs, whose homes have been destroyed or damaged, are hosted by relatives and neighbors.

Apart from the protection of civilians and the evacuation and treatment of those injured, the main priority for humanitarian agencies continues to be the provision of food, water, mattresses and hygiene items to those displaced, as well as fuel to essential water, health and solid waste facilities. However, the expansion of ongoing hostilities into built up areas and the resulting access restrictions are increasingly challenging humanitarian operations; as of the time of writing, agencies were unable to deliver supplies to Beit Hanoun town, in the northern area, affecting 2,500 IDPs in an UNRWA school, among others. Israeli ground operations took place also in the Middle Area of the Gaza Strip, triggering the closure of all UNRWA installations in Maghazi and Bureij refugee camps, severely disrupting the delivery of aid and provision of basic services.

Due to the intensity of hostilities, no progress could be achieved in the repair of the electricity feeder lines damaged in previous days, while only limited repairs of water and sanitation infrastructure took place. Some 80 per cent of the population continues receiving electricity only four hours a day, and water supply or sewage services to as many as 1.2 million have been cut or severely disrupted. The demand and pressure on the private sector water tankering system is increasing and prices are soaring.

The scope of displacement is expected to increase rapidly as the ground operations continue. In the past 24 hours, Israeli forces have delivered additional warnings to large population centers in the middle and southern areas of Gaza. The areas where civilians have been warned to leave in the past few days, together with the 3 kilometers-wide strip along the perimeter fence, which was declared as a 'no-go zone', cover approximately 43 per cent of Gaza's territory.

The Palestinian fatality toll since the start of the emergency, which includes only those fatalities reported during the past 24 hours that can be confirmed (39), is at least 375, of whom 270 (72 percent) are believed to be civilians, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 3,008 Palestinians, including 904 children and 533 women, have been injured. The high proportion of civilian casualties, along with allegations by human rights organizations about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects, continue to raise concerns about respect for the principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack under international humanitarian law.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel also continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. In total two Israeli civilians have been killed from rocket and mortar fire since the start of hostilities and at least 15, who were injured by shrapnel, have been treated by the Magen David Adom. Additionally, since the start of the ground operation on 17 July, 18 Israeli soldiers have been also killed, the majority within Gaza.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 72,390 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past ten days.
- Explosive remnants of war present a major hazard to the population, particularly to children. Risk education targeting children remains a major need.

72,390

Children in need of psychosocial support

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 18 July, the Youth Empowerment Center has been providing psychosocial support to IDPs in UNRWA schools used as shelters.
- Between 17 and 19 July, the Gaza emergency PSS teams conducted visits to 315 children. Since 7 July, the Gaza PSS teams have reached a total of 775 children.
- On 20 July, text messages were sent to more than 10,000 Jawal subscribers in the Gaza Strip, conveying information about child protection and psychosocial responses. The messages included information to care givers and a contact number for the free 24-hour Sawa Helpline.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by Explosive Remnants of War. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since July 18 hamper communication with staff and partners on the ground.
- Emergency PSS teams are working at half capacity due to funding constraints.
- Displaced children hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- There is an urgent need for additional emergency shelters for IDPs, particularly in Gaza City and the north.
- An estimated 2,200 families (approximately 13,200 individuals), whose homes have been either totally destroyed or sustained major damage are in need of emergency NFI kits, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.

>100,000

IDPs in shelters and with relatives

- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions, such as nylon and tarpaulin, are needed for 2,720 families (16,300 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 90,000 individuals living in slightly affected houses (broken windows and / or damaged doors) are in need of basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.
- Approval of 12 government schools to be employed as additional shelters, along with the allocation of management, is needed.

Response

- About 84,000 people are provided with shelter at 61 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip. In addition, 12 government schools have been used as shelters, including one in northern Gaza (currently managed by the PRCS), eight in Gaza City and three elsewhere.
- 8,900 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by different cluster members.

Gaps and Constraints

- Emergency shelter kits for 2,200 families are available in stock and will be distributed by NFI agencies when the security situation allows.
- Impediments to distribution of supplies to approximately 2,500 people taking shelter in an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun, due to ongoing military operations?

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Repair of wells, sewage pumping station and water and sewage lines damaged is needed.
- Several areas experiencing sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, posing public health hazards.
- Emergency water tankering to current and expected IDPs in shelters is required.

1,2 million

People with no or very limited access to water or sanitation services

Response

- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- Water tankering to 11 of the 12 government schools serving as IDP shelters started today. Oxfam GB is supplying water to IDP shelters in Gaza city, and is supporting delivery of water trucks to UNRWA shelters in Rafah.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.
- On 19 July, UNRWA supplied 9,820 cubic metres of water to refugee families through water wells in eight camps.

Gaps and constraints

- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- The ongoing military incursion has greatly increased trauma casualties, which hospitals are hard-pressed to treat without adequate medicines and medical consumables.
- 71 drug items and 20 disposable items are urgently needed, especially psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety.

18

Health facilities damaged

- Eight anesthesia machines, 10 ventilators, five electrosurgical units, 20 vital sign monitors, ECG machines, five defibrillator machines (total estimated cost US$ 742,500) are needed.
- Specialists needed: neurosurgery (cranial and spinal cord) specialists, anesthesiologists, plastic surgeon, war general surgery specialist, advanced orthopedic specialists, and burn management specialists.
- 18 health-related facilities damaged since July 7 (three hospitals, twelve clinics and three nursing care centers) require repair.

Response

- A number of medical donations were delivered on 19 and 20 July (to be detailed in tomorrow's Situation Report).
- WHO is coordinating with MoH and health sector partners on the most urgent needs for donations, informing donors and facilitating procurement and delivery to Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- One-third of MoH and UNRWA clinics (25 of 75, including 12 UNRWA health centres) are currently closed due to inability of staff to report or because they are located in risk areas.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.

Food Security Sector

Needs

- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters and hosted by relatives, are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Food stocks for under 5-year-olds (particularly under 2-year-olds) are running extremely low and require replenishment.
- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised but the exact needs cannot be determined due to the ongoing ground operation.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance is urgently needed.

64,415

Palestinians received food assistance

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA shelters. More than 50,000 people received emergency food assistance in the last 24 hours, including 7,775 bread packets and 25,662 tins of tuna provided by WFP.
- WFP continues to distribute daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.
- 66,350 people have received emergency food assistance since 8 July by food security partners.

Gaps and Constraints

- The military ground operation is limiting access to food warehouses and jeopardizes the provision of food commodities for those in urgent need. One WFP warehouse has already burned down.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.

Education

Needs

- Since the start of the emergency, 85 schools have been damaged due to their proximity to targeted sites and need repairs.

85

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities on school infrastructure.
- Still no information available about the condition of the 12 schools located in the Access Restricted Area (ARA).

General Coordination

Updates to be provided in tomorrow's Situation Report.

Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on initial cluster / sector analysis it is estimated that US $ 40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have also made a preliminary estimate of a further US $87 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. All estimates are based on initial information; revisions, as new assessments come in, will be communicated to donors.

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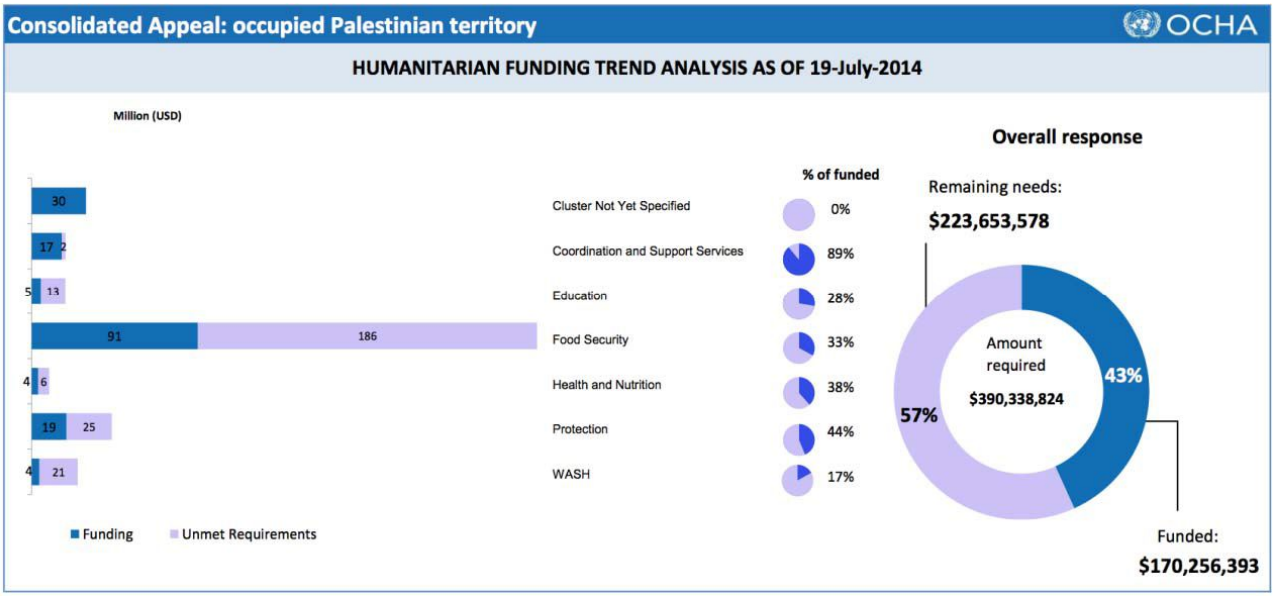

Background to the crisis

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including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 21 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

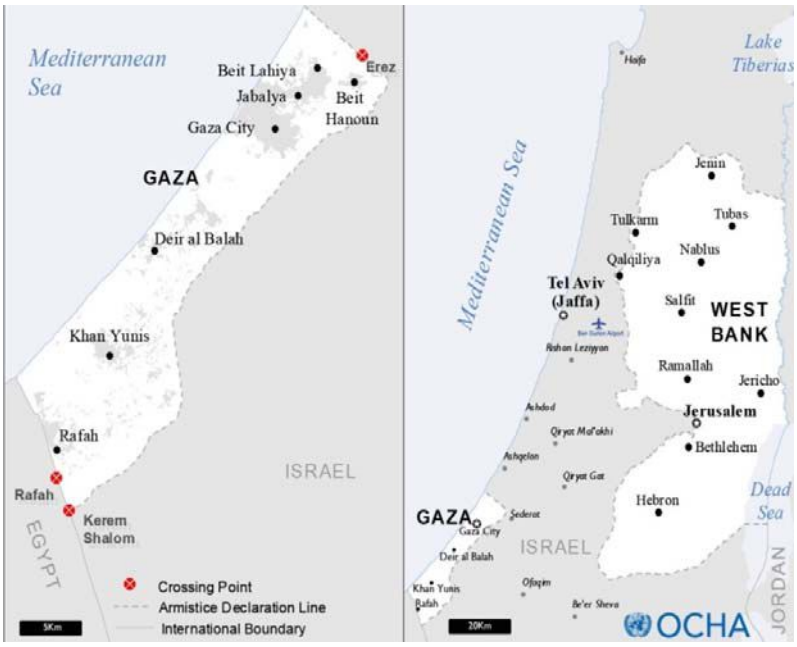
OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 20 July (1500 hrs) to 21 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 22 July.

Highlights

- As the Israeli ground incursion continues, 103 Palestinians, including 34 children and 21 women, are reported to have been killed or their bodies recovered since the last update.
- The reporting period witnessed a number of incidents in which multiple family members were killed by Israeli airstrikes while in their homes.
- Mass displacement continues across Gaza, with over 100,000 IDPs now seeking shelter in UNRWA schools and tens of thousands of IDPs have taken refuge elsewhere in Gaza

<u>Latest developments</u>:
15:30: The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Hospital in Deir El Balah was hit by an Israeli airstrike resulting in the destruction of part of the top two floors. Initial information indicates that four people were killed and 16 injured.



479	25	27	100,000	25%
Palestinians killed, including at least 364 civilians, of whom 121 are children and 59 women[1]	Members of one family, including 18 children, killed by an airstrike on their home.	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 25 soldiers.	Displaced hosted in 69 UNRWA schools	Of all WASH facilities have no electricity due to damage to electricity lines and transformers

Situation Overview

The Israeli ground incursion into Gaza continues, resulting in a high level of civilian casualties, the widespread destruction of buildings and infrastructure and a steep rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs). While Ash Shuja'iyeh neighborhood continues to be one of the focus areas of hostilities, the reporting period witnessed a number of incidents in which multiple members of the same family were killed by Israeli airstrikes in other areas of the Gaza Strip. In all these cases, according to the preliminary reports, those killed were in, or adjacent to, their homes at the time of the attack.

In the most serious reported incident, at approximately 20:00 on 20 July, an Israeli plane fired a missile at a three-storey house in Bani Suheila, eastern Khan Yunis, in which a number of families live, destroying the house. Among the victims were the owner, Tawfiq Abu Jame', his mother, wife, and seven of his children, aged from four to 14. In total, rescue crews have

[1] These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

recovered 25 bodies, including 18 children and 5 women, two of whom were reportedly pregnant. According to information received, a member of an armed group was visiting the house when the airstrike took place

According to preliminary assessments, at 19:20 on 20 July, 11 members of the al-Hallaq and 'Ammar families, including three women and seven children, were killed by an Israeli airstrike on their home in Rimal, Gaza city; at 14:00 20 July, an Israeli airstrike struck a three-storey house belonging to Jameel Sha'ban Ziada in Bureij refugee camp, killing six members of the family and a guest, including two women and a child; at 06:30 on 21 July , an Israeli airstrike near a house belonging to Mahrous Siam in Rafah, killed nine members of the family, including four women and three children, and wounded another nine, including seven children.

Since 7 to 21 July, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, with an estimated 472 houses totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. Thousands of housing units have also sustained damage. There are serious concerns about reports from human rights organizations regarding several incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such cases raise concerns whether the strikes have been in accordance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Full respect for the principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack, during the conduct of hostilities, as required by international humanitarian law should be ensured.

From 7 July as of today 14.00, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, at least 479 Palestinians, including at least 364 civilians (76 per cent of total fatalities), have been killed by Israeli air, naval and ground strikes in Gaza. These figures included 121 children and 59 women, 76 members of armed groups and 39 persons whose status is yet unknown. Since the last situation update, 103 persons have been reported killed, including 34 children and 21 women. This number also includes those killed during the bombardment of Ash Shuja'iyeh, whose bodies were retrieved only yesterday afternoon. As the evacuation of persons killed in Ash Shuja'iyeh was halted in the late afternoon of 20 July, and only continued in the late afternoon of 21 July, the number of fatalities and injured is believed to be higher.
According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 3,504 Palestinians, including 1,100 children and 608 women, had been injured as at 12.00 a.m. on 21 July.

Dozens more civilians, including children, have been killed in Israeli military strikes in the Ash Shuja'iyeh neighborhood in Gaza. I condemn this atrocious action. Israel must exercise maximum restraint and do far more to protect civilians. UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, 20 July 2014.

The ground incursion has led to an exponential increase in the number of IDPs. By this afternoon, UNRWA was hosting over 100,000 in 69 schools operating as emergency shelters, including all UNRWA schools in Gaza city. This is up from 47,000 persons hosted in 36 shelters on 18 July. Over 15,200 IDPs, whose homes have been destroyed or damaged, are hosted by relatives and neighbors. Additionally, tens of thousands of IDPs have taken refuge elsewhere in Gaza, including in government schools, open spaces and unfinished buildings. Apart from the protection of civilians and the evacuation and treatment of those injured, the main priority for humanitarian agencies continues to be the provision of food, water, mattresses and hygiene items to those displaced, as well as fuel to essential water, health and solid waste facilities. Some 25 per cent of all WASH facilities have no electricity due to damage to electricity lines and transformers and rely on generators only.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel also continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. In total two Israeli civilians have been killed from rocket and mortar fire since the start of hostilities and at least 20, who were injured by shrapnel, have been treated by the Magen David Adom. On Monday, the Israeli authorities reported seven more soldiers killed, bringing the death toll of soldiers to 25 since the beginning of the ground incursion.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Functioning and processing passengers today as per permitted categories. New coordination is required for vehicular movement out of Gaza since a part of Salah Ad-Din road is closed on the approach to Erez crossing. UNDSS and the UN Access Coordination Unit (ACU) ACU are facilitating the process with the Joint Operations Room at CLA.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): closed until further notice. Personnel were present at various alternative/ improvised checkpoints over the last couple of days, but no personnel were present at these locations today due to heavy IDF presence in the area.
Kerem Shalom: Open today from 10:30, delayed due to the security situation in the area. It was open yesterday but no details on goods entering were available by the time of this update.
Rafah: Open today for patients, foreign and dual nationals and Egyptian passport holders and their Palestinian spouses and children. Yesterday 11 tonnes of medical supplies, five tonnes of food and 0.5 tonnes of disposables entered through Rafah.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

107,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 107,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past thirteen days.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- There is a major concern regarding the risk of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), especially to children.

Response

- UNRWA is providing basic UXO awareness in shelters.
- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency psychosocial teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 868 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by Explosive Remnants of War. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since July 18 hamper communication with staff and partners on the ground.
- Most child protection services are closed.
- Displaced children hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

135,500
People in need of shelter-related assistance

- 15,200 individuals whose shelters were totally destroyed or sustained major structural damage need emergency NFI kits including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for about 3050 families (18,300 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 102,000 individuals living in slightly affected houses (broken windows and/or damaged doors) need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 101,684 people are being provided with shelter at 69 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip. In addition, 11 government schools have been identified to open as temporary shelters for the additional IDP caseload from East and North Gaza. Until now, 1,600 people are residing in four government schools.

- 8,900 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by different cluster members.

Gaps and Constraints

- Emergency shelter kits for 2,530 families are available in stock and will be distributed by NFI agencies when the security situation allows.
- Cash assistance (worth $12.65 million) is needed to allow 2,530 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- The increasing number of IDPs has resulted in overcrowding at UNRWA schools, necessitating the opening of MoEHE schools as shelters.
- UNRWA's NFI stock is at zero.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- More than 110,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water for drinking and domestic use.
- An estimated 1.2 million people have no or very limited access to water or sanitation services due to damage to the electricity system or lack of fuel to run generators to power WASH facilities.
- WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in north Gaza (both areas in the new three km no-go zone) have not been accessible for repairs, while also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Several areas are experiencing sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, posing public health hazards.
- Humanitarian access to allow for repairs of wells, sewage pumping station and water and sewage lines is urgently needed to avert the outbreak of public health diseases.

>110,000

IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use

Response

- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- Oxfam GB continues water tankering to IDPs in government schools and open spaces in Gaza City, and is supporting delivery of water trucks to UNRWA shelters in Rafah.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

26

PRCS health workers injured

Response

- $1 million worth of drugs, primarily fluids and surgical kits funded by Switzerland is under procurement by WHO while the Islamic Development Bank is procuring $ 6 million worth of medical supplies from within Gaza to resupply health facilities.
- The Ministry of Health in Gaza has received 50 tons of medical aid for its hospitals from the Government of Tunisia and a number of other donors have signaled their commitment to send further medical supplies through Egypt.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is operating an outpatient clinic for patients discharged from hospitals requiring medical follow up.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh)
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza however, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.

Food Security Sector

Needs

- More than 110,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised. Although a comprehensive picture of exact needs is not yet available, animal feed for 3,000 herders is needed to avoid further loss of livestock and erosion of livelihoods.
- Continuation of regular food distribution programmes by UNRWA, WFP and their partners to over 1,150,000 people should be maintained.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance is urgently needed.

>110,000

Palestinians displaced and in need of food assistance

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA shelters. More than 76,000 people in shelters and 2,500 people in public schools were provided with emergency food assistance.
- WFP continues to provide weekly food vouchers to 4,100 IDPs living with host families and daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.
- Other food security partners have reached 38,725 people so far since the beginning of the current crisis.

Gaps and Constraints

- Half of Gaza's bakeries and four of Gaza's six wheat mills are not operating due to difficulties in staff accessing these premises. Operating bakeries have wheat stocks for at least one week.
- There is a lack of information about IDPs residing in private shelters.
- The military ground incursion is both limiting access to food warehouses and making the regular emergency food distribution to over 1 million people extremely difficult.
- Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders (through FAO)

Education

Needs

- Since the start of the emergency, 85 schools have been damaged due to their proximity to targeted sites and need repairs.

85

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities on school infrastructure.
- Still no information available about the condition of the 12 schools located in the Access Restricted Area (ARA).

General Coordination

The Palestinian Authority in Ramallah has set up an emergency operations room, led by the Minister for Social Affairs. The operations room will coordinate the response with Gaza, focusing on data collection and analysis; communication with the international community; facilitation of entry of aid; resource mobilization and communications with the Palestinian leadership. The operations room secretariat is made up of representatives of line ministries, UN agencies, AIDA and PNGO.

Coordination of assistance for the new influx of IDPs into Ministry of Education-run schools is overseen by the Ministry of Social Affairs through local municipal committees. Challenges include response and coordination capacity, access and registration. The UN is working with authorities to support coordination and response.

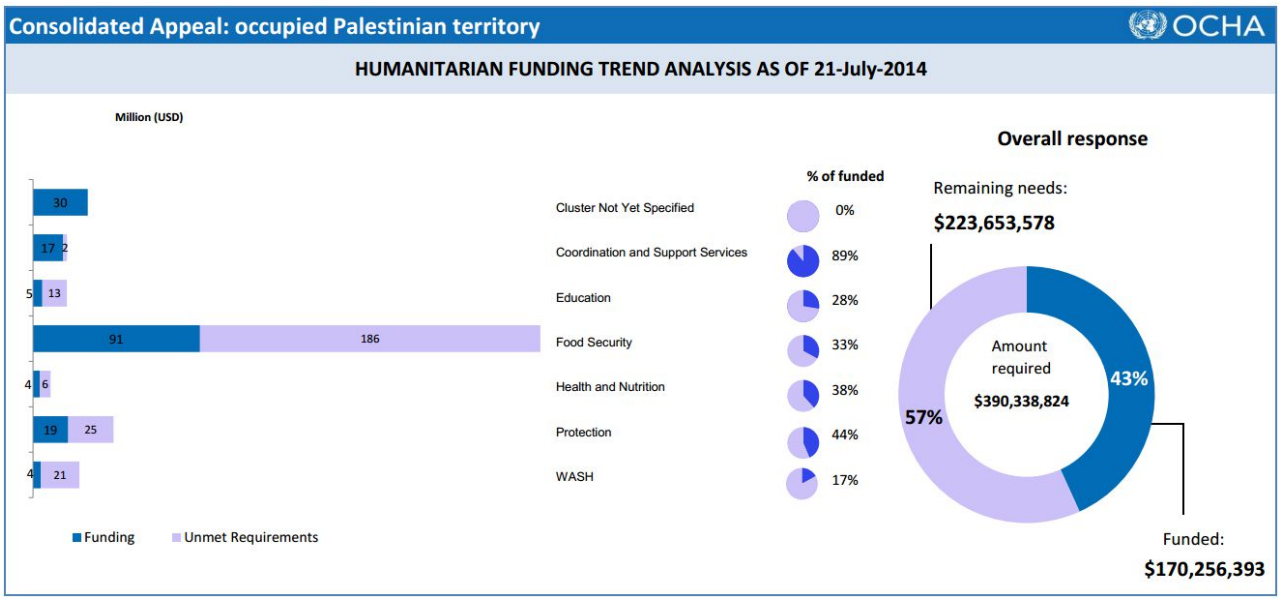
Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on initial cluster / sector analysis it is estimated that US $ 40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have also made a preliminary estimate of a further US $87 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. All estimates are based on initial information; however, needs are growing and revisions, as new assessments come in, will be communicated to donors.

UNRWA has issued an emergency flash appeal with an initial ask of $60 million to respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs of the people of Gaza, including the tens of thousands taking shelter in its facilities. New funding will enable UNRWA to respond to needs in shelter, food, health and psychosocial of internally displaced persons (IDPs), while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding. The HCT has undertaken an exercise to identify the most urgent SRP projects that if funded would help support the response in Gaza, as well as any new needs.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought. The CERF is another existing pooled funding mechanism that can be mobilized.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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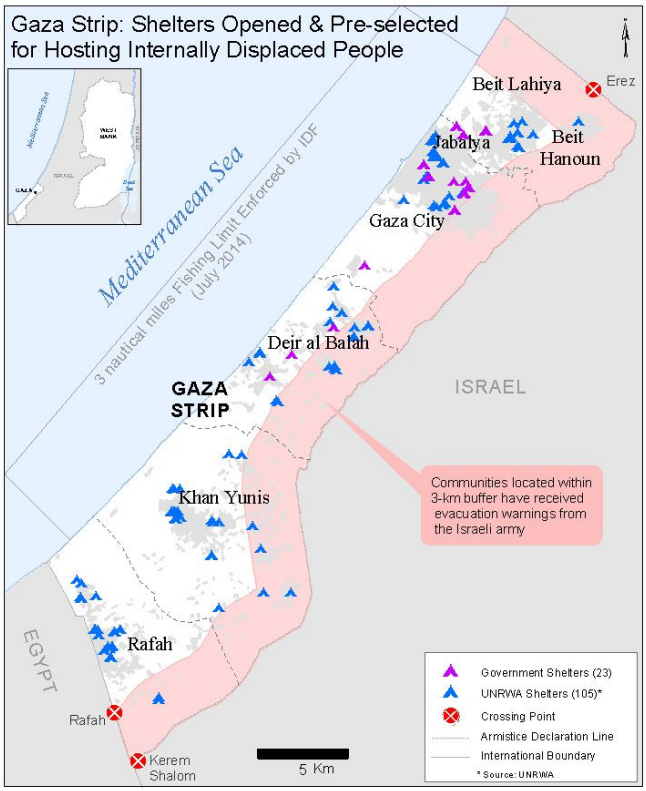
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 22 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 21 July (1500 hrs) to 22 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 23 July.

Highlights

- 120 Palestinians, including 26 children and 15 women, are reported to have been killed or their bodies recovered since the last update. One child has been killed in Gaza every hour for the past two days.
- Intense overcrowding in shelters raises increasing concerns, as mass displacement continues: over 117,000 IDPs now seeking shelter in UNRWA schools and additional thousands in Ministry of Education-run schools.
- There is concern about eight IDP shelters and thousands of households in northern Gaza that could not be reached for two consecutive days, due to intense fighting.
- A request for a humanitarian pause has been rejected by the Israeli authorities.



599	28	3,504	117,000	44%
Palestinians killed, including at least 443 civilians, of whom 147 are children and 74 are women[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 26 soldiers.	Palestinians injured, of whom 1,100 are children and 1,153 women[2]	Displaced hosted in 80 UNRWA schools	Of Gaza within a 3 kilometer wide strip declared as a 'buffer zone'

Situation Overview

The casualty toll among Palestinian civilians continues to increase, as the Gaza emergency enters its third week and the Israeli ground offensive continues for the fifth consecutive day. Since the launch of the latter over 120,000 have fled their homes and a three kilometer-wide strip, encompassing 44 per cent of Gaza's territory, has been declared by the Israeli military a 'buffer zone'.

[1] These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.
[2] Data on injuries is provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, 120 persons have been reported killed or their bodies recovered from under the rubble in Ash Shuja'iyeh neighborhood, including 26 children and 15 women. Many residents of Ash Shuja'iyeh are reportedly still missing, believed to be buried under the rubble, in areas that have not been accessible.

On 21 July at around 16:00, an Israeli airstrike hit a residential tower in southern Gaza city, killing ten members of the Al Qassas family, all civilians, including six children: Saman, 3 years old, Arwa and Mohamad, 4 years old, Isra' and Nesma, 7 years old, and Layma, 13 years old. On the same day at around 20:00 pm, another Israeli air strike hit a house in central Gaza city, which killed another ten, including three children: Yasser, 7 years old, Yaseen, 9 years old and Sawsan, 11 years old.

The killing of multiple members of the same families as a result of the targeting of homes became increasingly frequent in the past few days, with at least five families (36 individuals) almost completely erased during the previous reporting period alone. Human rights organizations have estimated that since the start of the emergency, the Israeli military targeted and destroyed or severely damaged over 530 residential properties, including many multi-storey buildings, causing civilian casualties and displacing the survivors.

The cumulative fatality toll among Palestinians, as of this afternoon, stands at 599, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 443 civilians (74 per cent), 87 members of armed groups and 69 persons whose status is yet unknown. A third of the civilian fatalities (147) are children, including 36 children under five. The pace of child deaths in the past two days has increased dramatically, with one being killed every hour.

The huge loss of civilian life, alongside credible reports about incidents where civilians or civilian objects (including homes) have been directly hit by Israeli shelling, in circumstances where there was no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity, raise concerns about the principles of distinction and proportionality under international humanitarian law (IHL).

Despite a decrease since the start of the ground offensive, indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional fatalities among Israeli civilians. During the reporting period, three Israeli soldiers were killed in Gaza, bringing the fatality toll among soldiers since the beginning of the ground incursion to 28, including one missing in action and assumed dead.

"Going back to the status quo ante won't solve the problem, it will only defer it for another day. It will not stop the bloodshed, it will make it even worse the next time the cycle rolls over the people of Gaza and plagues the people of Israel. Gaza is an open wound and Band Aids won't help. There must be a plan after the aftermath that allows Gaza to breathe and heal". UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, 21 July.

Displacement

Tens of thousands have continued to flee their homes in search of a safe haven, particularly in the northern area and in eastern parts of Gaza City. By this afternoon, UNRWA was hosting over 117,000 IDPs in 80 schools operated as emergency shelters and safe spaces, up from some 100,000 in 68 shelters yesterday. At approximately 17:00 hours yesterday, one of the UNRWA shelters in Al Maghazi was struck by explosive ordnance, reportedly fired by Israel.

There are 12 government schools (the majority in Gaza City), which have been officially opened as emergency shelters and are currently hosting several thousand IDPs; they are managed by the Palestinian Ministry of Social Affairs and their exact locations have been communicated to the Israeli military. Additionally, an unknown number of IDPs have taken refuge in other government schools, not opened as shelters, as well as in buildings under construction, both of which are considered unsafe.

Intense overcrowding, compounded by the limited access of humanitarian staff to certain areas, is increasingly undermining the living conditions at many shelters and raising protection concerns. Water supply has been particularly challenging, with IDPs in some shelters being supplied with as little as 3 liters per capita per day, to be used for all purposes including drinking and hygiene. The largest concern relates to the current conditions and shortages at eight UNRWA schools in the northern area, which could not be reached from outside for two consecutive days, due to the ongoing fighting.

Public infrastructure and services

Public infrastructure and services continued to be hit and sustain damages, including health facilities and ambulances. Yesterday afternoon, an Israeli airstrike hit the Al Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in Deir El Balah, destroying the top two floors, killing three people, and injuring over 40. Since the start of the emergency at least 18 medical

facilities have been hit by airstrikes and shelling. Under IHL, medical personnel, hospitals and ambulances, exclusively assigned to medical duties, must be spared and allowed at all times to carry out their duties.

Electricity supply is another major concern. Initial reports indicate that Gaza's Power Plan was hit today during an airstrike; the scope o damage remains unclear. While two of the ten feeder lines from Israel to Gaza that were damaged three days ago have been repaired on the Gazan side, there has been no progress in the repairs on the Israeli side, resulting in the vast majority of households supplied for just four hours a day. Some 25 per cent of all WASH facilities have no electricity and transformers and rely on generators only.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

New humanitarian pause: urgently needed, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in Ash Shuja'iyeh; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

116,000

Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 116,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past thirteen days.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- There is a major concern regarding the risk of Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), especially to children.

Response

- UNRWA is providing basic UXO awareness in shelters.
- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency psychosocial teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 1,196 children across the Gaza Strip.
- On 20 July and 22 July, Sawa Child Protection Helpline sent texts messages with instruction to10,000 caregivers. Since 13 July the Helpline has been operating 24/7 with capacity to take 30 calls simultaneously.
- The NGO Right to Play has reached 2,000 children in UNRWA emergency shelters since 8 July.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by Explosive Remnants of War. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since July 18 hamper communication with PSS staff.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors that can answer phone calls.
- Displaced children hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- 2,655 families (some 16,000 individuals) whose shelters were totally destroyed or sustained major structural damage need emergency NFI kits including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.

135,500

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for about 3,175 families (19,000 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 105,000 individuals living in slightly affected houses (broken windows and/or damaged doors) need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 117,000 people are being provided with shelter at 80 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and several thousands at 12 government schools.
- 9,157 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by different cluster members.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 13 million is needed to allow 2,655 displaced families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools.
- UNRWA's NFI stock is at zero.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water for drinking and domestic use.
- An estimated 1.2 million people have no or very limited access to water or sanitation services due to damage to the electricity system or lack of fuel to run generators to power WASH facilities.

>117,000

IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use

- 15 wells and six sewage pumping stations are not operating. Less than half of the required amount of water is being pumped, according to the Municipality of Gaza.
- WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in north Gaza (both areas in the new three km no-go zone) have not been accessible for repairs, while also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Several areas are experiencing sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, posing public health hazards.
- Humanitarian access to allow for repairs of wells, sewage pumping station and water and sewage lines is urgently needed to avert the outbreak of public health diseases.

Response

- On 21 July, UNRWA delivered 40,000 tonnes of diesel to water and sewage pump stations.
- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters. The Municipality of Gaza restarted three wells following delivery of fuel to the generators.

- In the past 24 hours, Oxfam GB distributed water to ten government schools in Gaza city and to eight UNRWA schools in Rafah.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- UNRWA's sanitation staff could not reach Al Maghazi, Bureij and Deir El Baleh camps due to heavy fighting and access restrictions.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

26

PRCS health workers injured

Response

- On 22 July six casualties were referred to medical treatment in Jordan via Israel.
- $1 million worth of drugs, primarily fluids and surgical kits funded by Switzerland is under procurement by WHO while the Islamic Development Bank is procuring $ 6 million worth of medical supplies from within Gaza to resupply health facilities.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is operating an outpatient clinic for patients discharged from hospitals requiring medical follow up.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh)
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised. Although a comprehensive picture of exact needs is not yet available, animal feed for 3,000 herders is needed to avoid further loss of livestock and erosion of livelihoods.
- Continuation of regular food distribution programmes by UNRWA, WFP and their partners to over 1,150,000 people should be maintained.

>135,000

Palestinians displaced and in need of food assistance

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- WFP continues to provide weekly food vouchers to 6,200 IDPs living with host families and daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.
- Other food security partners have reached 38,725 people so far since the beginning of the current crisis.

Gaps and Constraints

- Half of Gaza's bakeries and four of Gaza's six wheat mills are not operating due to difficulties in staff accessing these premises. Operating bakeries have wheat stocks for at least one week.
- There is a lack of information about IDPs residing in private shelters.
- The military ground incursion is both limiting access to food warehouses and making the regular emergency food distribution to over 1 million people extremely difficult.
- Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.

Education

Needs

- Since the start of the emergency, 90 schools, including two in the Access Restricted Areas (ARA), have been damaged due to their proximity to targeted sites and need repairs.

90

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities on school infrastructure.

General Coordination

Today, the Emergency Operations Room (EOC) led by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) in Ramallah held the first coordination meeting with the HCT-led EOC in Gaza via video link. This resulted in various arrangements to ensure proper communication and flow of information between the two EOCs, as well as a division of labor pertaining to data collection on needs and responses, and resource mobilization.

Funding

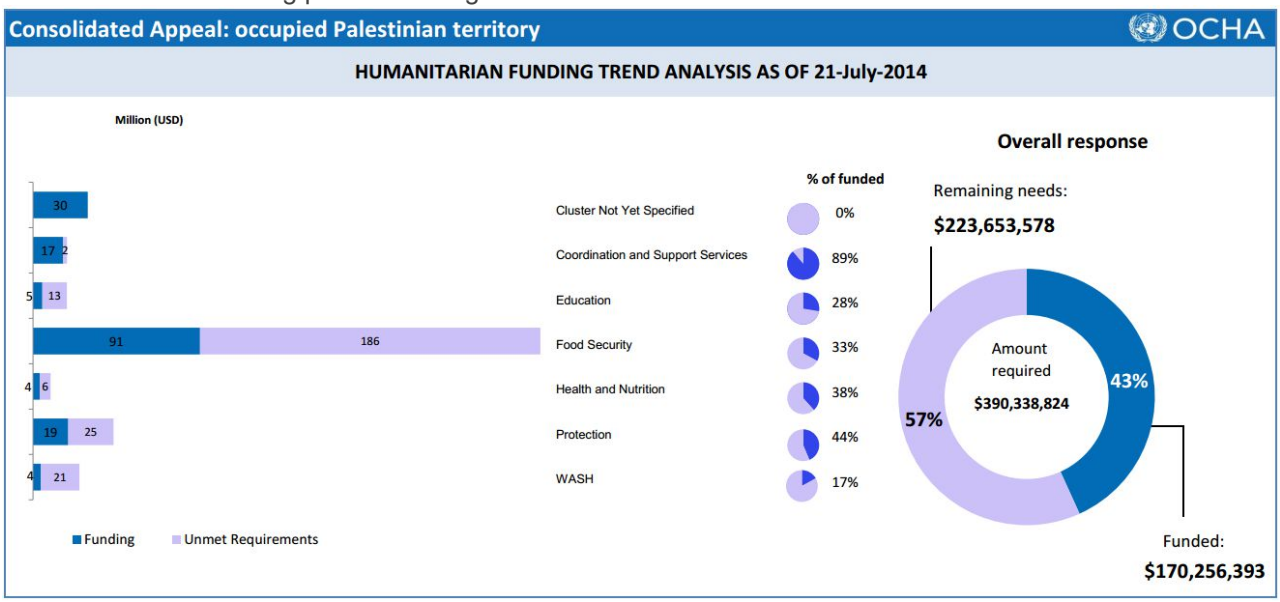
A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on initial cluster/sector analysis, it was estimated that US $ 40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have also made a preliminary estimate of a further US $87 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. These figures are currently under revision (due to the increase in needs on the ground) and an update will be shared tomorrow.

UNRWA has issued an emergency flash appeal - the initial ask of $60 million has been revised up to $115 million. The amount requested is intended to respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs of the people of Gaza, including the tens of thousands taking shelter in its facilities. New funding will enable UNRWA to respond to needs in shelter, food, health and psychosocial of internally displaced persons (IDPs), while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding. The HCT has undertaken an exercise to

identify the most urgent SRP projects that if funded would help support the response in Gaza, as well as any new needs and a list was shared with donors today.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, two ACF project proposals, worth of US$ 368,624.2) to distribute NFI and water storage tanks to 1,475 households in Gaza, are being processed. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought. The CERF is another existing pooled funding mechanism that can be mobilized.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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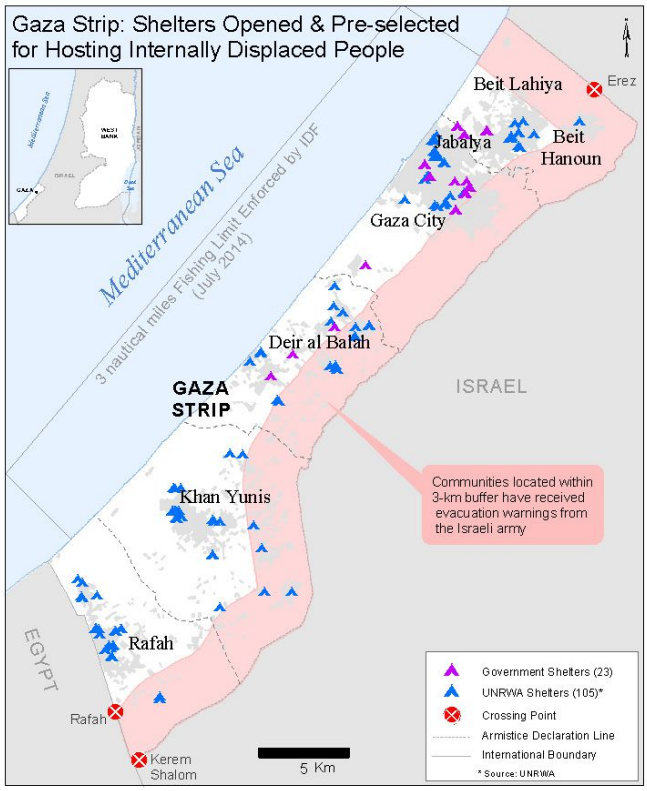
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 23 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 22 July (1500 hrs) to 23 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 24 July.

Highlights

- According to preliminary information, at least 697 Palestinians, including at least 518 civilians, are reported to have been killed. This includes 170 children and 86 women,
- Intense overcrowding in shelters raises increasing concerns, as mass displacement continues: approximately 140,000 IDPs now seeking shelter in 83 UNRWA schools and additional thousands sheltering in Ministry of Education-run schools and with relatives. Low water supply to shelters is a major concern.
- Two Israeli missiles landed in the vicinity of the Gaza Power Plant causing it to suspend operations, further reducing power supply.
- In the last 24 hours, six more UNRWA schools have been damaged by shelling.



697	37	3,993	140,000	44%
Palestinians killed, including at least 518 civilians, of whom 170 are children and 86 are women[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 35 soldiers.	Palestinians injured, of whom 1,213 are children and 698 women[2]	Displaced hosted in 83 UNRWA schools	Of Gaza within a three kilometer wide strip declared as a 'No-go zone'

Situation Overview

The casualty toll among Palestinian civilians continues to increase, with the Gaza emergency in its third week and the Israeli ground offensive continuing for the sixth consecutive day. A three kilometer-wide strip, encompassing 44 per cent of Gaza's territory has been declared a 'No-go zone' by the Israeli military. There are reports that Khuza'a, east of Khan Yunis, was exposed to severe artillery fire over night and today, as Israeli forces reportedly entered several hundred metres into the village. According to preliminary information, at least 20 persons were killed. An evacuation of casualties has not yet taken place as ambulances await guarantees of safe access to the area.

[1] These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.
[2] Data on injuries is provided by the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, 98 persons have been reported killed or their bodies recovered from under the rubble in Ash Shuja'iyeh neighborhood. Many residents of Ash Shuja'iyeh, including multiple family members, are reportedly still missing under the rubble of their homes, in areas that are still inaccessible. At approximately 17:00 yesterday, medical crews recovered the bodies of four members of the Hajjaj family, whose home was destroyed in an airstrike on the neighborhood on 21 July. The killing of multiple members of the same families as a result of the targeting of homes remains a matter of serious concern. Human rights organizations have estimated that since the start of the emergency, the Israeli military has targeted and destroyed or severely damaged 564 residential properties, including many multi-storey buildings, causing civilian casualties and displacing the survivors.

The targeting of civilian homes is a violation of international humanitarian law, unless the homes are being used for military purposes. Attacks against military objectives must offer a definite military advantage in the prevailing circumstances, and precautions must be taken to protect civilian lives. The fact that an attempt to warn civilians has been made, does not release the attacker from its obligation to spare civilian lives. A number of incidents, along with the high number of civilian deaths, belie the claim that all necessary precautions are being taken. People – particularly the elderly, sick and those with disabilities – are not given sufficient time to scramble out of their homes. When they do manage to run out into the street, there is nowhere to hide and no way of knowing where the next shell or missile will land.

Statement of UN High Commissioner Navi Pillay to the Human Rights Council 21st Special Session, 23 July 2014.

The cumulative fatality toll among Palestinians, as of this afternoon, stands at 697, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 518 civilians (74 per cent), 108 members of armed groups and 71 persons whose status is yet unknown. A third of the civilian fatalities (170) are children. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 3,993 Palestinians, including 1,213 children and 698 women, had been injured as at 21.00 on 22 July. Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by the conflict, causing a threat to children, especially boys who are usually the first victims of these dangerous items.

Despite a decrease since the start of the ground offensive, indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, resulting in the death of one foreign migrant worker and bringing the toll of civilian casualties in Israel to three. During the reporting period, another seven Israeli soldiers were killed in Gaza, bringing the number of military fatalities to 35 since the beginning of the ground incursion, including one missing in action and presumed dead. Most international airlines have suspended international flights to Israel after a rocket launched from Gaza on Tuesday struck a house in Yehud near Ben-Gurion Airport international airport.

Israeli children, and their parents and other civilians, also have a right to live without the constant fear that a rocket fired from Gaza may land on their houses or their schools, killing or injuring them. Once again, the principles of distinction and precaution are clearly not being observed during such indiscriminate attacks on civilian areas by Hamas and other armed Palestinian groups.
Statement of UN High Commissioner Navi Pillay to the Human Rights Council 21st Special Session, 23 July 2014.

Displacement

As a result of the hostilities, tens of thousands have continued to flee their homes in search of a safe haven. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was hosting approximately 140,000 IDPs in 83 schools operated as emergency shelters and safe spaces throughout the Gaza Strip, up from 117,000 yesterday. That is about six per cent of the Gazan population and more than double those sheltered by UNRWA during the three-week long Israeli Operation "Cast Lead" in 2008/2009.There are eight government schools (the majority in Gaza City), which have been officially opened as emergency shelters and are currently hosting several thousand IDPs; they are managed by the Palestinian Ministry of Social Affairs and their exact locations have been communicated to the Israeli military. Additionally, an unknown number of IDPs have taken refuge in other government schools, not opened as shelters, as well as in buildings under construction, both of which are considered unsafe. Last night 4,850 people were residing in five government schools, a mosque and Gaza city's Greek Orthodox church. This is in addition to the approximately 19,400 individuals who have been displaced, as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable.

Intense overcrowding, compounded by the limited access of humanitarian staff to certain areas, is increasingly undermining the living conditions at many shelters and raising protection concerns. Water supply has been particularly challenging, with IDPs in some shelters being supplied with as little as three liters per capita per day, to be used for all purposes including

drinking and hygiene. The largest concern relates to the current conditions and shortages at eight UNRWA schools in the northern area, which could not be reached from outside for two consecutive days, due to the ongoing fighting.

Public infrastructure and services

Public infrastructure and services continued to be struck and sustain damages, including health facilities and ambulances. In the early morning of 23 July, two Israeli missiles landed in the vicinity of Gaza Power Plant (GPP) causing it to suspend operations. Initial reports suggest that two generators in one of the blocks were damaged by the attack and may need extensive repairs. Power supply is further reduced to a few hours per day in Gaza. GPP engineers are seeking guarantees from the Israeli authorities that they will not be targeted while conducting repairs. The ICRC will provide daily coordination for the GPP team to go to the power plant, escorts are not being provided at this point, as these escorts are needed for life-saving missions.

In the last 24 hours, six more UNRWA schools have been affected by shelling. In total, 116 schools (75 UNRWA and 41 government schools have been affected since last week due to their close proximity to targeted sites. At 06:00 on 23 July, an UNRWA school being used to shelter IDPs in Deir al Balah was shelled. No casualties were reported. Since the start of the emergency at least 18 medical facilities have been hit by airstrikes and shelling. Under IHL, medical personnel, hospitals and ambulances, exclusively assigned to medical duties, must be spared and allowed at all times to carry out their duties.

On 23 July, the Israeli military shelled Al Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital east of Gaza City, severely damaging the building. The Israeli army said they had targeted specific sites in the hospital compound after fire was opened from the location on several occasions. The hospital was struck twice by Israeli tank shells last week, forcing doctors and patients to evacuate the premises. At approximately 14:30 today, Israeli tanks fired a number of shells into the garden of Beit Hanoun Hospital, damaging the water network and reportedly injuring ambulance drivers.

For the second time, UNRWA has announced that, in the course of the regular inspection of its premises, rockets were discovered hidden in a vacant school. The school is situated between two other UNRWA schools that currently each accommodate 1,500 internally displaced persons. UNRWA 'strongly and unequivocally condemns the group or groups responsible for this flagrant violation of the inviolability of its premises under international law.'

The Secretary-General is alarmed to hear that rockets were placed in an UNRWA school in Gaza and that subsequently these have gone missing. He expresses his outrage, and regret, at the placing of weapons in a UN-administered school. By doing so, those responsible are turning schools into potential military targets, and endangering the lives of innocent children, UN employees working in such facilities, and anyone using the UN schools as shelter.

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on weapons at UNRWA school in Gaza, 23 July.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

New humanitarian pause: urgently needed, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in Ash Shuja'iyeh; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open during specific hours for pre-coordinated movement of UN, ICRC, INGOs, journalists and medical evacuations. Coordination challenges for movement through Erez are disrupting transit. Opening hours are now being reassessed daily and can therefore vary. As a result of security developments, UNDSS called off all UN movement planned for this afternoon
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice. As was the case yesterday, movement in and out of Gaza today does not include processing by 4/4.
Kerem Shalom: Open today from 10:00. Yesterday 86 trucks of mostly food items, including 28 of food and mattresses for UNRWA, four for WFP and one of medicine for ICRC entered in addition to approximately 600,000 litres of fuel and 85 tons of cooking.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00. No goods entered yesterday.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

125,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 125,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past thirteen days.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children .

Response

- UNRWA is providing basic UXO awareness in shelters.
- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency psychosocial teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 1,289 children across the Gaza Strip.
- On 20 July and 22 July, Sawa Child Protection Helpline sent texts messages with instruction to10,000 caregivers. Since 13 July the Helpline has been operating 24/7 with capacity to take 30 calls simultaneously.
- The NGO Right to Play has reached 2,000 children in UNRWA emergency shelters since 8 July.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- On 21 July, Save the Children began distributing child protection kits to twelve community based organizations, aiming to reach 1,440 children in host communities.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by Explosive Remnants of War, reaching up to one million people in Gaza. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since July 18 hamper communication with PSS staff.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors that can answer phone calls.
- Displaced children hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

140,000
People in need of shelter-related assistance

- 3,230 families (approximately 19,400 individuals) whose shelters were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for

about 3,750 families (22,500 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 126,000 individuals living in homes which sustained minor damage (broken windows and/or damaged doors) need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- Around 140,000 people are being provided with shelter in 83 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and several thousands are sheltered in eight government schools, by host families and in informal centres.
- Eleven government schools in Gaza city and northern Gaza have been identified to serve as temporary shelters for IDPs from eastern and northern Gaza and currently host approximately 5,000 IDPs. 9,630 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by different cluster members.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 16 million is needed to allow 3,230 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits, including blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and hygiene sets, are required for 1560 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools.
- UNRWA's NFI stock is at zero.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water for drinking and domestic use.
- An estimated 1.2 million people have no or very limited access to water or sanitation services due to damage to the electricity system or lack of fuel to run generators to power WASH facilities.

+140,000

IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use

- 15 wells and six sewage pumping stations are not operating. Less than half of the required amount of water is being pumped, according to the Municipality of Gaza.
- WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in north Gaza (both areas in the new three Km no-go zone) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Several areas are experiencing sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, posing public health hazards.
- Humanitarian access to allow for repairs of wells, sewage pumping station and water and sewage lines is urgently needed to avert the outbreak of public health diseases.

Response

- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- In the past 24 hours, Oxfam GB distributed safe drinking water to a total of 25,800 IDPS in Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah, including to UNRWA shelters, government schools, two churches, a mosque, Al Shifa hospital and a number of public water filling points. Oxfam also distributed two tons of garbage bags to IDPs at UNRWA shelters in Rafah.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- UNRWA's sanitation staff could not reach Al Maghazi, Bureij and Deir al Baleh camps due to heavy fighting and access restrictions.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.
- On 22 July, the water network of Beit Hanoun Hospital was destroyed, and ambulance drivers were reportedly injured. On 23 July, following warnings issued, the Israeli army badly damaged al Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital east of Gaza City, claiming that fire was opened towards Israeli troops from inside the hospital. The hospital had been evacuated prior to the attack, so no casualties were reported. Protection of health facilities and health personnel is urgently needed.

18

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

Response

- On 23 July, six patients were referred to medical treatment in Jordan via Israel and thirteen to Egypt.
- $1 million worth of drugs, primarily fluids and surgical kits funded by Switzerland is under procurement by WHO while the Islamic Development Bank is procuring $ 6 million worth of medical supplies from within Gaza to resupply health facilities.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is operating an outpatient clinic for patients discharged from hospitals requiring medical follow up.
- MDM – France delivered medical supplies, including consumables, on 22 July to the MoH.
- MAP-UK delivered drugs and supplies on 23 July.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.

Food Security

Needs

- An estimated 140,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, plus additional thousands in public schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance. More than 2,863 people who are being sheltered in over 47 informal centres across the Gaza Strip over the last days are urgently in need of food assistance, NFIs and other assistance. IDPs in the southern part of Gaza taking refuge in private shelters are in particular need of food assistance.
- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised. Although a comprehensive picture of exact needs is not yet available, animal feed for 3,000 herders is needed to avoid further loss of livestock and erosion of livelihoods.
- Continuation of regular food distribution programmes by UNRWA, WFP and their partners to over 1,150,000 people should be maintained.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

+140,000

Palestinians displaced and in need of food assistance

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- In total, food security partners have reached approximately 140,000 IDPs with food assistance since the beginning of the current crisis.
- WFP continues to provide weekly food vouchers to 6,200 IDPs living with host families and daily emergency food rations to 2,039 hospital patients and staff across the Gaza Strip.

Gaps and Constraints

- Bakeries, mills and dairy production plants have reduced their operational capacity due to lack of security and damage to facilities caused by military attacks.
- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance.
- The military ground incursion is both limiting access to food warehouses and making the regular emergency food distribution to over 1 million people extremely difficult.
- Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.

Education

Needs

- In the last 24 hours, six additional UNRWA schools have been affected by shelling, bringing up the total number of damaged schools to 116 since the start of the emergency. 41 government schools and 75 UNRWA schools are in need of repairs.

116

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs on damaged school infrastructure. On 21 July, an UNRWA school in Maghazi that served as a shelter for 300 people was hit. On 22 July, when a team visited the site to assess the damage, the school was shelled again, seriously endangering the lives of UN humanitarian workers and displaced civilians.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to government school shelters in the reporting period. In light of the damage sustained to the Gaza Power Plant during last night's escalations, contingency plans were made for the delivery of fuel. Additionally, the EOC facilitated a meeting between two Gaza based ministers and their Ramallah-based colleagues. Response coordination continues to take place with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on IDP issues.

Today, the WASH cluster held an emergency meeting in response to the current water situation, in order to come up with a proposal for a way forward.

Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on initial cluster/sector analysis, it was estimated that US $40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have also made a preliminary estimate of a further US $87 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. These figures are currently under revision (due to the increase in needs on the ground) and an update will be shared tomorrow.

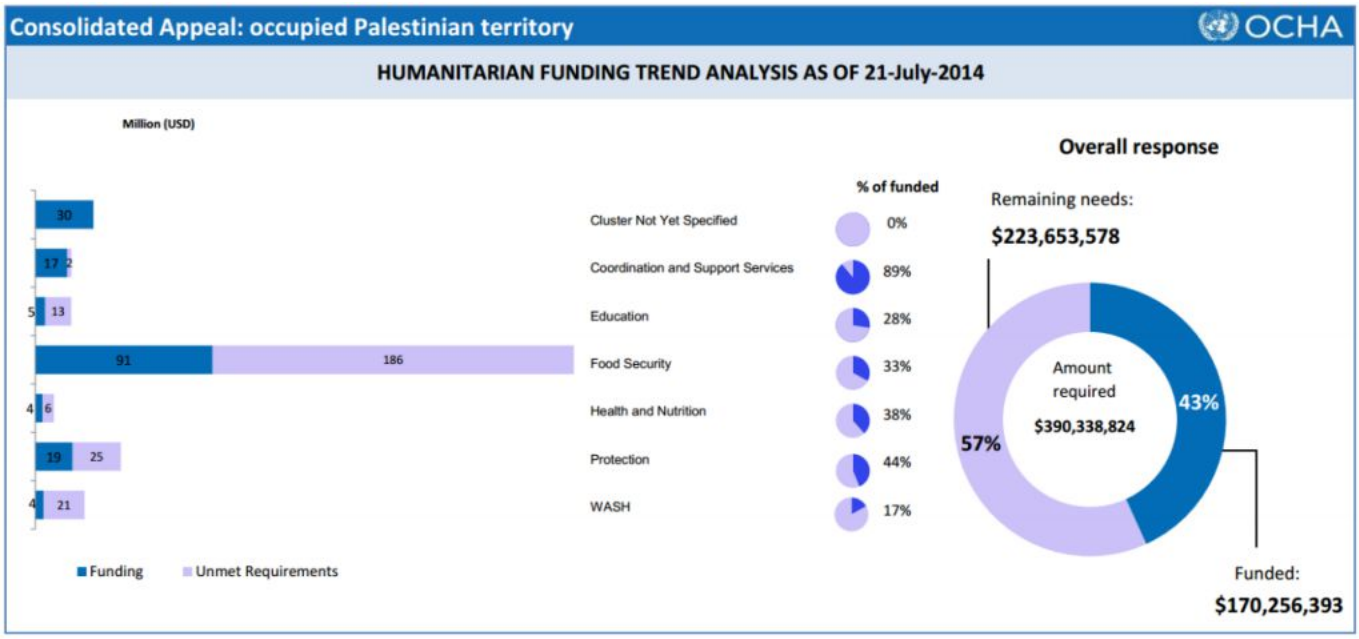
UNRWA has issued an emergency flash appeal - the initial ask of US $40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have US $40 million is needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. A number of clusters have US $60 million has been revised up to $115 million. The amount requested is intended to respond to the most pressing humanitarian needs of the people of Gaza, including the tens of

thousands taking shelter in its facilities. New funding will enable UNRWA to respond to needs in shelter, food, health and psychosocial of internally displaced persons (IDPs), while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding. The HCT has undertaken an exercise to identify the most urgent SRP projects that if funded would help support the response in Gaza, as well as any new needs and a list was shared with donors today.

The Humanitarian Country Team has begun development of a Gaza Crisis Preliminary Response Plan while will be finalized by 1 August to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The plan will look at programming needs for the next six months.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, two ACF project proposals, (totaling US$ 368,624.2) to distribute NFI and water storage tanks to 1,475 households in Gaza, are being processed. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought. The CERF is another existing pooled funding mechanism that can be mobilized.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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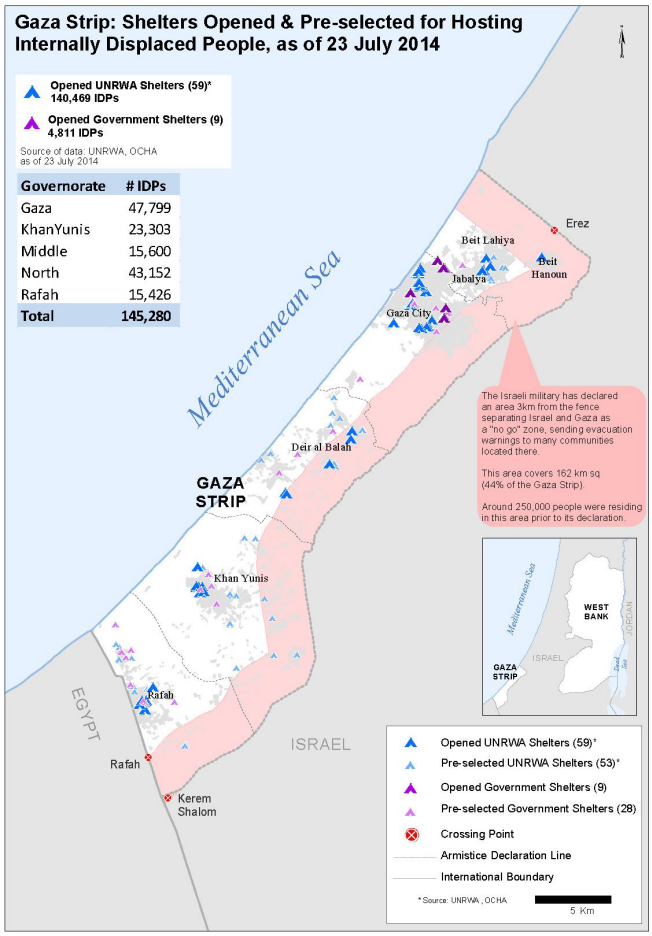
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 24 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 23 July (1500 hrs) to 24 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 25 July.

Highlights

- An UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun sheltering IDPs was struck by several projectiles today. According to initial information, at least 16 Palestinians have been killed and 200 injured.
- These fatalities are in addition to 92 Palestinians, including 17 children and 8 women, reported to have been killed or their bodies recovered in the last 24 hours.
- Since 7 July, at least 42 Gaza families have had three or more members killed in the same incident for a total of 253 fatalities.
- Mass displacement continues: approximately 149,000 IDPs are now seeking shelter in 84 UNRWA schools and additional tens of thousands sheltering in Ministry of Education-run schools and with relatives and friends.
- Latest developments: The Gaza Power Plant was shelled for the third time tonight, causing shut-down of the plant.



789	37	42	149,000	44%
Palestinians killed, including at least 578 civilians, of whom 185 are children and 93 are women[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 35 soldiers.	Gaza families have lost at least three or more members in the same incident, totaling 253 fatalities.	Displaced hosted in 84 UNRWA schools	Of Gaza within a three kilometer wide strip declared as a 'No-go zone'

Situation Overview

The Israeli ground offensive into Gaza continues for the seventh consecutive day, resulting in a continuing rise in civilian casualties, the widespread destruction of buildings and infrastructure and a steep rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs).

[1] These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified, including the Beit Hanoun school. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities have been most intense in the villages to the east of KhanYunis, to the east of Gaza city, and in northern Gaza. A three kilometer-wide strip, encompassing 44 per cent of Gaza's territory has been declared a "no-go zone" by the Israeli military. The expanded "no-go zone" and unremitting hostilities are restricting the movement and security of civilians and the ability of humanitarian actors to carry out even the most basic life-saving activities, adding to the growing despair and frustration among Palestinians in Gaza.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, 92 persons, many of whose status still needs to be verified, have reportedly been killed, including at least 17 children and eight women. This number includes some killed during the bombardment of ash Shuja'iyeh on 19 and 20 July and of Khuza'a on 23 July, where bodies are still being retrieved. A proper count and evacuation of casualties has not yet taken place from Khuza'a, as ambulances have not been granted safe access to the area.

The cumulative fatality toll among Palestinians is at least 789 as of 14.00 today, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 578 civilians (73 per cent of total fatalities), of whom 185 are children and 93 women; 119 members of armed groups; and 92 persons whose status is still unknown. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 5118 Palestinians, including 1,516 children and 1,012 women, had been injured as of 08.00 a.m. on 24 July. Thousands of explosive remnants of war are scattered in civilian areas, causing a threat to children, especially boys who are usually the first victims of these devices.

At around 15.00 today, an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun which served as a shelter for IDPs, was struck by several missiles. According to very initial information, at least 16 Palestinians have been killed and 150 injured. These casualties are not included in the above casualty figures.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 615 residential properties (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. To date, at least 42 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 253 fatalities, since the onset of the emergency. This represents an important loss of social fabric in Gaza.

At approximately 00:30 24 July, an Israeli airstrike hit a number of Palestinian civilians who were in a shed near their house close to Bani Suheila intersection, east of Khan Yunis. When a number of civilians attempted to offer help to the victims, further Israeli missiles struck the area. As a result, five members of the Al-Astal family were killed, including a boy, and two others wounded.

"Civilian homes are not legitimate targets unless they are being used for, or contribute to, military purposes at the time in question... Even where a home is identified as being used for military purposes, any attack must be proportionate, offer a definite military advantage in the prevailing circumstances at the time, and precautions must be taken.... A number of incidents, along with the high number of civilian deaths, belies the claim that all necessary precautions are being taken to protect civilian lives."
UN High Commssioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay at the Human Rights Council 21st Special Session, 23 July 2014.

Despite a decrease since the start of the ground offensive, indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and at least 17, and possibly up to 32, directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. There have been 35 military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive, including one missing in action and presumed dead.

Displacement

As a result of ongoing hostilities, thousands of Palestinians have continued to flee their homes in search of a safe haven. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was hosting about 149,000 IDPs in 84 schools operated as emergency shelters and safe spaces throughout the Gaza Strip, up from 140,000 yesterday. That is about six per cent of the Gazan population. Last night 6,500 people were residing in nine government schools, a mosque and Gaza city's Greek Orthodox church. This is in addition to the approximately 20,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are now hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable.

Intense overcrowding, compounded by the limited access of humanitarian staff to several areas, is increasingly undermining the living conditions at many shelters and raising protection concerns. Water supply has been particularly challenging, with IDPs in some shelters being supplied with as little as three liters per capita per day, to be used for all purposes including drinking and hygiene.

Public infrastructure and services

Public infrastructure and services continued to be affected by hostilities. The attack on the UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun brings to approximately 120 the number of educational facilities which have suffered damage since 7 July. Since the current emergency started, 85 UNRWA installations have sustained damage. This includes mainly schools and health centres, in addition to a water pump, the Rehabilitation Centre for the Visually Impaired and warehouses containing vital stocks for UNRWA operations. Three UNRWA staff were killed today, including a teacher while returning home after supervising a shelter, bringing to six the number of teachers known to have been killed to date.

I am appalled by the news of an attack on an UNRWA school in Northern Gaza where hundreds of people had taken refuge. Many have been killed – including women and children, as well as UN staff. I once again stress to all sides that they must abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law to respect the sanctity of civilian life, the inviolability of UN premises and to honour their obligations to humanitarian workers.
Secretary-General's Statement on Beit Hanoun Gaza, 24 July.

The electricity supply has further deteriorated after two Israeli missiles landed in the vicinity of the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) on 23 July. Electricity is being provided on a rolling basis and homes are left without power for approximately 20 hours per day. The damaged generator needs to be totally replaced. GPP engineers are seeking guarantees from the Israeli authorities that they will not be targeted while conducting repairs. At approximately 00:30 on 24 July, an Israeli airstrike hit a repair crew from the Gaza Electricity Distribution Company in the centre of Khan Yunis, reportedly injuring four.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.
Humanitarian space: Increased access for humanitarian workers and their partners to carry out life-saving and emergency assistance is urgently needed, for example through a regular and meaningful humanitarian pause or coordination requests that are respected. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas of Gaza, such a Ash Shuja'iyeh and Khuza'a; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure; but also to provide a predictable basic level of broader humanitarian assistance to a population in need. The inability of actors to provide humanitarian assistance will undermine the credibility of the operations and could increase the security risks of humanitarian workers.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open during specific hours for pre-coordinated movement of UN, ICRC, INGOs, journalists and medical evacuations. Coordination challenges for movement through Erez are disrupting transit. Opening hours are now being reassessed daily and can therefore vary
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice.
Kerem Shalom: Open today from 10:00. Yesterday 106 trucks of food items, mattresses hygiene kits and medicine, including 37 for UNRWA, one for WFP and two for ICRC, entered in addition to approximately 720,000 litres of fuel and 110 tons of cooking gas.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00. No goods entered yesterday for the third consecutive day. A small amount of goods entered today

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 148,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past thirteen days.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.

148,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.
- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 1,351 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Sawa Child Protection Helpline continues to operate providing guidance to caregivers via phone calls. Since 13 July the Helpline has been operating 24/7 with capacity to take 30 calls simultaneously.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- As of 21 July, Save the Children began distributing child protection kits to twelve community based organizations, aiming to reach 1,440 children in host communities.
- Tamer Association has been conducting support activities for children in seven of their 22 libraries. They are able to reach between 15 and 20 children daily in each of the functioning libraries since 18 July.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war, reaching up to one million people in Gaza. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since 18 July hamper communication with PSS staff.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Displaced children hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

174,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- 3,333 families (approximately 20,000 individuals) whose shelters were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for about 3,380 families (23,300 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 126,000 individuals living in homes which sustained minor damage (broken windows and/or damaged doors) need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.
- About 130,700 individuals are living in slightly affected houses with broken windows and damaged doors, and need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets. However shelter partners considered this as second priority that will be dealt with at later stages after ceasefire and damage assessment conducted.

Response

- Approximately 149,000 people are being provided with shelter in 84 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and several thousands are sheltered in eleven government schools, by host families and in informal centres.
- 10,557 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by shelter cluster members.
- Eleven government schools in Gaza city and northern Gaza have been identified to serve as temporary shelters for IDPs from eastern and northern Gaza and currently host approximately 5,000 IDPs.

- ICRC, PRCS and other shelter members provided NFIs and hygiene kits to 525 families (4,000 individuals) hosted in five schools used as shelters in Gaza city.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 16 million is needed to allow 3,340 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits, including blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and hygiene sets, are required for 2,324 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools.
- UNRWA's NFI stock is at zero.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

+140,000

IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use

- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water for drinking and domestic use.
- An estimated 1.2 million people have no or very limited access to water or sanitation services due to damage to the electricity system or lack of fuel to run generators to power WASH facilities.
- 15 wells and six sewage pumping stations are not operating. Less than half of the required amount of water is being pumped, according to the Municipality of Gaza.
- WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in north Gaza (both areas in the new three km "no-go zone") have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Urgent need of fuel, particularly in Nusseirat and Al Bureij camps, to run the water wells as water is pumped to the network only when there is electricity.
- Deir al Balah Desalination Plant cannot produce enough water to serve people in the Middle Area due to shortage of fuel and electricity outage (3hrs/day).
- There is urgent need for 10,000 litre of fuel for two municipal wells in Az Zawayda, as a high tension transformer feeding the wells has been destroyed, and the other two wells are operating through generators.
- Several areas are experiencing sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, posing public health hazards.

Response

- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- The situation in the eastern area of Al Maghazi is too dangerous and there has been no accessibility to the municipality wells since the Israeli ground incursion. Residents still lack drinking water.
- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- UNRWA's sanitation staff could not reach Al Maghazi, Bureij and Deir al Baleh camps due to heavy fighting and access restrictions.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

18

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.

- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

Response

- On 24 July, eleven patients were referred to medical treatment in Egypt and six to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- US $1 million worth of drugs, primarily fluids and surgical kits funded by Switzerland is under procurement by WHO while the Islamic Development Bank is procuring US $ 6 million worth of medical supplies from within Gaza to resupply health facilities.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is operating an outpatient clinic for patients discharged from hospitals requiring medical follow up.
- ANERA delivered drugs and supplies on 24 July.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.

Food Security

Needs

- More than 167,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance. A few thousand who are being sheltered in informal centres, including a mosque and a church, are urgently in need of food assistance, NFIs and other assistance. IDPs in the southern part of Gaza taking refuge in private shelters are in particular need of food assistance.

+167,000

Palestinians displaced and in need of food assistance

- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised. Although a comprehensive picture is not yet available, animal feed for 3,000 herders is needed to avoid further loss of livestock and erosion of livelihoods.
- Continuation of regular food distribution programmes by UNRWA, WFP and their partners to over 1,150,000 people should be maintained.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

Response

- In total, food security partners have reached approximately 150,000 IDPs with food assistance since the beginning of the current crisis.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- As of 23 July, WFP has been providing daily emergency food rations to 1,600 IDPs in government schools.
- FSS partners are delivering complementary food distribution to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching displaced persons at private shelters and hosting families.

Gaps and Constraints

- Bakeries, mills and dairy production plants have reduced their operational capacity due to lack of security and damage to facilities caused by military attacks.
- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance.
- The military ground incursion is both limiting access to food warehouses and making the regular emergency food distribution to over one million people extremely difficult.

- Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.

Education

Needs

- In the last 24 hours, three UNRWA schools and one government school have been affected by shelling, bringing up the total number of damaged schools to approximately 120 since the start of the emergency. 42 government schools and 78 UNRWA schools are in need of repairs.

120

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to government school shelters in the reporting period. In light of the damage sustained to the Gaza Power Plant during last night's escalations, contingency plans were made for the delivery of fuel. Additionally, the EOC facilitated a meeting between two Gaza based ministers and their Ramallah-based colleagues. Response coordination continues to take place with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on IDP issues.

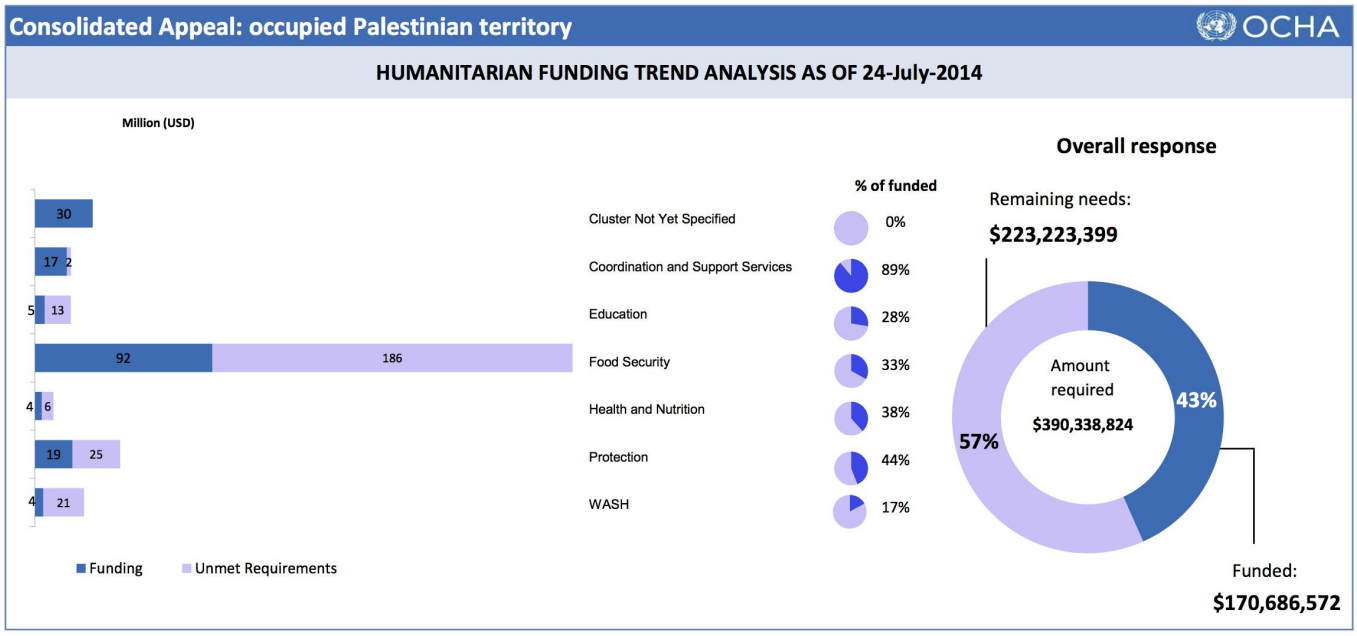
Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, it is estimated that US $69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Some clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of up to US $220 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. The Humanitarian Country Team has today begun development of a dedicated Gaza Crisis Appeal which will be finalized by 1 August to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $115 million this week. The amount requested will help UNRWA respond to the urgent needs of the currently, 148,000 IDPs taking shelter in its facilities, while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, two ACF project proposals, (totaling US$ 368,624) to distribute NFI and water storage tanks to 1,475 households in Gaza, are being processed. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 25 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

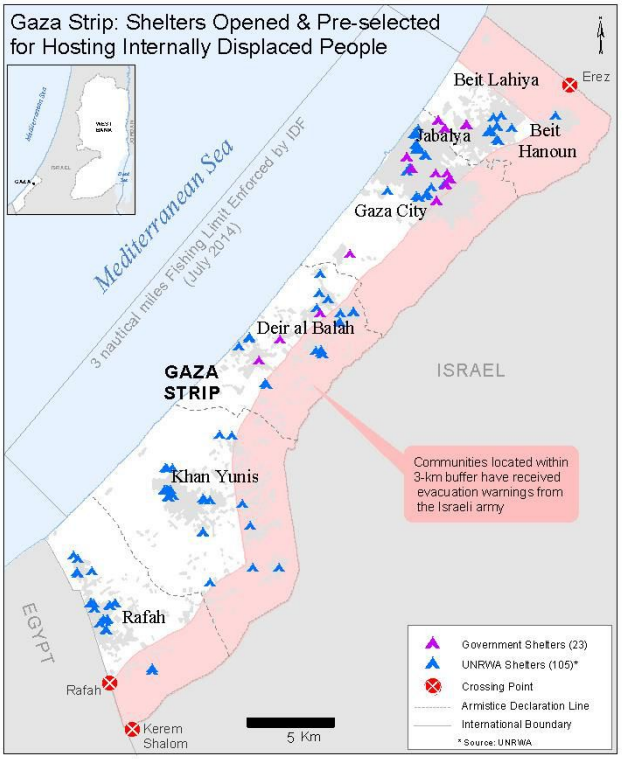
OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 24 July (1500 hrs) to 25 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 26 July.

Highlights

- 68 Palestinians, including ten children and nine women, are reported to have been killed or their bodies recovered in the last 24 hours.
- Overcrowding in shelters intensifies, with some hosting over 80 people per classroom, adding stress to already traumatized families.
- Several shelters in the north and middle areas became inaccessible due to the ongoing hostilities, impeding the distribution of basic supplies, water in particular.
- The coping capacity of health professionals and facilities is increasingly overstretched. A rise in the relative number of miscarriages, premature births, and child mortality amongst pregnant women has been reported.

Latest developments: both Israel and Hamas have reportedly agreed to a 12 hour ceasefire, to begin at 7 am tomorrow



857	39	92	18	167,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 649 civilians, of whom 194 are children and 101 are women[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 37 soldiers, as well as one Thai national.	UNRWA installations have sustained damage since 8 July.	Hospitals, clinics and medical centres hit and damaged by shelling.	Displaced people hosted in 95 UNRWA and government schools.

Situation Overview

Amidst reports about high-level negotiations for a ceasefire, the Israeli ground offensive continued in most areas, up to three kilometers from the Gaza's perimeter fence, resulting in additional civilian casualties and widespread destruction. The insecurity affecting the civilian population intensified yesterday afternoon, when an UNRWA school serving as an emergency shelter was hit by projectiles, killing and injuring dozens of IDPs. In a separate incident several hours later, two ambulances were hit while on duty. These incidents underscore the challenges impeding humanitarian actors from carrying out even the most basic life-saving activities, such as providing a safe haven for civilians or evacuating the wounded, adding to the growing despair and frustration among Gaza's men, women and children.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities and casualties

Intense fighting has been reported in the past 24 hours in the Middle Area (Al Maghazi and Al Bureij Camps), alongside the ongoing hostilities in the northern area, especially in Beit Hanoun. Since the last situation update, 68 persons have reportedly been killed, including at least ten children and nine women. These include a number of people killed during the bombardment in Khuza'a on 23 July, whose bodies were retrieved during this period, after the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) coordinated access to the area. Similar search and rescue operations, including the evacuation of civilians, were carried out by ICRC and PRCS today in Beit Hanoun and Ash Shuja'iyeh (eastern Gaza City).

The fatalities include 11 IDPs, including seven children, taking refuge in UNRWA's Beit Hanoun elementary school, which yesterday at around 15:00 was hit by explosive projectiles. Over 100 other IDPs have been injured in the incident. The school's coordinates had been formally conveyed to the Israeli army on 12 occasions. Prior to the incident, UNRWA had been attempting to negotiate with the Israeli army for a safe corridor to relocate staff and any displaced person who chose to evacuate to a more secure location; approval for that never came. This followed three previous incidents in the past few days in which UNRWA shelters had been hit.

The scenes of carnage and human suffering that we witnessed today at our elementary school in Beit Hanoun were so appalling and intolerable, that it is difficult to find the words to convey adequately my indignation… I further call for an immediate cease-fire to end the killing and maiming as well as the devastation and traumas that will mark the population for decades. Enough is enough.
UNRWA Commissioner General, Pierre Krahenbuhl, 24 July

Incidents of ambulances being hit are of increasing concern. Yesterday around midnight, a Ministry of Health ambulance was hit several times during an Israeli attack in Khan Younis; civilians who tried to evacuate the ambulance staff, reportedly came under fire, which injured three of them. When a PRCS ambulance arrived at the site and tried to evacuate the wounded, several missiles were shot next to it, injuring the driver and damaging the vehicle. Initial reports indicate that a similar incident occurred today in Beit Hanoun, resulting in the death of one paramedic and four injuries.

Under international humanitarian law, medical facilities, transportation and personnel shall be respected and protected in all circumstances, and must be allowed to carry out their duties, including in the collection, transport and treatment of the injured, at all times without hindrance. Parties to the conflict must take all measures to ensure access to those in need and must facilitate their safe evacuation.

The cumulative fatality toll among Palestinians is at least 857 as of 14.00 today, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 649 civilians (76 per cent of total fatalities); 122 members of armed groups; and 86 persons whose status is still unknown.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that about 650 residential properties (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. To date, at least 42 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 253 fatalities, since the onset of the emergency. This represents an important loss of social fabric in Gaza.

Despite a decrease since the start of the ground offensive, indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. Two soldiers have been killed during the reporting period bringing the Israeli military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive to 37.

Displacement

As a result of ongoing hostilities, thousands of Palestinians have continued to flee their homes in search of a safe haven. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was hosting about 159,000 IDPs in 84 schools operated as emergency shelters, additional 10,000 compared to a day before. It is estimated that nearly 9,000 IDPs are residing in 11 government schools and public buildings. This is in addition to the approximately 20,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are now hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable.

Humanitarian actors are facing severe challenges in reaching some of the shelters to provide basic supplies, particularly in the northern (Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia) and middle (Bureij and Maghazi) areas, due to the ongoing hostilities taking place in these areas.

The halt in water supply to several shelters due to damaged or inaccessible infrastructure is of increasing concern. While UNRWA and Oxfam are delivering water tankers to those shelters, some have become inaccessible. The UNRWA shelter

in Maghazi, for example, has not received water for four days, and IDPs have been dependent on help from neighbors and the municipality.

Public infrastructure and services

Today afternoon, the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) was able to partially resume operations, after repairing the damage sustained on 23 July, and following the delivery of some 300,000 liters of fuel. The latter will enable the plant to run two turbines for the next two days. Two feeder lines supplying electricity from Israel to the middle and southern area that were damaged several days ago have been repaired as well. However, rolling power cuts of about 20 hours per day continue and many households remain disconnected due to the extensive damage sustained by the distribution network.

The impact of hostilities on the functioning of health services raises particular concern. As the number of injuries grows, the coping capacity of health professionals, working under extreme and insecure conditions, is increasingly overstretched. A media report from the maternity ward of the Shifa hospital in Gaza City highlighted increased numbers of miscarriages, premature births, and child mortality amongst pregnant women. Access to obstetric care is limited due to the hostilities, while many health facilities providing obstetric care are not operating. Several of the over 100 women killed since the start of the emergency were reportedly pregnant, including three belonging to the Abu Jama'a family, whose house near Khan Younis was bombed on 20 July, killing 25 people.

The World Health Organization calls for the creation of a humanitarian corridor for the evacuation of the injured, as well as for the supply of life-saving medicines. The humanitarian corridor should extend to protect the safe passage of patients to access crossing points and exit outside the Gaza Strip for medical care.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: On 25 July, the crossing was open from 11:00-13:00 for pre-coordinated movement of UN, ICRC and INGOs staff, as well as journalists and medical evacuations.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice.
Kerem Shalom: Was open from 10:00-12:00 on 25 July. No specifications on goods that entered yesterday were available by the time of this update.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00. Yesterday six truckloads of medical supplies provided by United Arab Emirates Red Crescent entered.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

165,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 165,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home since the start of the emergency.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 1,410 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Sawa Child Protection Helpline continues to operate providing guidance to caregivers via phone calls. Since 13 July the Helpline has been operating 24/7 with capacity to take 30 calls simultaneously.
- Since 18 July, in cooperation with UNRWA the Youth Empowerment Center has been providing PSS for IDPs inside UNRWA schools used as shelters, reaching 330 children and 211 caregivers.
- Since 20 July, 60,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza. World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Right to Play has reached a total of 2,000 children in UNRWA shelters since the start of the emergency.
- Tamer Association has been conducting support activities for children in seven of their 22 libraries.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war, reaching up to one million people in Gaza.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since 18 July hamper communication with PSS staff.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Due to the rapidly increasing need, there is currently an insufficient number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals.
- Managers of government schools employed as emergency refuges are yet to receive child protection training. Such training will be provided on 27 July.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

~200,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- 3,600 families (approximately 21,600 individuals) whose shelters were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for about 4140 families (24,800 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 23,000 families (141,600 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage (broken windows and/or damaged doors) need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- Approximately 159,000 people are being provided with shelter in 84 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and nearly 9,000 are sheltered in government schools.
- 10,807 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by shelter cluster members.
- UNRWA delivered 22 trucks of NFIs to shelters on 24 July.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 18 million is needed to allow 3,600 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits, including blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and hygiene sets, are required for 2,573 families.

- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools.
- Lack of information about displaced families hosted with relatives, who are perceived to be vulnerable and in need of NFIs and other assistance.
- UNRWA is doing great efforts to provide vital humanitarian supplies, including NFIs, to IDPs in all five areas of Gaza, but is facing massive challenges in regards to supplies and access, in particular in the northern and eastern part of Gaza, due to the precarious security situation and the Israeli-imposed 'no-go' zone.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

+140,000

IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use

- The mixing of sewage with water poses a great public health hazard. Several areas are experiencing sewage flooding, particularly in northern Gaza (Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya).
- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water for drinking and domestic use.
- 15 wells and six sewage pumping stations are not operating. Less than half of the required amount of water is being pumped, according to the Municipality of Gaza.
- WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in north Gaza (buffer zone) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Urgent need for fuel, to run the water wells, particularly in Nusseirat and Al Bureij camps, as water is pumped to the network only when there is electricity supply.
- There is urgent need for 10,000 litres of fuel for two municipal wells in Az Zawayda, as a high tension transformer feeding the wells has been destroyed.
- Deir al Balah Desalination Plant cannot produce enough water to serve people in the Middle Area due to a shortage of fuel and electricity outage (3hrs/day).
- Rafah schools require additional storage water tanks.

Response

- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters in areas where water pumping is currently not possible due to damaged or inaccessible WASH infrastructure. On 24 July, UNRWA delivered 70,000 litres of non-potable water.
- On 25 July, Oxfam GB provided water to some 41,000 IDPs in shelters and public buildings.
- Ongoing distribution of fuel for WASH facilities is carried out through UNRWA.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

Gaps and constraints

- IDPs in an UNRWA shelter in Al Maghazi have not received drinking water for four days due to access restrictions.
- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- UNRWA's sanitation staff could not reach Al Maghazi, Bureij and Deir al Baleh camps due to heavy fighting and access restrictions.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

18

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

Response

- On 24 July, eleven patients were referred to medical treatment in Egypt and six to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- US$1 million worth of drugs, primarily fluids and surgical kits funded by Switzerland is under procurement by WHO while the Islamic Development Bank is procuring US $ 6 million worth of medical supplies from within Gaza to resupply health facilities.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is operating an outpatient clinic for patients discharged from hospitals requiring medical follow up.
- ANERA delivered drugs and supplies on 24 July.
- Shifa hospital is transferring patients to Al Ahli hospital for post-surgical recuperation to free up beds.
- The Israeli authorities reported the set up of a field clinic next to Erez crossing to treat Palestinian injuries on 21 July.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- On 24 July, only 13 out of 21 UNRWA health centres were open.
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.
- The health and environmental condition in shelters is a major concern, especially lack of water and hygiene materials. Municipal garbage collection has almost stopped, which increases public health risks.
- Donations of medical supplies have been slow to arrive. Several shipments are in transit from Arab countries through Egypt and Jordan and should arrive early next week.

Food Security

Needs

- More than 176,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, government schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance. A few thousand IDPs are taking shelter in informal centres, including a mosque and a church, are urgently in need of food assistance, NFIs and other assistance, particularly IDPs in the southern part of Gaza.
- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised. Although a comprehensive figure is not yet available, animal feed for 3,000 herders is required to avoid further loss of livestock and erosion of livelihoods.
- Continuation of regular food distribution programmes by UNRWA, WFP and their partners to over 1,150,000 people should be maintained.

+176,000

Palestinians displaced and in need of food assistance

- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

Response

- In total, food security partners have reached approximately 150,000 IDPs with food assistance since the beginning of the current crisis.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs (approximately 155,000) sheltered in UNRWA or government schools. The basket has been diversified to include bread, canned meat and milk (provided by WFP), and halwa, cream cheese, corned beef and vegetables (provided by UNRWA).On 24 July, UNRWA delivered 69 trucks of food to IDP shelters.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching displaced persons at private shelters and hosting families.

Gaps and Constraints

- Bakeries, mills and dairy production plants have reduced their operational capacity due to lack of security and damage to facilities caused by military attacks.
- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance.
- The military ground incursion is both limiting access to food warehouses and making the regular emergency food distribution to over one million people extremely difficult.
- Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders. FAO is ready to address the needs of herders through provision of fodder for 45 days, but lacks the funding to do so. Currently only 20 per cent of the needed amount has been mobilized.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed 'no-go' zone impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.

Education

Needs

- In the last 24 hours, six UNRWA schools sustained damage due to shelling, bringing the total of damaged schools to 123 since the start of the emergency. 42 government schools and 81 UNRWA schools are in need of repair.

123

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to hospitals and government school shelters.

UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

Funding

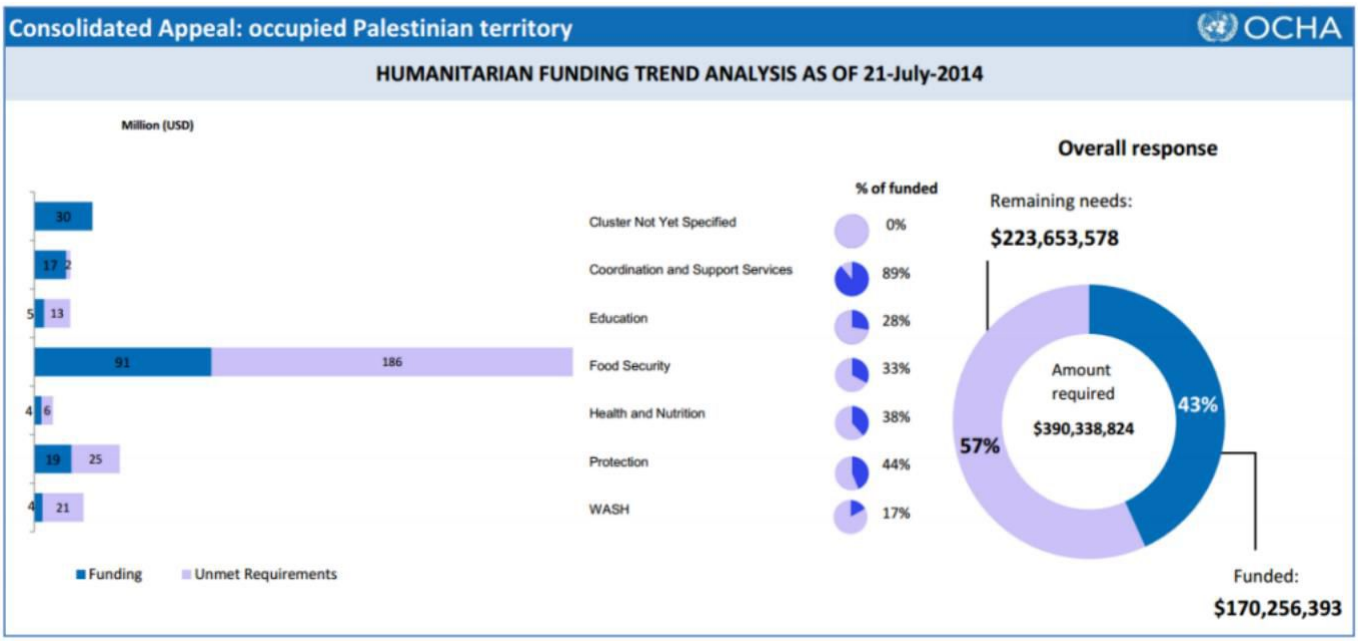
A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, it is estimated that US $69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Some clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of up to US $220 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. The Humanitarian Country Team has

today begun development of a dedicated Gaza Crisis Appeal which will be finalized by 1 August to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $115 million this week. The amount requested will help UNRWA respond to the urgent needs of the currently, 159,000 IDPs taking shelter in its facilities, while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32 per cent of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, two ACF project proposals, (totaling US$ 368,624) to distribute NFI and water storage tanks to 1,475 households in Gaza, are being processed. Three additional proposals were approved today: support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables submitted by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), the provision of food packages and hygine kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Rafah and Khan Unis by Dabn Church Aid; and for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians by UNMASt. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 26 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

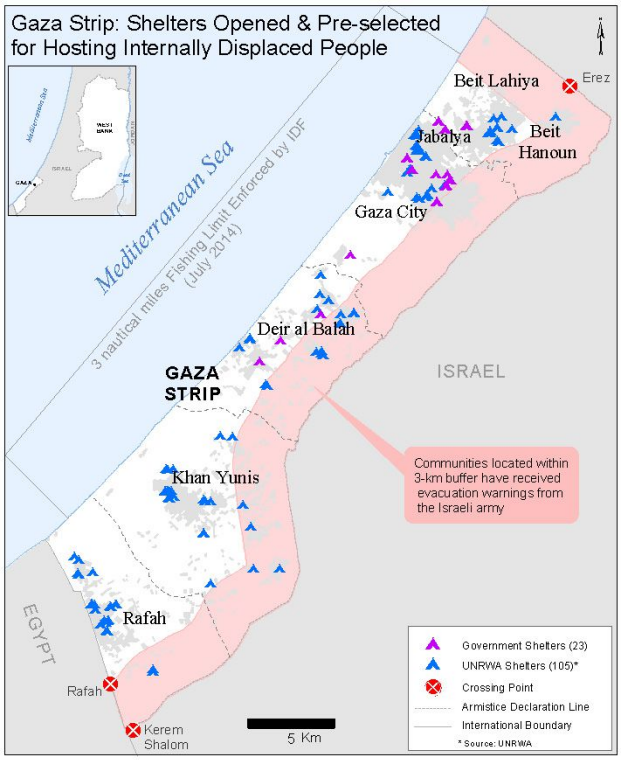
OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 25 July (1500 hrs) to 26 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 27 July.

Highlights

- A 12-hour ceasefire was observed today in Gaza between 08:00 and 20:00.
- The pause in hostilities allowed for the recovery of bodies, with at least 90 Palestinian dead reportedly retrieved up to 14:00.
- 58 Palestinians, including 12 children and eight women, are reported to have been killed in the last 24 hours. This brings the fatality toll to 925, excluding the bodies recovered today.
- Early this morning, prior to the ceasefire, 20 members of the An Najjar family were killed in an Israeli airstrike.

Latest developments: 23:00: although reports suggest that the ceasefire has been extended beyond the 20:00 deadline, some rockets have been fired from Gaza at southern Israel.



924	20	42	18	200,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 676 civilians, of whom 206 are children and 109 are women.[1]	Member of the An Najjar family killed by an Israeli airstrike.	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 40 soldiers, in addition to one foreign national.	Hospitals, clinics and medical centres hit and damaged by shelling.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA and government schools and with host families.

Situation Overview

A 12-hour ceasefire was observed today, the most extensive since hostilities began on 7 July. The lull allowed for Gaza residents to leave their homes and shelters and stock up on basic food items and other necessities. Most population centres, with the exception of Rafah, were filled with people and vehicles and shops and markets opened. Banks and ATMs were also operational. The pause allowed for the removal of accumulated garbage and the clearing away of some rubble, and for utility workers to carry out basic maintenance and repairs.

The ceasefire also provided an opportunity for Gaza residents to reunite with separated relatives, to check up on missing family members and to visit the injured in hospitals. Many returned to inspect damage to their homes, and to retrieve belongings. Ambulance crews and rescue workers continued to sift through the rubble of

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

destroyed buildings to retrieve bodies, particularly from Ash Shujai'iya, Beit Hanoun and around Khan Younis. However, Khuza'a where many are believed to have been killed, remains inaccessible

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, 58 persons have reportedly been killed, many of whose status still needs to be verified, including at least 12 children and eight women. This brings the cumulative fatality toll among Palestinians to at least 924 as of 14.00 today, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 676 civilians (73 per cent of total fatalities); 129 members of armed groups; and 119 persons whose status is still unknown.

These numbers do not include at least 90 bodies which were recovered during the ceasefire from various parts of the Gaza Strip, especially the Israeli-declared three km wide "no-go-zone" from the fence. Among those recovered, was the body of a woman from al-Shouka village, killed by Israeli shelling on 17 July. However, the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) in Khan Younis was denied access to Khuza'a to retrieve the bodies of persons killed during the night of 23 to 24 July. Beit Hanoun Hospital was also shelled again last night, reportedly injuring three staff members and extensively damaging the building.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that about 685 residential properties (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. At least 44 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 253 fatalities, since the onset of the emergency. This trend of multiple family fatalities continued in the period leading up to the ceasefire, with four members of the al-Darazin family, including the father, two children aged three and five, and a cousin reportedly killed when a tank shell struck their home in an Nuseirat camp yesterday afternoon. In the most serious incident, 20 members of the An Najjar family were killed by an Israeli airstrike on their home in the early hours of this morning (*see box*).

On 26 July at around 03:10, an Israeli airstrike hit a two-storey building in the Sheikh Nasser area, eastern Khan Yunis, belonging to Sameer Hussein Mohammed An-Najjar. Twenty family members were reportedly killed including 11 children, four of them aged one year or under. Five women, two of them pregnant, were also killed. According to some reports, the family had recently fled the fighting in Khuza'a to take refuge in the Khan Yunis area.

I unequivocally reiterate to all actors in this conflict that civilians must not be targeted. It is imperative that Israel, Hamas and all Palestinian armed groups strictly abide by applicable norms of international humanitarian law and international human rights law. This entails applying the principles of distinction between civilians and combatants and between civilian objects and military objectives; proportionality; and precautions in attack. Respect for the right to life of civilians, including children, should be a foremost consideration. Not abiding by these principles may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity.
UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, Statement to the Human Rights Council, 23 July 2014

Also of concern are continuing incidents of attacks on ambulances and medical personnel. On 25 July at around 23:10 a PRCS ambulance, after being coordinated by the ICRC, was directed to Al-Qarara in the Khan Yunis area to evacuate an injured person. Three PRCS staff including the driver had to leave the car to reach the injured person during which time, again following ICRC coordination, the driver was reportedly shot at by Israeli forces. It took another 30 minutes for the PRCS personnel, who were shot at several times, to evacuate the driver, who died from his injuries in the hospital. In a similar incident in Beit Hanoun at 16:30 on 25 July, another PRCS ambulance was fired at by an Israeli tank shell, killing a paramedic and wounding two others.

Under international humanitarian law, medical facilities, transportation and personnel should be respected and protected in all circumstances, and must be allowed to carry out their duties, including in the collection, transport and treatment of the injured, at all times without hindrance. Parties to the conflict must take all measures to ensure access to those in need and must facilitate their safe evacuation.

We condemn in the strongest possible terms the attacks against medical personnel and ambulances which have occurred in Gaza over the past two weeks. Targeting ambulances, hospitals and medical workers is a serious violation of the law of war. Palestinian Red Crescent volunteers are out there saving lives. This violence must stop.
Jacques de Maio, Head of delegation for Israel and the occupied territories of the ICRC.

Prior to the commencement of the ceasefire, indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. Five Israeli soldiers were killed during the reporting period bringing the Israeli military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive to 40.

Displacement

As a result of hostilities, tens of thousands of Palestinians have fled their homes in search of a safe haven. As of 08:80 this morning, UNRWA was hosting 165,548 IDPs in 92 schools operating as as emergency shelters, an additional 6,000 compared to yesterday. It is estimated that nearly 9,000 IDPs are residing in 13 government schools and public buildings. This is in addition to the approximately 20,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable. The total figures of IDPs are now over 200,000 people.

After more than two weeks of escalating conflict, some areas are reporting that host families are finding it increasingly difficult to support displaced family members, leading to some increase in the numbers seeking refuge in UNRWA shelters. While many IDPS took advantage of the ceasefire today to leave the shelters for food and other essentials, and some to return to their homes if the security situation allowed, it is expected that most will return to shelters in the absence of a more comprehensive ceasefire. However, the extent of house destruction and damage in Gaza has rendered thousand of families homeless, which will pose challenge when normalcy resumes after a comprehensive cease fire.

Public infrastructure and services

The pause allowed for utility workers to carry out basic maintenance and repairs. The Gaza Electricity Distribution (GEDCO) Corporation reported that all ten feeder lines from Israel were down. GEDCO teams attempted to repair seven lines, including those in northern Gaza, the middle area, Khan Yunis and Rafah in coordination with the ICRC. The three lines feeding Gaza city were found to be extensively damaged and in need of major repair, if not replacement. A main storage warehouse the east of Gaza city was discovered to be heavily damaged with all spare parts unusable.

The Special Coordinator is involved, together with other stakeholders, in brokering an extension of the humanitarian pause for an additional extendable period of 24 hours, to allow vital humanitarian efforts to continue, including UN relief operations. It will give civilians a chance to retrieve and bury their dead, flee to safer premises, resupply with vital commodities and
services, and continue overdue emergency repairs on water and energy infrastructure.
Statement by the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Mr. Robert Serry, calling for an extension of the humanitarian pause, 26 July.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Exceptionally open today from 1100 for pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice.
Kerem Shalom: Closed today as per its regular operating schedule. Yesterday, 110 truckloads of mostly food and medical supplies entered Gaza, including 26 for UNRWA, five for WFP and three for UNICEF in addition to approximately 700,000 litres of fuel and 132 tons of cooking gas.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00.. Yesterday 16 truckloads of medical supplies – donations from Saudi Arabia, Arab Medical Union, Jordan and Morocco - entered Gaza via Rafah.

Note: As the majority of cluster and focal points were in the field for much of the day, taking advantage of the ceasefire to conduct assessments, it was decided not to request inputs for the Humanitarian Needs and Response section today. This will resume tomorrow.

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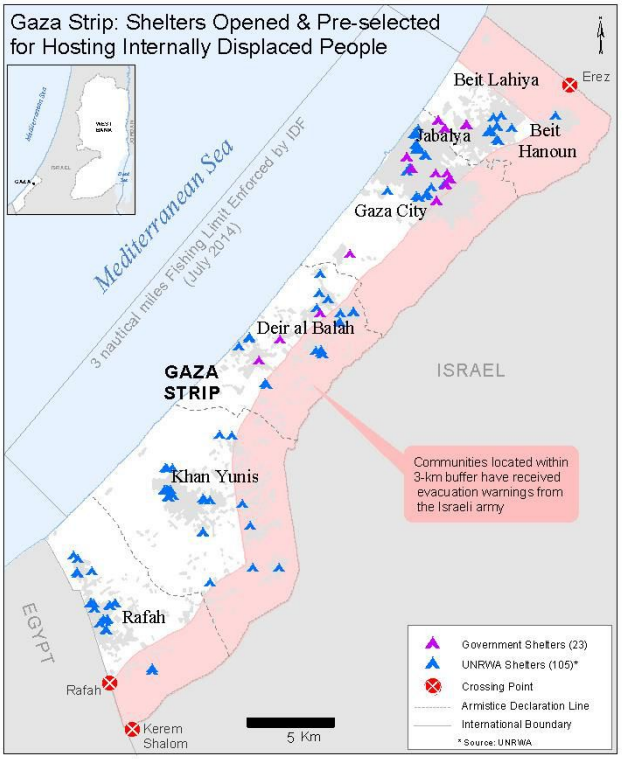
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 27 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 26 July (1500 hrs) to 27 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 28 July.

Highlights

- Hostilities resumed on the night of 26 July, following a short humanitarian pause; efforts to extend the pause have so far failed.
- The pause allowed for the recovery of over 100 bodies and the delivery of basic supplies to emergency shelters, in previously inaccessible areas.
- Large areas in Gaza city outside of the three kilometre-wide 'buffer zone' received warnings from the Israeli army to evacuate their homes ahead of attacks, triggering further displacement.
- Food shortages in the market are reported in some areas, along with sharp price increases in vegetables and dairy products.
- Despite some repairs to damaged lines, electricity outages continue for about 20 hours a day, challenging the operation of WASH and health facilities.



999	6,233	46	22	215,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 760 civilians, of whom 226 are children and 117 are women.[1]	Palestinians injured, including 1,949 children and 1,160 women.	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 43 soldiers, in addition to one foreign national.	Hospitals, clinics and medical centres hit and damaged by shelling.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA, government schools and informal shelters, or with host families.

Situation Overview

The Gaza emergency enters its twentieth day, with the Palestinian fatality toll exceeding 1,000 (many not yet identified), and the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) surpassing 200,000. The 12-hour ceasefire that entered into force yesterday (26 July) at 8 am, was extended unilaterally by Israel to midnight, but was not fully upheld, with reports of rockets being fired towards Israel. Intense Israeli bombardments and ground operations resumed at midnight, alongside a continuation of Palestinian rocket fire. A UN proposal for an additional 24-hour ceasefire starting today at 14:00 was accepted by Hamas but reportedly rejected by Israel. With no place being perceived as safe and immune from attack, and Gaza's crossings effectively sealed, the resumption of hostilities fueled further frustration, hopelessness and despair.

[1] Excludes individuals whose bodies were recovered during the pause but were not yet identified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Throughout the duration of the ceasefire and beyond, ambulance crews and rescue workers continued to search the rubble of destroyed buildings to retrieve bodies, particularly in Ash Shujai'iya, Beit Hanoun and around Khan Younis. The pause also allowed for supplies to be delivered to previously inaccessible localities within the three kilometer wide 'buffer zone' declared by Israel, particularly in the northern and middle areas. Water tankers were able to reach some emergency shelters in these areas for the first time in several days. However, some areas, most notable Khuza'a (east of Khan Younis), have remained inaccessible, despite the ceasefire. A number of warehouses critical for humanitarian operations have remained out of reach as well, including UNRWA's main warehouse in eastern Gaza City.

Gazans took advantage of the ceasefire to stock up on basic necessities. However, shortages of some food items in the local market have increased, and in some areas, large crowds have been observed outside of bakeries. While prices of staple food have remained largely stable, prices of fresh food, vegetables in particular, soared. Possible reasons for these shortages and price rises include the inaccessibility of some farming areas and food warehouses, as well as the increase in purchases by humanitarian agencies supporting IDPs.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the start of the ceasefire, over 100 bodies have been retrieved from previously inaccessible areas, however, as of this afternoon only 56 have been identified and included in the fatality toll. This is in addition to at least 16 Palestinians killed, or who died of wounds, during the reporting period, mostly between midnight and 14:00today. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 999, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 760 civilians (76 per cent of total fatalities); 151 members of armed groups; and 88 persons whose status is still unknown.

In one incident today at around 9:30 am, the Israeli army reportedly opened artillery fire at a rural area north of Al Moghraqa village (middle area). One of the shells struck near a poultry feed truck, killing Eid Ahmad Al Kharti, 70, and his son Sufyan, 40, and injuring five workers.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel resumed yesterday at 20:00, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional civilian fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. One Israeli soldier was killed during the reporting period and another two died of their wounds sustained previously, bringing the Israeli military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive to 43.

We express shock at the high number of civilians killed and injured in the ongoing Israeli operations in Gaza and at the rocket attacks launched by Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups in Israeli civilian areas […] The actions of all parties need to be thoroughly and impartially investigated, and those found responsible for war crimes and crimes against humanity, on either side, must be held accountable for their actions. Impunity for crimes committed in the past has had a lingering negative effect in this region.

Statement by the Special Advisers of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, Mr. Adama Dieng, and on the Responsibility to Protect, Ms. Jennifer Welsh, 24 July 2014.

Displacement

Many IDPs took advantage of the ceasefire to leave the shelters to purchase basic supplies, and some to return to their homes to inspect damage and collect clothing and other essentials belongings; however, the vast majority have returned. As hostilities resumed, large areas in the southwest of Gaza city outside of the 'buffer zone', including Al Zaitoun, Sabra, and Asqula neighborhoods, received additional warnings from the Israeli army to evacuate their homes ahead of attacks, triggering more displacement.

Overall, during the reporting period some 8,000 additional people have sought refuge at UNRWA schools operating as emergency shelters, which are now hosting over 173,000 IDPs. It is estimated that another 10,000 IDPs are residing in 13 government schools and public buildings. This is in addition to the approximately 22,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable.

Public infrastructure and services

The pause allowed for utility workers to carry out basic maintenance and repairs. The Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO) reported that four of the ten feeder lines from Israel were repaired in coordination with the ICRC, however, the three lines feeding Gaza city could not be repaired due to the large scope of damage. Scheduled electricity outages have continued for some 20 hours a day. While prior damage to the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) has been repaired, unless additional fuel is delivered, the plant will shut down tomorrow.

All water pumps and equipment for wells, sewage pumping stations, wastewater treatment plants and desalination plants have been affected by the sharp reduction in electricity supply. Those facilities without generators have shut down, while the rest are affected by an ongoing scarcity of fuel. As a result, the vast majority of the population has reduced access to water: due to the lower pressure in the network, water cannot reach certain streets, areas of higher altitude, and upper levels of multi-storey buildings. Several areas are exposed to public health risks due to the mixing of sewage with piped water, as a result of unrepaired damages to the networks.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: On 27 July, the crossing was open from 10:00 for pre-coordinated movement only, but subject to temporary closures due to hostilities south of the crossing.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: Was open on 27 July as per its regular operation hours.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00 for medical evacuations.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

194,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 194,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past eighteen days.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.
- UNRWA counsellors are present in shelters to provide psychosocial support to people, namely children, in coping with their experiences of fear and loss.
- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 1,466 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Sawa Child Protection Helpline continues to operate providing guidance to caregivers via phone calls. Since 13 July the Helpline has been operating 24/7 with capacity to take 30 calls simultaneously. On 23 July, Sawa provided support to 120 people.
- Since 20 July, 100,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza. World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.

- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war, reaching up to one million people in Gaza.

Gaps and Constraints

- Children and families are in desperate need of core child protection support and information, yet ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since 18 July hamper communication with PSS staff.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Due to the rapidly increasing need, the number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient.
- Managers of government schools serving as emergency refuges are yet to receive child protection training.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

~215,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- 3,695 families (approximately 22,200 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for about 4235 families (25,400 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. 24,500 families (147,000 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage require NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- Approximately 173,000 people are being provided with shelter in 83 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 10,000 individuals are sheltered in ten government schools and other facilities. Approximately 22,200 are taking refuge with relatives or host families.
- 11,108 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by shelter cluster partners to date.
- On 25 and 26 July UNRWA delivered a total of 67 truckloads of NFIs to shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 18 million is needed to allow 3,695 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits, including blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and hygiene sets, are required for 2,600 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Rafah Municipality has requested support to prevent the spread of epidemics like lice and scabies, which have been reported in shelters.
- Water supply to households affected due to low pumping capacity and restricted access to municipal water wells.
- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water tankering.

- Urgent need for fuel, to run the water wells as water is pumped to the network only when there is electricity supply.
- Rafah schools require additional storage water tanks.

Response

- UNRWA, supported by local municipalities, is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters in areas where water pumping is currently not possible due to damaged or inaccessible WASH infrastructure. On 26 July, UNRWA distributed tankered water to a shelter in Al Maghazi which had been inaccessible since 21 July.
- UNRWA sanitation workers were able to remove an estimated 313 tons of solid waste from all areas of the Gaza Strip on 26 July, including from Al Maghazi and Bureij for the first time since 21 July.
- Oxfam GB provided 104 cubic metres of drinking water to 42,552 IDPs in shelters and public buildings in Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah.
- On 26 July, water storage tanks were distributed by WASH partners.
- Ongoing assessment of water companies is taking place in order to up-scale water tankering of desalinated water to informal IDP shelters.
- Since 25 July: CMWU installed a generator at a ground water well in Khan Younis; operated valves to distribute water to areas in the eastern part of Gaza city, which had been without access to water for days; repair a damaged pipeline in Al Fukhari, reconnecting 1,000 people to the network.
- Municipal technicians carried out temporary repairs to damaged water and sewage pipes in a number of locations in Jabalia and Beit Lahiya.
- WASH partners have flagged water-related diseases and is coordinating with the health cluster partners to prevent spread of diseases in shelters.

Gaps and constraints

- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- Most WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in northern Gaza (buffer zone) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Municipal technicians could not carry out repairs to the damaged pipelines in the eastern part of Jabalia, affecting the water supply to 2,000 residents.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- At least 22 health facilities which have been destroyed or sustained damage due to shelling require repair or reconstruction.
- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.

22

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

Response

- WHO is coordinating the delivery of needed medical supplies to NGO-run hospitals.
- Four planeloads of Swiss and Norwegian funded medical goods, primarily IV fluids, surgical kits and medicine, arrived to the oPt via Jordan for delivery to hospitals in Gaza.
- UNFPA, through the MoH, has donated US$ 500,000 to cover health needs in Gaza.

- The Israeli field clinic which was set up next to Erez crossing on 21 July continues to treat injured Palestinians in coordination with PCRS and PA Civil Affairs Committee. In the past two days, a total of 18 patients were treated at the field hospital, 11 were sent for further care elsewhere.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- On 26 July, only 13 out of 21 UNRWA health centres were open due to lack of security.
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- Access to maternity care is also restricted for an estimated 45,000 pregnant women in the Gaza Strip, of whom approximately 5,000 have been displaced.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.
- The health and environmental condition in shelters is a major concern, especially lack of water and hygiene materials. Municipal garbage collection has almost stopped, which increases public health risks.

Food Security

Needs

- Over 200,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, government schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

200

Metric tonnes of food assistance delivered per day to shelters

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools, an average of 200 metric tonnes of food per day,
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching approximately 22,000 displaced persons in private shelters and host families.
- UNRWA's regular food distribution will be extended to also include Saturday and the Eid holiday, where distribution centres would normally be closed.

Gaps and Constraints

- Bakeries, mills and dairy production plants have reduced their operational capacity due to lack of security and damage to facilities caused by military attacks.
- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed 'no-go' zone impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- UNRWA's regular food distribution is being put under increased pressure by the closure of UNRWA distribution centres in Deir El Baleh, Beit Hanoun and eastern Khan Younis due to heightened insecurity.

Education

Needs

- Assessments conducted during the brief humanitarian pause on 26 July revealed damage sustained to eight government schools, one for the second time. Six of those assessed were severely damaged. The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency now stands at 130, including 49 government schools and 81 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.

130

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

- During the humanitarian pause on 26 July, technical staff from the Directorate of the Middle area were able to visit school compounds in Burij camp, Nuseirat camp, Zawaida abd Deir El Balah to assess damage sustained to schools.
- Tamer Institute has begun the distribution of children books and games to children and families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter.

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to hospitals and government school shelters. The EOC Secretariat met in Ramallah to discuss a coordinated approach to appeals by different Ministries. OCHA discussed the preparation of the HCT Gaza Crisis Appeal with MOPAD. The Launching of the humanitarian appeal is scheduled for 1 August, in Ramallah

OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

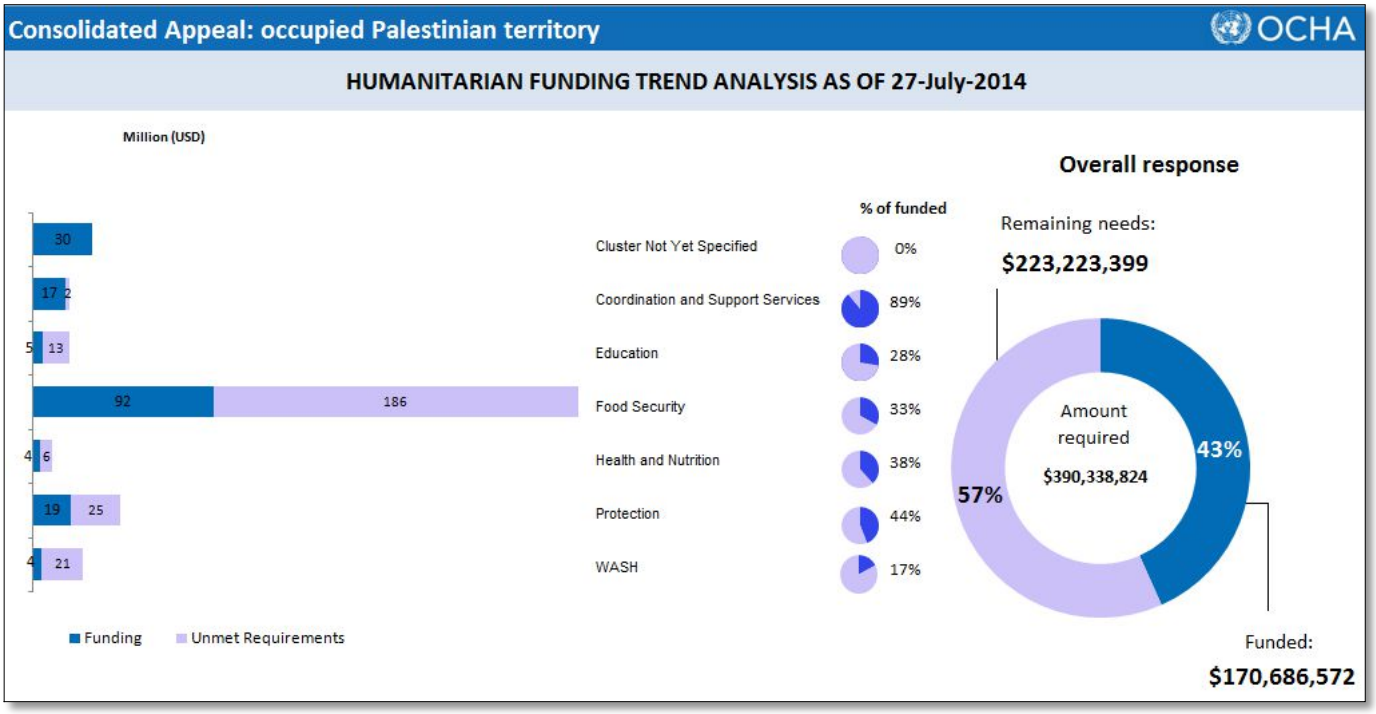
Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, it is estimated that US $69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Some clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of up to US $220 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. The Humanitarian Country Team has begun development of a dedicated Gaza Crisis Appeal which will be finalized by 1 August to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $115 million this week. The amount requested will help UNRWA respond to the urgent needs of the currently, 159,000 IDPs taking shelter in its facilities, while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32 per cent of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, two ACF project proposals, (totaling US$ 368,624) to distribute NFI and water storage tanks to 1,475 households in Gaza, are being processed. Three additional proposals were approved today: support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables submitted by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), the provision of food packages and hygine kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Rafah and Khan Unis by Dabn Church Aid; and for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians by UNMASt. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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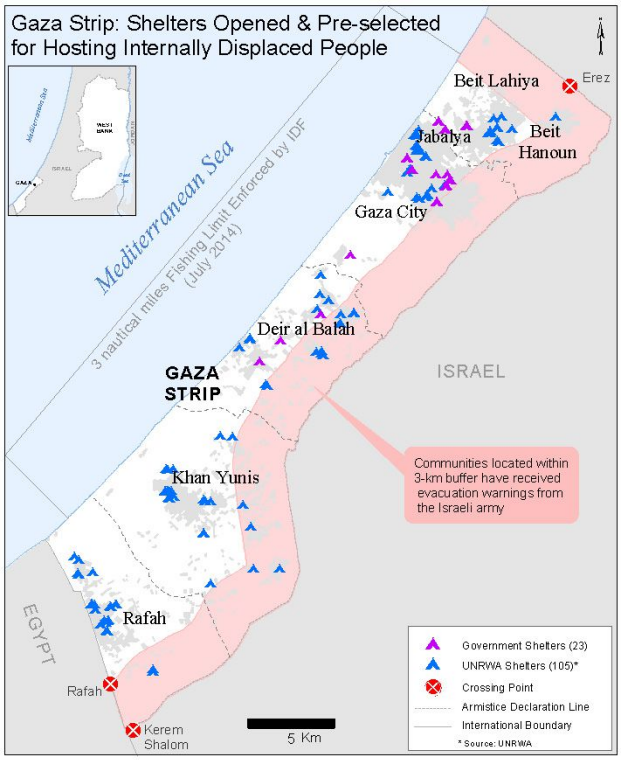
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 28 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 27 July (1500 hrs) to 28 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 29 July.

Highlights

- Following a significant decline in hostilities overnight rocket firing from Gaza and Israeli strikes at targets in Gaza resumed today.
- 74 Palestinians, including 10 children and six women, are reported to have been killed, or their bodies identified, in the last 24 hours.
- Approximately 180,000 persons, almost ten per cent of the population of Gaza, are now taking shelter in UNRWA schools, compounding overcrowding and raising health concerns.



Latest developments: 17:00. Ten Palestinian children were reportedly killed when a missile struck a park in Beach Camp. Mortars fired from Gaza killed four Israelis, reportedly soldiers and wounded several others in southern Israel.

22:00. Notices were distributed to Beit Hanoun and all areas in northern Gaza to the east of the three km "buffer zone", to evacuate to Gaza city. Evacuation notices were also distributed in eastern Gaza city earlier in the day.

24.00: It was also reported that evacuation notices were sent to Jabalia refugee camp in northern Gaza.

1,065	6,233	47	22	215,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 795 civilians, of whom 229 are children and 118 are women.[1]	Palestinians injured, including 1,949 children and 1,160 women, as of 27 July.	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 44 soldiers, in addition to one foreign national.	Hospitals, clinics and medical centres hit and damaged by shelling.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA schools, government schools and informal shelters, or with host families.

Situation Overview

The Gaza emergency entered its twenty-first day with a marked reduction in hostilities overnight, which coincided with the beginning of the Eid al Fitr holiday. The relative calm amid intensified international diplomatic efforts, including at the UN

[1] Excludes individuals whose bodies were recovered during the pause but not yet identified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Security Council, raised hopes for a more comprehensive ceasefire. However, rocket firing into Israel and Israeli strikes at targets in Gaza resumed throughout the morning and afternoon, intensifying in the evening.

Let me begin by reinforcing last night's call of the Security Council, calling for an immediate, unconditional humanitarian ceasefire. As the world marks Eid al-Fitr, it is time for an immediate, unconditional humanitarian ceasefire. In the name of humanity, the violence must stop.
Remarks of Secretary-General at Press Encounter, 28 July 2014.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, 46 persons have reportedly been killed and the bodies of 28 were retrieved or identified, including at least ten children and six women. During the 12-hour humanitarian pause on 26 July, over 100 bodies of Palestinians were reportedly retrieved from various areas within the Israeli declared three-km-wide "buffer-zone" along the fence with Israel, of which a total of 84 have now been identified, while others are still pending identification according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health.

From 7 July to 14.00 today, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, Israeli air, naval and ground strikes in Gaza have killed at least 1,065 Palestinians. This includes at least 795 civilians (75 per cent of total fatalities); including 229 children and 118 women, 178 members of armed groups and 91 persons whose status is yet unknown. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 6,233 Palestinians, including 1,949 children and 1,169 women, had been injured as at 12.00 a.m. on 27 July.

With hundreds of Palestinians already killed in Gaza and horrifying levels of physical destruction, [the Secretary-General] urges those responsible to step back from provoking or inflicting yet more tragic violence on civilians there.
Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General on the situation in Gaza, 28 July 2014

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel stopped overnight but resumed this morning, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional civilian fatalities during the reporting period. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. One Israeli soldier was killed in the reporting period, bringing to 44 the number of Israeli military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive on 17 July.

Displacement

Overall, during the reporting period approximately 6,000 more people have sought refuge at UNRWA schools operating as emergency shelters, which are now hosting 178,992 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in 82 schools. That is over 10 per cent of the total Gazan population and more than triple those sheltered by UNRWA at the peak of the three-week long Israeli Operation "Cast Lead" in 2008/09. An average of 2,000 IDPs are taking refuge in each of the 82 UNRWA shelters, schools which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people, and have not been designed as living spaces. Shelters are under great pressure, without adequate water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in place. In order to maintain minimum standards of health and hygiene, UNRWA is sending additional supplies of cleaning products to shelters as well as putting in place plans to prevent health epidemics, such as scabies and head lice. The end of the fasting month of Ramadan is also expected to place increased pressure on UNRWA's food and water supplies.

It is estimated that another 10,000 IDPs are residing in 13 government schools and public buildings. This is in addition to the approximately 22,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable. It remains unknown how many people who have fled the conflict are staying with host families, but it is estimated that this number ranges in the tens of thousands.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: On 28 July, the crossing was open as per its regular schedule, from 08:30-16:00 for pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open on 28 July as per its regular operation hours. On 27 July, 94 truckloads of mostly food, medicine and NFIs entered Gaza through Kerem Shalom, in addition to diesel, fuel and cooking gas.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00 for medical evacuations. A minimum of 27 injured Palestinians exited Gaza through Rafah over the past two days.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

194,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 194,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS).
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,023 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 18 July, the Youth Empowerment Center, in cooperation with UNRWA, has been providing PSS to IDPs in UNRWA shelters, reaching 446 children and 387 caregivers.
- The Community Training Centre and Crisis Management (CTCCM) conducted activities with 275 children on 26 and 27 July in UNRWA shelters in Jabalia.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 18 July, Tamer has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries.
- Since 20 July, 100,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war, reaching up to one million people in Gaza.
- UNMAS deployed an UXO clearance expert to Gaza on 28 July.
- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Children and families are in desperate need of core child protection support and information, yet ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Due to the rapidly increasing need, the number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

~215,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- Significant movement from East Jabalia into Jabalia has been reported in response to evacuation orders delivered by the Israeli army to communities, which will necessitate an additional number of government schools being opened as shelters, as well as provision of food, water and NFIs to IDPs.
- As of yesterday, 3,695 families (approximately 22,200 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance.
- As reported yesterday, NFI emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 4235 families (25,400 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. 24,500 families (147,000 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage also require basic NFI assistance.

Response

- Approximately 179,000 people are being provided with shelter in 82 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 10,000 individuals are sheltered in ten government schools, informal refuges and other facilities. Approximately 22,200 are taking refuge with relatives or host families.
- On 27 July UNRWA delivered 29 truckloads of NFIs to shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 18 million is needed to allow 3,695 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are required for 2,600 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools and accommodate the needs of new IDPs displaced from communities who have received evacuation orders in the last 24 hours.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Water supply to households affected due to low pumping capacity and restricted access to municipal water wells.
- IDPs as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water tankering.
- Urgent need for fuel, to run the water wells as water is pumped to the network only when there is electricity supply.

Response

- UNRWA, supported by local municipalities, is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters in areas where water pumping is currently not possible due to damaged or inaccessible WASH infrastructure.
- On 27 July, UNRWA sanitation workers removed an estimated 281 tons of solid waste from all areas of the Gaza Strip, except from Bureij camp which was inaccessible.
- Ongoing assessment of water companies is taking place in order to up-scale water tankering of desalinated water to informal IDP shelters.

Gaps and constraints

- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- Most WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in northern Gaza (buffer zone) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Municipal technicians could not carry out repairs to the damaged pipelines in the eastern part of Jabalia, affecting the water supply to 2,000 residents.

- UNRWA shelters are under great pressure as a result of overcrowding, without adequate WASH infrastructure in place to accommodate for the high number of IDPs.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- At least 22 health facilities which have been destroyed or sustained damage due to shelling require repair or reconstruction.
- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

22

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

Response

- Will be covered in tomorrow's Situation Report.

Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- On 27 July, only 13 out of 21 UNRWA health centres were open due to lack of security, serving a total of 13,807 people.
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- Access to maternity care is also restricted for an estimated 45,000 pregnant women in the Gaza Strip, of whom approximately 5,000 have been displaced.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.
- The health and environmental condition in shelters is a major concern, especially lack of water and hygiene materials. Municipal garbage collection has almost stopped, which increases public health risks.

Food Security

Needs

- Approximately 215,000 IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

~215,000

IDPs require food assistance and water tankering.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching approximately 22,000 displaced persons in private shelters and host families.

- UNRWA's regular food distribution will be extended to also include Saturday and the Eid holiday, where distribution centres would normally be closed. On 27 July, eight out of 12 distribution centres remained open and operational.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed 'no-go' zone impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- UNRWA's regular food distribution is being put under increased pressure by the closure of UNRWA distribution centres in Deir El Baleh, Beit Hanoun and eastern Khan Younis due to heightened insecurity.

Education

Needs

- In the last 24 hours, three additional UNRWA schools were affected by shelling. The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency now stands at 133, including 49 government schools and 84 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.

133

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to hospitals and government school shelters. Most EOC members used the humanitarian pause to pre-position supplies, reach previously inaccessible areas and conduct rapid assessments and monitoring visits. The EOC Secretariat met in Ramallah to discuss a coordinated approach to appeals by different Ministries. OCHA discussed the preparation of the HCT Gaza Crisis Appeal with MOPAD. The Launching of the humanitarian appeal is scheduled for 1 August, in Ramallah

OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, it is estimated that US $69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Some clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of up to US $220 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. The Humanitarian Country Team has begun development of a dedicated Gaza Crisis Appeal which will be finalized by 1 August to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $115 million this week. The amount requested will help UNRWA respond to the urgent needs of the currently, 159,000 IDPs taking shelter in its facilities, while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

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households in Gaza, are being processed. Three additional proposals were approved today: support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables submitted by Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP), the provision of food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Rafah and Khan Yunis by Dan Church Aid; and for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians by UNMASt. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

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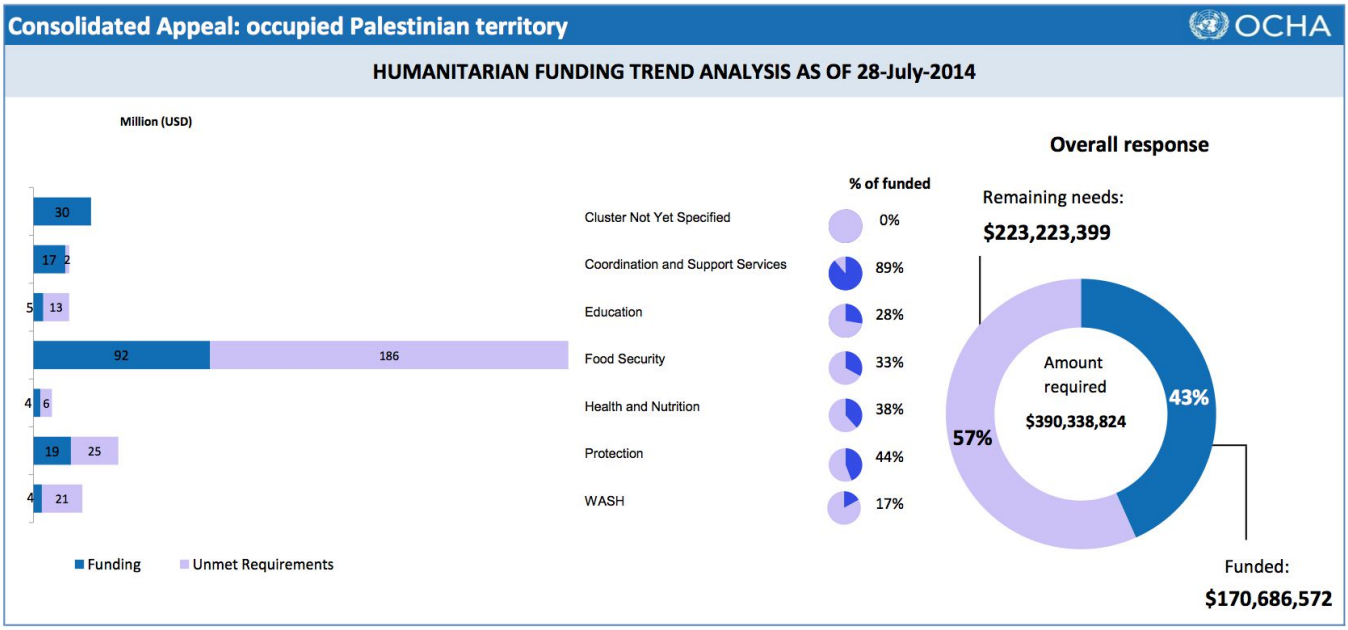

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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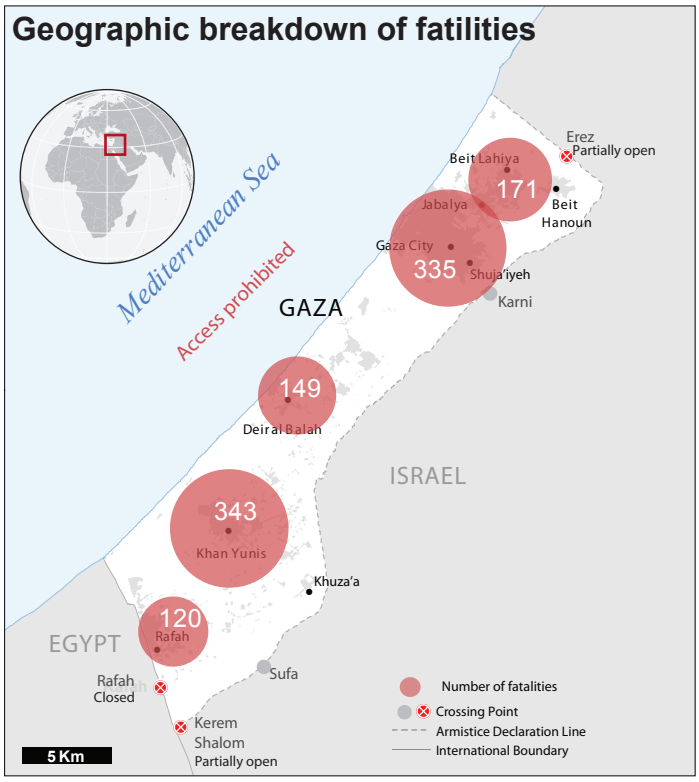
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 29 July 2014, 15:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

6,233* Injured(at least) 1,949 Children 1,160 Women

240,000 Displaced people in UNRWA / government schools & with host families.

1.8 million Affected by halt or reduction of water supply

2 hours of electricity per day supplied in Gaza city on average

Situation Overview

Since the last situation update, at least 51 persons have been killed or died of injuries they sustained previously, including at least nine children and 13 women. According to media reports, however, the number of deaths during the overnight bombings is larger and may include as many as 36 additional fatalities, whose bodies are still buried under the rubble or who could not yet be identified.

Heavy tank shelling and fighting were recorded also in Al Bureij camp in the middle area. According to initial reports, in one of the incidents, involving the targeting of a residential building in the camp, 16 members of the Abu Jabber extended family, were reportedly killed, including five children: The house of Al Bureij's mayor has been also targeted, killing him, his father (76) and his nine year old nephew, from the Abu Shamaleh family.

Gaza's sole power plant shut down after being hit and damaged: the additional reduction in electricity supply is expected to have a pervasive impact on the availability of food and access of people to basic services.

The number of IDPs exceeds 240,000; UNRWA has exhausted its absorption capacity in Gaza City and northern Gaza, while overcrowding at its shelters raises concerns about the outbreak of epidemics.

Damaged structures

133 schools damaged

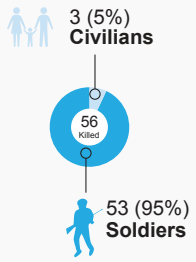
4,025 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

23 health facilities damaged

4,565 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

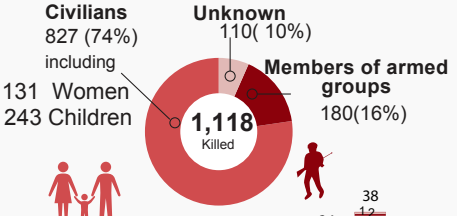
Israeli Fatilities

Fatalities by status

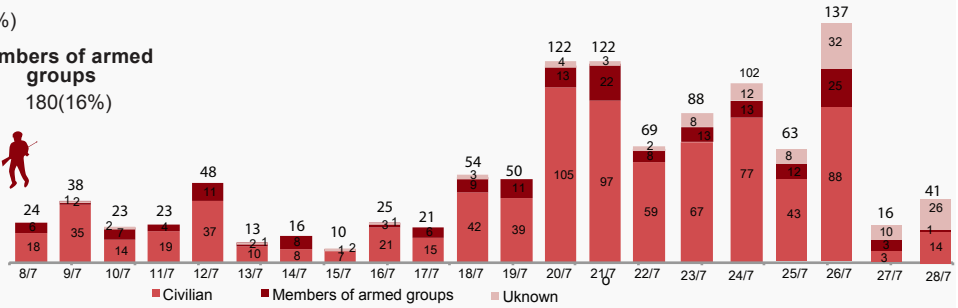


Palestinian Casualties *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date



Key Humanitarian Priorities

Protection of civilians: Ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: Increased access for humanitarian workers and their partners to carry out life-saving and emergency assistance is urgently needed, for example through a regular and meaningful humanitarian pause or coordination requests that are respected. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas of Gaza, such a Ash Shuja'iyeh and Khuza'a; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure; but also to provide a predictable basic level of broader humanitarian assistance to a population in need. The inability of actors to provide humanitarian assistance will undermine the credibility of the operations and could increase the security risks of humanitarian workers.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance of IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

oPt Funding by Cluster

(in million US$)

HCT have begun preparation of a crisis appeal for Gaza

Projects targeting Gaza specifically in the 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) are requesting $221 million, of which 32 per cent ($70 million) has been received. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.

Cluster	Required	Mobilized as of 23 July	Percentage
Education	6.7	2.2	32%
Food Security	183.7	60.5	28%
Health and Nutrition	9.9	1.2	9%
Protection	7.3	3.2	44%
Shelter and NFIs	3.5	0.3	12%
WASH	10.2	2.9	33%
TOTAL	221.3	70.3	33%

Creation date: 30 July 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

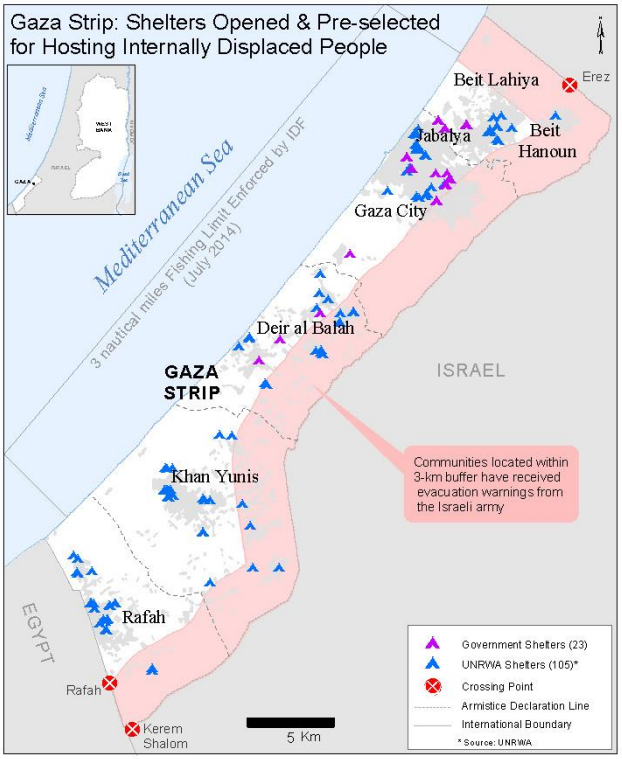
* These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified, including the Beit Hanoun school. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.The Numebr of Palestinian casualities as of 27 July, 15:00 .

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 29 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 28 July (1500 hrs) to 29 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 30 July.

Highlights

- Last night witnessed one of the heaviest Israeli bombardments since the start of the emergency, including the targeting of many residential buildings, resulting in dozens of civilian casualties.
- Gaza's sole power plant shut down after being hit and damaged: the additional reduction in electricity supply is expected to have a pervasive impact on the availability of food and access of people to basic services.
- The Israeli army warned all Palestinian civilians living within the Israeli imposed three kilometer wide 'buffer zone', to evacuate the area, except for three localities, ahead of further attacks.
- The number of IDPs exceeds 240,000; UNRWA has exhausted its absorption capacity in Gaza City and northern Gaza, while overcrowding at its shelters raises concerns about the outbreak of epidemics.



1,118	56	747	2	>240,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 827 civilians, of whom 243 are children and 131 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 53 soldiers, in addition to one foreign national	Residential buildings targeted and destroyed or damaged	Hours of electricity per day supplied in Gaza city and zero in the Middle Areas.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA schools, and registered in government schools, informal shelters, or with host families.

Situation Overview

The Gaza emergency enters its fourth week amidst a severe deterioration in the humanitarian situation. Last night witnessed one of the heaviest Israeli bombardments so far, resulting in dozen of additional civilian fatalities along with widespread destruction of civilian property. An external wall of Shifa, the largest hospital in the Gaza Strip, was hit and damaged, and another UNRWA staff member was killed, mounting to five UNRWA staff killed so far.

Of particular concern is the damage sustained by the Gaza Power Plant (GPP), which brought the operation of the plant to a halt. Consequently, Gaza city is receiving electricity for about two hours a day, while localities in the Middle Area have no supply at all. This is expected to have a pervasive impact on the living conditions for several months, including in the

[1] Excludes individuals whose bodies were recovered during the pause but not yet identified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

functioning of water, sanitation and health facilities, as well as in food production, including the functioning of flour mills and bakeries.

In the last 24 hours, the Israeli military also warned the majority of those who have remained within the three kilometer-wide 'buffer zone', to move westwards, ahead of further attacks, with the exception of residents of eastern Jabaliya, Al-Maghazi and Al Bureij camps, and Bani Suheila village. As a result, the number of internally displaced persons (IDP) has increased to over 240,000. This has exacerbated overcrowding at UNRWA schools and raised concerns about the outbreak of epidemics.

The Secretary-General has learned with concern that leaflets are reportedly being dropped by the Israeli Defence Forces in the northern Gaza Strip… this would have a further devastating humanitarian impact on the beleaguered civilians of those areas of the Gaza strip, who have already undergone immense suffering in recent days. The United Nations agencies present in Gaza do not have the resources on the ground to cope with, or provide assistance to, an enormous extra influx of desperate people.

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, 28 July

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, at least 51 persons have been killed or died of injuries they sustained previously, including at least nine children and 13 women. According to media reports, however, the number of deaths during the overnight bombings is larger and may include as many as 36 additional fatalities, whose bodies are still buried under the rubble or who could not yet be identified.

Overnight, the town of Rafah, in the south, was subject to the most intense shelling since the start of the emergency, killing nearly half of the people that fall within the reporting period (23); at least eight residential buildings were targeted and destroyed and three severely damaged, resulting in most of these casualties.

Heavy tank shelling and fighting were recorded also in Al Bureij camp in the middle area. According to initial reports, in one of the incidents, involving the targeting of a residential building in the camp, 16 members of the Abu Jabber extended family, were reportedly killed, including five children: Muhamad, three years old, Lina, two years old, and Jihad, Toga, and Jamal, all one year old. The house of Al Bureij's mayor has been also targeted, killing him, his father (76) and his nine year old nephew, from the Abu Shamaleh family.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that approximately 750 targeted residential structures (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties, including multiple members of the same families.

"Civilian homes are not legitimate targets unless they are being used for, or contribute to, military purposes at the time in question... Even where a home is identified as being used for military purposes, any attack must be proportionate, offer a definite military advantage in the prevailing circumstances at the time, and precautions must be taken.... A number of incidents, along with the high number of civilian deaths, belies the claim that all necessary precautions are being taken to protect civilian lives."

UN High Commssioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay at the Human Rights Council 21st Special Session, 23 July 2014.

From 7 July to 14.00 today, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, Israeli air, naval and ground strikes in Gaza have killed at least 1,118 Palestinians. This includes at least 827 civilians (74 per cent of total fatalities); including 243 children and 131 women, 180 members of armed groups and 110 persons whose status is yet unknown.

During the reporting period, nine Israeli soldiers have been killed in Israel, next to the fence with Gaza, bringing to 53 the number of Israeli military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive on 17 July; this is over five times higher than the number of soldiers killed in the "Cast Lead" offensive in 2008/9. Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional civilian fatalities during the reporting period. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel.

Displacement

Following the new calls by the Israeli army to evacuate most areas on the eastern side of the Gaza Strip, some 21,000 more people have sought refuge at UNRWA schools operating as emergency shelters, which as of this afternoon were hosting 200,400 IDPs. That is over 11 per cent of the total Gazan population and nearly four times more than those sheltered by UNRWA at the peak of the three-week long Israeli Operation "Cast Lead" in 2008/09. An average of nearly 2,400 IDPs are

taking refuge in each of the 85 UNRWA schools, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people, and have not been designed as living spaces. Shelters are under great pressure, without adequate water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in place, raising concern about the outbreak of epidemics.

It is estimated that another 10,000 IDPs are residing in 13 government schools, four of whom are receiving supplies from UNRWA. Another 40 government schools, which have been identified as shelters and their coordinates shared with the Israeli army, are expected to open. Another 7,000 IDPs are reportedly seeking refuge in public buildings across Gaza city alone. This is in addition to the approximately 24,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable. It remains unknown how many people who have fled the conflict are staying with host families, but it is estimated that this number ranges in the tens of thousands.

Electricity supply

A fuel tank supplying the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) was hit and damaged, shutting down operations. According to the Palestinian Energy Authority, repairs could take months to complete. This is the third attack affecting the GPP since the start of the emergency. Additionally, despite some repairs, the previously damaged ten feeder lines from Israel remained down. Therefore Gaza currently receives just 64 megawats of electricity from Egypt and Israel, less than 18 per cent of the estimated demand.

This places additional burdens on the provision of essential services. Hospitals will depend more heavily on their own diesel-powered generators, which are not adequate to power l services for extended periods. Previously, hospital generators have burned out with extensive use, and power fluctuations damage finely calibrated medical equipment. Shifa hospital, for example, is able to provide full power for its operating theatres but cuts its non-essential, but still needed services, in other areas.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: On 29 July, the crossing was open during a limited time only for specific and pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open on 29 July from 10:00 until at least 15:00. On 28 July, 31 truckloads of mostly food, water, medicine, blankets and hygiene kits entered Gaza through this crossing; no goods for the private market or fuel were transferred.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00 to 15:00. A total of 12 injured Palestinians exited Gaza through this crossing. On 28 July, five truckloads of food supplies entered via Rafah.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 270,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS).
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

270,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- UNMAS deployed an UXO clearance expert to Gaza on 28 July, while UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.
- Updates on PSS activities to be included tomorrow

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Due to the rapidly increasing need, the number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

>240,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- Opening of government schools identified as potential shelters is required to accommodate new and expected IDPs
- As of yesterday, 4,025 families (approximately 24,150 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 4,565 families (27,390 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. 26,200 families (157,200 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage also require basic NFI assistance.

Response

- More than 200,300 people are being provided with shelter in 85 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 10,000 individuals are sheltered in 15 government and private schools, and other facilities.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 20 million is needed to allow 4,025 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are required for 2,600 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools and accommodate the needs of new IDPs displaced from communities who have received evacuation orders in the last 24 hours.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

1.8 million

Affected by halt or reduction of water supply

- With the shutdown of the GPP, additional fuel supply to run the water wells is a key priority.
- The Deir al Balah Desalination Plant requires additional fuel to resume water pumping into the network.
- Insecticides and medicines are needed in Rafah to treat epidemics such as lice and scabies, which started to spread in shelters

- IDPs as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water tankering.

Response

- **U**NRWA, supported by local municipalities, is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters in areas where water pumping is currently not possible due to damaged or inaccessible WASH infrastructure. **W**ater tankering is provided to informal shelters as well.
- On 28 July, UNRWA sanitation workers removed an estimated 193 tons of solid waste.
- WASH cluster will coordinate with health authorities the treatment of epidemics in Rafah.

Gaps and constraints

- Additional funding is required to cover fuel supply to run back-up generators
- The lack of safe access to water and sanitation facilities for maintenance and repair is the biggest constraint.
- Most WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in northern Gaza (buffer zone) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- UNRWA shelters are under great pressure as a result of overcrowding, without adequate WASH infrastructure in place to accommodate for the high number of IDPs.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- At least 23 health facilities which have been destroyed or sustained damage due to shelling require repair or reconstruction.
- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.

23

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anaesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

Response

Will be covered in tomorrow's Situation Report.

Gaps and constraints

- The destruction of the GPP puts another burden on the Ministry of Health's ability to provide continuance of care for patients.
- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.
- The health and environmental condition in shelters is a major concern, especially lack of water and hygiene materials. Municipal garbage collection has almost stopped, which increases public health risks.

Food Security

Will be covered in tomorrow's Situation Report.

Education

Needs

- The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency now stands at 133, including 49 government schools and 84 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

133

Schools damaged by shelling

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to hospitals and government school shelters. Most EOC members used the humanitarian pause to pre-position supplies, reach previously inaccessible areas and conduct rapid assessments and monitoring visits. The EOC Secretariat met in Ramallah to discuss a coordinated approach to appeals by different Ministries. OCHA discussed the preparation of the HCT Gaza Crisis Appeal with MOPAD. The Launching of the humanitarian appeal is scheduled for 1 August, in Ramallah.

OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

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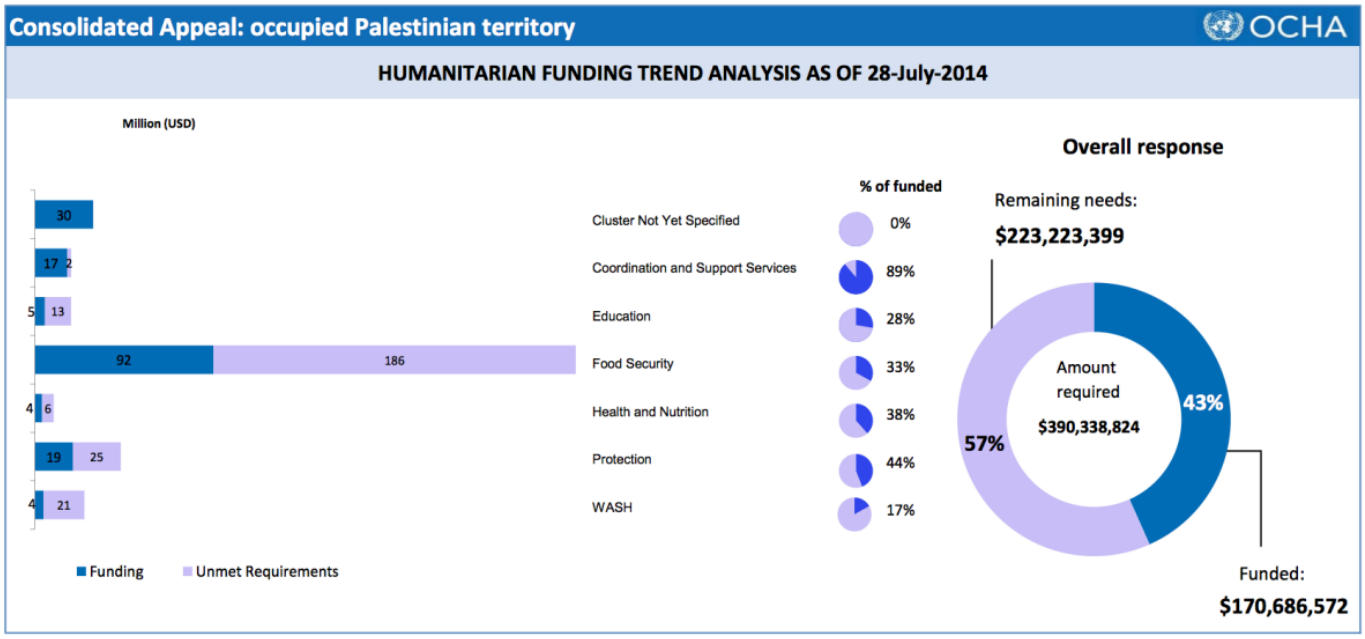

Background to the crisis

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The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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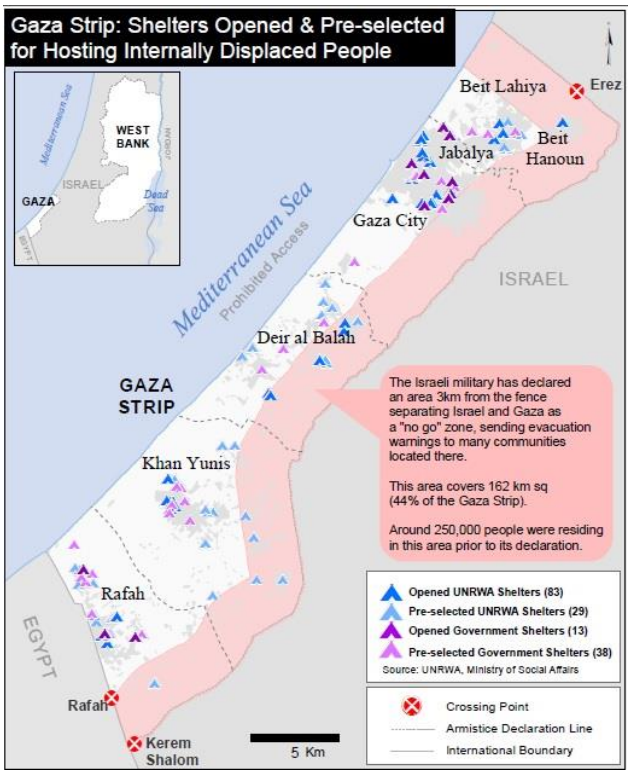
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 30 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 29 July (1500 hrs) to 30 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 31 July.

Highlights

- An UNRWA school in Jabalia sheltering internally displaced persons (IDPs) was struck by Israeli shells, killing at least 15 people, including four children.
- A four-hour humanitarian ceasefire was declared by the Israeli military but rejected by Hamas on the grounds that it did not extend to the entire Gaza Strip.
- Incidents of multiple family member fatalities continue: at least 68 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, totaling 360 fatalities.
- The number of IDPs exceeds 240,000 in UNRWA schools and other public buildings. Up to 200,000 may be taking shelter with host families.
- Gaza's sole power plant remains shut down after being shelled yesterday: the additional reduction in electricity supply is having an immediate impact on the public health situation, reducing WASH services.



- Latest development: 18:00, 17 people were killed and hundreds injured in shelling of Ash Shuja'iyah market.

1,263	59	68	2	245,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 852 civilians, of whom 249 are children and 135 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 56 soldiers, in addition to one foreign national	Families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, totaling 360 fatalities	Hours of electricity per day only throughout Gaza.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA and registered in government schools.

Situation Overview

The Gaza emergency entered its 23rd day resulting in increasing civilian casualties, the widespread destruction of residential buildings and public infrastructure and a continuing rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs). A humanitarian pause was unilaterally declared by the Israeli army between 15:00 and 19:00 in those areas of Gaza where their forces were not engaged in hostilities; this was rejected by Hamas on the grounds that it did not extend to the entire Gaza Strip and the pause was characterized by continuing hostiles, including the shelling of Ash Shuja'iyah market.

[1] Excludes individuals whose bodies were recovered during the pause but not yet identified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

A strike on the UNRWA school in Jabalia, killing at least 15 people including four children, is at least the sixth incident in which an UNRWA school has been hit. Repeated attacks on shelters are causing widespread fear among IDPs and UNRWA staff as the security environment deteriorates further. Palestinians in Gaza increasing feel that there is no safe place to shelter, that that the UN cannot protect them, even when the precise coordinates of shelters are communicated to the Israeli army. In total, 136 schools (49 public schools and 87 UNRWA schools) have been affected by shelling due to their close proximity to targeted sites.

After three weeks of conflict, no one can doubt that there are no safe places for the children of Gaza. Today, another UN school, used to shelter 3,300 displaced people was hit by Israeli shelling, despite clear information provided to the Israeli army from the UN that the school was housing IDPs. Civilians, including children, were killed and injured. I strongly condemn this grave violation of international law.
Statement by Leila Zerrougui, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, 30 July 2014.

Of particular concern is the damage sustained by the Gaza Power Plant (GPP), which has brought the operation of the plant to a halt. Gaza city is receiving electricity for about two hours a day, while localities in the Middle Area have no supply at all. This is having an immediate effect on the public health situation, reducing water and sanitation services which depend on main electric lines, and creating greater dependence of hospitals on generator power.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation report, at least 103 persons, many of whose status remains to be verified, have reportedly been killed or their bodies recovered. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,263, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 852 civilians; including 249 children and 135 women, 181 members of armed groups and 230 persons whose status is yet unknown. Civilians now make up 68 per cent of all casualties but this proportion will most likely rise when the 'unknown status' category is clarified. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 6,233 Palestinians, including 1,949 children and 1,169 women, had been injured as at 12.00 a.m. on 27 July.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 816 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing civilian casualties. Human rights organizations have expressed serious concerns regarding incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians, in violation of the principle of distinction.

Of particular concern is the alarming number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. To 29 July, at least 68 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 360 fatalities; 140 men, 73 women and 147 children.

Of concern in the reporting period:

- At approximately 22:00 on 29 July, Israeli forces fired artillery shells in the vicinity of the Al Omari mosque in Jabalia. The shelling lasted until 00:40 this morning. As a result, fifteen people including six each from the Hamouda and Abed-Rabbo families were killed, including six children and five women.

- At approximately 09: 00 on 30 July, Israeli forces fired two artillery shells at the house of Mohammed Atta Al Khalili in the At Tuffah neighbourhood, eastern Gaza City. One of the shells struck the room in which the family was having breakfast, killing seven of them, including three children and two women, one of whom was pregnant. Another child was critically injured.

- At approximately 16: 00 on 30 July, Israeli forces opened artillery fire at the Al Faluja and Al Aqsaseeb neighbourhoods, killing 10 people from the Balata family, including five women and four children. Another 41 people were injured, including 17 children and five women.

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In the most serious such incident on 29 July, a four-storey apartment building owned by Karam Mohammed Al Dami, in Khan Younis city was hit in an IDF airstrike. The airstrike reportedly killed and injured almost all members of the five families living in the building and caused severe damage to surrounding buildings. By 14.00 today, rescue teams had recovered 35 dead bodies and 27 wounded persons from under the rubble of the building and the neighbouring houses. Several wounded persons were critically injured. Sixteen of the victims were from the Abu 'Amer family, seven from the Al Najjar family, six from the

Breeka family, four from the Mu'ammar family, and two from families living in neighbouring houses

UN staff and facilities

In the most serious incident to date affecting UN installations, at proximately 04:30 on 30 July, the Jabalia Elementary Girls' School, in which 3,300 people were taking shelter, was struck a minimum of three times. At least 15 people were killed, including four children. Following an analysis of fragments, craters and other damage, UNRWA's initial assessment is that it was Israeli artillery which struck the school. The precise location of the school and the fact that it was housing thousands of IDPs were communicated to the Israeli army seventeen times, the last being just hours before the fatal shelling. The Israeli authorities are investigating the incident.

Last night, children were killed as they slept next to their parents on the floor of a classroom in a UN designated shelter in Gaza. Children killed in their sleep; this is an affront to all of us, a source of universal shame. Today the world stands disgraced. … I condemn in the strongest possible terms this serious violation of international law by Israeli forces. … We have moved beyond the realm of humanitarian action alone. We are in the realm of accountability. I call on the international community to take deliberate international political action to put an immediate end to the continuing carnage.
Statement by UNRWA Commissioner-General, Pierre Krähenbühl, 30 July 2014.

Also in Jabalia on 29 July, an UNRWA staff member was killed while driving in an UNRWA vehicle. Earlier that day, two UNRWA staff members died when an explosive projectile struck a private home in Nuseirat camp. Seven UNRWA local staff members have been killed since 7 July. The compound of the UN Special Coordinator's Office (UNSCO) in Gaza was also struck by a number of projectiles early in the morning of 29 July. Damage was caused to the main building and to UN vehicles, but UNSCO security personnel working from a safe room in the compound were unharmed. The UNSCO compound was also damaged during the "Cast Lead" offensive in 2008/9.

The Special Coordinator is deeply concerned about this incident and other violations of United Nations premises during the conflict and condemns the loss of civilian lives, including United Nations personnel, in these incidents.
Statement by the United Nations Special Coordinator, Mr. Robert Serry, 30 July 2014.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional civilian fatalities. During the reporting period, another three Israeli soldiers were killed, bringing to 56 the number of Israeli military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive on 17 July. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel.

Displacement

UNRWA is currently providing shelter to almost 220,000 persons in 86 shelters throughout the Gaza Strip. An average of nearly 2,400 IDPs are taking refuge in each of the UNRWA schools, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people. During the reporting period, one of the Jabalia schools accommodated an additional 4,000 IDPs, bringing the total number of IDPs to 9,400.

Shelters are under great pressure, without adequate water sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure in place, raising concern about the outbreak of epidemics. UNRWA warns that it does not have the capacity to absorb an increasing IDP influx. The remaining empty UNRWA school buildings are either inaccessible or unsafe, and other shelter solutions, including tents, are not viable options for Gaza. With the emergency entering its fourth week, there are concerns of a disease outbreak given the lack of proper water and sanitation facilities in the designated shelters. It is also becoming increasingly unlikely that the new school year will start as scheduled on 24 August.

It is estimated that another 12,000 IDPs are residing in 13 government schools and other institutions; 7,000 IDPs are reportedly seeking refuge in public buildings/ informal shelters; and 18,000 individuals are registered by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) as staying with host families. However, MoSA estimates that the number of persons staying with host families throughout the Gaza Strip could be as many as 200,000. The total number of IDPs throughout Gaza could therefore exceed 400,000, but the exact figure is unknown.

Public infrastructure and services

Gaza's sole power plant remains shut down after being shelled on 29 July. According to the Palestinian Energy Authority, repairs could take months to complete, exacerbating the Gazan electricity crisis. This will affect private households, companies

and public services provision, including water, sanitation and health facilities. Hospitals will depend more heavily on their own diesel-powered generators, which are not adequate to power services for extended periods. Previously, hospital generators have burned out with extensive use, and power fluctuations damage finely calibrated medical equipment. Shifa hospital, for example, is able to provide full power for its operating theatres but cuts its non-essential, but still needed services, in other areas.

The new medical building of Al Quds hospital operated by the Palestinian Red Crescent was damaged on July 30. Their former hospital building was destroyed during the "Cast Lead" offensive in 2008/9. The hospital is a general medical services and diagnostics centre, located in a southern neighbourhood of Gaza city.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open for humanitarian cases and pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open on 30 July from 10:00 until 15:00. On 29 July, 43 truckloads of mostly food, water, medicine, blankets and hygiene kits entered Gaza through this crossing.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00 to 15:00. A total of three injured Palestinians exited Gaza through this crossing. On 29 July, five truckloads of food supplies entered via Rafah.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

299,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 299,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS).
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,133 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 20 July, 140,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 18 July, Tamer has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries.
- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Due to the rapidly increasing need, the number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

>255,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

- Opening of government schools identified as potential shelters is required to accommodate new and expected IDPs.
- 9,395 families (approximately 56,350 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 4,735 families (28,400 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. 27,050 families (162,300 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage also require basic NFI assistance.

Response

- More than 200,300 people are being provided with shelter in 86 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 12,000 individuals are sheltered in 16 government and private schools, and other facilities.
- UNRWA delivered 29 truckloads of NFIs (including blankets, diapers, toilet paper and cleaning supplies) to IDPs in its emergency shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 38 million is needed to allow 9,395 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are required for 3,000 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools and accommodate the needs of new IDPs displaced from communities who have received evacuation orders in the last 24 hours.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

1.8 million

Affected by halt or reduction of water supply

- With the shutdown of the GPP, additional fuel supply to run the water wells is a key priority.
- The Deir al Balah Desalination Plant requires additional fuel to resume water pumping into the network.
- Insecticides and medicines are needed in Rafah to treat epidemics such as lice and scabies, which started to spread in shelters
- IDPs as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water tankering.

Response

- UNRWA, supported by local municipalities, is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters in areas where water pumping is currently not possible due to damaged or inaccessible WASH infrastructure. During the reporting period, UNRWA delivered mineral water as well as non-potable water (70,000 liters). Water tankering is provided to informal shelters as well.

- On 29 July, UNRWA sanitation workers removed an estimated 267 tons of solid waste.
- WASH cluster will coordinate with health authorities the treatment of epidemics in Rafah.

Gaps and constraints

- Additional funding is required to cover fuel supply to run back-up generators
- The lack of safe access to water and sanitation facilities for maintenance and repair is the biggest constraint.
- Most WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in northern Gaza (buffer zone) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- UNRWA shelters are under great pressure as a result of overcrowding, without adequate WASH infrastructure in place to accommodate for the high number of IDPs.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

24

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

- Al Quds hospital, operated by the PRCS, was damaged on 30 July, bringing to at least 24 the number of health facilities which have been destroyed or sustained damage due to shelling and require repair or reconstruction.
- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.
- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anaesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.
- The destruction of Gaza's main power plant earlier in the week has an immediate impact on the public health situation and reduces water and sanitation services; hospitals are currently dependent on generators.
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Response

- Despite the Eid holiday on 29 July, 10 Health Centers were open across the Gaza Strip to meet any emergency health needs. 1,362 patients were served.

Gaps and constraints

- The destruction of the GPP puts another burden on the Ministry of Health's ability to provide continuance of care for patients.
- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.
- The health and environmental condition in shelters is a major concern, especially lack of water and hygiene materials. Municipal garbage collection has almost stopped, which increases public health risks.

Food Security

< 255,000

Needs

IDPs require food assistance and water tankering.

- More than 255,000 IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Animal feed for 3,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis.
- WFP provided ready-to-eat emergency food rations to 8,995 IDPs hosted in government schools WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching approximately 25,000 displaced persons in private shelters and host families.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed '"buffer zone" impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- UNRWA's regular food distribution is being put under increased pressure by the closure of UNRWA distribution centres in Tuffah, Beit Hanoun and eastern Khan Younis due to heightened insecurity.
- The Israeli military ground operation is limiting access to food warehouses and put at risk the provision of food commodities for those in need.
- The ongoing reduction of electricity supply will heavily impact the commercial activities, the milling capacity and the bakeries performance.

Education

Needs

136

Schools damaged by shelling

- The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency now stands at 136, including 49 government schools and 87 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.
- One kindergarten sustained damage in the last 24 hours, bringing to three the number of kindergartens that need to be repaired.

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space OCHA is preparing for the HCT Gaza Crisis Appeal with MOPAD. The Launching of the humanitarian appeal is scheduled for 1 August, in Ramallah.

OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

Funding

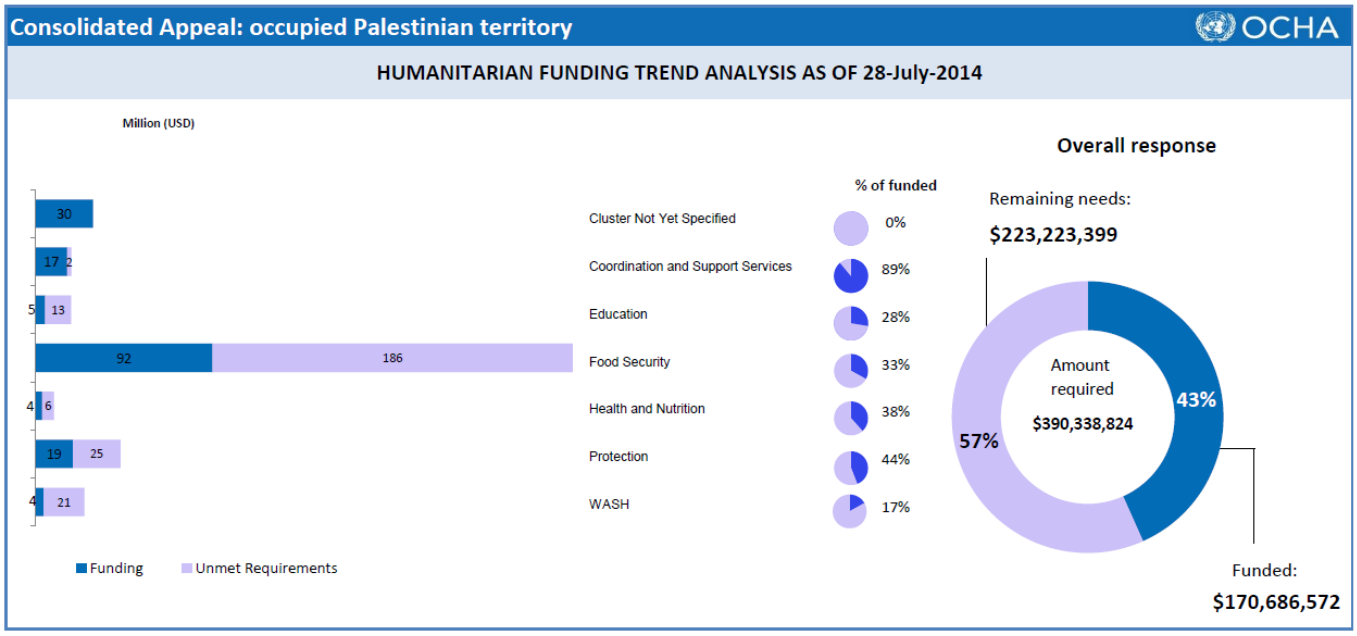
A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, after 10 days of hostilities it was estimated that US $69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Three weeks later, in view of the dire consequences for the civilian population of the hostilities and the increase of needs clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of more than US $170 million that will be reflected in the Gaza Crisis Appeal being developed by the Humanitarian Country Team, scheduled for 1 August. The appeal will address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $115 million. The amount requested will help UNRWA respond to the urgent needs of the currently, 159,000 IDPs taking shelter in its facilities, while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32 per cent of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, a proposal by Union of Health Work Committees – UHWC for Emergency Intervention,(totaling US$ 250,000) to guarantee health services in the Northern area of Gaza Strip, is being processed. . To date, five project proposals were approved: ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables,; Dan Church Aid project to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF; thus far, Denmark, Sweden, Italy and Ireland have pledged US$ 1,002,369 and US$ 1,480,166 and US$ 402,130 and US$ 201,289 respectively. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Aid agencies request US$ 369 million to meet urgent needs in Gaza and call for safe access

Ramallah, 1 August 2014

Today, the Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Shawqi Issa and the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley, launched the Gaza Crisis Appeal.

"My thoughts are for the people of Gaza today and my words are directed to the political leaders and the parties to the conflict: the most fundamental principle of humanity calls for stopping the killings. We need an immediate end to the human suffering of the people in Gaza," said Mr. Rawley.

The 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal considers that the entire population of the Gaza Strip (1.8 million Palestinians) is affected by the hostilities in multiple ways. The Appeal focuses on supporting access to health and water as well as catering for the needs of the displaced people in Gaza, including food assistance, blankets and mattresses as well as psychosocial support. Assistance will be provided by UN agencies and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

"A strong mobilization of resources is required to meet the most urgent needs, particularly those stemming from the massive number of displaced persons and those arising from wide-scale damage to infrastructure," said Mr. Rawley. "But resources will mean little if the blockade on Gaza and the denial of Palestinian rights continue. As a first step, all humanitarian agencies should receive safe passage or safe access," Mr. Rawley continued. "Ongoing hostilities in Gaza, including bombardment and combat in heavily populated areas, have severely limited the ability of medical staff to save lives, of aid workers to meet needs, or for technicians to repair damage to infrastructure vital to the population. This must stop."

Palestinian Minister of Social Affairs and Agriculture Mr. Shawqi Issa added: "I speak on behalf of the Gazan children to the nations that helped write and develop international humanitarian law, but who have failed to apply it to the Question of Palestine. This failure makes you responsible for the safety and lives of those of us who have not been killed yet. I call upon those nations to hold Israel responsible for the war crimes it committed, end the aggression and the siege, and provide humanitarian assistance to cover the minimum needs to keep Palestinians alive." Mr. Issa concluded, "the only way to end the suffering is to end the occupation."

The Gaza Crisis Appeal presents a preliminary strategy of the humanitarian community to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs that have arisen as a result of the current emergency in the Gaza Strip, focusing on the groups that have been rendered the most vulnerable. This includes displaced

persons, the injured, the elderly, children, women, and farmers and fishermen who have lost their livelihoods.

Mr. Issa thanked the UN agencies involved in humanitarian relief for the people of Gaza and the countries and international organizations that have contributed to the aid efforts.

The Gaza Crisis Appeal was developed in consultation with the State of Palestine, in order to ensure coherence with Palestinian strategies for response.

ENDS

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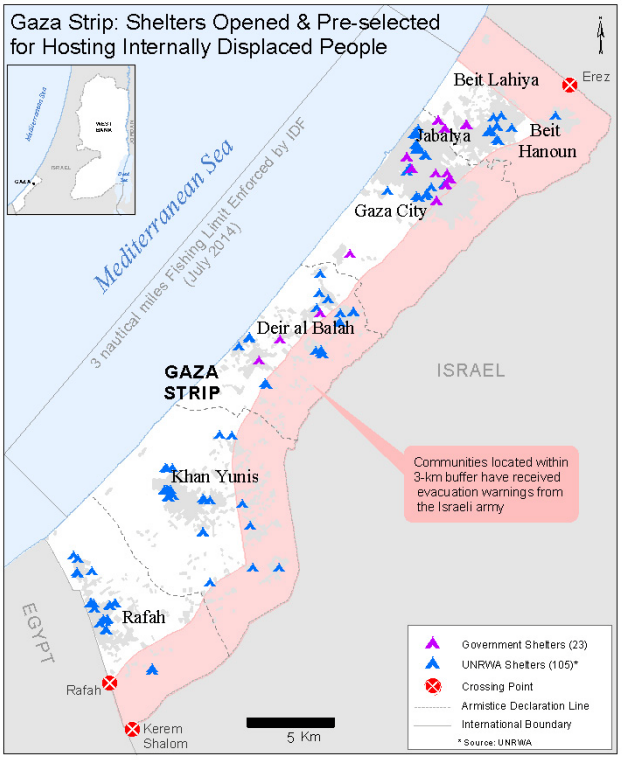
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 31 July 2014, 1500 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 30 July (1500 hrs) to 31 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 1 August.

Highlights

- 110 Palestinian fatalities were recorded in the past 24 hours, including 18 killed in the devastated Ash Shuja'iyeh neighbourhood.
- Up to one quarter of Gaza's population may have been forcibly displaced since the start of the emergency, including 250,000 in UNRWA and government shelters.
- Following an attack hitting Gaza's sole power plant and its subsequent shut down, along with the inability to repair feeder lines from Israel and Egypt, electricity is only supplied for an average of three hours a day.
- Access to food is increasingly affected: bakeries cannot meet the additional demand for bread, triggered by the lack of electricity in households, while the prices of vegetables soar.
- Latest development: a 72 hour ceasefire starting on 1 August at 8:00 has been announced.



1,373	59	1.8 million	137	250,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 852 civilians, of whom 252 are children and 181 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including two civilians and 56 soldiers, in addition to one foreign national	People have reduced or no access to regular water and sanitation.	Schools damaged during hostilities, some serving as emergency shelters.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA and in government schools and institutions.

Situation Overview

As the Gaza emergency enters its 24th day, relief efforts are reaching a breaking point. Hostilities continued during the reporting period, despite a partial humanitarian pause unilaterally declared by the Israeli army yesterday afternoon. Consequently, no significant humanitarian operations could take place, included urgently needed repairs to damaged water and electricity infrastructure; recovery of bodies from under the rubble; and distribution of food and water to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other people in need.

Of increasing concern is the high frequency of incidents where humanitarian relief personnel and objects have come under attack. Yesterday afternoon, a rescue team that arrived at a house in eastern Gaza city (Ash Shuja'iyeh) to evacuate people wounded and killed, were reportedly shelled by Israeli forces, killing an ambulance driver, a paramedic and a civil defence staff. The incident took place during the failed humanitarian pause. Since the start of the emergency 136 schools, some of

[1] Excludes individuals whose bodies were recovered during the pause but not yet identified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

which were serving as emergency shelters, as well as 24 hospitals and clinics, have been damaged during attacks; 25 ambulances operated by the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) have been hit, including six totally destroyed; eight of UNRWA's local staff and four municipal water and sanitation technicians have been killed. In three cases UNRWA staff have discovered rockets hidden in their installations and in others, armed groups have reportedly launched attacks from the vicinity of humanitarian facilities.

Despite yesterday's attack on an UNRWA shelter in Jabalia that killed 15 IDPs, civilians have continued to flee the most affected areas, adding pressure on already overcrowded shelters. Together with those hosted by relatives and friends, whose precise number is unknown, it is estimated that as many as 457,000 people, or over a quarter of the population, have been forcibly displaced.

Until a longer-term ceasefire is agreed, we need more humanitarian pauses to enable us to reach those in need. Pauses must be daily, predictable, and adequate in length so that humanitarian staff can dispatch relief to those in need, rescue the injured, recover the dead and allow civilians some reprieve so that they can restock and resupply their homes.

UN Under-Secretary-General Valerie Amos to the Security Council, 31 July

The shelling and bombing of UN schools which have resulted in the killing and maiming of frightened women and children and civilian men, including UN staff, seeking shelter from the conflict are horrific acts and may possibly amount to war crimes. If civilians cannot take refuge in UN schools, where can they be safe?

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, 31 July

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation report, at least 110 people have reportedly been killed or their bodies recovered, including many whose identity or status could not yet be established. These fatalities include 18 people, of whom eight are children, killed in the abovementioned incident in Ash Shuja'iyeh, which started with the targeting and destruction by Israeli forces of a house belonging to the Selek family and the damaging of adjacent homes.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,373, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, which includes 329 persons (24 per cent), who could not be identified or their status established. This is nearly the same as the number of Palestinian fatalities during the "Cast Lead" offensive (1, 383 people) in 2008/9, which was the deadliest escalation of violence since the beginning of Israel's occupation in 1967.

Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified (1,044), nearly 83 per cent (852 people) are believed to be civilians, including 252 children and 181 women, and 181 members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 8,265 Palestinians, including 2,502 children and 1,626 women have been injured.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in a number of injuries but no additional civilian fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and a few dozen directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. No additional fatalities among Israeli soldiers have been recorded during the reporting period, and their number remains 56.

What we are witnessing is the killing of entire families, and of children in the street either playing or trying to find safety. Waves and waves of ordinary people continue to flee their homes as the already weak infrastructure in Gaza caves in under the relentless bombardment.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay, 31 July

Displacement

Some 16,000 IDPs have fled to UNRWA schools in the past 24 hours. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was providing shelter to 236,375 persons in 88 shelters throughout the Gaza Strip, which represents an average of nearly 2,700 IDPs per shelter, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people. This is challenging the already stretched capacity of the agency to provide IDPs with basic necessities, maintain hygiene conditions, and prevent the outbreak of epidemics. In the context of the latter, UNRWA has started installing showers in the toilets of some shelters.

Another 13,800 IDPs are residing in 18 government schools and other institutions and 7,000 IDPs are reportedly seeking refuge in public buildings/ informal shelters. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) estimates that the number of persons staying with host families throughout the Gaza Strip could be as many as 200,000.

Public infrastructure and services

Three of the ten Israeli electricity feeder lines are currently operational (one in Rafah, one in Khan Younis and one in Beit Lahia), while one of the Egyptian feeder lines has been damaged again and shut down. As Gaza's sole power plant remains

shut down after being shelled by Israeli forces on 29 July, Gaza is receiving a total of 54 megawatts (MWs), including 36 MWs purchased from Israel and 18 MWs purchased from Egypt, which corresponds to only about 10 per cent of the estimated demand. Gaza City receives approximately two hours of electricity per day, while the Middle Area receives zero and the Rafah area between four and five hours a day.

It is estimated that the entire population has reduced or no access to water, due to electricity shortages, lack of fuel and inability of the water network to reach certain streets, areas on higher altitude or upper levels of multi-storey buildings. Many are also exposed to public health risks due to the mixing of sewage with water from damages that occurred in the sanitation system, the lack of chlorination and the lack of solid waste collection.

At the moment, the lack of electricity to operate pumps and equipment of wells, sewage pumping stations, waste water treatment plants and desalination plants can only be replaced by generators, which need fuel. The Islamic Development Bank has been funding 120,000 liters per month to the most critical WASH facilities, already prior to the current emergency. Under the current levels of electricity supply, 600,000 litres of fuel are required to operate the same facilities at the same capacity.

Local Gaza bakeries also report major challenges in meeting the additional demand of bread, triggered by the increased constraints by households in preparing bread due to lack of electricity. Additionally, fewer quantities of fresh crops are available in the market, triggering significant increases in prices, for some vegetables in particular.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open for humanitarian cases and pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open today from 10:00 until 15:00. On 30 July, 65 truckloads of mostly food, water, medicine, blankets and hygiene kits entered Gaza through this crossing
Rafah: Open today from 9:00 to 15:00. A total of 13 injured Palestinians exited Gaza. On 30 July, four truckloads of food supplies entered.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

303,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 303,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS).
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,213 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 20 July, 160,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 18 July, Tamer has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries.
- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.
- Since 13 July, UNMAS has been distributing leaflets including safety messages on UXOs at UNRWA schools.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Local organizations face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Quicker coordination is required to allow for fast evacuation of injured children to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Due to the rapidly increasing need, the number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- Opening of government schools identified as potential shelters is required to accommodate new and expected IDPs.
- 9,765 families (approximately 58,500 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 4,955 families (29,700 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. 28,150 families (168,900 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage also require basic NFI assistance.

9,765

Families whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require NFI kits

Response

- 236,375 people are being provided with shelter in 88 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 13,800 individuals are sheltered in 18 government and private schools, and other facilities.
- UNRWA delivered 29 truckloads of NFIs (including blankets, diapers, toilet paper and cleaning supplies) to IDPs in its emergency shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 39 million is needed to allow 9,765 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools and accommodate the needs of new IDPs displaced from communities who have received evacuation orders in the last 24 hours.
- UNRWA's NFI stock at minimum level. Workers face difficulties accessing some storage warehouses safely.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

This section will be covered in tomorrow's report

Health and Nutrition

This section will be covered in tomorrow's report

Food Security

Needs

> 250,000

IDPs require food assistance and water tankering.

- More than 250,000 IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity at home.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis.
- WFP provided ready-to-eat emergency food rations to 12,000 IDPs hosted in government schools WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching approximately 25,000 displaced persons in private shelters and host families.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed '"buffer zone" impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- UNRWA's regular food distribution is being put under increased pressure by the closure of UNRWA distribution centres in Tuffah, Beit Hanoun and eastern Khan Younis due to heightened insecurity.
- The Israeli military ground operation is limiting access to food warehouses and putting at risk the provision of food commodities for those in need.
- The ongoing reduction of electricity supply will heavily impact the commercial activities, the milling capacity and the bakeries performance.

Education

Needs

> 137

Schools damaged by shelling

- The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency now stands at 137, including 49 government schools and 87 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. OCHA is preparing for the HCT Gaza Crisis Appeal with State of Palestine. The Launching of the humanitarian appeal is scheduled for 1 August, in Ramallah.

OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

The Logistics Cluster led by the World Food Program (WFP) has been activated and met on 30 July for the first time to discuss gaps such as lack of safe and secure transportation, including loading/offloading and transportation of items from warehouses to consignees and other implementing partners within Gaza.

Funding

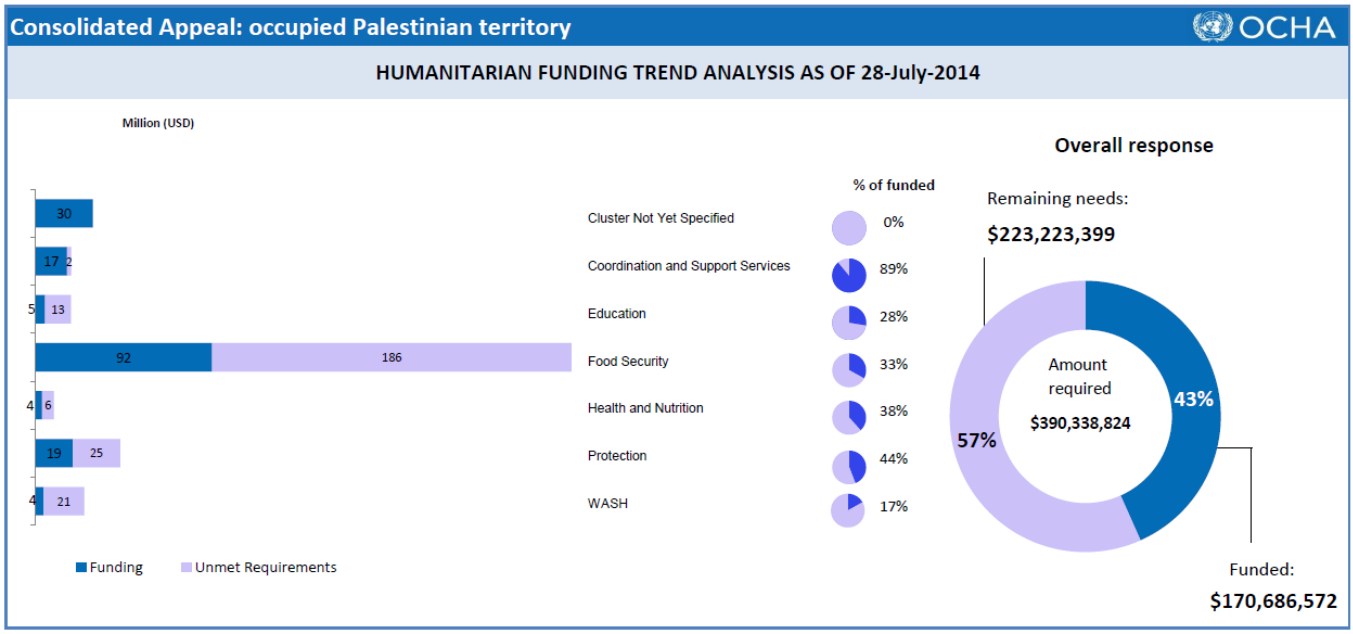
A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, after 10 days of hostilities it was estimated that US $69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Three weeks later, in view of the dire consequences for the civilian population of the hostilities and the increase of needs clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of more than US $170 million that will be reflected in the Gaza Crisis Appeal being developed by the Humanitarian Country Team, scheduled for 1 August. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $187.6 million. The amount requested will help UNRWA provide emergency assistance for a revised scenario of up to 250,000 people being displaced during a period of up to eight weeks. A portion of this funding will also be needed to start early recovery activities including shelter and installation repair upon cessation of hostilities.

The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32 per cent of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, a proposal by the Union of Health Work Committees, totaling US$ 250,000, to guarantee health services in the Northern area of the Gaza Strip, is being processed. To date, five project proposals were approved for a total of USD 1.12 million: ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Dan Church Aid project to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Rafah and Khan Yunis; and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF; thus far, Denmark, Sweden, Italy and Ireland have pledged over US$ 3.3 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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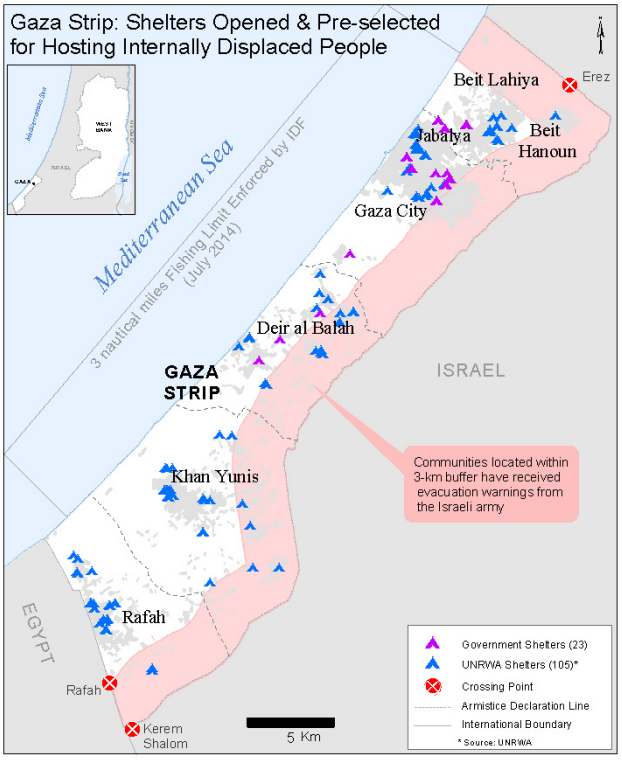
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 1 august 2014, 1500 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 31 July (1500 hrs) to 1 August (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 2 August.

Highlights

- A 72-hour humanitarian ceasefire scheduled to enter into effect at 08:00 this morning collapsed after two hours.
- Following the collapse of the ceasefire, hostilities resumed with reports of large numbers of Palestinian fatalities and injuries in Rafah.
- Incidents of multiple family member fatalities continue: at least 76 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, totaling over 400 fatalities.
- Up to 25 per cent of Gaza's population may now be forcibly displaced; a quarter of a million people are now seeking refuge in UNRWA shelters alone.
- Lack of electricity and fuel shortages affect access to water for the entire population of the Gaza Strip. The lack of adequate water chlorination may have serious public health consequences.



1,439	66	76	1.8 million	280,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 926 civilians, of whom 286 are children and 187 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 63 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national	Families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, totaling over 400 fatalities	People have reduced or no access to regular water and sanitation.	Displaced people hosted in UNRWA and in government schools and institutions.

Situation Overview

A 72-hour humanitarian cease-fire came into effect at 08:00 this morning after both Israel and Hamas agreed to a proposal by the United Nations and the United States. The retrieve allowed for shops and markets to open, and residents to leave their homes and shelters to stock up on food and other necessities. Many internally displaced persons (IDPs) planned to return for the first time in weeks to check up on their homes and salvage belongings, especially in those areas which had witnessed heavy conflict. Ambulance and rescue crews continued to search for missing people and to evacuate injured people and dead bodies. As the ceasefire started, fishermen in Gaza City set out to sea for the first time since hostilities began on 8 July.

[1] Excludes individuals whose bodies were recovered during the pause but not yet identified. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

However, the cessation was short-lived. According to Israeli sources, the ceasefire broke down when militants attacked the Israeli military in Rafah, killing two soldiers and capturing another. Hostilities resumed and escalated with reports of large numbers of Palestinians fatalities in Rafah. No significant humanitarian operations could take place during the brief pause, including urgently needed repairs to damaged water and electricity infrastructure; a complete recovery of bodies from under the rubble; and distribution of food and water to IDPs and other people in need. With no location now perceived as safe and immune from attack, the resumption of hostilities is fueling further frustration and hopelessness and despair among the civilian population and placing additional strain on the humanitarian community's capacity to respond.

The Secretary-General urges both sides to show maximum restraint and return to the agreed 72-hour humanitarian ceasefire that tragically lasted such a brief period of time. He also urges those with influence over the parties to do everything to convince them to observe the humanitarian ceasefire.
Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on the situation in Gaza, 1 August 2014.

Hostilities and casualties

Hostilities continued right up to the start of the short-lived ceasefire.Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 872 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing civilian casualties. Human rights organizations have expressed serious concern regarding incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians, or the launching of indiscriminate attacks.

In this context, of increasing concern is the number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. Up to 30 July, at least 76 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 407 fatalities. During the reporting period, at least one such additional incident occurred (see box).

At 20:30 on 31 July 12 people, including five women and six children, were killed when an Israeli missile struck a house in Nuseirat refugee camp. The dead included four members of the al Bayoumi family; three members of the Al Assar families and three members of the Abu Shouqa family.

Since the last situation update, at least 66 persons, many of whose status still needs to be verified, have reportedly been killed. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,439, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, which includes 322 persons (22.4 per cent), who could not be identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified (1,117), nearly 83 per cent (926 people) are believed to be civilians, including 286 children and 187 women, and 191 members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 19:00 on 31 July, 8,265 Palestinians, including 2,502 children and 1,626 women aged 18 to 60, and 303 elderly have been injured.

However, these figures do not include the large number of Palestinians reported to have been killed and injured in Rafah in air, tank and artillery shelling in Rafah, following the killing of two soldiers and the reported capture of another this morning. Due to ongoing hostilities in the southern Gaza Strip, Protection Cluster partners have not been able to gather detailed information, however according to initial report, over 50 Palestinians have reportedly been killed and hundreds of others injured including people who had just returned to their homes after the ceasefire entered into effect.

Also of concern are continuing incidents where humanitarian relief personnel and objects have come under attack. At 06:15 this morning, IDF troops fired five shells at Omar Bin Al Khatab mosque, northeast of Jabalia, spraying a nearby UNRWA school with shrapnel, and injuring ten IDPs who were taking shelter there, including two in serious condition.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. However, eight Israel civilians were wounded, three seriously, by mortars on 31 July. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. Seven soldiers were killed during the reporting period, bringing the number of Israeli military fatalities to 63. An Israeli soldier was reportedly captured on I August and has been formally designated as missing in action.

Displacement

The collapse of the ceasefire dashed hopes of a return by IDPs to homes which are still inhabitable. The intensification of hostilities in Rafah has reportedly led to thousands of new IDPs moving to the western part of the city and to Khan Yunis, many moving to ten UNRWA schools where 30,000 are already taking refuge.

As of this afternoon, UNRWA was providing shelter to 253,211 persons in 90 shelters throughout the Gaza Strip, which represents an average of over 2,800 IDPs per shelter, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people. This is challenging the already stretched capacity of the agency to provide IDPs with basic necessities, maintain hygiene conditions,

and prevent the outbreak of epidemics such as scabies and lice. While showers in shelters have improved personal hygiene and decreased the risk of spread of disease, the situation in overcrowded shelters is becoming increasingly tense. Fights between families over water were reported on multiple occasions.

Another 18,000 IDPs are residing in 19 government schools, including one which opened yesterday, and other institutions. Approximately 7,000 IDPs are reportedly seeking refuge in public buildings/ informal shelters. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) estimates that the number of persons staying with host families throughout the Gaza Strip could be as many as 200,000, meaning that, in total, one quarter of the Gaza population are displaced.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open from 09:00 to 13:00 for pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open briefly earlier this morning but then closed due to security developments in the area. No specification on what entered yesterday was available by the time of this update.
Rafah: Open briefly this morning but then closed due to security developments.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

326,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 326,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,213 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 20 July, 180,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to 1,204 callers, including 375 children.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Save the Children, in cooperation with partners, has distributed 400 nursing kits since 8 July.

- The Community Training Centre and Crisis Management (CTCCM) has conducted activities for a total of 475 children in UNRWA shelters in Jabalia since 27 July.
- UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme has reached a total of 47,378 children since the beginning of the emergency. Partners of the Community Mental Health Programme have provided PSS services to an additional 27,306 children in coordination with UNRWA.
- Since 18 July, Tamer has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries.
- UNRWA continues to prove basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters UNRWA's television channel shows clips about the danger of UXO.
- Since 13 July, UNMAS has been distributing leaflets including safety messages on UXOs at UNRWA schools.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Communication with emergency PSS teams in Gaza was not possible due to ongoing hostilities in the reporting period.
- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Quicker coordination is required to allow for urgent evacuations of injured children to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- Opening of government schools identified as potential shelters is required to accommodate new and expected IDPs.
- 9815 families (approximately 58,900 individuals) whose homes were totally ruined or sustained major damage are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.

> **9,815**
>
> Families whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require NFI kits

- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5,005 families (30,050 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 28,400 families (an estimated 170,400 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance but less urgently.

Response

- 253,221 people are being provided with shelter in 90 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 18,000 individuals are sheltered in at least 19 government and private schools, and other facilities.
- Today, one new government school was assigned as shelter in Gaza, Al Boraq, currently sheltering 600 IDPs. Additionally, an unknown number of IDPs have taken shelter in five government schools in Khan Younis not previously designated as shelters by the MoSA.
- UNRWA delivered 29 truckloads of NFIs (including mattresses, health kits and cleaning supplies) to IDPs in UNRWA shelters on 31 July.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 40 million is needed for 9,815 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are required needed for 5,940 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at existing shelters and accommodate for the needs of new IDPs.

- Thousands of IDPs have reportedly moved into shelters in the southern Gaza Strip due to ongoing hostilities over the course of the past 24 hours. The security situation hinders assistance to those newly displaced.
- UNRWA's NFI stock at minimum level. Workers face difficulties accessing some storage warehouses safely.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs:

- The current provision of water is estimated to be less than three litres per capita per day for IDPs in shelters. There is an urgent need for drinking water and water for domestic use as well as access to sanitation and hygiene articles for IDPs.
- Fuel is urgently needed to operate critical WASH facilities.
- Chlorination is a priority need.

Response:

- On 31 July, UNRWA maintenance staff installed showers in the toilets of UNRWA schools serving as shelters in all areas of Gaza. They also carried out critical repairs of WASH facilities in shelters.
- UNRWA continues to provide water to shelters and is cooperating with local organizations to secure the provision of potable and non-potable water.
- Oxfam GB distributed desalinated drinking water to 39 IDP shelters, including UNRWA shelters, government schools and informal shelters.
- UNRWA supplied fuel for UNRWA vehicles and generators in UNRWA schools serving as shelters, and offered logistical support to fuel distribution to municipalities and selected WASH facilities.
- UNICEF distributed 836 adult hygiene kits, 328 baby hygiene kits and 2,000 jerry cans.
- On 31 July, UNRWA sanitation staff removed an estimated 362 tons of solid waste.

Gaps:

- The destruction of the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza. While IDPs are among the most vulnerable, the entire 1.8 million population of Gaza face severe shortages of electricity, water and sanitation services. Limited electricity equals limited or no access to water.
- While showers in shelters have improved personal hygiene and decreased the risk of spread of disease, the situation in overcrowded shelters is becoming increasingly tense. Fights between families over water were reported on multiple occasions.
- Al Maghazi and Bureji camps remain inaccessible.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.
- One of CMWU's dosing units for chlorination has sustained damage by attacks and is currently non-operational. The lack of chlorination may have serious public health implications.

Food Security

Will be included in tomorrow's situation report.

Education

Needs

- In the past 24 hours, two UNRWA schools were damaged by shelling, both for the second time. The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency therefore remains at 137, including 49 government schools and 88 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.

137

Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

Funding

On 1 August, the Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Shawqi Issa and the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley, launched the Gaza Crisis Appeal. The 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal considers that the entire population of the Gaza Strip (1.8 million Palestinians) is affected by the hostilities in multiple ways. The Appeal focuses on supporting access to health and water as well as catering for the needs of the displaced people in Gaza, including food assistance, blankets and mattresses as well as psychosocial support. Assistance will be provided by UN agencies and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The Gaza Crisis Appeal presents a preliminary strategy of the humanitarian community to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs that have arisen as a result of the current emergency in the Gaza Strip, focusing on the groups that have been rendered the most vulnerable. This includes displaced persons, the injured, the elderly, children, women, and farmers and fishermen who have lost their livelihoods. The Gaza Crisis Appeal was developed in consultation with the State of Palestine, in order to ensure coherence with Palestinian strategies for response.

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US $187.6 million. The amount requested will help UNRWA provide emergency assistance for a revised scenario of up to 250,000 people being displaced during a period of up to eight weeks. A portion of this funding will also be needed to start early recovery activities including shelter and installation repair upon cessation of hostilities.

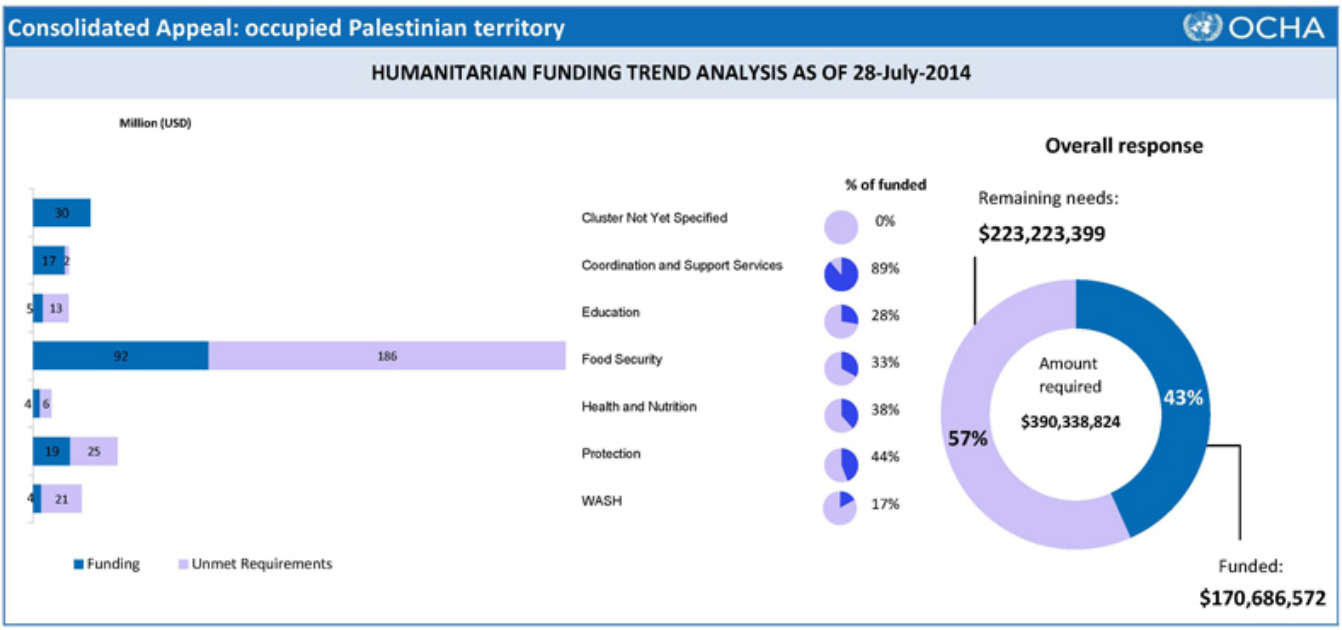
The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32 per cent of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency.

To date, seven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.6 million: ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to

provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians. In addition, a proposal by Palestinian Medical Relief Society – PMRC for Emergency Intervention,(totalling US$ 249,845) to build community support teams in Gaza Strip, is under process.

A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF; thus far, Denmark, Sweden, Italy and Ireland have pledged US$ 1,002,369 and US$ 1,480,166 and US$ 402,130 and US$ 135,870 respectively. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought. UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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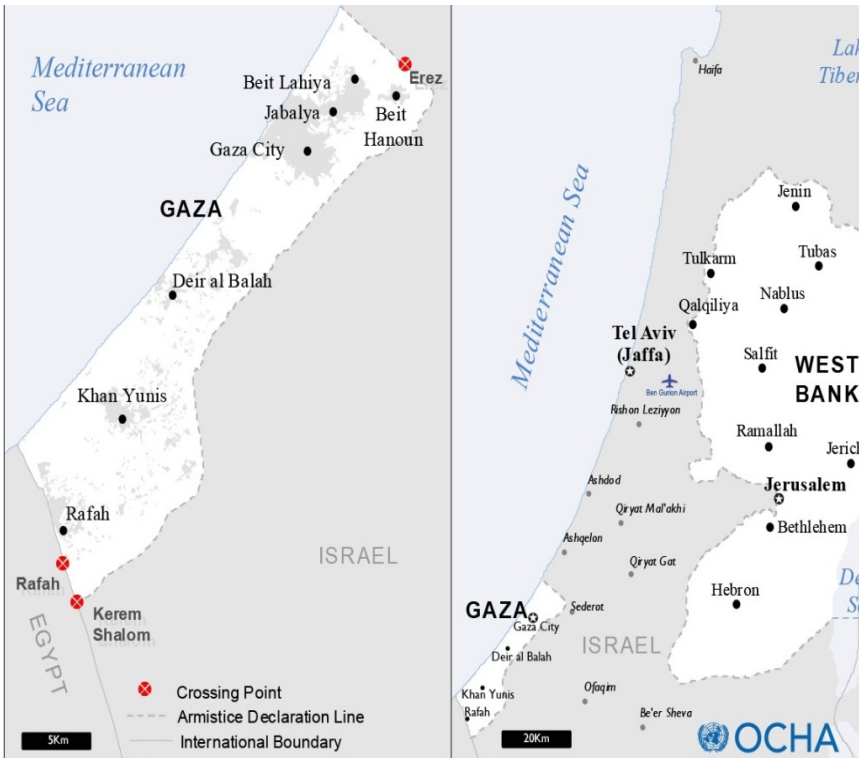
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 2 august 2014, 1500 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 1 August (1500 hrs) to 2 August (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 3 August.

Highlights

- The Rafah area was subject to the heaviest shelling and fighting recorded since the start of the emergency, resulting in dozens of fatalities; many of the bodies could not yet be recovered or identified.
- The public health system is on the verge of collapse: while the number of casualties continues to grow, five hospitals and 34 clinics have shut down due to damage and insecurity.
- Up to 25 per cent of Gaza's population may now be forcibly displaced, of whom 259,000 are hosted in UNRWA shelters alone.
- Lack of electricity and fuel shortages disrupt the functioning of hospitals and affect access to water for the entire population. The current lack of adequate water chlorination may have serious public health consequences.



1,525	66	5	1.8 million	475,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,033 civilians, of whom 329 are children and 187 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 63 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national	Hospitals have shut down due to insecurity	People have reduced or no access to regular water and sanitation.	People may be displaced, staying in emergency shelters or with host families

Situation Overview

Following yesterday's collapse of a 72-hour humanitarian cease-fire brokered by the UN and the USA, hostilities intensified. The Rafah area in southern Gaza was subject to the heaviest shelling and fighting recorded since the start of the emergency, as well as the advancement of Israeli forces westwards into the most densely populated areas. According to Israeli media reports, these developments took place in the context of the Israeli army's attempts to locate a soldier missing in action and reported to have been captured.

Amid a massive increase in casualties, the single government hospital serving Rafah had to be evacuated and closed after it was hit by a projectile and unable to operate due to the hostilities. Prior to that, the hospital received anonymous calls warning

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

of imminent attacks, causing major panic and chaos among patients and staff. Similar calls were received at Shifa, Gaza's largest hospital.

The insecurity and lack of access affecting ambulances and rescue teams remains a major concern. Yesterday, an ambulance evacuating patients in Rafah was hit by tank fire, killing three paramedics. Despite coordination with the Israeli forces, Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) teams have been largely unable to operate in the Khuza'a town, east of Khan Younis, to retrieve bodies and potentially injured people from under the rubble, due to the fighting and access restrictions.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, at least 86 persons have reportedly been killed and identified, the majority during bombardments in the Rafah area. However, some reports indicate that the total number of fatalities in Rafah alone may include as many as 136 people, many of whom could not yet be retrieved from under the rubble or their identity established. Many of these casualties ocurred yesterday in the morning hours, during the initial fighting and shelling, while they were in the streets, believing a ceasefire was in force. Other casualties fell during the targeting of homes:

- Yesterday at approximately 23:00, an Israeli airstrike attacked the house of the Zoroub family, in a UNDP housing project in Rafah, killing at least 13 family members, including seven children and three women.
- Today at around 11:30, another airstrike targeted a two storey residential building located in Al Sabra neighbourhood of Gaza city, belonging to the Al Nyrab family, who lived there together with another four families. While members of the latter managed to escape, the owner of the building, along with his wife and three of their children, 8, 10 and 14 years old, were killed.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that nearly 900 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing civilian casualties, including multiple members of the same families. Up to 30 July, at least 76 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 407 fatalities. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects and the launching of indiscriminate attacks.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,525, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, which includes 301 persons (20 per cent), who could not be identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified (1,196), nearly 84 per cent (1,033 people) are believed to be civilians, including 329 children and 187 women, and 16 per cent (191) members of armed groups.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The number of Israeli military fatalities remains at 63.

Displacement

Thousands of residents from the eastern part of Rafah governorate fled westwards towards Rafah City and the coast, with many seeking refuge in UNRWA shelters. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was providing shelter to 259,321 in 90 schools throughout the Gaza Strip, 6,000 more than yesterday. This represents an average of over 2,800 IDPs per shelter, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people.

Another 15,700 IDPs are residing in 19 government schools and other institutions and some 7,000 are reportedly seeking refuge in public buildings/ informal shelters. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) estimates that the number of persons staying with host families throughout the Gaza Strip could be as many as 200,000. The total number of IDPs in Gaza is estimated at approximately 475,000, which represent one quarter of the Gaza population.

Overcrowding at shelters is challenging the already stretched capacity to provide IDPs with basic necessities, maintain hygiene conditions, and prevent the outbreak of epidemics. While showers in shelters have improved personal hygiene and decreased the risk of spread of disease, an accelerated level of diarrhea has been reported among children. WHO and UNRWA are monitoring health in shelters in order to prevent and control any outbreak of communicable disease.

A strong mobilization of resources is required to meet the most urgent needs, particularly those stemming from the massive number of displaced persons and those arising from wide-scale damage to infrastructure. But resources will mean little if the blockade on Gaza and the denial of Palestinian rights continue. As a first step, all humanitarian agencies should receive safe passage or safe access.

The Humanitarian Coordinator, James W. Rawley, on the launching of Gaza's humanitarian appeal, 1 August

Health services and infrastructure

While the number of people injured over the course of hostilities continues growing rapidly, the public health system is nearing collapse. At least 12 hospitals have been damaged since the start of the Gaza emergency, of which five have had to shut down. Fourteen (14) primary health clinics also sustained damage and nearly half of all clinics in Gaza (34 out of 75) have closed, primarily due to insecurity, including all those located within the three kilometer buffer zone declared by Israel. Hospital are increasingly forced to discharge patients prematurely, to accommodate newer and most urgent cases, even though these patients often do not have any place to go to, let alone an adequate one.

Following the drastic reduction in electricity supply since 29 July, hospitals are now dependent, almost exclusively, on unreliable back-up generators as their main power source. Constant fluctuations in power supply have resulted in the malfunctioning of sensitive medical equipment, including ultrasound, X-ray, laboratory machines, cardiac monitors, sterilizing machines and infants' incubators.

The operation of hospitals is being further disrupted due to the constant inflow of IDPs into their facilities, who are seeking refuge, using the bathrooms, washing their clothes and other necessities.

The functioning of, and access to obstetric services is of increasing concern. Nursing attendance in the maternity department of Shifa Hospital, the largest in the Gaza Strip, was reduced in the past days to 40 per cent. At the same time, the closure of Harazeen Maternity Hospital in the As Shuja'iyeh neighborhood of Gaza City, increased the number of women seeking delivery assistance at Shifa by around 25 per cent. It is feared that the recent closure of Shifa's antenatal services for high-risk pregnancies may have an impact on fetal and maternal morbidity and mortality.

We are now looking at a health and humanitarian disaster, the fighting must stop immediately

The Humanitarian Coordinator, James W. Rawley, 2 August

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

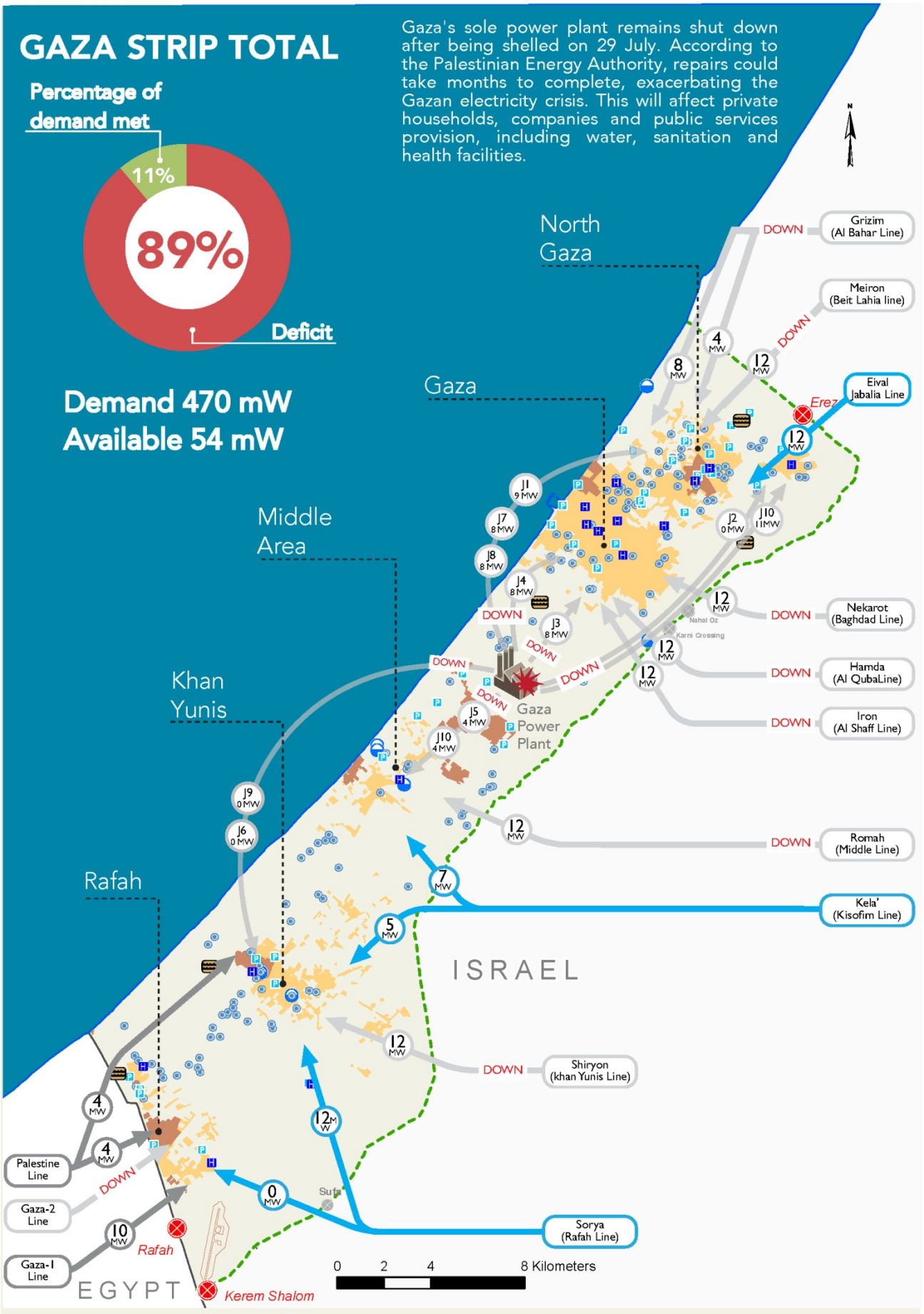
326,000

Children in need of psychosocial support

- At least 326,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Power Deficit (as of 31 July 2014)

OCHA



Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,213 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 20 July, 180,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to 1,204 callers, including 375 children.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Save the Children, in cooperation with partners, has distributed 400 nursing kits since 8 July.
- The Community Training Centre and Crisis Management (CTCCM) has conducted activities for a total of 475 children in UNRWA shelters in Jabalia since 27 July.
- UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme has reached a total of 47,378 children since the beginning of the emergency. Partners of the Community Mental Health Programme have provided PSS services to an additional 27,306 children in coordination with UNRWA.
- Since 18 July, Tamer has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries. It has also started to distribute children's books and games to children and their families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter.
- UNICEF through its partnership with AMAAN organization is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city, that are managed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and other NGOs.
- 30 recreational kits and other supplies were provided to six shelters, and girls were provided with life skill sessions focusing on hygiene and health.
- UNRWA continues to prove basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters UNRWA's television channel shows clips about the danger of UXO.
- Since 13 July, UNMAS has been distributing leaflets including safety messages on UXOs at UNRWA schools.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Communication with emergency PSS teams in Gaza was not possible due to ongoing hostilities in the reporting period.
- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Quicker coordination is required to allow for urgent evacuations of injured children to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- Opening of government schools identified as potential shelters is required to accommodate new and expected IDPs.
- 10,366 families (approximately 62,200 individuals) whose homes were totally ruined or sustained major damage are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.

10,366

Families whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require NFI kits

- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5295 families (31,770individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 29,850 families (an estimated 179,100 0 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance but less urgently.
- NFI emergency intervention is needed to address the 3,000 IDP families (18,631 individuals) residing with hosting families. The shelter cluster is working on identifying vulnerable families and their needs.

Response

- 259,321 people are being provided with shelter in 90 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 15,700 individuals are sheltered in at 19 government and private schools and other facilities.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 42 million is needed for 10,370 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are required needed for 6,495families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at existing shelters and accommodate for the needs of new IDPs.
- Thousands of IDPs have reportedly moved into shelters in the southern Gaza Strip due to ongoing hostilities over the course of the past 24 hours. The security situation hinders assistance to those newly displaced.
- UNRWA's NFI stock at minimum level. Workers face difficulties accessing some storage warehouses safely.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Water and sanitation service providers need regular access to the relevant facilities to repair and operate them, in particular water chlorination.
- Electricity feeder lines need urgent repair.
- There is an urgent need for drinking water and water for domestic use as well as access to sanitation and hygiene articles for IDPs.
- Fuel is urgently needed to operate critical WASH facilities.

Response

- Duringthe reporting period, a total 447 cubic meters of potable water and 516 cubic meters of non-potable water were tankered to UNRWA schools by the Agency, its suppliers and municipalities.
- Oxfam GB, through local partners, have provided drinking water to 43,168 IDPs hosted in 88 IDP shelters, including UNRWA shelters, government schools and informal shelters. Drinking water was also tinkered to Shifa hospital. Also 72 cubic meters of desalinated chlorinated drinking water have been distributed.
- Oxfam GB, through local partners, have provided safe drinking water to filling points in Khan Yunis, Ash Shuja'iyeh and Bani Suhaila serving 5,500 people.
- UNRWA supplied fuel for UNRWA vehicles and generators in shelters, and offered logistical support to fuel distribution to municipalities and selected WASH facilities.
- On 1 August, UNRWA sanitation staff and hired labourers via the Job Creation Programme (JCP) removed an estimated 238 tons of solid waste.
- Radio public health and hygiene messages are ongoing. A plan to deliver messages via mobile phones is under design.

Gaps

- The damaging of the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza.
- While showers in shelters have improved personal hygiene and decreased the risk of spread of disease, the situation in overcrowded shelters is becoming increasingly tense. Fights between families over water were reported on multiple occasions.

- Al Maghazi and Bureji camps remain inaccessible and no solid waste could be collected in these areas.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.
- One of CMWU's dosing units for chlorination has sustained damage by attacks and is currently non-operational. The lack of chlorination may have serious public health implications.
- PEF continues to face challenges to reach Absan village (Khan Yunis) filling point due to security reasons.

Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- Emergency care for the increasing number of injuries remains a high priority.
- The immediate health needs of IDPs remain a high priority as well, especially those with chronic diseases, those who are more vulnerable to communicable diseases, and pregnant women, new mothers and infants.
- High numbers of patients are seeking care at hospitals for acute, non-trauma related reasons.
- There is a need for a follow up at community level of all injured who were discharged from hospitals.
- Fuel reserves for hospitals are decreasing more rapidly than anticipated due to the loss of the Gaza power plant. WHO is seeking solutions for fuel re-supply through donations from other sources, in addition to that provided by the Islamic Development Bank which had been intended to meet hospital needs for a six-month period.

Response:

- On 31 July, 20 patients were referred to treatment in Egypt and nine to hospitals in East Jerusalem.UNRWA health personnel are working together with shelter managers to raise awareness about food-related health risks as well as personal hygiene. UNRWA also cooperates with Palestinian Medical Relief Society, which served IDPs in three shelters with mobile health services.
- WHO's first shipment of medical supplies, worth US$ 1.4 million donated by Switzerland, Norway, and Italy, was delivered to the MoH Central Drug Store in Gaza this week; additional shipments are scheduled to arrive over the next week.
- Medical supply donated to MoH hospitals by Bahrain and the Jordanian army are en route.
- On 1 August, a team of MoH specialist physicians and surgical nurses (24 members), led by the MoH Director of Hospitals, traveled to Gaza to assist colleagues in Gaza hospitals in neurosurgery, anesthesiology, plastic surgery, general trauma surgery, advanced orthopedics and burn management.

Gaps:

- The destruction of the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) impedes the ability of the health sector to provide care for patients.
- Shortage of medical equipment, supplies and specialized personnel means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity at home.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.

~ 475,000

IDPs require food assistance and water tankering.

- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis.
- WFP provided ready-to-eat emergency food rations to 15,000 IDPs hosted in government schools and continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching approximately 25,000 displaced persons in private shelters and host families.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed '"buffer zone" impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- The Israeli military ground operation is limiting access to food warehouses and putting at risk the provision of food commodities for those in need.
- The ongoing reduction of electricity supply has heavily impacted the commercial activities, the milling capacity and the bakeries performance.

Education

Needs

- In the past 24 hours, another UNRWA school was damaged by shelling for the second time. The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency stands at 138, including 49 government schools and 89 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.
- Several buildings of the Islamic University in Gaza city sustained severe damages due to Israeli attacks.

138
Schools damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

Funding

On 1 August, the Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Shawqi Issa and the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley, launched the Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal projects are intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and requirements currently stand at US$ 369 million. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required

emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information becomes available.

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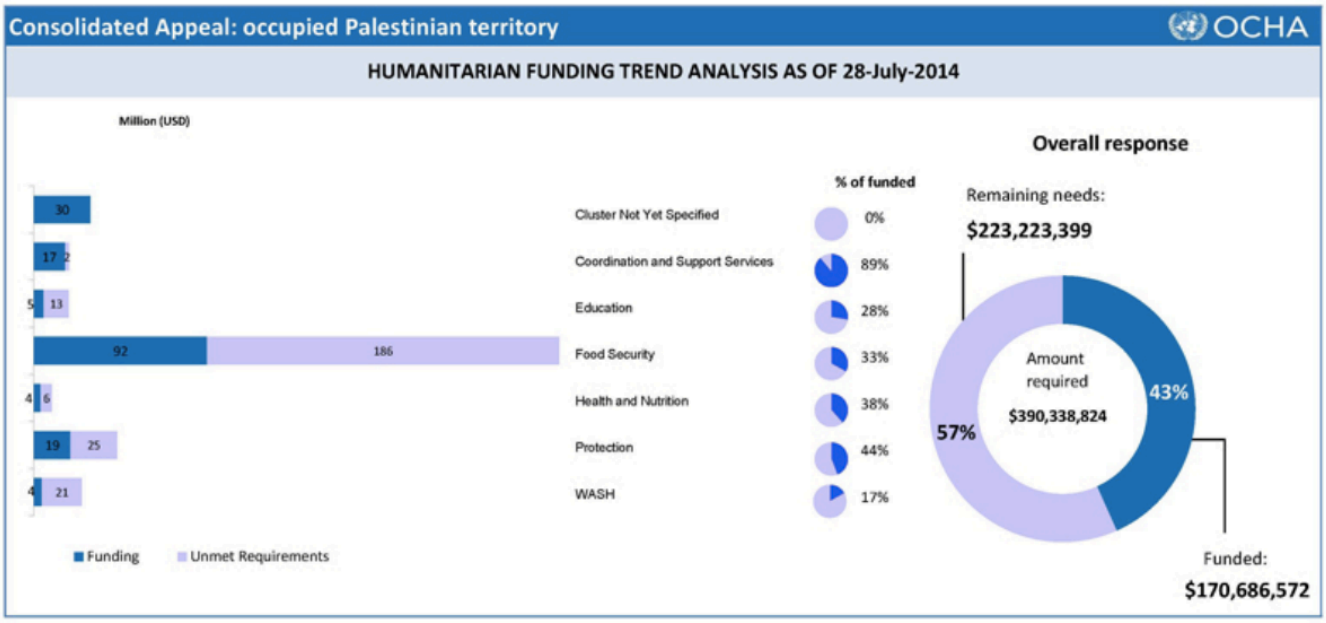

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Press Release

United Nations warns of "rapidly unfolding" health disaster in Gaza

2 August 2014, Jerusalem

A health disaster of widespread proportions is rapidly unfolding in the Gaza Strip as a direct result of the ongoing conflict, said the United Nations today. Mr. James W. Rawley, the Humanitarian Coordinator in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), together with Mr. Robert Turner, UNRWA's Director of Operations in the Gaza Strip, and Dr. Ambrogio Manenti, acting Head of Office of WHO's operations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, expressed grave concern regarding the lack of protection for medical staff and facilities, and the deteriorating access to emergency health services for the 1.8 million Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

"We are now looking at a health and humanitarian disaster", warned Mr. Rawley, adding, "the fighting must stop immediately". After more than three weeks of intense conflict, Gaza's medical services and facilities are on the verge of collapse. One third of hospitals, 14 primary healthcare clinics and 29 Palestinian Red Crescent and Ministry of Health ambulances have been damaged in the fighting. At least five medical staff have been killed in the line of duty and tens have been injured. At least 40% of medical staff are unable to get to their places of work such as clinics and hospitals due to widespread violence and at least half of all public health primary care clinics are closed.

In addition, in the last 24 hours, anonymous calls were made to staff at both the Najjar Hospital in Rafah and Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza City warning of imminent attacks, causing major panic and chaos among patients and staff. Najjar Hospital was evacuated and remains closed due to fighting nearby.

The hospitals and clinics that are still functioning are overwhelmed: since 7 July over 8000 people have reportedly been injured, many seriously. Critical supplies of medicines and disposables are almost depleted and damage and destruction of power supplies has left hospitals dependent on unreliable back-up generators. Al Shifa, the main referral hospital in the Gaza Strip, is inundated with casualties and people seeking safety in its grounds. "The ability to provide necessary healthcare is being severely compromised. This puts the lives of thousands of Palestinians in needless danger", said Dr. Manenti.

An estimated 460,000 people have been displaced and are now living in overcrowded conditions in schools, with relatives or in makeshift shelters. This, coupled with lack of inadequate water and sanitation, poses serious risks of outbreak of water-borne and communicable diseases. "Hundreds of thousands of people are sheltering in terrible conditions, pushing UNRWA's coping capacity to the edge", said Mr. Turner.

Mr. Rawley stressed that "international law sets out clear obligations on the parties to the conflict to respect the status of hospitals and medical facilities as protected objects, to respect the status of and ensure the protection of medical personnel, to ensure the protection of civilians and to respect the fundamental human right to health ". The three

officials also paid tribute to Gaza's medical staff for working tirelessly in dangerous and difficult conditions to continue to provide urgently needed healthcare.

ENDS

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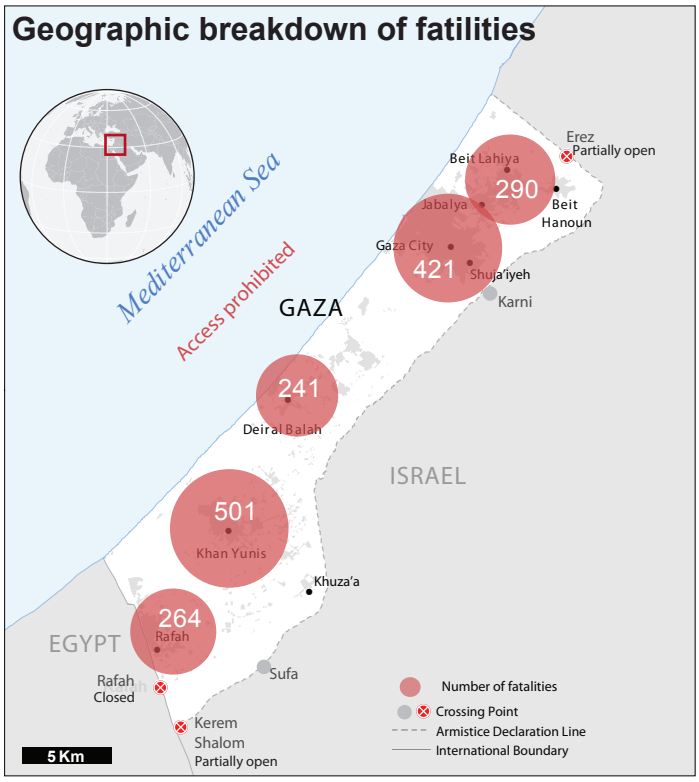
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 3 August 2014, 15:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatilities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

9,300* Injured (at least) 2,805 children 3,009 women

485,000* Displaced people in UNRWA / government schools & with host families.

1.5 million People not in shelters have no or extremely restricted access to water.

2 hours of electricity per day supplied in Gaza city on average

Situation Overview

Children continue to bear the brunt of the crisis. The number of children killed stands at 373 with at least 2,744 injured. A minimum of 373,000 children require direct and specialised psychosocial support based on the number of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home since the beginning of the emergency.

In the past 24 hours, an UNRWA school and two government schools have been affected by shelling. In the most serious incident, a missile fired by Israeli forces landed outside the gate of an UNRWA school in Rafah, killing at least nine people, including women and children, and injuring approximately 45. The school was a designated emergency shelter which had been hosting more than 3,000 people displaced by fighting in the area. This is the third occasion in 10 days that a UN shelters had been hit. Earlier this week, Israeli tank shells struck an UNRWA school in Jabalia, killing at least 15 people, including four children.

More hospitals reported damage by missiles, rockets and shrapnel from attacks in their vicinity, and are also facing shortages of services staff and of fuel, water and fuel.

Damaged structures

141 schools damaged

10,690 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

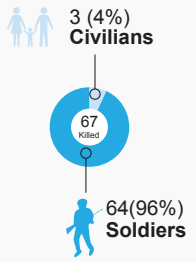
5 Hospitals have shut down

24 (at least) health facilities damaged

5,435 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

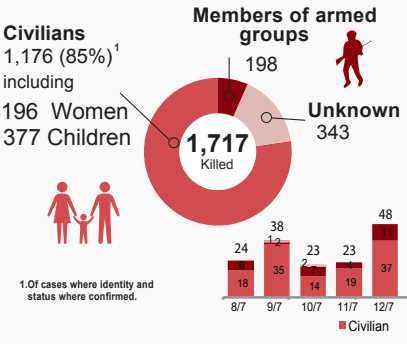
Israeli Fatilities

Fatalities by status

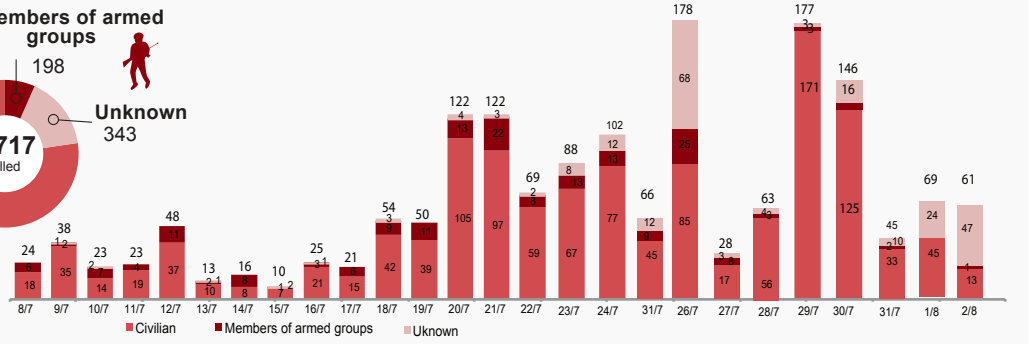


Palestinian Casualties *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date



Key Humanitarian Priorities

Protection of civilians: Ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: Increased access for humanitarian workers and their partners to carry out life-saving and emergency assistance is urgently needed, for example through a regular and meaningful humanitarian pause or coordination requests that are respected. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas of Gaza, such a Ash Shuja'iyeh and Khuza'a; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure; but also to provide a predictable basic level of broader humanitarian assistance to a population in need. The inability of actors to provide humanitarian assistance will undermine the credibility of the operations and could increase the security risks of humanitarian workers.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance of IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

oPt Funding by Cluster

(in million US$)

Projects targeting Gaza specifically in the 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) are requesting $221 million, of which 32 per cent ($70 million) has been received. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. A further $68 million is requested for projects targeting the Gaza Strip and the West Bank jointly.

Cluster	Required	Mobilized as of 23 July	Percentage
Education	6.7	2.2	32%
Food Security	183.7	60.5	28%
Health and Nutrition	9.9	1.2	9%
Protection	7.3	3.2	44%
Shelter and NFIs	3.5	0.3	12%
WASH	10.2	2.9	33%
TOTAL	221.3	70.3	33%

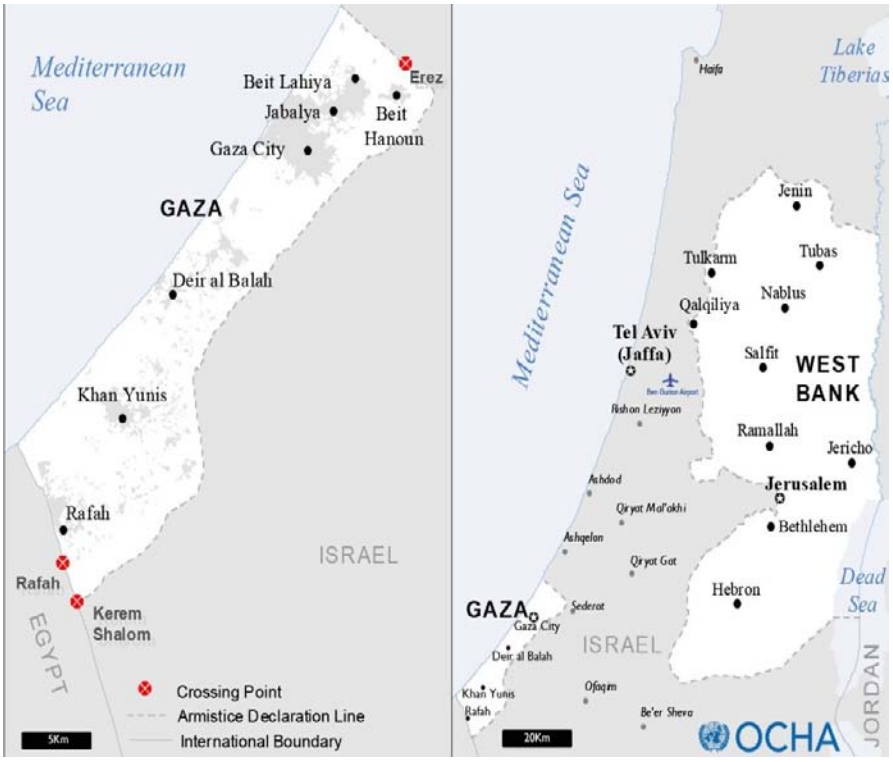
Creation date: 4 August 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications. As of 3 August, UNRWA was providing shelter to 269,793 persons in 88 shelters. Source of number of injuries : Ministry of Health.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 3 August 2014, 1500 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 2 August (1500 hrs) to 3 August (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 4 August.

Highlights



- Although the Israeli military presence has been scaled back in parts of Gaza, hostilities have continued. In the last 24 hours, at least 192 persons have reportedly been killed or their bodies recovered.
- A Israeli missile landed outside the gate of an UNRWA school in Rafah, killing at least nine people, including women and children, and injuring approximately 45.
- Children continue to bear the brunt of the crisis, with 373 killed and at least 2,744 injured.
- The public health system is on the verge of collapse: while the number of casualties continues to grow, additional hospitals and clinics have reported damage due to hostilities.
- Up to 25 per cent of Gaza's population may now be forcibly displaced, of whom 270,000 are hosted in UNRWA shelters alone.
- A humanitarian pause is urgently needed to complete search and rescue operations, repair critical water and electricity infrastructure, access remote areas, and carry out needs assessments.

1,717	67	373,000	485,000	1.5 million
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,176 civilians, of whom 377 are children and 196 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national.	Children require psycho-social support.	People may be displaced, staying in emergency shelters or with host families	People not in shelters have no or extremely restricted access to water.

Situation Overview

Although the Israeli military presence has been scaled back in Gaza, hostilities continued for the 27th successive day, resulting in mounting casualties, the continuing destruction of infrastructure and a rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs). This is adding to the unfolding humanitarian disaster about which senior UN officials warned yesterday, particularly in the health

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

sector. Gaza's medical services and facilities are nearing collapse, with hospitals and clinics overwhelmed. Critical supplies of medicines and disposables are almost depleted and the destruction of power supplies has left hospitals dependent on unreliable back-up generators. The status of hospitals and medical facilities as protected objects under international law continues to be violated with more attacks reported since the last situation update (see *Infrastructure* below).

Gaza's sole power plant remains shut down after being shelled on 29 July. Repairs may take months to complete, exacerbating the electricity crisis. This affects private households, companies and public services provision, including water, sanitation and health facilities. Access to food is also increasingly affected: bakeries cannot meet the additional demand for bread, triggered by the lack of electricity in households, while the inaccessibility of agricultural lands has resulted in fewer fresh crops and a significant increase in prices for some vegetables. There are also reports of fishermen jeopardizing their lives by going 50 meters out to the sea to feed their families.

Children continue to bear the brunt of the crisis. The number of children killed stands at 373 with at least 2,744 injured. A minimum of 373,000 children require direct and specialised psychosocial support based on the number of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home since the beginning of the emergency. Children are showing symptoms of distress and cling to parents, who might also suffer from sleeping and eating disorders, nightmares, nervousness, and feelings of depression, guilt, anger and helplessness. These conditions worsen with the realization that there is no guaranteed safe space in Gaza, including UNRWA schools, as underlined again by the attack this morning in Rafah. On six occasions since the start of the conflict, UNRWA schools sheltering the displaced have been subject to shelling.

I watched the missile falling on my home. My home burned. It burned all my toys, clothes and my room. I think I will not survive.

A nine-year- old girl from Rafah to an UNRWA counselor.

Hostilities and casualties

The Rafah area in southern Gaza continues to be the main focus of hostilities, with the Israeli military still present in the area. Rescue workers report recovering over 70 bodies from the area today but parts of Rafah are still inaccessible because of ongoing hostilities. A strike on an UNRWA school in Rafah today, which killed at least nine people, is the seventh incident in which an UNRWA shelter has been hit. The UN Secretary-General, the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and the UNRWA Commissioner General have issued separate statements condemning this incident and calling for an independent investigation.

Since the last situation update, at least 192 persons, many of whose status still needs to be verified, have reportedly been killed. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,717, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, which includes 343 persons (20 per cent), who could not be identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified (1,374), nearly 85 per cent (1,176 people) are believed to be civilians, including 377 children (27 per cent) and 196 women (14 per cent), and 14 per cent (198) members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20:00 on 2 August, 9,078 Palestinians, including 2,744 children, had been injured.

The Secretary-General is profoundly dismayed over the appalling escalation of violence and loss of hundreds of Palestinian civilian life since the breach of the humanitarian ceasefire on 1 August. The resurgence in fighting has only exacerbated the man-made humanitarian and health crisis wreaking havoc in Gaza. Restoring calm can be achieved through resumption of the ceasefire and negotiations by the parties in Cairo to address the underlying issues.

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on attack outside UNRWA shelter, 3 August.

Among the most serious incidents recorded during the reporting period include:

- 2 August, 14:30; the Israeli air force fired at least one missile, destroying the three- storey house, home to five families, of Yousef Dawoud Abu Madi, 68, in Nuseirat refugee camp. Six family members were killed, including the owner, his son, and four children. Another 10 people were injured, including three children and four women.

- 2 August, 15:00; the Israeli air force bombed the house of Mohammed Ayyad Abu Taha, which is located in the Al Shabura refugee camp in Rafah. The house was destroyed and four of its residents were killed; including two children and one woman. Another three members of the family were injured.

- 3 August 01:45; the Israeli air force bombed the house of Ahmed Sweelim Al Roumi, 53, which is located in the Al Hashsh neighborhood in Rafah. The house was destroyed and three of the owner's sons and a daughter - all children - were killed. His wife and two other sons were injured.

- 3 August 06:40; an Israeli aerial attack on the house of Al Ghoul family in Rafah resulted in the killing of eight family members including two women, three children (1 month, three years and 13 years old) and injury to seven others.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 945 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged in this manner, causing civilian casualties, including multiple members of the same families. Up to 30 July, at least 76 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 407 fatalities. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects and the launching of indiscriminate attacks.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The number of Israeli military fatalities is now 64, as the soldier who Israeli authorities believed to have been captured on 1 August, has officially been declared dead.

Displacement

In the last 24 hours, approximately 10,000 more IDPS are taking shelters in UNRWA schools. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was providing shelter to 269,793 in 90 schools throughout the Gaza Strip. This represents an average of approximately 3,000 IDPs per shelter, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people. Another 15,741 IDPs are residing in 19 government schools and other institutions and some 7,000 are reportedly seeking refuge in public buildings/ informal shelters. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) estimates that the number of persons staying with host families throughout the Gaza Strip could be as many as 200,000. The total number of IDPs in Gaza is estimated at approximately 485,000, which represent one quarter of the Gaza population.

Overcrowding at shelters is challenging the already stretched capacity to provide IDPs with basic necessities, maintain hygiene conditions, and prevent the outbreak of epidemics. While showers in shelters have improved personal hygiene and decreased the risk of spread of disease, an accelerated level of diarrhea has been reported among children. WHO and UNRWA are monitoring health in shelters in order to prevent and control any outbreak of communicable disease.

Hundreds of thousands of people are sheltering in terrible conditions, pushing UNRWA's coping capacity to the edge.
Robert Turner, UNRWA's Director of Operations in the Gaza Strip, 2 August.

Infrastructure and services

In the past 24 hours, an UNRWA school and two government schools have been affected by shelling. In the most serious incident, a missile fired by Israeli forces landed outside the gate of an UNRWA school in Rafah, killing at least nine people, including women and children, and injuring approximately 45. The school was a designated emergency shelter which had been hosting more than 3,000 people displaced by fighting in the area. This is the third occasion in 10 days that a UN school had been hit. Earlier this week, Israeli tank shells struck an UNRWA school in Jabalia, killing at least 15 people, including four children.

The Secretary-General strongly condemns the killing today of at least 10 Palestinian civilians in shelling outside of an UNRWA school in Rafah providing shelter to thousands of civilians. The attack is yet another gross violation of international humanitarian law, which clearly requires protection by both parties of Palestinian civilians, UN staff and UN premises, among other civilian facilities… United Nations shelters must be safe zones not combat zones. The Israel Defence Forces have been repeatedly informed of the location of these sites. This attack, along with other breaches of international law, must be swiftly investigated and those responsible held accountable. It is a moral outrage and a criminal act.

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on attack outside UNRWA shelter, 3 August.

In total, 141 schools (90 UNRWA and 51 government schools) have been affected by shelling due to their close proximity to targeted sites. No information is available on schools in the eastern part of Gaza Strip and Beit Hanoun, due to the security situation. In the last 24 hours, another government-run kindergarten in West Gaza was affected by shelling, brining to four the number of kindergartens which have reported significant damage so far, although this number is likely to increase substantially once a full assessment can be conducted.

More hospitals reported damage by missiles, rockets and shrapnel from attacks in their vicinity, and are also facing shortages of services staff and of fuel, water and fuel. According to preliminary information, Al Amal hospital in Khan Yunis was hit by a missile on August 3 but no details of damage or possible injuries are available. The Cardiac Hospital in Gaza also suffered damage to the cardiac lab, administration building, windows and an ambulance and one person was injured. The Patients Friends Hospital also reported damage to one of their ambulances.

Al Asqa Hospital, which has been working at 50 per cent capacity following at attack on 21 July in which at least three people were killed, reported being hit on the roof by a drone missile on 30 July which caused major damage to the female medical department and injured a nurse. The Gaza European Hospital, located in an area where access has become dangerous, between Rafah and Khan Younis, reported stoppage of its water supplies, forcing the 250-bed hospital to a bring water truck which can supply only 50 per cent of its needs. On 2 August, its main generator shut down, the daily supply of bread did not reach the hospital, and the laundry services was not working due to the manager not being able to report to work.

Key humanitarian priorities

Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open from 09:00 to 13:00 for pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Closed until further notice but still accessible.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open today from 10:00-15:00. On 2 August, 37 truckloads of goods entered, mostly food items, medicine and mattresses, in addition to fuel.
Rafah: The crossing was open today, but is inaccessible due to ongoing hostilities in the area.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

373,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,343 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 20 July, 200,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to 1,277 callers, including 377 children.
- Since 18 July, the Youth Empowerment Center, in cooperation with UNRWA, has provided PSS for 645 displaced children and 500 caregivers in UNRWA shelters.

- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme has reached a total of 48,616 children since the beginning of the emergency. Activities include playing, relaxation, meditation, drawing and storytelling. UNRWA counsellors also provide psychological first aid, orientation and counselling to parents. Partners of the Community Mental Health Programme have provided PSS services to an additional 27,306 children in coordination with UNRWA.
- Since 18 July, Tamer Institute has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries. It has also started to distribute children's books and games to children and their families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter.
- UNICEF through its partnership with AMAAN organization is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city, that are managed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and other NGOs.
- UNRWA continues to prove basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters UNRWA's television channel shows clips about the danger of UXO.
- Since 13 July, UNMAS has been distributing leaflets including safety messages on UXOs at UNRWA schools.

Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams, as well as access to basic services for children and their families.
- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Quicker coordination is required to allow for urgent evacuations of injured people to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- Opening of government schools identified as potential shelters is required to accommodate new and expected IDPs.
- 10,690families (approximately 64,150 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.
- Emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5435 families (32,600individuals), whose homes were slightly damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 30,550 families (an estimated 183,300 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance.

10,366

Families whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require NFI kits

Response

- 269,793 people are being provided with shelter in 90 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 15,731 individuals are sheltered in 19 government and private schools. Additional thousands are taking shelter in public buildings, informal shelters and other facilities. More than 200,000 are believed to be sheltering with host families.
- On 2 August, UNRWA delivered 29 truckloads of NFIs, including blankets, mattresses, hygiene kits and cleaning supplies to shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 42 million is needed for 10,690 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.

- Emergency shelter kits are required needed for 8,217families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at existing shelters and accommodate for the needs of new IDPs.
- Thousands of IDPs have reportedly moved into shelters in the southern Gaza Strip due to ongoing hostilities over the course of the past 24 hours. The security situation hinders assistance to those newly displaced.
- UNRWA's NFI stock at minimum level. Workers face difficulties accessing some storage warehouses safely.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- 1.5 million people in Gaza who are not taking shelter in designated IDP shelters have no or extremely restricted access to water, as water service providers cannot access WASH facilities to conduct daily operations and carry out needed repairs and maintenance. A humanitarian pause is urgently needed to allow access for technicians to restore the operations of critical WASH facilities, in particular water chlorination.
- There is an urgent need for drinking water and water for domestic use as well as access to sanitation and hygiene articles for IDPs.
- Fuel is urgently needed to operate critical WASH facilities.
- Damaged electricity feeder lines, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- UNRWA in cooperation with partners and donors improved the supply of potable water in the North and Gaza. In Rafah, UNRWA offered escorts to local water suppliers, and all shelters were supplied with potable water. During the reporting period, a total 433 cubic meters of potable water and 585 cubic meters of non-potable water were tankered to UNRWA shelters by the Agency, its suppliers and municipalities.
- Oxfam GB, through local partners, continues to provide drinking water to UNRWA shelters, government schools, and informal shelters and to filling points in Khan Yunis, Ash Shuja'iyeh and Bani Suhaila.
- Oxfam GB has provided 83 cubic meters of storage capacity to Khan Yunis and intends to start supplying the same amount of water daily to approximately 30,000 people.
- PHG through Oxfam Quebec and Oxfam Italia, has distributed 70 water storage tanks and is planning to distribute further 130 water tanks. In addition, they purchased 22,000 litres of bottled water and distributed them for 51 informal shelter places and Shifa Hospital Staff.
- UNRWA supplied fuel to vehicles, and offered logistical support to fuel distribution to municipalities and selected WASH facilities, including 29,100 litres of fuel delivered to the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) on 2 August.
- The Palestinian Agricultural Development Association has distributed 290 plastic tanks since the beginning of the emergency.
- Gaza municipality continues to carry out critical repairs to maintain necessary operations of the water and wastewater networks, as security permits.
- On 2 August, UNRWA sanitation staff removed an estimated 277 tons of solid waste in Jabalia, Beach Camp, Nuseirat, Khan Younis and Rafah refugee camps.
- UNRWA maintenance staff continued to install shower units and carry out critical repairs in shelters.

Gaps

- UNRWA continues to struggle to provide potable water to IDPs in the Middle Area, Khan Younis and Rafah due to ongoing hostilities.
- The damage sustained to the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza.

- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.
- One of CMWU's dosing units for chlorination has sustained damage by attacks and is currently non-operational. The lack of chlorination may have serious public health implications.
- The desalination plant in Deir El Balah continues to be non-operational after it sustained damage during airstrikes, further restricting the availability of much needed drinking water.
- Solid waste collection in Gaza area continues to be affected by lack of access, posing health hazards to residents. The dumpsite in Juhor ad Dik remains inaccessible.

Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- Emergency care for the increasing number of injuries remains a high priority.
- The immediate health needs of IDPs remain a high priority as well, especially those with chronic diseases, those who are more vulnerable to communicable diseases, and pregnant women, new mothers and infants.
- High numbers of patients are seeking care at hospitals for acute, non-trauma related reasons.
- There is a need for a follow up at community level of all injured who were discharged from hospitals.
- Fuel reserves for hospitals are decreasing more rapidly than anticipated due to the loss of the Gaza Power Plant. WHO is seeking solutions for fuel re-supply through donations from other sources, in addition to that provided by the Islamic Development Bank which had been intended to meet hospital needs for a six-month period.
- Alongside an increase in the number of hospitals which have sustained damage by missiles, rockets and shrapnel from attacks in their vicinity, hospitals are also facing shortages of staff and water.

Response:

- UNRWA health personnel are working together with shelter managers to raise awareness about food-related health risks as well as personal hygiene. UNRWA also cooperates with Palestinian Medical Relief Society, which served IDPs in three shelters with mobile health services.
- WHO's first shipment of medical supplies, worth US$ 1.4 million donated by Switzerland, Norway, and Italy, was delivered to the MoH Central Drug Store in Gaza this week; additional shipments are scheduled to arrive over the next week.
- Medical supply donated to MoH hospitals by Bahrain and the Jordanian army are en route.
- On 1 August, a team of MoH specialist physicians and surgical nurses (24 members), led by the MoH Director of Hospitals, traveled to Gaza to assist colleagues in Gaza hospitals in neurosurgery, anesthesiology, plastic surgery, general trauma surgery, advanced orthopedics and burn management.
- UNRWA offered logistical support to enable the distribution of 36,000 litres of fuel to WHO on 2 August for the operation of critical health facilities.
- A team consisting of representatives from WHO, UNRWA and UNICEF visited three IDP shelters on 2 August and found them to be overcrowded, in need of water and basic hygiene kits.

Gaps:

- The destruction of the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) impedes the ability of the health sector to provide care for patients.
- Shortage of medical equipment, supplies and specialized personnel means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- Only seven out of 21 UNRWA health centres were operating on 2 August due to ongoing hostilities.

Food Security

Needs

~ 485,000

IDPs require food assistance and water tankering.

- An estimated 485,000 IDPs are in need of emergency food assistance.
- Emergency food assistance to thousands of displaced people in informal shelters in Rafah, Khan Younis and Gaza city is urgently needed.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- More consistent distribution of nutritious, vitamin-rich food commodities to IDPs is needed to meet daily intake requirements, in particular for children below the age of five, pregnant and lactating women, as well as elderly people.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis. As of 28 July, WFP has diversified the food basket with nutritious fortified biscuits for children (6 months up to two years old). On 2 August, UNRWA delivered 96 truckloads of food items to shelters.
- WFP provided ready-to-eat emergency food rations to approximately 16,000 IDPs hosted in government schools and continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching approximately 25,000 displaced persons in private shelters and host families.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 4,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed '"buffer zone" impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- The Israeli military ground operation is limiting access to food warehouses and putting at risk the provision of food commodities for those in need. It also affects the regular emergency food distributions to more than 1 million people.
- Inaccessibility of agricultural lands affect the availability of fresh crops along with significant increases in prices for some vegetables, hampering food security partners' ability to provide fresh crops to IDPs in non-UNRWA shelters.
- The ongoing reduction of electricity supply has heavily impacted commercial activities, the milling capacity and the performance of bakeries.

Education

Needs

141

Schools damaged by shelling

- In the past 24 hours, three additional schools were damaged by shelling, including two government schools and one UNRWA school. The total of damaged schools since the start of the emergency stands at 141, including 50 government schools and 90 UNRWA schools, in need of repair.

- Several buildings of the Islamic University in Gaza city sustained severe damages due to Israeli attacks and are in need of repair.
- One government-run kindergarten in western Gaza was affected by shelling during the reporting period. A total of 4 kindergartens have been significantly damaged or destroyed since the start of the emergency, and are in need of repair / reconstruction.

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.
- No information available about possible damage sustained to schools in the eastern part of the Gaza Strip and Beit Hanoun due to ongoing hostilities.

General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. OCHA, UNRWA, Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and Internal Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continue the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters.

On 3 August, the Humanitarian Coordinator travelled to Gaza to meet with the Gaza-based EOC and other partners to coordinate humanitarian responses.

Funding

On 1 August, the Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine, H.E. Mr. Shawqi Issa and the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley, launched the Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal projects are intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and requirements currently stand at US$ 369 million. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information becomes available.

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors.

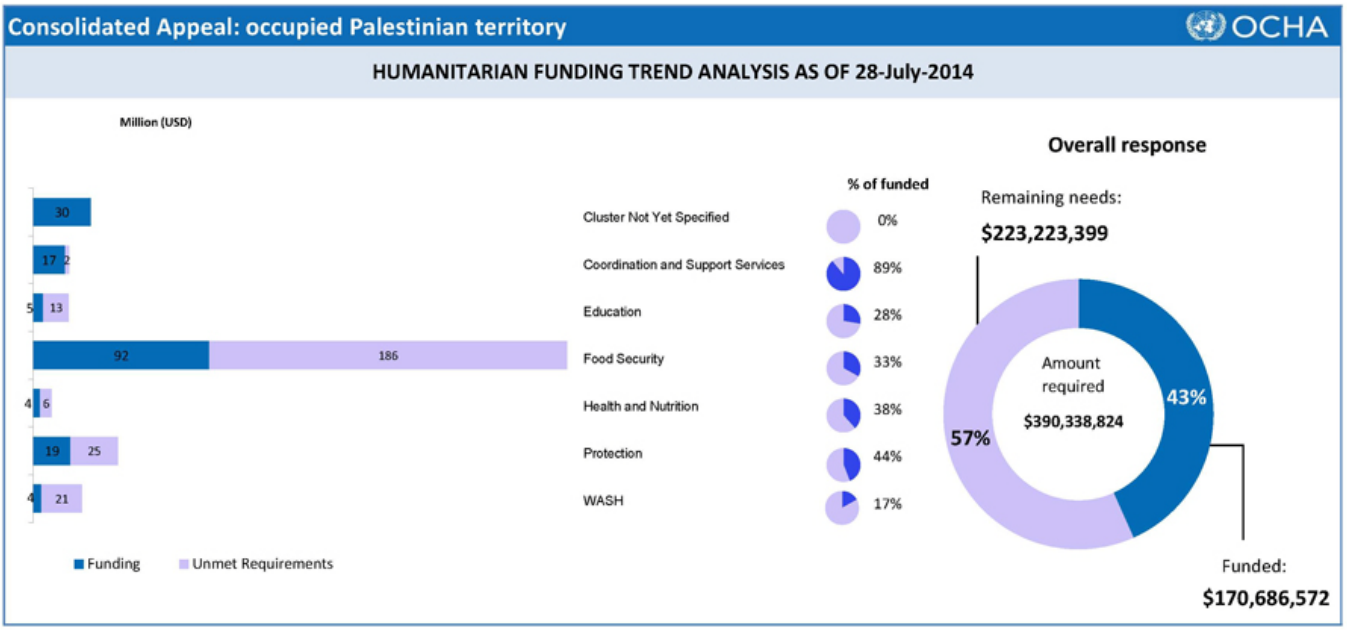
The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32 per cent of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency.

To date, seven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.6 million: ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians. In addition, a proposal by Palestinian Medical Relief Society – PMRC for Emergency Intervention,(totalling US$ 249,845) to build community support teams in Gaza Strip, is under process.

A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF; thus far, Denmark, Sweden, Italy and Ireland have pledged a combined sum of US$ 3.3 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought. UN

humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Yehezkel Lein, Head of Analysis, Communications and Protection Unit, OCHA oPt, lein@un.org, +972 54 331 1809
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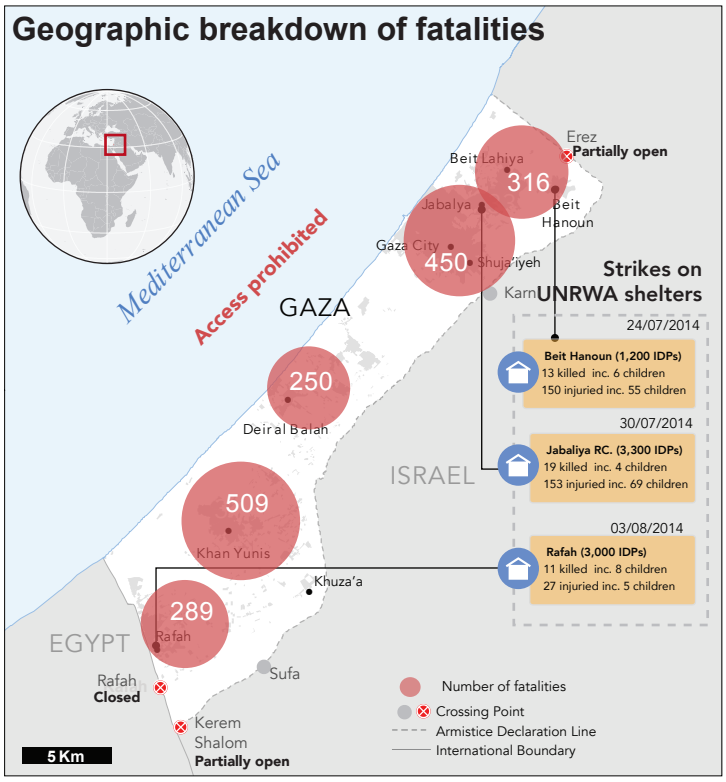
For more information, please visit www.ochaopt.org

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 5 August 2014, 8:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatalities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

9,500* Injured (at least) 2,877 children 3,061 women

520,000* Displaced people in UNRWA / government schools & with host families.

1.5 million People not in shelters have no or extremely restricted access to water.

2-4 hours of electricity per day on average

Situation Overview

While the gradual withdrawal of the Israeli army which started on Saturday continued yesterday (4 August), numerous incidents of heavy shelling and fighting have taken place, resulting in additional civilian casualties and damage to homes and civilian infrastructure. Between 10:00 and 17:00, the Israeli military declared a unilateral humanitarian pause to take place across the Gaza Strip, except for certain areas in the eastern part of Rafah governorate and east of Gaza city (Ash Shuja'iyeh).

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that nearly 1,000 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged in this manner, causing civilian casualties, including multiple members of the same family.

Gaza's medical services and facilities remain on the verge of collapse, with hospitals and clinics overwhelmed. Hospitals are struggling to transfer more patients to medical facilities outside of Gaza, both for life-saving treatment and to reduce the pressure on hospitals and free up beds for new casualties.

Damaged structures

141 schools damaged

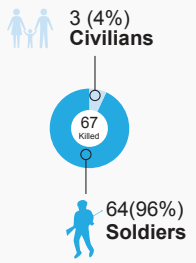
10,690 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

5 Hospitals have shut down
24 (at least) health facilities damaged

5,435 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

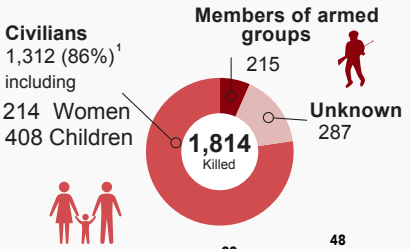
Israeli Fatalities

Fatalities by status

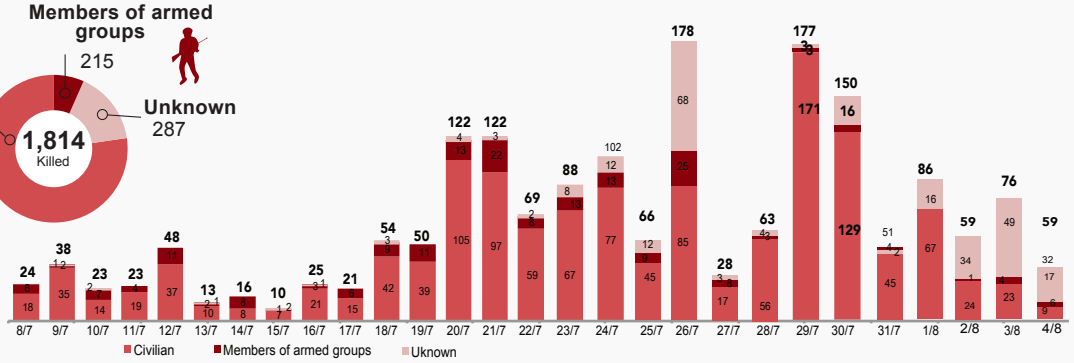


Palestinian Casualties *

Fatalities by status



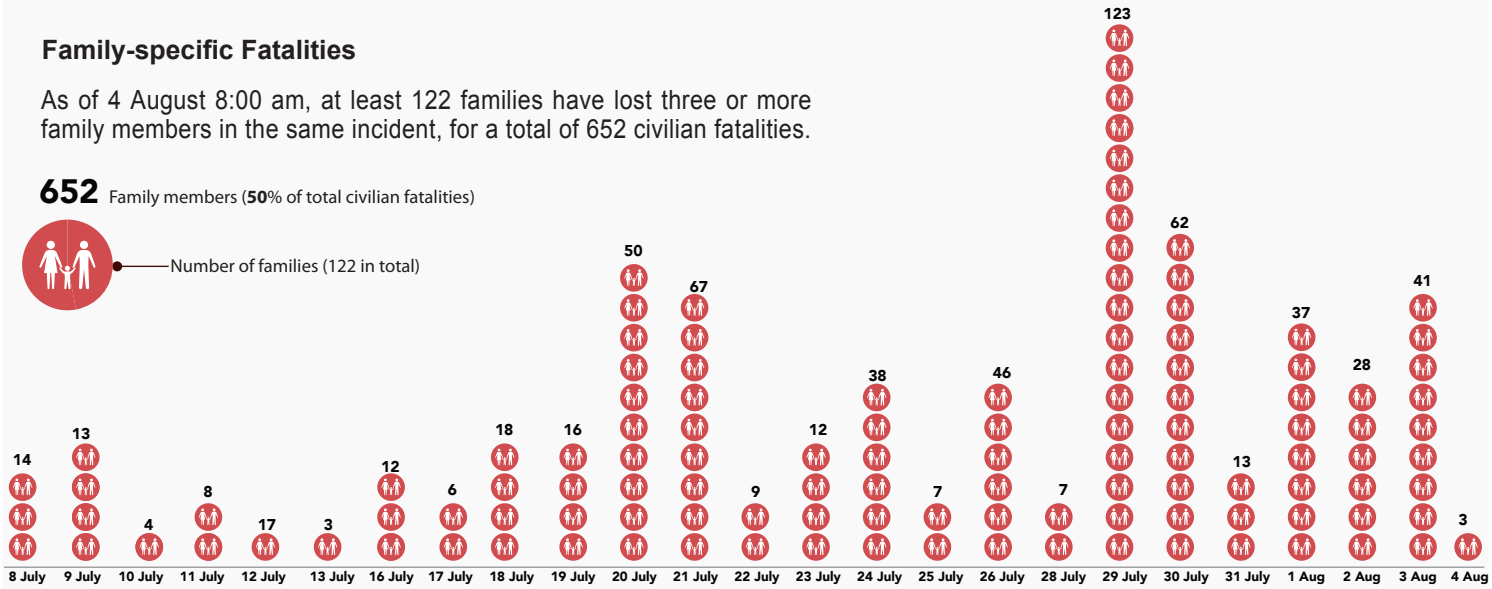
Fatalities by date



Family-specific Fatalities

As of 4 August 8:00 am, at least 122 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 652 civilian fatalities.

652 Family members (**50**% of total civilian fatalities)



Creation date: 5 August 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.
As of 5 August, UNRWA was providing shelter to 273,000 persons in 90 shelters. Number of injuries, as of August 4 (14:00) : Ministry of Health.

PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

TWO-WEEK REPORTING PERIOD: 22 JULY- 4 AUGUST 2014

Key issues

- 13 Palestinians killed and nearly 1,200 injured in clashes during protests against Israeli military operations in Gaza.
- One Palestinian killed and five injured by an Israeli settler in Nablus area, and one Israeli killed and five others injured by a Palestinian in West Jerusalem.
- Tight restrictions on access to East Jerusalem continued
- **Gaza Crisis:** Click here for the daily reports and updates on the Gaza emergency.

WEST BANK

Severe escalation in clashes during protests against the Israeli offensive in Gaza

Clashes between Palestinian civilians and Israeli forces in the context of protests against the Israeli military operation in the Gaza Strip escalated throughout the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. Over the past two weeks, Israeli forces killed 13 Palestinians, the largest number of fatalities recorded in such a period in the West Bank since May 2006, and injured at least 1,173 others, including 127 children. Fifteen members of Israeli forces were also injured. This brought the casualty toll among Palestinians in the West Bank since the beginning of the Gaza offensive to 15 fatalities and 1,846 injuries.

The number of demonstrations and people participating in them over the past two weeks, particularly during the last week of Ramadan (21-27 July), was among the highest recorded in recent years. The demonstration held at the Qalandiya checkpoint in Jerusalem on 24 July, for example, was reportedly attended by as many as 10,000 people. In many communities, these were the first protests held in years. Moreover, unlike clashes recorded on a regular basis across the West Bank, which primarily involved children and youth, a large proportion of demonstrators and of those injured were adults.

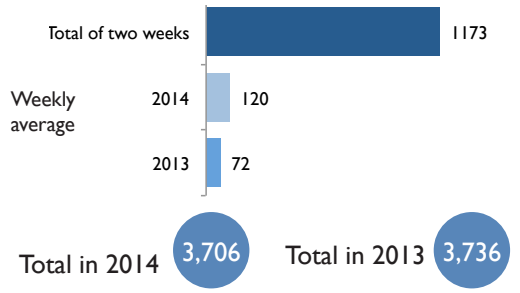
In many cases, Israeli forces reportedly employed lethal force from the outset of demonstrations, including reports about shooting by snipers. Throwing of Molotov cocktails and fireworks at Israeli forces was reported in some of the clashes, alongside intense stone throwing. Opening of fire at Israeli forces was also reported in two cases.

In one of the most serious incidents that took place on 25 July during a demonstration in Beit Ummar village (Hebron) that evolved into clashes with soldiers, three Palestinian men were killed and another 52, including 29 children, injured. According to eyewitnesses, the three fatalities were shot by snipers positioned on a rooftop

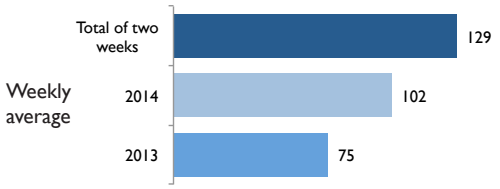
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	13
In 2014 (to date):	34
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



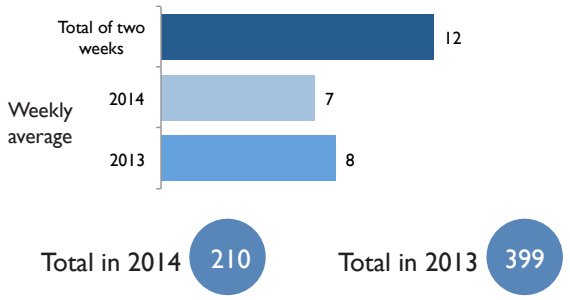
adjacent to a military tower. One of the men killed was a 45 year old father of three children and staff member of Defense Children International, who was not, according to several sources, engaged in stone throwing.

The other ten fatalities, the majority of which took place in the context of clashes in protest against the Israeli military operation in Gaza, were recorded in the following incidents:

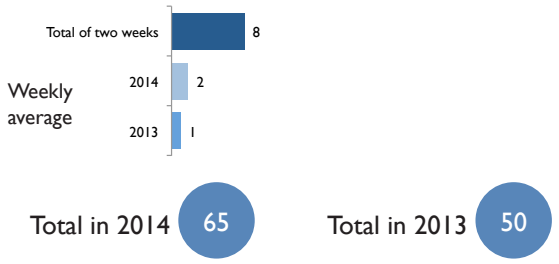
1. On 22 July, in Husan village (Bethlehem), Israeli forces shot a 34-year-old man with live ammunition in front of his shop, next to the site of clashes with Israeli forces. He died the following day of his wounds.
2. On 23 July, in Husan village (Bethlehem), a 19-year-old youth died of injuries sustained in the head by a gas canister earlier on the same day, during clashes with Israeli forces, which erupted following the funeral of the previous fatality.
3. On 24 July, at Qalandiya checkpoint (Jerusalem), Israeli forces killed a 25-year-old man with live ammunition during clashes.
4. On 25 July, at the entrance of Al Arrub refugee camp (Hebron), Israeli forces killed a 27-year-old man with live ammunition to the chest and legs following a brawl, after being prevented from reaching his home.
5. On 25 July, at Al Jalama checkpoint (Jenin), Israeli forces killed a 19-year-old youth with live ammunition during clashes.
6. On 25 July, in Huwwara village (Nablus), Israeli forces killed a 22-year-old man with live ammunition during clashes that erupted after a settler killed a 19-year-old Palestinian and injured five others in the village.
7. On 25 July, at the entrance of Beit Fajjar village (Bethlehem), a 14-year-old child was shot in the chest with live ammunition during clashes and later died of his wounds.
8. On 29 July, at the main entrance to Idhna village (Hebron), a 21-year-old man died of injuries sustained the previous day during clashes.
9. On 1 August, in Saffa village (Ramallah), Israeli forces killed a 19-year-old youth with live ammunition during clashes.

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



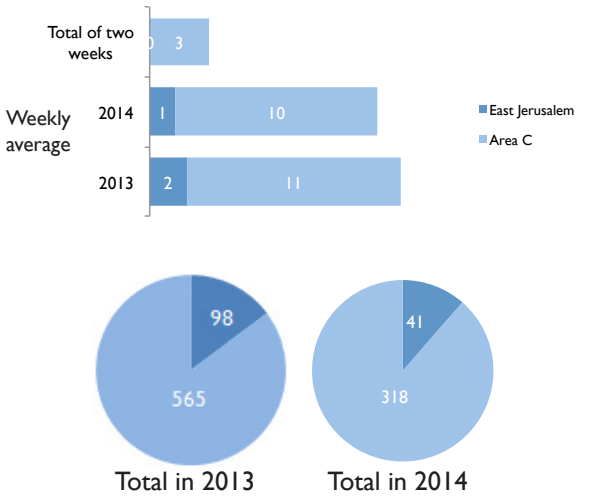
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



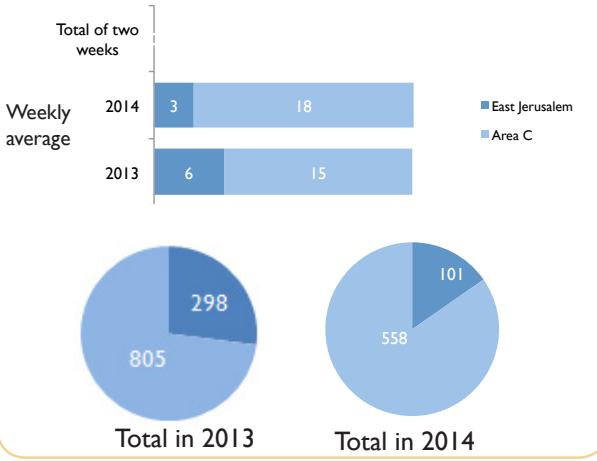
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



10. On 1 August, near the Barrier in Tulkarm, a 22-year-old man was killed with live ammunition, during clashes.

The use of live ammunition by Israeli forces recorded in previous weeks continues to rise, accounting for at least 45 per cent of all injuries during the reporting period (532 out of 1173), with the majority of the remainder injured by rubber and metal-coated rubber bullets, or treated due to tear gas inhalation.

Of note, while most protests in East Jerusalem were of similar intensity as in the rest of the West Bank, crowd control measures used there by the Israeli Police, were limited to firing of rubber bullets, tear gas canisters, and 'skunk' water, with no reports of the use of live ammunition. Many of these demonstrations taking place in East Jerusalem were held in protest of the access restrictions to Al Aqsa mosque (see further details below), as well as against the Israeli military offensive on the Gaza Strip. In one incident a police station near Al Aqsa Mosque was set on fire.

Also in East Jerusalem, on 4 August, an Israeli soldier was shot with live ammunition and severely injured. The perpetrator, whose identity remains unknown, reportedly fled the scene on a motorcycle. Israeli forces conducted multiple search operations in the area; erected many flying checkpoints and intensified checking procedures across all checkpoints leading to East Jerusalem.

An upward trend in clashes and casualties throughout the West Bank has been ongoing since the end of April 2014, following the failed round of peace negotiations.

Settler violence: one Palestinian killed and 13 injured

Over the past two weeks a total of 12 settler attacks resulting in Palestinian casualties and damage to property were recorded. Overall, one Palestinian was killed and 12 others, including two children, injured, alongside several incidents resulting in damage to agricultural property.

The Palestinian fatality and five of the injuries occurred in two incidents involving opening fire by Israeli settlers. The gravest incident took place on 25 July on the main road of Huwwara village (Nablus), when a settler dismounted from his vehicle and opened fire at a group of residents, allegedly after his vehicle was stoned, killing a 19-year-old Palestinian youth and injuring four others, including one child. The incident triggered clashes with Israeli forces that resulted in the killing of an additional 22-year-old resident (see previous section). The main road leading to three settlements in the northeastern part of Nablus governorate passes through the center of the village.

In another incident on 31 July next to Al Khadr village (Bethlehem), an Israeli settler shot a 19-year-old Palestinian in the back and injured him, following stone-throwing at Israeli vehicles, during a protest against the Israeli military operation on Gaza.

Unlike Palestinian civilians, a significant portion of Israeli settlers are authorized by the Israeli authorities to carry fire arms. Since the beginning of 2014, nine Palestinians were shot and injured by Israeli settlers and one was killed, compared to four injuries and no fatalities in 2012 and in 2013, each. Seven of this year's casualties took place in July 2014.

Another eight Palestinians were physically assaulted and injured by Israelis, mostly settlers, in the West Bank and in West Jerusalem in various incidents. This includes one incident that took place on 1 August, when two Palestinians boys aged 14 were physically assaulted by settlers in the Israeli controlled area of Hebron city (H2).

During the reporting period, 85 olive trees were reportedly burnt or otherwise damaged by Israeli settlers. In one such incident, eyewitnesses reported settlers throwing a Molotov cocktail onto Palestinian land located near Al Minya (Bethlehem), and causing damage to 30 olive trees.

Residents of Shu'fat neighborhood in East Jerusalem reported three failed attempts to kidnap children and youth, including a four-year-old child, allegedly by Israelis, during the reporting period. These bring the number of such reports in the past two months to five, increasing anxiety and fear amongst residents of this neighborhood.

Furthermore, concerns regarding increased public incitement, including through social media, to violence against Palestinians was expressed by *Navy Pillay*, the High Commissioner on Human Rights on 23 July, and again by the Special Advisers of the

Secretary General on the Prevention of Genocide and Responsibility to Protect on 24 July.

One Israeli killed and five injured in an attack in West Jerusalem; eight settlers injured in the West Bank

During the reporting period, one Israeli was killed and five injured in one attack by a Palestinian in West Jerusalem, and another eight Israeli settlers were injured by Palestinians in various incidents across the West Bank.

On 4 August, one Israeli was killed and five others injured by a Palestinian, who attacked a bus with a mechanical digger in West Jerusalem. The Palestinian driver ran over the Israeli fatality before upturning the bus. The Palestinian driver was shot dead on the spot by a prison security guard. The bus driver was injured along with four other pedestrians.

According to Israeli media, on 22 July, an Israeli settler was shot with live ammunition and injured while driving along Road 60 near Rechalim settlement in Nablus. In another incident that took place on 1 August on Road 375, near Husan village, Bethlehem, a settler was injured as a result of a Molotov cocktail thrown at his vehicle. The remaining six Israeli settler injuries were caused in various incidents due to stoning of Israeli-plated vehicles travelling on roads in the southern West Bank by Palestinians.

Three demolitions recorded, execution of punitive demolitions pending court decision

Three demolitions were recorded during the reporting period in Area C. On 4 August, Israeli forces demolished three agricultural rooms in Qilqis village, Hebron, citing lack of required Israeli issued building permits. The demolitions affected two families, comprising 14 persons, including seven children.

A petition against the demolition of the family homes of three Palestinians suspected of the kidnapping and subsequent killing of the three Israeli youths in Hebron, in June 2014, is pending before the Israeli High Court of Justice.

Tight restrictions on access to East Jerusalem continued

The estimated number of Palestinian Muslims who crossed the Barrier checkpoints around East Jerusalem (Qalandiya, Gilo, Shu'fat, Zeytoun, As Sawahira ash Shariqiya and Ash Sheikh Sa'd) to access Al Aqsa mosque on the fourth Friday of Ramadan was significantly lower this year compared to last year. The Israeli authorities estimate that some 8,000 people crossed on Friday, 25 July, less than half of those who crossed during the previous Friday (16,300), and approximately eight per cent of those who crossed on the same occasion last year (104,500).

Access to Al Aqsa Mosque was restricted to Palestinian men over 50 and women over 40, regardless of whether they were Jerusalem or West Bank ID holders. Also, as was the case last week, Palestinians under 50 who managed to cross the checkpoints with work or commercial permits were turned back at multiple flying checkpoints in the vicinity of the Old City of Jerusalem. As a result, thousands prayed in the streets surrounding Jerusalem's Old City in the heavy presence of Israeli forces. Israeli authorities continued to impose stringent access restrictions to East Jerusalem as well as to Al Aqsa mosque, including on the night of 24-25 July (Laylat al Qader), which is a holy occasion for Muslims. During that night, only a few thousand, from the West Bank, including East Jerusalem were able to reach Al Aqsa mosque compared to around 400,000 on the same night last year.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
For more information, please contact Mai Yassin at yassinm@un.org or +972 (0)2 5829962.

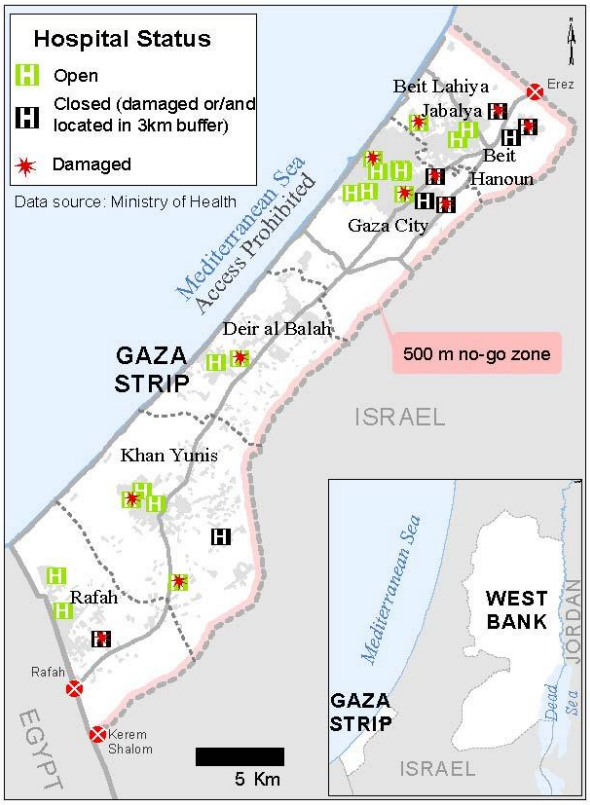
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 5 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. Please note the reporting period has changed effective today; this report covers the period from 3 August (1500 hrs) to 5 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 6 August.

Highlights

- An Egyptian proposal for a 72-hour cease-fire, accepted by Israel and Palestinian armed groups, entered into force today at 08:00. Israeli forces withdrew from the Gaza Strip and declared a 500 meter-wide 'no go zone' on the Gaza side of the border.
- Over 85 per cent of Palestinian fatalities since the start of the emergency are believed to be civilians (excluding those whose bodies could not be identified or their status determined); child fatalities exceeded 400.
- Nearly 30 per cent of Gaza's population has been displaced, including about 65,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or damaged beyond repair and have nowhere to return.
- Insecurity and overcrowded conditions fuel frustration and anger among IDPs hosted in UNRWA shelters; multiple incidents of violence against shelter staff and between families have been reported.
- Lack of adequate transportation arrangements impedes the transfer of patients to medical facilities outside of Gaza, needed for life-saving treatment and to free up beds for casualties.



1,814	67	9,536	520,000	65,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,312 civilians, of whom 408 are children and 214 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national.	People have been injured, including 2,877 children	People may be displaced, staying in emergency shelters or with host families	Displaced people had their homes destroyed or damaged beyond repair

Situation Overview

An Egyptian proposal for a 72-hour cease-fire was accepted by Israel and the Palestinian armed groups in Gaza and entered into force today (5 August) at 08:00. Israeli forces had reportedly completed their withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and redeployed along the fence separating Gaza and Israel. In light of previous failures, news of this development has been received with mixed feelings by the population in Gaza. Negotiations under Egyptian mediation about a more permanent agreement are expected to take place over the coming days.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

The Secretary-General welcomes the efforts leading to a new ceasefire as announced today. He commends the parties for committing to this ceasefire of 72 hours, to begin Tuesday, 5 August, at 8 a.m. local time, and calls on them to abide by it. Until the start of the ceasefire, the parties must exercise the utmost restraint.

Statement attributable to the Spokesperson for the UN Secretary-General, 5 August

While the gradual withdrawal of the Israeli army, which started on Saturday continued yesterday (4 August), numerous incidents involving the targeting and destruction of homes, as well as continued fighting, have taken place during the reporting period, resulting in additional civilian casualties.

Between 10:00 and 17:00 on 4 August the Israeli military declared a unilateral humanitarian pause across the Gaza Strip, except for certain areas in the eastern part of Rafah governorate and east of Gaza city (Ash Shuja'iyeh). The lull allowed for the retrieval of dozens of bodies from under the rubble, particularly in the Rafah governorate. In some of the most densely populated parts of refugee camps, people were removing the rubble with their hands, as heavy equipment could not reach the affected areas. The pause also allowed for utility workers to carry out basic maintenance and repairs. While many internally displaced persons (IDPs) visited their homes to inspect damage and retrieve belongings, the vast majority returned to the shelters and hosting families.

Gaza's medical services and facilities remain on the verge of collapse, with hospitals and clinics overwhelmed. Hospitals are struggling to overcome impediments to the transfer of patients to medical facilities outside of Gaza, both for life-saving treatment and to reduce the pressure on hospitals and free up beds for new casualties. Such impediments include the shortage of authorized ambulances to transport patients from the Erez crossing to the hospitals; insecurity impeding access to the Erez and Rafah crossings; and delays in the processing of referral requests, among others. During the emergency, less than 20 per cent of the usual number of referrals exited Gaza to Egypt or to the West Bank including East Jerusalem.

Hostilities and casualties

Despite the seven hour-long pause yesterday, during the reporting period, at least 72 Palestinians have reportedly been killed or died from wounds they sustained previously, and the bodies of at least 25 other people have been recovered. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,814, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, which includes 287 persons (16 per cent), who could not be identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified (1,527), over 85 per cent (1,312 people) are believed to be civilians, including 408 children and 214 women, and nearly 15 per cent (215) members of armed groups.

The most serious incidents recorded during the reporting period include:

- 3 August, 15:30: the Israeli air force targeted and destroyed a house west of Jabalia belonging to the Al Majdalawi family, reportedly killing five of its members, including three children: Abdallah, 13 years old; Rawan, nine; and Mahmoud, eight.
- 3 August, 20:50: the Israeli air force targeted and destroyed a house belonging to the Najim family in Jabalia, reportedly killing ten people, including three children. Two of the fatalities were reportedly affiliated with Islamic Jihad.
- 4 August, 10:00: the Israeli air force targeted and destroyed a three-storey building in the Beach refugee camp belonging to the Al Bakri family, reportedly killing Aseel, a four year-old girl and injuring some 35 other people. Two adjacent houses were severely damaged.
- 4 August, 1:30: a house in the As Salam neighborhood of Rafah town was hit by shrapnel from an Israeli missile that fell nearby, reportedly killing a three year-old girl, Raghad Abu S'oud, and injuring three of her sisters. The four girls are from Deir Al Balah town and were taking refuge at their grandmother's house.
- 4 August, 18:20: an Israeli missile hits the house of the Awaida family in the Brazil refugee camp in Rafah, reportedly killing two children playing on the roof: Amal, five years old and Muhamad, 12.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that nearly 1,000 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged in this manner, causing civilian casualties, including multiple members of the same families. Up to 08:00 4 August , at least 122 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 652 fatalities. Such cases raise serious concerns about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects and the launching of indiscriminate attacks.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system, resulting in no additional fatalities. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel had been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. No additional Israeli military fatalities have been reported during the reporting period and the cumulative number stands at 64.

Displacement

Despite the withdrawal of Israeli forces and the temporary lull in hostilities in some areas, displacement continued during the reporting period, with over 4,600 additional IDPs registered at UNRWA and government shelters. As of yesterday afternoon, a total of 273,000 IDPs were staying in 90 UNRWA shelters and over 31,000 in 26 government shelters, four of which are supported by UNRWA. Last night, two government schools used as IDP shelters in Gaza City received warnings, reportedly from the Israeli military to evacuate; 850 IDPs from Ahmed Shawky school left to another school in Gaza city, whereas the IDPs in the other school remained.

Overcrowding at shelters is challenging the already stretched capacity of humanitarian agencies to provide IDPs with basic necessities, maintain hygiene conditions, and prevent the outbreak of epidemics. While showers in shelters have improved personal hygiene and decreased the risk of spread of disease, an accelerated level of diarrhea has been reported among children.

Additionally, since the start of the Gaza emergency, six UNRWA shelters have been hit during Israeli attacks, resulting in multiple casualties. Couple with the overcrowded conditions, this has generated frustration and anger among IDPs, which have triggered several incidents of violence against shelter managers, as well as disputes between family members. In one incident on 3 August, UNRWA staff members were severely beaten when trying to prevent the theft of food commodities designated for IDPs. This is occurring against the background of a general decline in law and order that preceded the current emergency, worsened by the lack of payment to security employees.

Outside shelters, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) has registered about 20,600 displaced families (approximately 123,600 individuals) who are staying with relatives and friends. However, MoSA estimated that there are as many as 93,000 unregistered IDPs with host families. While the Rafah area saw a large displacement wave in the past few days, registration could not take place due to ongoing hostilities. Other families have not registered due to a range of reasons, including lack of awareness and the perception of no benefit associated with such registration. The total number of IDPs in shelters and with host families is therefore estimated at 520,000, or nearly 30 per cent of Gaza's population

Power supply

By the end of the reporting period, four of the ten feeder lines supplying electricity from Israel to Gaza were operational, including three in northern Gaza and one in Khan Younis. The rest of the lines require repairs to be conducted on the Israeli side. Gaza's sole power plant remains shut down after being shelled on 29 July. Overall Gaza is now receiving 76 megawatts (MWs) of electricity, including 48MWs purchased from Israel and 28MWs from Egypt, meeting around 16 per cent of the estimated demand.

Rolling power cuts stand now at between 20 and 22 hours per day. This is affecting private households, companies and public services provision, including water, sanitation and health facilities. Access to food is also increasingly affected: bakeries cannot meet the additional demand for bread, triggered by the lack of electricity in households, while the inaccessibility of agricultural lands has resulted in fewer fresh crops and a significant increase in prices for some vegetables.

Every day you need to find a place where you can fetch water so that all the children can drink and refresh themselves. You go to a neighbour who, you heard, may have a well in his courtyard, or you try to find a private vendor selling water for a high price, even though you're not sure the water he sells is potable. You have to fetch water like in the old days, praying not to be killed on the way.

Mohammad, father of two, from an interview carried out by UNICEF, 2 August

Key humanitarian priorities

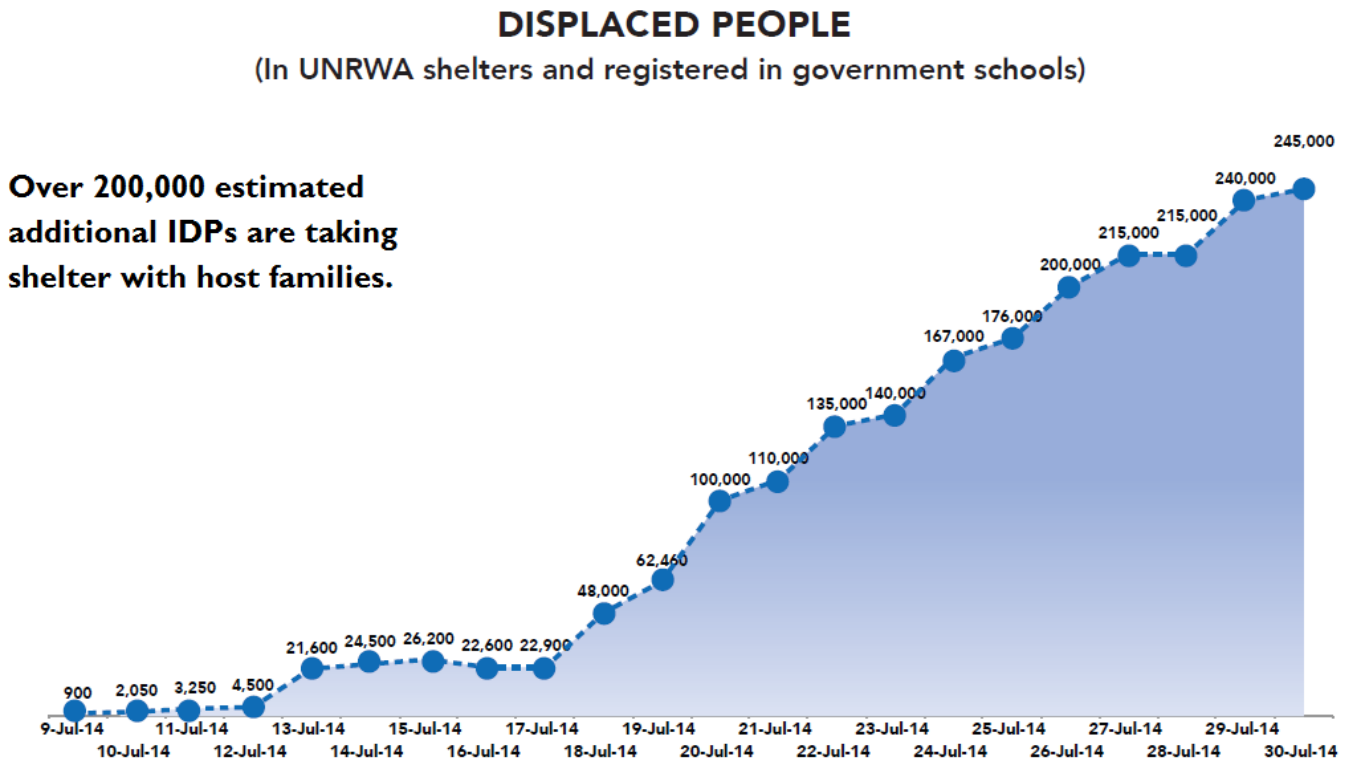
Protection of civilians: ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, for example, through regular and meaningful humanitarian pauses or corridors for the evacuation of the injured. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Scale up response to IDPs: additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water and hygiene materials, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water and hygiene kits.

Update on Gaza Crossings (4 August):
Erez: Open for pre-coordinated movement only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Not staffed but road is open.
Kerem Shalom: The crossing was open from 10:00 to 15:00. On 3 August, 185 truckloads of goods entered, mostly food items, water, medical supplies, mattresses, hygiene kits, generators and fuel..
Rafah: The crossing was open from 9:00 to 15:00. On 3 August, 15 patients exited Gaza via Rafah and 15 truckloads of goods entered. The categories of people who can cross changed and they now include Palestinians with either foreign residency cards or foreign visas, as well as Palestinians in critical medical conditions.



Humanitarian needs and response

Field teams and humanitarian partners are in the field carrying out assessments today, for inclusion in this section tomorrow.

Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, seven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.6 million. ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project

to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians. In addition, a proposal by Palestinian Medical Relief Society – PMRC for Emergency Intervention (totalling US$ 249,845) to build community support teams in Gaza Strip, is under process. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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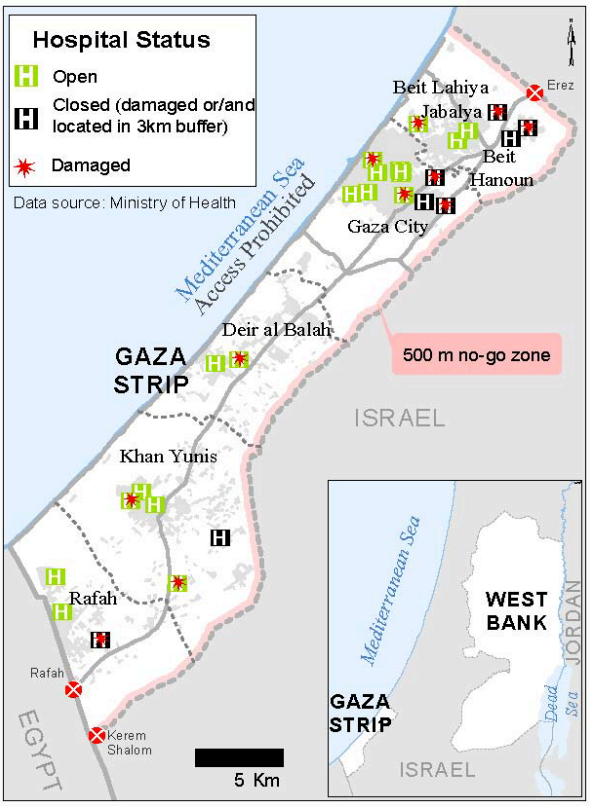
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency

Situation Report (as of 6 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 5 August (0800 hrs) to 6 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 7 August.

Highlights

- The Egyptian proposal for a 72-hour cease-fire which entered into force yesterday at 08:00 is holding, with no reports of violations or casualties.
- Rescue teams continue to retrieve bodies from the rubble. The cumulative death toll of Palestinians is at least 1,843, with civilians representing the majority of those whose status and identity has been verified. Children have borne the brunt of the emergency, with 415 killed.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are posing a major threat to children, farmers, IDPs returning home and humanitarian workers
- The number of internally displaced persons in UNRWA shelters has declined from a peak of over 273,000 on 4 August to 187,000 by this morning. These numbers could rise again if hostilities resume.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 65,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or damaged beyond repair.



1,843 Palestinians killed, including at least 1,354 civilians, of whom 415 are children and 214 are women.[1]	**67** Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national.	**373,000** Children require psycho-social support.	**187,000** People still displaced in UNRWA emergency shelters.	**65,000** Displaced people have had their homes destroyed or damaged beyond repair.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Situation Overview

The first day of the 72-hour cease-fire, which entered into force on 5 August at 08:00, has passed without serious incident, as negotiations continue under Egyptian mediation to reach a more permanent agreement. Markets and shops gradually resumed operating as Gaza residents overcome fears from the experience of previous, short-lived pauses. Municipal workers and service providers are clearing streets and rehabilitating and repairing infrastructure. Many of the displaced have returned to check if their homes are still inhabitable or their contents salvageable. Medical and rescue teams succeeded in reaching previously inaccessible area and to recover the dead from under the rubble. Of growing concern are the thousands of explosive remnants of war which are scattered throughout civilian areas, posing a major threat to children, farmers, IDPs returning home and humanitarian workers.

Most of the Gaza population has to cope with severe shortages in water and power services. Although Gaza Electricity Distribution Company (GEDCO) workers are now deployed in strength to assess and repair damaged feeder lines, rolling power cuts still extend up to 22 hours daily. Food availability remains limited due to the lack of electricity for refrigeration and lack of access to farmed land and to fishing waters for the past four weeks. Farmers and herders reports losses as they were unable to irrigate or harvest, with many livestock killed or left unfed and unattended. Aid agencies are consequently distributing food aid to displaced people in locations where assistance was severely obstructed by hostilities.

Hostilities and casualties

Rescue and medical teams have succeeded in recovering bodies from areas which have witnessed significant hostilities, including Ash Shuja'iyeh, Khuza'a and Rafah. Up to 08:00 on 6 August, the cumulative death toll among Palestinians was at least 1,849, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 279 persons (15 per cent), who could not be identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified (1,570), (1,354 people) are believed to be civilians, including 415 children and 214 women, and nearly 14 per cent (216) members of armed groups.

The most serious incident recorded during the reporting period was the recovery of the badly decomposed bodies of eight members of the Wahdan extended family from under the rubble of their home in Beit Hanoun. The dead included four women and three children who were believed to have been killed in an Israeli airstrike soon after the ground invasion on 17 July. Some members of the family managed to flee Beit Hanoun before the ground invasion, with some taking refuge in the house of Jameel Abu Al Qomsan in Jabalia Camp. However, this house was itself shelled by the Israeli air force on 3 August. Three other member of the Wahdan family were killed in this attack, a man and two women; a two-year-old girl died later from her injuries. Eleven others were injured in this incident, including four children and three women, four in critical condition.

> *How do we expect parents and caregivers to care for their children and to raise them in a positive and nurturing way when they themselves are barely functioning as humans? People have lost entire strands of their family in one blow. How can a society cope with this? This is a deep, deep, deep wound.*
>
> **Pernille Ironside, Head of UNICEF office, Gaza.**

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 968 houses have been totally destroyed or severely damaged in this manner, causing civilian casualties, including multiple members of the same families. Up to 08:00 on 4 August, at least 122 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 652 fatalities. Such cases raise serious concerns about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects and the launching of indiscriminate attacks.

There were no reports of firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel during the ceasefire. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel had been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Displacement

As the ceasefire appears to be holding, IDPs are beginning to leave shelters and host families. For the first time since the emergency began, the overall IDP number in UNRWA shelters decreased from almost 273,000 on 4 August to approximately 208,000 by the evening of 5 August, with a further decline to 187,000 by this morning. However, these numbers could rise again if IDPs find their homes uninhabitable or otherwise unsafe, or if hostilities resume. UNRWA is expecting that a core group of displaced, who have nowhere else to go, will remain in the schools which have been designated as shelters. Of most imminent concern is the start of the new school year, planned for 24 August 2014 as 90 of UNRWA's 156 school buildings are serving as shelters.

There is currently no update available on the number of IDPs outside UNRWA shelters. Approximately 16,000 IDPs were residing in 19 government schools and other institutions and another 13,000 in four UNRWA-supported government shelters. The Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) has registered about 20,600 displaced families (approximately 123,600

individuals) who are staying with relatives and friends. However, MoSA had estimated that there are as many as 93,000 unregistered IDPs with host families as many displaced in Rafah did not register due to the security situation. Thousands of Israelis who fled their homes in southern Israel are also waiting to see if the 72-hour truce leads to a more lasting ceasefire, before deciding to return to their homes.

Key humanitarian priorities

Prepare to activate assessments in the Gaza strip as soon as an extension of ceasefire is confirmed.

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXOs in built up areas.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Restoration of water and energy services to communities in Gaza.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

373,000

Children in need of psychosocial support

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- The Protection Cluster consolidated inputs from partners on the “UNRWA Guidance to Basic Protection Issues in Shelters” in order to address ongoing protection concerns and to mainstream the needs of priority groups including women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and persons with injuries.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,891 children across the Gaza Strip.
- PCDCR (Palestinian Centre for Dispute and Conflict Resolution) emergency psychosocial teams provided PSS to 180 children between 3 and 4 August.
- Since 20 July, 220,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to 1,277 callers, including 377 children.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme has provided 8,699 PSS sessions to 73,016 parents and conducted recreational activities for 79,089 children through 104 counsellors. Activities include playing, relaxation, meditation, drawing and storytelling. Partners of the Community Mental Health Programme have provided PSS services to 5,772 adult IDPs and 36,426 displaced children in coordination with UNRWA.

- Since 18 July, Tamer Institute has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries. It has also started to distribute children's books and games to children and their families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter. So far, 640 children have benefitted from such activities.
- Tomoh is conducting support activities for parents and children in two government schools, and has reached a total of 500 children to date. Ma'an is also in the process of establishing ten family centres,
- Ma'an started providing child protection training to managers of government shelters. As of 4 August, 42 staff in six shelters have been trained.
- UNICEF through its partnership with AMAAN organization is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city, that are managed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and other NGOs.
- UNRWA, UNICEF and UNMAS are distributing ERW awareness leaflets to families in UNRWA shelters. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance. Save the Children will also include ERW awareness leaflets in their education packages which will be distributed to children.
- UNMAS has deployed three EOD experts and is engaged in conducting risk assessments of UN premises and mapping needs of future interventions to be implemented over the coming days to ensure a rapid, safe and efficient ERW threat management response. UNMAS ERW educators will be deployed to all governorates to provide risk education as soon as security permits.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Quicker coordination is required to allow for urgent evacuations of injured people to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and psychosocial support counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- 10,770 families (approximately 64,650 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged by either air strikes or tank shelling are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.
- Emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5515 families (33,100 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 30,950 families (an estimated 185,700 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance.

64,650

Persons whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage.

Response

- An estimated 187,000 people are being provided with shelter in 90 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 17,213 individuals are sheltered in 19 government shelters. An additional 13,721 IDPs are taking shelter in four government schools, supported by UNRWA. More than 200,000 are believed to be sheltering with host families, 123,600 of whom have registered with MoSA to date.
- On 4 August, UNRWA delivered 24 truckloads of NFIs to IDP shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 44 million is needed for 10,770 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.

- Emergency shelter kits are required needed for 18,588 displaced families.
- Displaced families with hosting families are considered to be particularly vulnerable and in need of NFIs and food items.
- UNRWA's NFI stock at minimum level. Workers face difficulties accessing some storage warehouses safely.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- There is an urgent need for drinking water and water for domestic use as well as access to sanitation and hygiene articles for IDPs.
- Fuel is urgently needed to operate critical WASH facilities.
- Damaged electricity feeder lines, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- The ceasefire has allowed water service providers, including CMWU and municipalities, to access WASH facilities for operations, maintenance and repairs, as well as carry out assessments for needed damage repairs. Technical teams have restored the pipeline from the Rafah Waste Water Treatment Plant to the sea, and stopped the seeping of partially treated water into ground water wells. Ongoing repairs are also carried out to the damaged sanitation system in Beit Lahia.
- UNRWA continued to distribute potable and non-potable water to emergency shelters during the reporting period. On 4 August, a total of 405 cubic meters of potable water and 641 cubic metres of non-potable water were tankered to UNRWA shelters by the Agency, its suppliers and municipalities.
- Fuel was delivered on 5 August to municipalities and WASH facilities, including 20,000 litres delivered to UNICEF for the CMWU on 4 August.
- Water trucking of potable water took place in North Gaza, Gaza city, Khan Younis and Rafah.
- On 4 August, UNRWA sanitation staff removed 374 tons of solid waste from all Gaza camps, including 32 tons from Bureij and Maghazi camps which were previously inaccessible.

Gaps

- The damage sustained to the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.
- WASH partners' communication with CMWU and municipalities is challenged due to lack of electricity and internet.
- Movement restrictions hamper field assessments.
- The desalination plant in Deir El Balah continues to be non-operational after it sustained damage during airstrikes, further restricting the availability of much needed drinking water.

Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- Emergency care for the increasing number of injuries remains a high priority.
- The immediate health needs of IDPs remain a high priority as well, especially those with chronic diseases, those who are more vulnerable to communicable diseases, and pregnant women, new mothers and infants.
- High numbers of patients are seeking care at hospitals for acute, non-trauma related reasons.

- There is a need for a follow up at community level of all injured who were discharged from hospitals.
- Fuel reserves for hospitals are decreasing more rapidly than anticipated due to the loss of the Gaza Power Plant. WHO is seeking solutions for fuel re-supply through donations from other sources, in addition to that provided by the Islamic Development Bank which had been intended to meet hospital needs for a six-month period.
- Alongside an increase in the number of hospitals which have sustained damage by missiles, rockets and shrapnel from attacks in their vicinity, hospitals are also facing shortages of staff and water.

Response:

- UNRWA health personnel are working together with shelter managers to raise awareness about food-related health risks as well as personal hygiene. UNRWA also cooperates with Palestinian Medical Relief Society, which served IDPs in three shelters with mobile health services.
- WHO's first shipment of medical supplies, worth US$ 1.4 million donated by Switzerland, Norway, and Italy, was delivered to the MoH Central Drug Store in Gaza this week; additional shipments are scheduled to arrive over the next week.
- Medical supply donated to MoH hospitals by Bahrain and the Jordanian army are en route.
- On 1 August, a team of MoH specialist physicians and surgical nurses (24 members), led by the MoH Director of Hospitals, traveled to Gaza to assist colleagues in Gaza hospitals in neurosurgery, anesthesiology, plastic surgery, general trauma surgery, advanced orthopedics and burn management.
- UNRWA offered logistical support to enable the distribution of 39,950 litres of fuel to WHO on 4 August for the operation of critical health facilities.

Gaps:

- The destruction of the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) impedes the ability of the health sector to provide care for patients.
- Shortage of medical equipment, supplies and specialized personnel means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- 13 out of 21 UNRWA health centres were operating on 4 August. A portion of the medication stored in non-operational UNRWA health centres is unusable due to the fact that refrigerators were not supplied with electricity.

Food Security

Needs

- At least 400,000 IDPs are still in need of emergency food assistance.
- Emergency food assistance to thousands of displaced people in informal shelters in Rafah, Khan Younis and Gaza city is urgently needed.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should continue.

400,000

IDPs require food assistance and water tankering.

Response

- Aid agencies are taking advantage of the ceasefire to dispatch food aid to displaced people in locations where urgent humanitarian assistance was severely obstructed due to ongoing military action.

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis. On 4 August, UNRWA delivered 95 truckloads of food to shelters.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters. WFP is distributing bread from West Bank bakeries to meet the mounting food needs.
- Food vouchers and food packages are delivered to approximately 25,000 IDPs in host communities and informal shelters by FSS partners, members and local institutions.
- The Food Security Sector is preparing for the post-conflict phase, engaging all partners in the assessment and planning process of the continued response.
- Food assistance support to the post-conflict phase will include a large-scale food distribution undertaken by UNRWA and WFP to cover most people in the Gaza Strip.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance. Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 4,000 herders.
- Some food stores are located in areas which require 'prior coordination' due to the Israeli-imposed '"buffer zone" impeding the ability to provide much needed food assistance.
- The Israeli military ground operation is limiting access to food warehouses and putting at risk the provision of food commodities for those in need. It also affects the regular emergency food distributions to more than 1 million people.
- Inaccessibility of agricultural lands affect the availability of fresh crops along with significant increases in prices for some vegetables, hampering food security partners' ability to provide fresh crops to IDPs in non-UNRWA shelters.
- The ongoing reduction of electricity supply has heavily impacted commercial activities, the milling capacity and the performance of bakeries.

Education

Needs

- Several buildings of the Islamic University in Gaza city sustained severe damages due to Israeli attacks and are in need of repair.
- Four kindergartens have been significantly damaged or destroyed since the start of the emergency, and are in need of repair / reconstruction.

4
kindergartens damaged by shelling

Response

NTR

Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.
- No information available about possible damage sustained to schools in the eastern part of the Gaza Strip and Beit Hanoun due to ongoing hostilities.

General Coordination

Assessments are ongoing and clusters are meeting to map needs and coordinate responses.

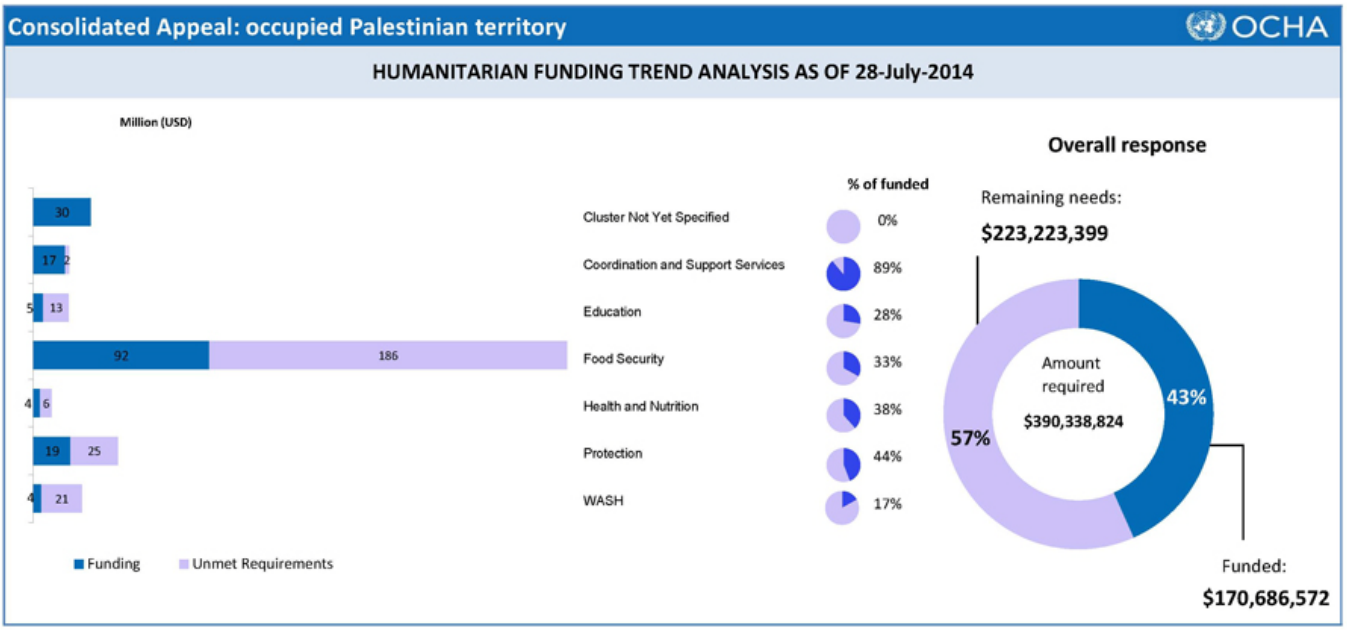
Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, seven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.6 million. ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians. In addition, the following proposals are in process; a proposal by Palestinian Medical Relief Society – PMRC for Emergency Intervention (totalling US$ 249,845) to build community support teams in Gaza Strip; a proposal by Agricultural Development Association (PARC) to provide Safe Water for IDPs in Gaza for US$ 249,780; a proposal by B'Tselem - The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories promoting respect for IHL and human rights: Gaza Crisis Appeal 2014 for US$ 48,732; a proposal by Al Mezan Centre for Human Rights for provision of legal assistance to Gazans seeking accountability and/or redress following Operation Protective Edge for US$ 175,000; and a proposal by MA'AN Development Center (MA'AN) as Emergency Reparation of WASH facilities in the Gaza Strip for US$ 275,000.

is under process. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.



Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator says continued halt in violence essential to humanitarian response in the Gaza Strip

Jerusalem, 7 August 2014

"The 72-hour-ceasefire between Israel and Palestinian factions that entered into force on 5 August must continue to hold," said the UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for the occupied Palestinian territory, Mr. James W. Rawley. "I welcome the halt in violence and echo the call of the Secretary-General that parties reach a durable ceasefire. We cannot go back to the status-quo ante," he said.

"After four weeks of intense hostilities, the scale of needs is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip. Teams are on the ground assessing needs and providing relief," said Mr Rawley. In the last 48 hours, humanitarian workers have been able to deliver food rations to hundreds of thousands of people. Vital repairs to water and sanitation infrastructure are underway and hundreds of tons of refuse have been removed from Gaza's refugee camps. Medical supplies are being re-stocked and more clinics are open. Mine risk education is targeting families in areas with highest contamination of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and emergency psychosocial support is being provided to thousands of children. Search and rescue workers have been retrieving bodies from under the rubble in areas that were previously inaccessible.

"We need to rapidly scale-up our response to address the needs of the people in Gaza now and in the longer-term" said Mr. Rawley, "but to do that, we need a sustained halt to the violence." Since the conflict began on 7 July 2014, at least 1,380 Palestinians civilians identified have been killed, including 423 children and 224 women, and over 9,000 people have been injured. Three civilians in Israel were killed. Some of the 520,000 Palestinians who were displaced have returned to their homes. However, preliminary estimates indicate over 10,000 housing units have been destroyed or severely damaged, leaving 65,000 with no home to go back to. Initial assessments indicate widespread damage and destruction to basic infrastructure, including water and sanitation networks, electricity supply lines and the Gaza Power Plant, as well as damage to tens of medical facilities and schools.

A political agreement must also bring about a fundamental shift in the situation. With due regard to security concerns, an agreement to lift the restrictions on movement of people and goods that Israel has put in place for the last seven years is critical to address people's needs in the short and longer-term. "Without the full lifting of the blockade of the Gaza Strip, Palestinians in Gaza will continue to be deprived of any sense of a normal life and the massive reconstruction effort now required will be impossible," said Mr. Rawley.

ENDS

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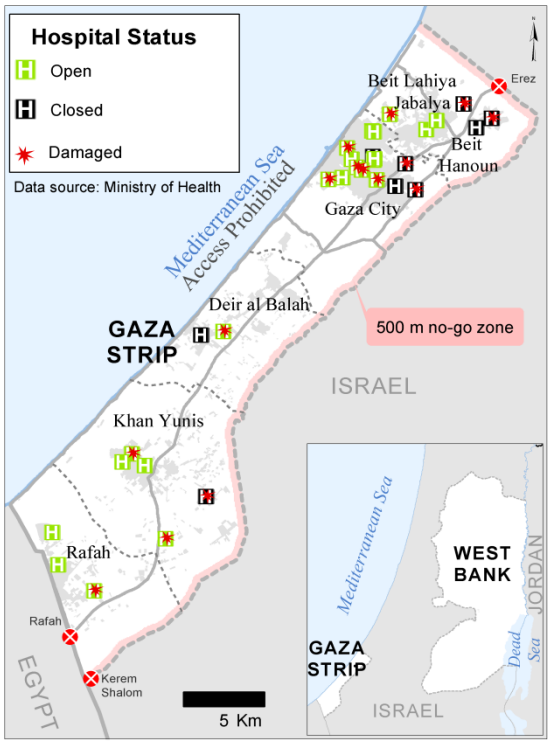
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 7 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 6 August (0800 hrs) to 7 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 8 August.

Highlights

- The 72-hour-ceasefire, which expires tomorrow at 08:00, continues to hold.
- Rescue teams have retrieved additional bodies, bringing the cumulative death toll of Palestinians to 1,869, of whom 1,380 are believed to be civilians, including 423 children; the status of 272 fatalities is yet to be determined.
- Explosive remnants of war are posing a major threat to civilians, particularly in the three kilometer-wide band, previously declared as a "buffer zone".
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in UNRWA and government shelters continues to decline, mainly in northern Gaza and Rafah, and now stands at approximately 202,000. The number of displaced outside these shelters is unknown.
- The lull allowed for the repair of critical electricity, water and sanitation infrastructure; half of the population may start receiving water once every five days.



- A joint needs assessment by humanitarian partners will be launched in the coming days if the ceasefire is extended.

1,869	67	373,000	202,000	65,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,380 civilians, of whom 423 are children and 224 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national.	Children require psycho-social support.	People still displaced in UNRWA and government emergency shelters.	Displaced people have had their homes destroyed or damaged beyond repair.

Situation Overview

The 72-hour-ceasefire that entered into force on 5 August has held, but is set to expire tomorrow at 08:00, unless an extension is agreed before then. While people in Gaza are struggling to take maximum advantage of the lull to meet their most urgent needs, attention is focused on the ongoing negotiations over an extension of the ceasefire under Egyptian mediation.

The situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has remained fluid. While more IDPs have left emergency shelters and host families, others have subsequently returned after finding their homes destroyed or uninhabitable, due to a feeling of insecurity, or because they have nothing to eat. It is estimated that nearly 10,800 homes have been destroyed or damaged beyond repair over the course of hostilities, rendering some 65,000 people homeless.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

This uncertainty is further challenging efforts by humanitarian agencies to deliver assistance, primarily food and water. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was sheltering 166,500 people in 89 schools, down from 187,000 yesterday and almost 273,000 at its peak on 4 August. The bulk of the decline in the number of IDPs at UNRWA shelters has been recorded in northern Gaza and Rafah, while in other areas there has been only a minor decrease. Approximately 35,800 IDPs were residing in 30 government schools and other institutions (including eight schools supported by UNRWA). There is currently no update available on the number of IDPs outside UNRWA and government shelters.

The world watched with horror the impact of this conflict on children, on civilians. Restoring trust and dealing with the trauma of war could take generations. We witnessed blatant violations of international humanitarian and human rights law.

Kyung-Wha Kang, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, 6 August

The existence of thousands of explosive remnants of war in civilian areas is a major emerging concern, especially regarding children, farmers, IDPs returning home and humanitarian workers. Areas up to three kilometres from Gaza's perimeter fence (44 per cent of the Gaza Strip), which were declared as a "buffer zone" for the duration of the Israeli ground incursion, are considered particularly dangerous. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has begun assessing critical UN facilities in this area to allow for the resumption of activities there.

Intense search and rescue operations have continued during the reporting period. Since the last update 26 new fatalities have been recorded, including due to the recovery of bodies and the receipt of information about deaths that occurred in previous days but had not been recorded. Of the 26 fatalities, 14 were identified as civilians, including three children, while the identity or the status of the rest is still being verified. Over half of these fatalities fell during the shelling and airstrikes that took place in Rafah on 1 and 2 August.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,869, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 272 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified, 1,380 are believed to be civilians, including 423 children and 224 women, and 217 members of armed groups.

The lull during the past 48 hours has been crucial in facilitating the operation and repair of essential infrastructure. While the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following the damage sustained during an Israeli airstrike on 29 July, six of the ten electricity feeder lines from Israel to Gaza are now operational, and efforts to repair the remaining four lines are ongoing on both sides of the border. Together with the electricity supply from Egypt, Gaza receives now some 100 megawatts, double the amount five days ago, accounting for approximately 20 per cent of the estimated demand. Despite the improvement, most areas across Gaza do not receive electricity for more than three-four hours per day, while localities in the middle area, which depended exclusively on the GPP, are receiving zero electricity. This is primarily due to the severe damage sustained by the internal distribution network, which could not yet be repaired.

The staff of the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU), which is in charge of most of the water and sanitation infrastructure in Gaza, has been deployed at full capacity to repair and operate previously inaccessible facilities. The Head of the CMWU estimated that by the expiration of the current ceasefire, water supply to half of the population could be restored and provide households with water for several hours every five days.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXOs in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: must be launched in the coming days to inform interventions by humanitarian organizations. This is contingent on an extension of the ceasefire.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Update on Gaza Crossings:
Erez: Open today from 08:00 to 16:00 for international staff with valid permits.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Open and staffed.
Kerem Shalom: Open today from 08:00 to 16:00.
Rafah: Open today from 9:00-15:00 for people who were injured and need immediate treatment, for dual-nationals and for Palestinians with visas for third countries.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

373,000
Children in need of psychosocial support

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- The Protection Cluster consolidated inputs from partners on the "UNRWA Guidance to Basic Protection Issues in Shelters" in order to address ongoing protection concerns and to mainstream the needs of priority groups including women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and persons with injuries.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,891 children across the Gaza Strip.
- PCDCR (Palestinian Centre for Dispute and Conflict Resolution) emergency psychosocial teams provided PSS to 132 children on 5 August.
- Since 20 July, 240,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to 1,462 callers.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has provided 8,699 PSS sessions to 73,016 parents and conducted recreational activities for 79,089 children through 104 counsellors. Activities include playing, relaxation, meditation, drawing and storytelling.
- Since 18 July, Tamer Institute has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries. It has also started to distribute children's books and games to children and their families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter. So far, 640 children have benefitted from such activities.
- Tomoh is conducting support activities for parents and children in two government schools, and has reached a total of 500 children to date. Ma'an is also in the process of establishing ten family centres.
- Ma'an started providing child protection training to managers of government shelters. As of 4 August, 42 staff in six shelters have been trained.
- UNICEF through its partnership with AMAAN organization is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city, that are managed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and other NGOs.
- UNRWA, UNICEF and UNMAS are distributing ERW awareness leaflets to families in UNRWA shelters. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance. Save the Children will also include ERW awareness leaflets in their education packages which will be distributed to children.
- UNMAS has deployed three EOD experts and an additional Regional Security Advisor is in Jerusalem for further support. It is engaged in conducting risk assessments of UN premises and mapping needs of future interventions to be implemented over the coming days to ensure a rapid, safe and efficient ERW threat management response. UNMAS ERW educators will be deployed to all governorates to provide risk education as soon as security permits.

- On 5 August, UNMAS examined four UNRWA schools in Gaza City for UXO.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- 10,770 families (approximately 64,650 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged by either air strikes or tank shelling are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.
- Emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5,515 families (33,100 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 30,950 families (an estimated 185,700 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance.

64,650

People whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage.

Response

- 171,240 people are being provided with shelter in 89 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 34,800 individuals are sheltered in 30 government shelters.
- A total of 46,205 NFI kits have been distributed since the start of the emergency by ten agencies and organizations.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 44 million is needed for 10,770 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are required needed for 8,346 displaced families.
- Displaced families with hosting families are considered to be particularly vulnerable and in need of NFIs and food items.
- UNRWA's NFI stock at minimum level. Workers face difficulties accessing some storage warehouses safely.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- There is an urgent need for drinking water and water for domestic use as well as access to sanitation and hygiene articles for IDPs.
- Fuel is urgently needed to operate critical WASH facilities.
- Damaged electricity feeder lines, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- The ceasefire has allowed water service providers, including CMWU and municipalities, to access WASH facilities for operations, maintenance and repairs, as well as carry out assessments for needed damage repairs. Technical teams have restored the pipeline from the Rafah Waste Water Treatment Plant to the sea, and stopped the seeping of partially treated water into ground water wells. Ongoing repairs are also carried out to the damaged sanitation system in Beit Lahia.
- UNRWA continued to distribute potable and non-potable water to emergency shelters during the reporting period.

Gaps

- The damage sustained to the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.
- WASH partners' communication with CMWU and municipalities is challenged due to lack of electricity and internet.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

33

hospitals and clinics have been damaged

- 15 hospitals and 18 clinics have been damaged since 7 July.
- Emergency care for the increasing number of injuries remains a high priority.
- The immediate health needs of IDPs remain a high priority as well, especially those with chronic diseases, those who are more vulnerable to communicable diseases, and pregnant women, new mothers and infants.
- High numbers of patients are seeking care at hospitals for acute, non-trauma related reasons.
- There is a need for a follow up at community level with all injured who were discharged from hospitals.
- Fuel reserves for hospitals are decreasing more rapidly than anticipated due to the loss of the Gaza Power Plant. WHO is seeking solutions for fuel re-supply through donations from other sources, in addition to that provided by the Islamic Development Bank which had been intended to meet hospital needs for a six-month period.
- Alongside an increase in the number of hospitals which have sustained damage by missiles, rockets and shrapnel from attacks in their vicinity, hospitals are also facing shortages of staff and water.

Response

- UNRWA health personnel are working together with shelter managers to raise awareness about food-related health risks as well as personal hygiene. UNRWA also cooperates with Palestinian Medical Relief Society, which served IDPs in three shelters with mobile health services.
- Progress is being made in matching patients to particular destination hospitals by the needed specialization, streamlining the bureaucracy involved in referral procedures, and arranging for transportation for patients and accommodations for their companions.
- Medical supplies donated to MoH hospitals by Bahrain and the Jordanian army are en route.

Gaps

- The shutdown of the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) impedes the ability of the health sector to provide care for patients.
- Shortage of medical equipment, supplies and specialized personnel means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel is impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are still in need of emergency food assistance.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.

- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should continue.

Response

- Aid agencies are taking advantage of the ceasefire to dispatch food aid to displaced people in locations where urgent humanitarian assistance was severely obstructed due to ongoing military action.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis. On 5 and 6 August, WFP reached a total of 329,117 and 263,844 people respectively with emergency food assistance.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters. WFP is distributing bread from West Bank bakeries to meet the mounting food needs.
- The Food Security Sector is preparing for the food distribution, from 10 August on, for everyone not normally receiving core food assistance, primarily to assist people whose houses have been partially or fully destroyed and/or those hosing IDPs.
- Food assistance support to the post-conflict phase will include a large-scale food distribution undertaken by UNRWA and WFP to cover most people in the Gaza Strip.

Gaps and Constraints

- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance.
- The ongoing reduction of electricity supply has heavily impacted commercial activities, the milling capacity and the performance of bakeries.

Education

Needs

- After the ceasefire, six additional public schools have been found to have been affected by shelling, bringing the total number of shelling-affected schools to 150.
- Two universities and two colleges have been affected by shelling and are in need of repair.
- Four kindergartens have been significantly damaged or destroyed since the start of the emergency, and are in need of repair / reconstruction.

4
kindergartens damaged by shelling

Response

- The Education Cluster is coordinating plans for the opening of the new school year at both MoEHE and UNRWA schools, Partners are this week collecting more detailed data on which schools will not be available for educational purposes, either due to extensive damage or usage as temporary shelters, by the launch of the new school year.
- The Education Cluster is working with service providers to align on a special package for returning school students, with a focus on psychosocial support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.

- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- To support the humanitarian community facing logistical challenges, the Logistics Cluster was activated for the Gaza Emergency on 30 July 2014 in order to enhance inter-agency logistics coordination and improve inter-operability between responding humanitarian organisations in order to ensure timely, predictable and efficient response operations.
- Three dedicated warehouses and one refrigerated warehouse have been secured by the Logistics Cluster for use as common storage for the wider humanitarian community inside the Gaza Strip with a combined storage capacity of more than 1,800 m2.
- On 5 August 2014, the delivery of ten generators was coordinated by the Logistics Custer on behalf of UNSCO from Kerem Shalom to the electrical company sites in the Gaza Strip.
- As of 7 August, 15 trucks transporting relief items on behalf of the humanitarian community including organisations such as NRC, CHF, OXFAM, PRSC and private donors have been facilitated by the Logistics Cluster and have reached Gaza City. Items transported include urgent aid relief such as water, bread, toilet paper, cooking oil, rice, hygiene kits, mattresses and pillows.
- The Logistics Cluster has deployed a dedicated Coordinator and an Information Management Officer to Jerusalem to support the operation and ensure coordination and rapid dissemination of operational information. Information is shared via the dedicated Logistics Cluster Gaza Operations pages on the Logistics Cluster website (http://logcluster.org/ops/gaza14a)
- Weekly Logistics Cluster Coordination Meetings have been held with attendees from over 24 local and international humanitarian organisations.

Gaps and Constraints

- The full reliance on Kerem Shalom as the only transportation entry point into the Gaza Strip remains a key constraint currently limiting access to the region.
- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip, and at same time raise issues of prioritization of cargo.

General Coordination

Humanitarian organizations, under the leadership of OCHA, began preparations towards the launching of joint rapid needs assessment on 10 August, including the finalization of questionnaires, the allocation of staff to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various local ministries have already committed their participation and support, with the Ministry of National Economy serving as focal point. The assessment will take place in two phases: an overview at the governorate level, on the first day, followed by an assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level for during three-four days. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process.

Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, seven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.6 million. ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians.

In addition, the following proposals are in process; a proposal by Palestinian Medical Relief Society – PMRC for Emergency Intervention (totalling US$ 249,845) to build community support teams in Gaza Strip; a proposal by Agricultural Development Association (PARC) to provide Safe Water for IDPs in Gaza for US$ 249,780; and a proposal by MA'AN Development Center (MA'AN) as Emergency Reparation of WASH facilities in the Gaza Strip for US$ 275,000, a proposal by UNDP for Emergency Support to the Electricity Sector due to Damages in the Gaza Strip through the Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO) for US$ 250,000, a proposal by Union of Agricultural work Committees (UAWC) for Emergency Support for families in informal shelters in Gaza for US$ 238,707 are under process. Further funding for the ERF is under process. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 8 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 7 August (0800 hrs) to 8 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 9 August.

Highlights

- The 72-hour-ceasefire expired this morning at 08:00, without agreement being reached regarding an extension. Rocket fire from Gaza resumed shortly after the deadline, followed by Israeli strikes on Gaza.
- Rescue teams have retrieved additional bodies, bringing the cumulative death toll of Palestinians to 1,922, of whom 1,407 are believed to be civilians, including 448 children; the status of 297 fatalities remains to be determined.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in UNRWA and government shelters has declined to approximately 200,000. With the resumption of hostilities these numbers are expected to climb again.
- 10,000 of the estimated 46,000 pregnant women in Gaza are displaced. Shifa Hospital has reported a 15 to 20 per cent increase in premature births.
- Explosive remnants of war are posing a major threat to civilians, particularly in the three kilometer-wide band, previously declared as a "buffer zone".

Latest Developments: 12:00. A Palestinian boy was killed and six others wounded in an Israeli air strike in Gaza city, and several Israelis reportedly wounded by mortar shrapnel.

1,922	67	10,000	373,000	65,000
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,407 civilians, of whom 448 are children and 235 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	Pregnant women in Gaza are displaced.	Children require psycho-social support.	Displaced people have had their homes destroyed or damaged beyond repair.

Situation Overview

The 72-hour-ceasefire that entered into force on 5 August expired this morning at 08:00, without agreement reached on a further extension or a more permanent arrangement, despite intensive Egyptian mediation efforts. The ceasefire deadline was followed by the renewal of rocket fire from Gaza into Israel and subsequently by Israeli artillery fire and airstrikes on Gaza.

Many internally displaced persons (IDPs) had taken advantage of the three-day lull in hostilities to leave emergency shelters and host families. As of 17:50 on 7 August, UNRWA was sheltering 166,527 people in 90 schools, down from a peak of

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

273,000 on 4 August. Another 29,212 IDPs were residing in 28 government schools and other institutions (including eight schools supported by UNRWA). There is no update available on the number of IDPs who were taking shelter with host families. An estimated 10,800 homes have been destroyed or damaged beyond repair over the course of hostilities, leaving some 65,000 people homeless, in addition to 33,100 others whose homes will require major repairs, and another 185,700 individuals whose homes sustained minor damage. It is expected that with the resumption of hostilities the number of IDPs seeking safe spaces will climb again, placing additional strain on the already overstretched capacity of humanitarian agencies to provide shelter, food and water.

The 72-hour lull had facilitated the repair and resumption of essential infrastructure. Although the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July, eight of the ten electricity feeder lines from Israel to Gaza are now working. However efforts to repair the remaining two lines, which require extensive repairs, are uncertain with the end of the ceasefire. Although the supply of power has increased, the grid is damaged in many locations, with the result that most areas in the Gaza Strip still do not receive electricity for more than three-four hours a day. Localities in the middle area, which depended exclusively on the GPP, are without electricity entirely.

The strike on the GPP also had a devastating impact on water and sanitation facilities throughout Gaza. Technical teams from the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) have been deployed at full capacity to repair and operate previously inaccessible facilities. The Head of the CMWU estimated that by the end of the current ceasefire, water supply to half of the population could be restored which would provide households with water for several hours every five days. Three water pumps were delivered on 6 august and water bladders are waiting to enter. Ten generators donated by Israel to the Palestinian Energy and Natural Resources Authority (PENRA) will be deployed to various facilities, including water pumping stations.

After four weeks of intense hostilities, the scale of needs is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip. Teams are on the ground assessing needs and providing relief …. [but] we need to rapidly scale-up our response to address the needs of the people in Gaza now and in the longer-term. But to do that, we need a sustained halt to the violence.

United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator James Rawley, 7 August 2014.

The existence of thousands of explosive remnants of war in civilian areas is a major concern, especially regarding children, farmers, IDPs returning home and humanitarian workers. Areas up to three kilometres from Gaza's perimeter fence (44 per cent of the Gaza Strip), which were declared as a "buffer zone" for the duration of the Israeli ground incursion, are considered particularly dangerous. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has begun assessing critical UN facilities in this area to allow for the resumption of activities there. Mine Risk Education (MRE) information campaigns are already underway and are prioritizing returnees (particularly children) in key areas and identification and clearance of UXO/ERW is underway in some areas.

The Ministry of Health in Gaza is planning to refer more patients to hospitals outside Gaza to access life-saving treatment as well as to reduce the case load in Gaza hospitals to a more manageable level. The average number of referrals per month is 1,250 patients, primarily seeking treatment in the main East Jerusalem specialty hospitals and in West Bank hospitals. The lack of security for patients to travel to Erez crossing and the chaotic situation of referral procedures reduced the number in July to about 20 per cent of normal levels. Makassed Hospital, the main referral hospital in East Jerusalem for Gaza patients, has reported receiving only 30 patients from Gaza since 7 July.

The reproductive and maternal health situation in Gaza remains critical. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimates that nearly 46,000 women in Gaza are pregnant, with 10,000 of them displaced. The Ministry of Health reports that some 160 deliveries take place each day. Women are giving birth under increasingly difficult conditions. Maternity clinics have been closed, as are a number of private maternity centres. Other facilities are overstrained. In some, maternity beds are being used to serve the wounded. Shifa Hospital has reported a 15 to 20 per cent increase in premature births, which are linked to the stress of hostilities. Home deliveries are reportedly on the rise, increasing the risks for women and their babies.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, with the ceasefire holding, the Protection Cluster recorded no further persons killed or injured. However, search and rescue operations to locate bodies continued and the ceasefire has allowed a number of organizations to carry out more information gathering and for numbers to be updated. This has resulted in an additional 53 fatalities recorded over the last 24 hours of persons killed before the last situation update, either because their bodies were recovered (25); because people have died from their wounds (12), or through late reporting. Of these, 39 were civilians, including 14 children and 10 women.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,922, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 297 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified, 1,407 (approximately 73 per cent of total fatalities) are believed to be civilians, including 448 children and 235 women. Some 218 have been identified as members of armed groups. The fatalities

include eleven UNRWA staff members. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 17:00 on 6 August, 9,806 Palestinians, including 2,979 children and 1,903 women and 356 elderly, had been injured.

Here, before the General Assembly, I want to convey a personal and direct message to the many UN colleagues serving the people of Gaza under these grueling circumstances. Thank you for your bravery. Thank you for your sacrifice. Thank you for saving lives. I join you in mourning our fallen colleagues – and pay them my highest tribute. Tomorrow, the UN flag will be flown at half-mast in their memory. We will carry on their work.

UN Secretary-General's Remarks to the General Assembly on the Situation in Gaza. New York, 6 August 2014.

There were no reports of firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into Israel during the ceasefire. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: increased access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities, should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXOs in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: must be launched in the coming days to inform interventions by humanitarian organizations. This is contingent on an extension of the ceasefire.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement with prior coordination according to normal operation hours.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Open and staffed on 7 August. However, today after the end of the ceasefire, it closed.
Kerem Shalom: During the 72-hour ceasefire, the number of trucks entering increased, with 243 truckloads entering on Tuesday, 236 truckloads on Wednesday and 254 truckloads on Thursday.
Rafah: Open on 7 August with 550 dual national and 17 patients departing Gaza and three recovering patients returning to Gaza.

The Humanitarian Needs and Response section will be included in tomorrow's situation report.

Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, seven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.6 million. ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians.

In addition, the following proposals are in process; a proposal by Palestinian Medical Relief Society – PMRC for Emergency Intervention (totalling US$ 249,845) to build community support teams in Gaza Strip; a proposal by Agricultural Development Association (PARC) to provide Safe Water for IDPs in Gaza for US$ 249,780; and a proposal by MA'AN Development Center (MA'AN) as Emergency Reparation of WASH facilities in the Gaza Strip for US$ 275,000, a proposal by UNDP for Emergency Support to the Electricity Sector due to Damages in the Gaza Strip through the Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO) for US$ 250,000, a proposal by Union of Agricultural work Committees (UAWC) for Emergency Support for families in informal shelters in Gaza for US$ 238,707 are under process. Further funding for the ERF is under process. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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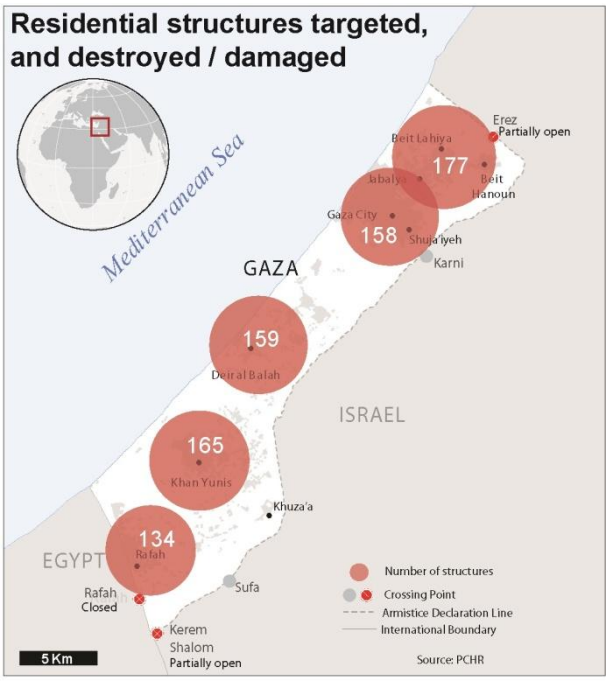
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 9 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 8 August (0800 hrs) to 9 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 10 August.

Highlights

- Hostilities resumed, resulting in five Palestinian fatalities and significant damage to property across the Gaza Strip.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) climbed again, with at least 60,000 returning to UNRWA and government shelters, renewing concerns about overcrowding and health risks.
- Nearly 10,800 homes in Gaza have been destroyed or severely damaged during Israeli attacks, 70 per cent more than during the "Caste Lead Operation" in 2008/9; reconstruction and repair costs of residential structures are estimated at US$ 238 million.
- Despite the repair of most feeder lines from Israel, only 10 per cent of the electricity received is utilized due to the extensive damage sustained by the internal distribution network; there has been only minor increase in electricity supply to households.



- About half of the population remains without or with very little water supply, while the other half receives water for a few hours every five days.

1,935	67	255,000	3-6	36,700
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,408 civilians, of whom 452 are children and 235 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA and government shelters.	Hours of electricity supply per day	Homes in Gaza sustained light or significant damage.

Situation Overview

The expiration of the temporary ceasefire yesterday at 08:00 AM was followed by a resumption of hostilities, albeit at a lower intensity than during the days prior to the lull, resulting in additional Palestinian fatalities and significant property damage. These developments triggered a new wave of mass displacement, with tens of thousands returning to emergency shelters. The status of the negotiations over a more permanent settlement mediated by Egypt is uncertain.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities and casualties

At least five Palestinians have been killed as a result of Israeli airstrikes and shelling during the 24 hours that followed the resumption of hostilities. These include ten-year old Ibrahim Al-Dawsa, killed yesterday at around 17:00 during an airstrike in the Sheikh Radwan neighbourhood of Gaza city, while reportedly playing in the street. An additional eight fatalities were also recorded over the reporting period, including persons whose bodies were recovered, cases of late reporting, and people who died from their wounds. The latter category includes a 14 year-old boy who died in an Egyptian hospital.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,935, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 309 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the fatalities whose identity and status could be verified, 1,408 are believed to be civilians, including 452 children and 235 women, and 218 have been identified as members of armed groups. The fatalities include eleven UNRWA staff members. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 17:00 on 6 August, 9,806 Palestinians, including 2,979 children and 1,903 women and 356 elderly, had been injured.

Additionally, during the reporting period, at least seven residential structures have been reportedly hit in Israeli air strikes, bringing the total number of such structures destroyed or severely damaged (including multi storey buildings) since the start of the Israeli military operation to over 800. The cumulative number of housing units destroyed or severely damaged (including those directly targeted or affected as collateral damage) is estimated at over 10,800, nearly 70 per cent higher than the equivalent figure recorded during the "Caste Lead Operation" in 2008/9 (approx. 6,400); the number of units that sustained light or substantial damage (still inhabitable) is estimated at 36,700. The estimated cost of the reconstruction and repair of these homes is approximately US$ 238 million.

Rocket and mortar firing by Palestinian factions resumed during the reporting period, affecting Israeli communities within a radius of up to 40 kilometres from Gaza. Most projectiles landed in open areas or were intercepted in the air, resulting in two injuries and some damage to property, including one house directly hit. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Over the years there have been constant efforts to evade the binding nature of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory [...]There can be no true security without justice and respect for human rights. Adherence to international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and ensuring accountability for violations, are essential pre-requisites for any lasting peace.

Ms. Navi Pillay, High Commissioner for Human Rights, 6 August 2014

Displacement

The past 24 hours witnessed a sharp reversal of the trend observed in the previous days, when internally displaced persons (IDPs) at emergency shelters began returning to their homes. It estimated that over 60,000 individuals have returned back to shelters, since the resumption of hostilities. As of yesterday afternoon there were 221,600 people taking refuge at 90 UNRWA schools, while another 33,800 were hosted at 25 government and private schools and public facilities (including seven schools supported by UNRWA). There is no update available on the number of IDPs who were taking shelter with host families.

The massive influx into the shelters has place additional strain on the already overstretched capacity of humanitarian agencies, and renewed concerns about hygiene and health conditions, including water-borne diseases and scabies. To address these concerns, UNRWA and partners launched a campaign designed to raise awareness among IDPs about certain risks and promote initiatives to keep shelters clean. Additionally, UNRWA has implemented a program to improve the tracking of nine specific health concerns at shelters.

It is estimated that the sustained efforts by UNRWA and WASH cluster members have ensured that all IDPs in shelters have access to at least 15 litres of water per day, including three litres for drinking, as per the international standards for survival during emergencies. The level of access to water by other IDPs remains uncertain.

Infrastructure and services

Although the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July, eight of the ten electricity feeder lines from Israel to Gaza are now working. Efforts to repair the remaining two lines, which require extensive repairs, are uncertain due to the resumption of hostilities. Despite the increase in the volume of electricity incoming from Israel and Egypt (currently 124 MWs), Gaza's electricity corporation estimated that due to the extensive damage sustained to the internal distribution network, only 10 per cent of that amount is actually being utilized. Consequently, electricity supply to households has seen only a minor improvement and now ranges between three and six hours a day, up from 2-4 hours previously.

The strike on the GPP and the damage sustained by the feeder lines and distribution networks, compounded by the damage to water facilities, also had a devastating impact on the supply of water and sanitation services. Technical teams from the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) have continued to repair and operate previously inaccessible facilities. It is estimated that water supply to half of the population has been restored, allowing the provision of households with water for several hours every five days, while the other half of the population receives no or very little water.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: must be launched in the coming days to inform interventions by humanitarian organizations. This is contingent on an extension of the ceasefire.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement with prior coordination according to normal operation hours. National staff working for international organizations are not authorized for the time being
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operations reactivated.
Kerem Shalom: 135 truckloads of goods entered yesterday. Today the crossing is closed as per normal operating hours.
Rafah: Yesterday, ten tons of medicines and medical supplies from Kuwait and six recovered patients entered Gaza, whilst 330 dual nationals and four patients left to Egypt.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

80,300

Parents have been provided psychosocial support

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- The Protection Cluster consolidated inputs from partners on the "UNRWA Guidance to Basic Protection Issues in Shelters" in order to address ongoing protection concerns and to mainstream the needs of priority groups including women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and persons with injuries.
- Since 8 July, emergency PSS teams and have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 2,206 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Since 15 July, PRCS has been providing PSS through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters and reached 1,015 girls and 805 boys; additionally they were able to reach out to 2,079 women and 1,531 men.
- Since 20 July, 280,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal subscribers in Gaza.
- Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to 1,677 callers.

- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has provided 9,615 PSS sessions to 80,377 parents and conducted recreational activities for 87,971 children through 104 counsellors. Activities include playing, relaxation, meditation, drawing and storytelling.
- CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of 1,509 sessions by other partners covering 6,237 parents and 43,359 children.
- Since 18 July, Tamer Institute has been conducting daily activities for children in their libraries. It has also been distributing children's books and games to children and their families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter.
- Tomoh is conducting support activities for parents and children in two government schools. Ma'an started providing child protection training to managers of government shelters. It will also re-establish ten family centers in the coming weeks.
- UNICEF through its partnership with AMAAN organization is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city, that are managed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and other NGOs.
- UNRWA, UNICEF and UNMAS are distributing ERW awareness leaflets to families in UNRWA shelters. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance. Save the Children will also include ERW awareness leaflets in their education packages which will be distributed to children.
- On 7 August, UNMAS continued clearing UNRWA installations from unexploded ordnance (UXO), including in two distribution centers in Beit Hanoun and Deir El Balah, the Gaza City and Beit Hanoun Health Centers, the Relief and Social Services Office in Beit Hanoun, and four schools.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- More than 10,800 families (approximately 64,850 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged by either air strikes or tank shelling are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.
- Emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5,555 families (33,350 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 31,150 families (an estimated 186,900 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance.

64,850

People whose homes were totally destroyed or sustained major damage.

Response

- 221,600 people are being provided with shelter in 90 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 33,800 individuals are sheltered in 25 government shelters (including seven supported by UNRWA).
- A total of 87,481 NFI kits have been distributed since the start of the emergency by ten agencies and organizations.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US$ 44 million is needed for 10,850 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for **13,563**displaced families.
- Displaced families with hosting families are considered to be particularly vulnerable and in need of NFIs and food items.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- There is an urgent need for drinking water and water for domestic use as well as access for sanitation and hygiene articles for IDPs.
- Fuel is urgently needed to operate critical WASH facilities.
- Damaged electricity feeder lines, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- The ceasefire has allowed water service providers, including CMWU and municipalities, to access WASH facilities for operations, maintenance and repairs, as well as carry out assessments for needed damage repairs. Around half of the network is back under control and people receive water every 5 days. Service providers continue damage repairs and assessments.
- ICRC, together with the Khan Yunis Municipality and CMWU, delivered 40 plastic tanks and provided 25,000 liters of drinkable water to 300 families who moved back to the less damaged area in Khuza'a.
- UNRWA continued to distribute potable and non-potable water to emergency shelters during the reporting period. During the reporting period, 1,132 cubic meters of potable water were delivered to UNRWA shelters. Also, some shelters benefit from UNRWA wells and municipal water sources. UNRWA's 11 water wells in Jabalia, Beach, Khan Younis and Rafah camps supplied a total of 11,273 cubic meters, including to UNRWA shelters.
- UNRWA's Infrastructure and Camp Improvement Department removed a total of 366 tonnes of solid waste from all Gaza camps. UNRWA maintenance staff continues to undertake critical repair work in UNRWA installations, including plumbing and electrical works in shelters.
- UNRWA also continued to provide its logistics capacity to supply fuel to municipalities, water, and sanitation and health facilities through the WASH cluster (led by UNICEF). Around 24,000 liters were delivered to UNICEF for the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU).

Gaps

- The constant movement of IDPs between their homes and designated shelters during ceasefires poses challenges in prioritizing responses undertaken by water and sanitation service providers.
- The damage sustained to the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.
- WASH partners' communication with CMWU and municipalities is challenged due to lack of electricity and internet.

Health and Nutrition

Updates to this section will be provided in the next Situation Report.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are still in need of emergency food assistance. Nutritious food commodities rich in vitamins and minerals should be provided in a more consistent manner to IDPs, in particular for children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and elderly people.
- At least 64,000 people who will not be able to go back to their homes will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.

- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should continue.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis. Over the reporting period, UNRWA delivered 95 truckloads of food to shelters. Food to shelters is provided in cooperation with WFP
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to 25,000 IDPs hosted with relatives and to 2,039 patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters. WFP is distributing bread from West Bank bakeries to meet the mounting food needs.
- The Food Security Sector is preparing for the food distribution, from 10 August on, for everyone not normally receiving core food assistance, primarily to assist people whose houses have been partially or fully destroyed and/or those hosing IDPs.

Gaps and Constraints

- The ongoing electricity shortage has heavily impacted commercial activities, the milling capacity and the performance of bakeries. Alternatives ways to provide bread to the IDPs require additional logistic and financial efforts.
- Supply chains in Gaza are already stretched and therefore aid agencies are highly encouraged to bring in food aid items from West Bank/outside Gaza Strip.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- The hostilities in the Gaza Strip have been impeding an effective distribution plan of relief commodities; both access to existing warehouses and supply of labour forces has been hindered.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- Since the establishment of the Logistic Coordination Cluster, 15 trucks transporting relief items on behalf of the humanitarian community have been facilitated by the Logistics Cluster and arrived in Gaza City. Items transported include urgent aid relief such as water, bread, toilet paper, cooking oil, rice, hygiene kits, mattresses and pillows.

Gaps and Constraints

- The almost exclusive reliance on Kerem Shalom as entry point into the Gaza Strip remains a key constraint currently limiting access to the region.
- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip, and at same time raise issues of prioritization of cargo.
- The unpredictable nature of cargo prioritization procedure at the Beituniya crossing in the West Bank impedes operations.

General Coordination

Following the resumption of hostilities, humanitarian organizations have postponed the launching of the joint rapid needs assessment originally scheduled for 10 August. However, preparations have continued, including the finalization of

questionnaires, the allocation of staff to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various technical authorities have committed their support. The assessment will take place in two phases: an overview at the governorate level, on the first day, followed by an assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level for during three-four days. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process.

Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, eight project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.85 million. UNDP for Emergency Support to the Electricity Sector due to Damages in the Gaza Strip through the Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO), ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians.

In addition a number of proposals are currently being processed, including by Palestinian Medical Relief Society for an emergency intervention to build community support teams worth approximately US$ 250,000; by the Agricultural Development Association (PARC) to provide safe water for IDPs worth approximately US$ 250,000; by MA'AN Development Center for the reparation of WASH facilities worth US$ 275,000; by the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) for the support of families in informal shelters worth US$ 238,700 . Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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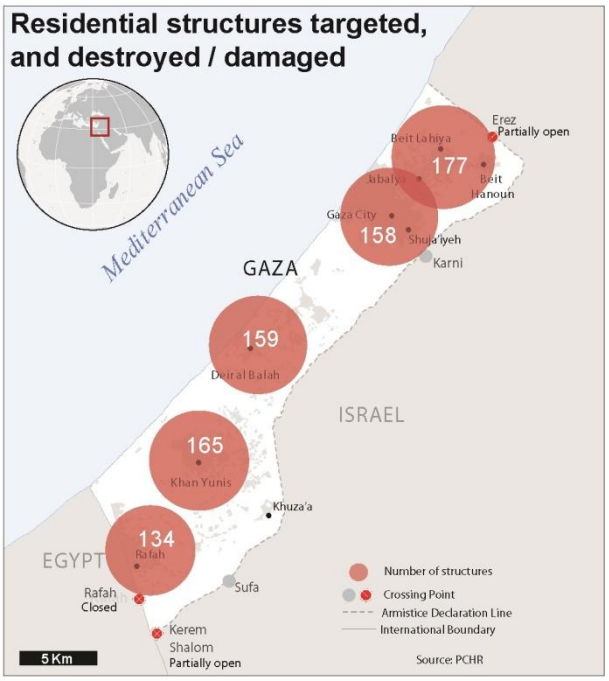
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 10 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 9 August (0800 hrs) to 10 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 11 August.

Highlights

- Hostilities have continued at the lower level of intensity of recent days, but continue to result in additional Palestinian fatalities and property damage across the Gaza Strip.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) continues to climb, with at least another 20,000 returning to UNRWA and government schools used as shelters. At least 425,000 people are now displaced in emergency shelters or with host families.
- According to latest estimates, 11,855 housing units in Gaza have been destroyed or severely damaged by Israeli attacks, and another 36,000 have suffered damage; reconstruction and repair costs are estimated at US$ 410 million.
- Despite ongoing repairs to the electricity and water networks, electricity supply to households is only between three and six hours a day and half of the population remains without or with very little running water.



1,948	67	425,000	3-6	11,855
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,402 civilians, of whom 456 are children and 237 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Hours of electricity supply per day	Homes in Gaza have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Situation Overview

Although Egyptian mediation efforts on reaching a permanent ceasefire are ongoing, hostilities have continued at the lower level of intensity of recent days. These have resulted in additional Palestinian fatalities and property damage and a continuing return of thousands of displaced to emergency shelters. In addition to generating uncertainty and fear, hostilities are impeding or delaying essential humanitarian deliveries, the repair of critical infrastructure, the clearing of unexploded ordnance, and comprehensive damage assessment surveys.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last update, Israeli air raids reportedly struck four mosques, 12 houses and vacant plots across the Gaza Strip. An attack on a military site belonging to one armed group reportedly inflicted damage on an UNRWA clinic located close to the site, and some nearby housing units. Five Palestinians were killed as a result of these strikes, including three members of

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

armed groups and two others whose status is unknown. Eight additional fatalities were recorded, including persons whose bodies were recovered, cases of late reporting, and people who died from their injuries.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,948, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 320 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. The number of civilians has been reduced slightly from the last situation update, from 1,408 to 1,402, because of new information on some cases, where their status was revised to unknown or to being a member of an armed group. Of the civilian casualties whose identity and status could be verified, 456 are children and 237 are women; the fatalities include eleven UNRWA staff members. Some 226 have been identified as members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 17:00 on 6 August, 9,806 Palestinians, including 2,979 children and 1,903 women and 356 elderly, had been injured.

According to the latest figures gathered by the Shelter Cluster, since the start of the emergency, 11,855 housing units have been totally destroyed (6,670), requiring reconstruction; or are severely damaged (5,185), and are uninhabitable until major repairs can take place. This is over 85 per cent higher than the equivalent figure, approximately 6,400, recorded during the "Cast Lead" operation in 2008/9. Another 5,595 houses have suffered major damage but are still inhabitable in part while 31,350 have suffered minor damage. The estimated total cost for reconstruction and repair of these homes is approximately US$ 410 million.

Rocket and mortar firing by Palestinian factions into Israel continued during the reporting period, mostly by groups other than Hamas. No injuries were reported. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

The senseless cycle of suffering in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as in Israel, must end. Do we have to continue like this: build, destroy, and build, and destroy? We will build again - but this must be the last time to rebuild. This must stop now. They must go back to the negotiating table.

UN Secretary-General's Remarks to the General Assembly on the Situation in Gaza, New York, 6 August 2014.

Displacement

With no signs yet of the Egyptian-moderated negotiations bearing fruit, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) returning to schools designated as emergency shelters continues to increase. Another 15,000 have been added to the estimated 60,000 individuals who had returned in the first 24 hours following the end of the 72-hour ceasefire, bringing the total to 236,897 in 90 UNRWA schools, as of yesterday afternoon. Another 38,994 were hosted in 23 government and private schools and public facilities. As of today, 25,000 families (approximately 150,000 individuals) are registered by the Ministry of Social Affairs displaced and taking shelter with host families.

UNRWA continues to provide food, water and non food items to IDPs sheltered in its schools and, with other agencies, to the IDPs taking shelter in government schools. With prolonged displacement in schools and no end in sight to hostilities, solid waste management, overcrowding, and the lack of electricity are ongoing problems. The resumption of hostilities has also impeded the planned roll out of a hygiene and water campaign but UNRWA has increased surveillance in the emergency shelters to prevent a large scale outbreak of diseases. Health teams in each shelter, including a doctor, a nurse, and a health educator, are monitoring nine health issues of concern, and are providing health education to the displaced. However, access to medical care, including medication for chronic diseases, remains problematic

Infrastructure and services

The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July. Despite repairs to feeder lines and an increase in the volume of electricity incoming from Israel and Egypt (currently 124 Megawatts), 90 per cent of which is utilized and 10 per cent not due to the extensive damage sustained to the internal distribution network, electricity supply to households continues to range between three and six hours a day. Water and sanitation services have also been severely affected and technical teams from the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) continue to conduct emergency repairs to wells and damaged water pipelines. It is estimated that the running water supply to half of the population has been restored, allowing the provision of households with water for several hours every five days, while the other half of the population receives no, or very little, water.

Seven out of 21 UNWRA primary health centres remain closed and in other areas health centres are struggling with up to 10 IDP sites to cater for in addition to their normal patient caseload. Shortages of drugs and medical supplies continue to be a concern, with health providers estimating that they have consumed the same amount of drugs and consumables in the past month as would normally consume in three months. The 14 MoH Hospitals and 15 NGO Hospitals are relying on back-up electric generators to run the facilities, and with prolonged electricity cuts, fuel needs for these generators have increased, with fuel reserves sufficient for 3-10 days. So far, 370 patients have been referred outside facilities outside Gaza for specialized medical care due to the nature of their injuries and the lack of medical resources (specialized staff, equipment and medicine

and disposables); 340 are waiting to be referred; and 147 applications are in the process of being referred.

Even in the event of a new ceasefire agreement, the school year in UNRWA and government schools will not start on 24 August 2014, as scheduled. Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) clearance, damage assessment, repair works and preparation for the new school year – such as class formation – will take longer than the two weeks left. UNRWA is examining the possibility of installing TV screens in its shelters so that children can follow UNRWA TV, which provides 16 hours of lessons per day in mathematics, Arabic, science and English.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: must be launched in the coming days to inform interventions by humanitarian organizations. This is contingent on an extension of the ceasefire.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement with prior coordination according to normal operation hours.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operations reactivated.
Kerem Shalom: Yesterday, the crossing was closed as per normal operating hours. On 10 August at 06:30 hours, the Israeli side of the crossing was struck by two rockets and closed down but reopened at 12:00. The crossing was subsequently struck by another rocket and closed again.
Rafah: Yesterday, 11 tons of medical supplies entered with a Tunisian delegation, as well as 25 tons of dates. Two recovering patients returned to Gaza.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members continue to monitor and investigate incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 15 July, PRCS has been providing PSS through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters and reached 1,015 girls and 805 boys; additionally they were able to reach out to 2,079 women and 1,531 men.
- Since 8 July, the PCDCR (Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution) has provided initial PSS to 2,349 children across the Gaza Strip, including through home and hospital visits.
- 300,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal mobile phone subscribers in Gaza since 20 July.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to a total of 1,751 callers since 13 July.

- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has provided 10,391 PSS sessions to 86,705 parents and conducted recreational activities for 95,716 children. Activities include playing, relaxation, meditation, drawing and storytelling. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of 2,023 sessions by other partners covering 10,638 adults and 63,692 children.
- Since 18 July, Tamer Institute has been conducting daily activities for 640 children in their libraries. It has also been distributing children's books and games to children and their families hosted in the Holy Land school shelter.
- Tomoh is conducting support activities for parents and children in two government schools.
- Ma'an has provided child protection training to 42 staff in government shelters. It will also re-establish ten family centers in the coming weeks.
- UNICEF through its partnership with AMAAN organization is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city, that are managed by Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and other NGOs.
- UNRWA, UNICEF and UNMAS are distributing ERW awareness leaflets to families in UNRWA shelters. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS has cleared 17 out of 74 UNRWA installations for UXO.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations continue to face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- The resumption of hostilities impedes UNMAS' ability to continue clearing UNRWA installations affected by UXO contamination. Continued military action might require some installations to be revisited.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- More than 11,855 families (approximately 71,000 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged by either air strikes or tank shelling are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will also need cash assistance.
- Emergency shelter repair interventions are needed for about 5,595 families (33,550 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 31,350 families (an estimated 188,100 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.
- Approximately 20,000 IDPs returned to IDP shelters during the reporting period due to a resumption of hostilities. The number is expected to increase, which will affect shelter and NFI needs.

Response

- 236,897 people are being provided with shelter in 90 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 38,994 individuals are sheltered in 23 government shelters (including seven supported by UNRWA).
- A total of 92,816 NFI and hygiene kits have been distributed since the outset of the emergency by various agencies.
- On 8 August, UNRWA delivered 33 truckloads of NFIs to shelters, including mattresses, family hygiene kits and cleaning supplies.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of almost US$ 49 million is needed for 11,855 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 11,498 displaced families.

- Family hygiene kits are needed for approximately 9,896 families in UNRWA shelters, government shelters and hosting families.
- Displaced families with hosting families are considered to be particularly vulnerable and in need of NFIs and food items.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- While WASH partners have been able to increase water supply to IDPs, the fluctuating number of IDPs and the increase since the resumption in hostilities may also increase water needs and hamper distribution.
- An estimated 182,000 displaced people moving between shelters and home have restricted access to water.
- Provision of fuel is needed to operate critical WASH facilities until repairs of the electricity grid will lead to the resumption of the former power supply level.
- Damaged electricity feeder lines, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- WASH partners are monitoring and responding to the different water needs of the part of the population not currently displaced but facing restricted access to water, the displaced population in shelters as well as IDPs moving between home and shelters, whose access to water is irregular or restricted.
- UNRWA is improving surveillance in shelters to prevent a large-scale outbreak of diseases.
- Water service providers continue damage repairs and assessments. CMWU reported 11 major repairs conducted in the reporting period, in particular to damaged wells and water pipelines.
- UNRWA continued to distribute potable and non-potable water to emergency shelters during the reporting period. On 8 August, 560 cubic metres of potable water, as well as 672 cubic metres of non-potable water, were delivered to UNRWA shelters. Some shelters benefit from UNRWA wells and municipal water sources. The *Sphere* standard for IDPs in shelters is 15 litres per person per day, including 2.5-3 litres of drinking water and 12 litres for domestic use.
- UNRWA also continued to provide its logistics capacity to supply fuel to municipalities, water, and sanitation and health facilities through the WASH cluster (led by UNICEF).

Gaps

- Movement and access restrictions remain the inhibiting factors for WASH partners' ability to carry out assessments and repairs, and hinder solid waste removal and management.
- The constant movement of IDPs between their homes and designated shelters during ceasefires poses challenges in prioritizing responses undertaken by water and sanitation service providers.
- The damage sustained to the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.

Health and Nutrition

Needs:

- Shortages of drugs and medical supplies continue to be of concern. During the last month, health services in Gaza consumed what they would normally consume in a three months period. The drugs and disposables which are most urgently needed are those related to Emergency, Operation Theatres and ICUs.
- The 14 MoH Hospitals and 15 NGO Hospitals are relying on back-up electric generators for securing power to run their facilities. With the prolonged electricity outages across Gaza, fuel needs for these generators have increased. Currently, the available fuel reserve in these hospitals is sufficient to operate them for a period of three to 10 days.
- Medical equipment and spare parts are needed, at a cost of US$ 200,000.
- Specialized medical teams in reconstructive, orthopedic, neurovascular, plastic and pediatric surgeries are required.
- Provision of preventive health services to IDPs in shelters is required to prevent the outbreak of communicable diseases.
- 15 Damaged hospitals and 16 public health clinics (PHCs) need reconstruction to return to their former functionality.
- So far, 370 patients have been referred outside facilities outside Gaza for specialized medical care due to the nature of their injuries; 340 are waiting to be referred; and 147 applications are in the process of being referred.

Response:

- UNRWA's health department is deploying health teams to shelters, including a doctor, a nurse and a health educator to monitor health issues of concern, including acute bloody Diarrhea, water Diarrhea, Typhoid fever, mumps, measles, scabies, impetigo, acute flaccid paralysis and viral meningitis.
- Two of the nine hospitals forced to close down have been reopened (Najah and Rafah).

Gaps:

- Ongoing hostilities impede the ability to carry out repairs of damaged heath facilities.
- Seven out of 21 UNRWA primary health clinics remain closed. Public health clinics are struggling to cater for up to an additional ten IDP sites per clinic, in addition to their normal caseload.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are still in need of emergency food assistance. Nutritious food commodities rich in vitamins and minerals should be provided in a more consistent manner to IDPs, in particular for children under five, pregnant and lactating women, and elderly people.
- At least 71,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Animal feed for 4,000 breeders/herders should be provided in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of livelihood of herder's communities.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should continue.

Response

- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to all IDPs sheltered in UNRWA or government schools on a daily basis. Over the reporting period, UNRWA delivered 95 truckloads of food to shelters. Food to shelters is provided in cooperation with WFP
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.

- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters. WFP is distributing bread from West Bank bakeries to meet the mounting food needs.
- FSS / UNRWA plan to start a blanket food distribution tomorrow to the general population, many of whom are hosting IDPs.
- On 8 August, UNRWA delivered 105 truckloads of food to shelters in cooperation with WFP.

Gaps and Constraints

- The ongoing electricity shortage has heavily impacted commercial activities, the milling capacity and the performance of bakeries. Alternatives ways to provide bread to the IDPs require additional logistic and financial efforts.
- Supply chains in Gaza are already stretched and therefore aid agencies are highly encouraged to bring in food aid items from West Bank/outside Gaza Strip.

Education

Needs

- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start on 24 August.
- A ceasefire to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair works of damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year, is urgently needed.
- An estimated 25 schools have sustained damage to the extent that they may not be usable and require total reconstruction.

Response

- UNRWA is looking into the possibility of installing TV screens in shelters to broadcast educational programmes to children. UNRWA TV provides 16 hours of lessons per day in Math, Arabic, Science and English.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- Inability to carry out assessments and repair due to ongoing hostilities.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- The Logistics Cluster is facilitating the transportation of shelter supplies on behalf of Handicap International, including relief items such as clothes and blankets, to be delivered to Al Shifa hospital.
- On 10 August, the Logistics Cluster will facilitate the transportation of 76 pallets of WASH, food and NFI supplies to Gaza city donated by residents of Yatta village, including water, diapers, kitchen utensils and mattresses. The items will be delivered to PRCS.

Gaps and Constraints

- The almost exclusive reliance on Kerem Shalom as entry point into the Gaza Strip remains a key constraint currently limiting access to the region.
- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.

- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip, and at same time raise issues of prioritization of cargo.
- The unpredictable nature of cargo prioritization procedure at the Beituniya crossing in the West Bank impedes operations.

General Coordination

Following the resumption of hostilities, humanitarian organizations have postponed the launching of the joint rapid needs assessment originally scheduled for 10 August. However, preparations have continued, including the finalization of questionnaires, the allocation of staff to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various technical authorities have committed their support. The assessment will take place in two phases: an overview at the governorate level, on the first day, followed by an assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level for a period of three to four days. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process.

On 10 August, the Humanitarian Coordinator joined the daily coordination of the OCHA-led Emergency Operations Centre in Gaza to prepare for the assessment and coordinate urgent responses.

Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, eight project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 1.85 million. UNDP for Emergency Support to the Electricity Sector due to Damages in the Gaza Strip through the Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO), ACF's two projects to provide emergency shelter and NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected families; Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) project to support for the emergency needs of neonatal units in Gaza hospitals by procurement of essential drugs and disposables; Union of Health Work Committees (UHWC) emergency intervention to support the continuation of health services in the northern area of Gaza Strip by providing dedication fuel and consumables to Al Awda hospital, Dan Church Aid and PARC projects to provide food packages and hygiene kits to IDPs hosted in Shelters in Deir Al Balah ,Rafah and Khan Yunis; by and UNMAS' project for the management of ERW to reduce the risk posed to civilians.

In addition a number of proposals are currently being processed, including by Palestinian Medical Relief Society for an emergency intervention to build community support teams worth approximately US$ 250,000; by the Agricultural Development Association (PARC) to provide safe water for IDPs worth approximately US$ 250,000; by MA'AN Development Center for the reparation of WASH facilities worth US$ 275,000; by the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) for the support of families in informal shelters worth US$ 238,700 . Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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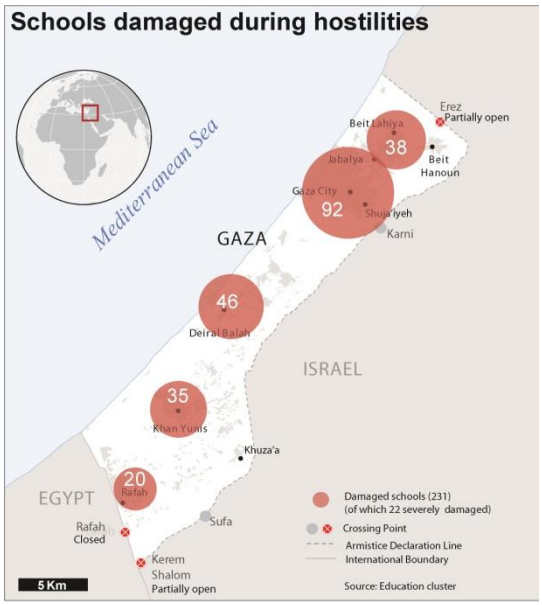
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 12 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 11 August (0800 hrs) to 12 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 13 August.

Highlights

- The 72 hour-long ceasefire is holding into its second day, with no violations reported.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has declined, but at least 335,000 people still remain in emergency shelters or with host families. These numbers are expected to rise again if hostilities resume.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 100,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.
- The number of child fatalities, at 459, exceeds the combined number of children killed in the two previous conflicts in Gaza, 350 in 2008-9 and 35 in 2012.
- An exceptional food distribution is ongoing, targeting families (730,000 people) who do not regularly receive food assistance from UNRWA and WFP.



1,962	67	335,000	459	16,700
Palestinians killed, including at least 1,417 civilians, of whom 459 are children and 238 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Child fatalities, exceeding the combined number of children killed in the conflicts in 2008/9 and 2012.	Homes in Gaza have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Situation Overview

The 72-hour ceasefire, which entered into effect at midnight on Sunday, is holding with no incidents recorded during the reporting period. Negotiations between the parties on reaching a permanent ceasefire have resumed following the return to Cairo of the Israeli delegation. There has been a decline in the numbers seeking refuge at emergency shelters as people take advantage of the continuing calm to check if their homes are still inhabitable or their contents salvageable. However, the majority of the population has to cope with severe shortages in water and power services and explosive remnants of war are posing a major threat. The first phase of an initial joint needs assessment is planned for Wednesday, 13 August.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last update, the Protection Cluster has recorded a further two fatalities. Both are civilians who died from injuries sustained previously. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians to at least 1,962, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 319 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,417 are believed to be civilians, including 459 children and 238 women. The

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Some 226 have been identified as members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 17:00 on 10 August, 9,986 Palestinians, including 3,009 children and 359 elderly, have been injured.

There were no reports of firing by Palestinian factions into Israel during the reporting period. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Damage to houses and schools

Following a series of assessments by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Ministry of Housing and Public Works, it is estimated that 8,800 housing units have been totally destroyed, requiring reconstruction, and 7,900 were severely damaged and are uninhabitable until major repairs can take place. This is over 160 per cent higher than the equivalent figure, approximately 6,400, recorded during the "Cast Lead" military operation in Gaza in 2008/9. Another 5,600 housing units have suffered major damage but are still inhabitable in part, while 33,500 have suffered minor damage. The estimated total cost for reconstruction and repair of these homes is approximately US$ 534 million.

The previous ceasefire also allowed teams from the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) to conduct initial assessments of educational facilities damaged during the hostilities. According to the findings a total of 230 schools have sustained some type of damage, including 25 schools entirely destroyed or severely damaged, which are not usable by the start of the new school year, which will not start on 24 August as scheduled.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in emergency shelters has declined with the continuation of the ceasefire. As of yesterday afternoon, there were 209,172 IDPs hosted in 87 UNRWA schools, (down from 237,000 in 90 UNRWA schools the previous day) and 15,869 in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA, (down from 26,000 the previous day). There is no update available on the additional 13,000 IDPs who were taking refuge in 16 other government shelters or the nearly 110,000 IDPs residing with host families who have been registered and reached by various shelter partners; the actual number of IDPs with host families is believed to be higher.

UNRWA's hygiene and water campaign for shelters was launched on 10 August, involving the dissemination of information on water conservation, appropriate hygiene practices and treatment of scabies and lice. UNRWA has also continued to provide food, water and non food items to IDPs sheltered in its schools and, with other agencies, to the IDPs taking shelter in government schools. Health teams in each shelter, including a doctor, a nurse, and a health educator, are monitoring nine health issues of concern, and are providing health education to the displaced. However, access to medical care, including medication for chronic diseases, remains problematic.

Exceptional food distribution

An exceptional one-off food distribution by UNRWA, the World Food Program (WFP) and the MoSA campaign targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance continues today. The campaign aims at improving the coping capacity of the entire population, which is affected by the lack of income and the rise in food prices. Eligible families, which include those currently in shelters, will receive 10kgs of rice and 30kgs of wheat flour regardless of the family size. Each parcel equals about 44 per cent of the calorie requirements for an average family for one month. The regular food assistance provided by UNRWA and WFP to core beneficiaries are separate initiatives and will continue as per the usual schedule.

Electricity

The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July. The volume of electricity purchased now from Israel and transferred via nine feeder lines has increased (108 Megawatts), and together with the supply from Egypt (28 Megawatts) meets nearly 30 per cent of the estimated demand. As a result, Gaza's electricity company is preparing to implement a new distribution scheme, entailing cycles of six hours of supply followed by 12 hours of outage. However, the majority of households in the areas most affected by bombardments, including eastern Gaza City (Toufah, Shaa'f and Ash Shuja'iyeh), Beit Hanoun, Khuza'a and eastern of Rafah, are not likely to benefit from this due to the severe damage sustained to the internal distribution network.

Gaza has a tremendous potential. People are very entrepreneurial, they're well educated, they have markets abroad, in Israel and the West Bank. The blockade has to be lifted in order that Gaza can thrive.

Mr. James Rawley, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, 11 August.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: must be launched in the coming days to inform interventions by humanitarian organizations. This is contingent on an extension of the ceasefire.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

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Humanitarian needs and response

Field teams and humanitarian partners are in the field carrying out assessments today, for inclusion in this section tomorrow.

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The joint rapid needs assessment will start on 13 August following preparations in the past days, including liaison with relevant government counterparts, the allocation of staff to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various technical authorities have committed their support. The assessment will take place in two phases: an overview at the governorate level, on the first day, followed by an assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level for a period of three to four days, as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process.

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Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 12 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

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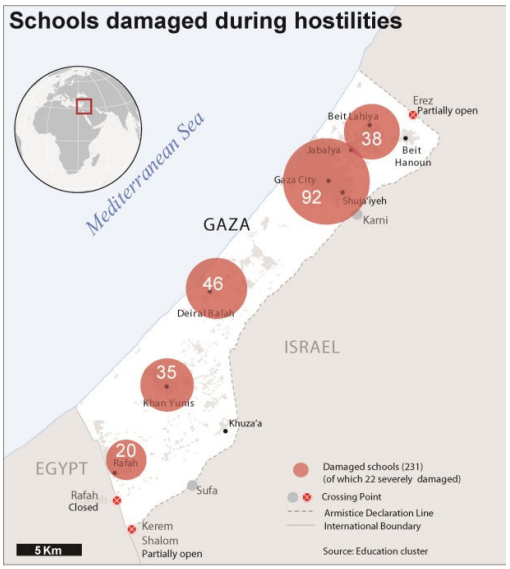

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OCHA

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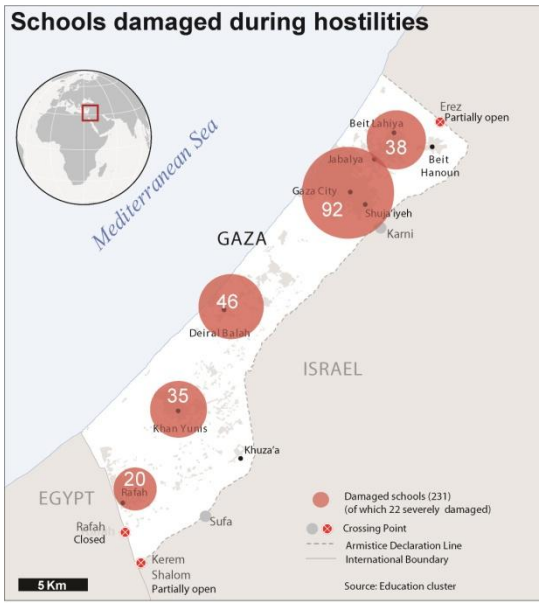
Highlights

- The 72-hour-long ceasefire is holding into its third day but is scheduled to expire at midnight tonight. Negotiations between the parties are ongoing in Egypt towards reaching a lasting solution.
- Approximately 370,000 people internally displaced persons (IDPs) still remain in emergency shelters or with host families. These numbers are expected to rise as the ceasefire deadline nears.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 100,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.
- The number of child fatalities, at 459, exceeds the combined number of children killed in the two previous conflicts in Gaza, 350 in 2008-9 and 35 in 2012.



- The first phase of a joint humanitarian assessment was launched today to assess damage and inform responses by humanitarian organizations.

Latest development: 11:00. Six people, including an Italian journalist, were killed and six others injured by unexploded ordnance in Beit Lahia.

1,965	67	370,000	230	16,800
Palestinians killed, including 1,417 civilians, of whom 458 are children and 238 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Schools (90 UNRWA and 140 government) have sustained damage.	Homes in the Gaza Strip have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Situation Overview

The 72-hour ceasefire, which entered into effect at midnight on Sunday, has held with no major incidents recorded during the reporting period. The ceasefire is scheduled to expire at midnight tonight, amidst ongoing negotiations in Cairo between the parties to reach a permanent ceasefire. There has been a further slight decline in IDPs seeking refuge in emergency shelters but numbers are expected to rise as the ceasefire deadline nears, and no agreement is reached. Despite ongoing repairs to utilities, the majority of the population continues to cope with severe shortages in water and power services. Today's casualties from

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

unexploded ordnance (UXO) underline the threat which explosive remnants of war pose to the population as well as to humanitarian workers.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last update, the Protection Cluster has recorded a further three fatalities; two males whose bodies were recovered from Khuza'a and another male who died of injuries sustained earlier. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 1,965, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 322 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,417 are believed to be civilians, including 458 children and 238 women, and 226 members of armed groups. The number of child fatalities exceeds the combined number of children killed in the two previous conflicts in Gaza, 350 in 2008-9 and 35 in 2012.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 17:00 on 10 August, 9,986 Palestinians, including 3,009 children and 359 elderly, have been injured.

There were no reports of firing by Palestinian factions into Israel during the reporting period. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in emergency shelters has declined with the continuation of the ceasefire. As of yesterday afternoon, there were 223,092 hosted in 87 designated UNRWA schools and 29,505 in 27 government shelters, including seven supported by UNRWA. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.

UNRWA's hygiene and water campaign for shelters was launched on 10 August, involving the dissemination of information on water conservation, appropriate hygiene practices and treatment of scabies and lice. UNRWA has also continued to provide food, water and non food items to IDPs sheltered in its schools and, with other agencies, to the IDPs taking shelter in government schools.

"*We are facing an insufficient supply of potable and non-potable water and a very real risk of consumption of contaminated water; our new campaign addresses both of these issues and builds on the health and cleanliness efforts that UNRWA has prioritized from the first day our shelters were opened.*"

Mr. Scott Anderson, Deputy Director of UNRWA Operations in Gaza, 13 August 2014.

UNRWA has started to distribute maternity packages to mothers who have given birth during the current hostilities, and who are registered as IDPs in its shelters across the Gaza Strip. A total of 344 babies, 152 girls and 192 boys, have been born in UNRWA schools designated as shelters. The maternity packages contain essential items to help mothers care for their newborns during displacement. An estimated 10,000 of the 46,000 pregnant women in Gaza are displaced.

Damage to houses and schools

Following a series of assessments by the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Ministry of Housing and Public Works (MHPW), it is estimated that 8,832 housing units have been totally destroyed, requiring reconstruction, and 7,960 have been severely damaged and are uninhabitable until major repairs can take place. This is over 160 per cent higher than the equivalent figure, approximately 6,400, recorded during the "Cast Lead" military operation in Gaza in 2008/9. Another 5,635 housing units have suffered major damage but are still inhabitable in part, while 33,625 have suffered minor damage.

According to the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), a total of 230 schools (90 UNRWA and 140 government) have sustained some degree of damage, including 25 schools entirely destroyed or severely damaged. These facilities will not be usable in time for the new school year, which will not start on 24 August as scheduled. Two universities and four collages have also been damaged by shelling.

Facilities and services

Service providers continue to repair water and sanitation networks and WASH facilities. The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike and damage to electricity feeder and grid lines has resulted in a lack of electricity to operate pumps and wells, sewage pumping stations, waste water treatment plants and desalination plants. These are being replaced by generators, which need fuel. The estimated additional amount required equalling the loss of electricity is around 500,000 litres of fuel per month which the WASH Cluster is requesting to be dispatched at weekly intervals of 125,000 litres.

There has been a steep increase in the price of certain food commodities, eggs have risen more than 40 per cent, while other items have returned close to pre-conflict prices. It is estimated that half of Gaza's poultry (broilers and layers) were killed as a result of direct damage to shelters or because of access restrictions.

An exceptional one-off food distribution by UNRWA, the World Food Program (WFP) and the MoSA, targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance, continued yesterday, with some centres extending distributions times by one hour to accommodate demand. The campaign, which is scheduled to last for two weeks, will complement the regular food assistance provided by UNRWA and WFP to core beneficiaries.

Most of Gaza's households have little or no water supply. Hospitals meant to cope with disaster are themselves disaster zones. The new school year was scheduled to start in less than two weeks, but a great many of the buildings will not be ready or are totally unusable in their current state.

The United Nations will work with regional and international actors to rebuild. But unless we address the underlying causes of the conflict, another round of violence and vengeance is almost guaranteed.

UN Secretary-General's Remarks at Press Encounter, New York, 12 August 2014.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: First phase was launched today to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. Continuation is dependent on an extension of the ceasefire.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours on 12 and 13 August (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours, but extended its operation hours till 19:00 on 12 August. A total of 270 truckloads of mostly food and medicine entered yesterday.
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00. On 12 August, 600 dual nationals and foreign residency card holders exited Gaza through Rafah. A total of 181 tons of medicine and medical supplies entered on 11 August. No goods entered on 12 August.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.

- PRCS continues to provide PSS through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters and has reached a total of 2,277 girls and 2,093 boys since 15 July; additionally they were able to reach 3,076 women and 2,076 men.
- Since 8 July, the PCDCR (Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution) has provided initial PSS to 2,664 children across the Gaza Strip, including through home and hospital visits.
- 340,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal mobile phone subscribers in Gaza since 20 July.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to a total of 1,934 callers since 13 July.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 10,890 PSS sessions for 96,010 parents and recreational activities for 105,276 children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners covering 15,263 adult IDPs and 83,219 children.
- CTCCM (Community Training Centre and Crisis Management) has been providing PSS support to other IDP sites, including in two government schools, the Orthodox Church in Gaza and al Amal Institute, reaching 161 children and 20 women.
- UNICEF, in partnership with AMAAN, is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city managed by the MoSA.
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS has carried out 31 risk assessments for UNRWA and UNSCO of which 27 UNRWA installations have been cleared, and provided risk education for 26,000 people. Furthermore, 123 humanitarian workers have received risk education training.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations still face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 16,792 families (consisting of approximately 100,750 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,635 families (33,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 33,625 families (an estimated 201,750 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 223,092 people are being provided with shelter in 87 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 29,505 individuals are sheltered in 27 government shelters (including seven supported by UNRWA). Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.
- Shelter partners have provided household NFIs to 51,936 families and hygiene NFIs to 64,613 families since the beginning of the emergency.
- On 12 August, UNRWA delivered 18 truckloads of NFIs to shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 68 million is needed for 16,792 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 7,457 displaced families.
- 23,039 family hygiene kits are needed for IDPs with host families and in UNRWA and government shelters.

- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 33,625 families (approximately 200,900 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- IDPs in shelters and with host families require drinking water and water for domestic use.
- Provision of fuel (500,000 litres per month) is needed to operate critical WASH facilities until repairs to the electricity grid leads to the resumption of the former power supply level. Emergency standby generators and municipal vehicles utilized for water distribution also need fuel.
- Damaged electricity distribution systems, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- Delivery of fuel through UNRWA is ongoing.
- Water trucking of potable water in north Gaza, Gaza city, Khan Younis and Rafah continues. Since 9 August, Oxfam's Public Health Programme and partners have reached approximately 200,000 people.
- Three out of five mobile water pumps have been delivered to Gaza by Save the Children through ERF funding.
- Four water generators have been installed to run groundwater wells in Gaza city.
- Gaza municipalities continued the removal of solid waste in Gaza city, in addition to carrying out critical operations and maintenance work to seven water lines, seven groundwater wells and several sewage lines.
- CMWU continues to carry out repairs to damaged water and wastewater networks, water wells and desalination units.
- Repairs to a main water carrier pipeline in Khuza'a are ongoing. In the meantime, a number of generators and connection lines from five private wells to the community have been installed to ensure water supply. The community is also supplied with potable water through Qatar Charity, ICRC and ACF.
- UNRWA continued to distribute potable and non-potable water to emergency shelters during the reporting period. On 12 August, 617 cubic metres of potable water, as well as 834 cubic metres of non-potable water, were delivered to UNRWA shelters. On 11-12 August, UNRWA water wells supplied a total of 11,860 cubic metres, including to UNRWA shelters.
- UNRWA sanitation staff removed 366 tons of solid waste from all refugee camps on 12 August and continued to carry out critical repairs of UNRWA installations.

Gaps

- Movement and access restrictions remain the inhibiting factors for WASH partners' ability to carry out assessments and repairs, and hinder solid waste removal and management.
- The constant movement of IDPs between their homes and designated shelters during ceasefires poses challenges in prioritizing responses undertaken by water and sanitation service providers.
- Decreasing capacity of the local market to meet the need for polythene tanks.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- The time-consuming process related to the evacuation of priority patients out of Gaza, including issuing travel and medical documents and passports for foreign referrals, especially for patients whose homes and possessions were destroyed, needs to be addressed.
- Preventive health measures are needed for IDPs in shelters to prevent the outbreak of communicable diseases.
- Hospitals continue to require regular access to adequate amounts of fuel, medicines and medical supplies, as well as spare parts for medical equipment to maintain functionality.

- Continuity of care and rehabilitation of patients, especially of amputees, at the community level needs active follow-up.

Response

- UNRWA and MoH are sharing data with WHO and working to expand and improve monitoring for main communicable diseases among IDPs in shelters.
- Oxfam, the Palestinian Water, UNRWA and WHO are in the process of drafting guidelines for water vendors in order to maintain the quality of water delivered to shelters and communities.
- The MoH in Gaza has received more than US$ 3 million in donations of drugs and disposables for distribution which is currently being processed. The WHO is assisting the MoH in speeding up the process.
- On 11 August, WHO delivered a shipment of intravenous fluids to Gaza via Rafah crossing to the MoH in Gaza.
- During the ceasefire, with support from WHO and other humanitarian partners, the MoH has been able to increase referrals of patients to outside hospitals, which has reduced hospital occupancy in Gaza from more than 100 per cent to 80 per cent.
- UNRWA began distributing maternity packages to new mothers who have given birth during the hostilities and who are registered as IDPs. A total of 344 babies have started their lives as IDPs in UNRWA schools.
- The Government of Israel reports that 15 ambulance transfers were facilitated through Erez on 11 August.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- An estimated 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Approximately 55,000 livestock heads are in need of animal feed and water tanks in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of productive assets.
- 1,000 broiler farmers and 220 layer farmers lost their production capacity and are in need of immediate assistance.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be maintained.

Response

- UNRWA, WFP and Ministry of Social Affairs have started a one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance (approximately 730,000 individuals). On 12 August, 7,902 rations were distributed through 12 UNRWA distribution centres.
- Food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing. The ceasefire is allowing for safer and more efficient delivery of food parcels.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis. On 12 August, UNRWA delivered 57 truckloads of food to shelters in cooperation with WFP.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.
- FSS partners, members and local institutions are delivering food vouchers and food packages to approximately 100,000 IDPs with host families and in informal shelters. The vouchers can also be used to purchase water and NFIs.

Gaps and Constraints

- Delays at crossings complicate food delivery.
- Electricity shortages limit the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- Supply chains in Gaza are already stretched and therefore aid agencies are highly encouraged to bring in food aid items from West Bank/outside Gaza Strip.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Funds are required to cover the needs of herders and breeders to avoid further aid dependency and erosion of livelihood.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- 230 schools (140 governmental and 90 UNRWA schools) affected by shelling are in need of repair, including 25 severely damaged requiring reconstruction. The Ministry of Education also reported that another two higher education facilities were affected by shelling, bringing the total number of facilities in need of repair to two universities and four colleges.
- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start on 24 August.
- A lasting ceasefire to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year, is urgently needed.

Response

- The Education Cluster is coordinating with MoEHE and UNRWA regarding the new school year, and is engaged in ongoing assessments.
- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on psychosocial support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- A large number of schools are used as IDP shelters or collective centres, with no clear plan in place for longer term shelters for those whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- Storekeepers and logistics assistants have been hired locally to support the staging areas secured by the Logistics Cluster in the West Bank and the common warehouses in the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster is supporting the Palestinian authorities in facilitating the transport of more than 750 pallets of water and food for distribution to various locations within the Gaza Strip.
- On the 11 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of four trucks of humanitarian relief supplies into the Gaza Strip for distribution on behalf of CHF International. Supplies included food, shelter and WASH items.

- On the 11 August, over 100 pallets of water and general NFIs were transported into the Gaza Strip on behalf of Oxfam and PRCS, facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.
- The Logistics Cluster has made two additional staging areas in Ramallah and Nablus available for the humanitarian community.

Gaps and Constraints

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip, and at same time raise issues of prioritization of cargo.
- Cargo bottlenecks are causing delays at Beituniya and Tarqumia crossings.
- The unpredictable nature of cargo prioritization procedures at the Beituniya and Tarqumia crossings in the West Bank impedes operations.

General Coordination

The joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC in Gaza, started today, 13 August, following preparations in the past days, including liaison with relevant government counterparts, the allocation of cluster representatives to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various technical authorities have committed their support. The assessment will take place in two phases: an overview at the governorate level, on the first day, followed by an assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level for a period of three to four days, as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

Funding

Mr. Shawqi Issa, Minister of Social Affairs and Minister of Agriculture of the State of Palestine along with the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley launched the 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal which outlines the planned humanitarian response of the HCT, including UNRWA to the current emergency. The appeal is intended to address urgent needs in Gaza and currently requests US$ 367 million to implement 86 projects in clusters/sectors including Education, Food Security, Health and Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and WASH as well as Coordination and Support Services. The clusters/sectors requesting the largest amount of funds are Food Security and Shelter which are requesting a total of US$ 293 million together. The appeal is based on the latest analysis of the required emergency assistance to meet the most critical needs of the affected population and will be revised as further information from the ground becomes available and needs assessments become possible. The Crisis Appeal supersedes the estimates presented in the Gaza Crisis Preliminary Needs and Requirements paper of 24 July. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, ten project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 2.3 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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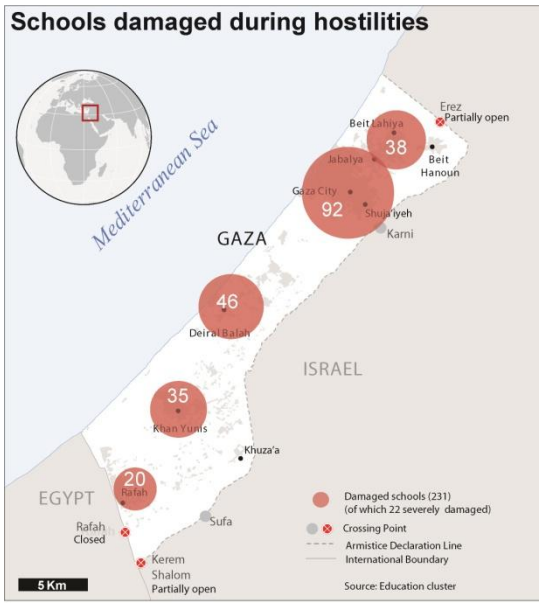
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 14 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 13 August (0800 hrs) to 14 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 15 August.

Highlights

- The temporary ceasefire which expired at midnight last night has been extended for another five days, while negotiations towards a long-term ceasefire continue.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) remain dispersed throughout civilian areas. Yesterday, six people were killed and six others injured when an unexploded ordnance in Beit Lahia detonated.
- Approximately 350,000 people internally displaced persons (IDPs) still remain in emergency shelters or with host families.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 100,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.
- The first phase of a joint humanitarian assessment continued today to assess damage and inform responses by humanitarian organizations.



1,973	67	350,000	1000's	16,800
Palestinians killed, including 1,416 civilians, of whom 459 are children and 238 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Of explosive remnants of war (ERW) dispersed throughout civilian areas.	Homes in the Gaza Strip have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Situation Overview

The 72-hour ceasefire, which expired at midnight on Wednesday, has been extended for an additional 120 hours until midnight, 18 August. The ceasefire is holding despite incidents recorded on either side of the deadline, while negotiations continue in Cairo between the parties towards reaching a permanent ceasefire.

An unexploded bomb left over from the recent military operations in Gaza detonated in Beit Lahiya yesterday morning, killing six people, including three members of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) police, an Italian journalist and his interpreter. Six persons were injured, including members of the EOD police. The incident underlines the threat which thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) dispersed throughout civilian areas pose to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW. The UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has so far cleared 27 UNRWA installations, and provided risk education for 26,000 people and 123 humanitarian workers. A lasting ceasefire, however, is required to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year.

Hostilities and casualties

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

According to initial figures, five rockets were fired from Gaza towards Israel and seven airstrikes were conducted by Israeli forces on Gaza in the past 24 hours; no casualties or damage to property were recorded. Since the last update, the Protection Cluster has recorded a further eight fatalities; including five adults and one child who were killed in earlier incidents but had not yet been recorded, and two who died from injuries sustained earlier. According to initial reports, three of the eight were members of armed groups, two were civilians, and the status of the other three is still unknown.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 1,973, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 327 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,416 are believed to be civilians, including 459 children and 238 women, and 230 members of armed groups. The fatalities recorded yesterday have not yet been included in the cumulative figures.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 17:00 on 10 August, 9,986 Palestinians, including 3,009 children and 359 elderly, have been injured.

Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in emergency shelters has declined with the extension of the ceasefire. As of yesterday afternoon, there were 209,459 hosted in 87 designated UNRWA schools and 15,400 in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.

UNRWA's hygiene and water campaign for shelters was launched on 10 August, involving the dissemination of information on water conservation, appropriate hygiene practices and treatment of scabies and lice, although surveillance so far shows no disease outbreaks and no evidence of malnutrition.

UNRWA has started to distribute maternity packages to mothers who have given birth during the current hostilities, and who are registered as IDPs in its shelters across the Gaza Strip. Mental health services and post-natal care especially for breast-feeding mothers have been raised as concerns requiring special attention among displaced persons.

Infrastructure and services

The extended ceasefire has allowed for ongoing assessment of the massive infrastructure damage suffered since 7 July. It is estimated that 8,832 housing units have been totally destroyed, requiring reconstruction, and 7,960 have been severely damaged and are uninhabitable until major repairs can take place. Another 5,635 housing units have suffered major damage but are still inhabitable in part, while 33,625 have suffered minor damage.

A total of 230 schools (90 UNRWA and 140 government-run) have sustained some degree of damage, including 25 schools entirely destroyed or severely damaged. These facilities will not be usable in time for the new school year, which will not start on 24 August as scheduled.

As of 12 August, 15 clinics remained closed (6 Ministry of Health (MoH), seven UNRWA and two NGO) of the 88 clinics monitored by WHO (53 MoH, 21 UNRWA and 14 NGO). Seven closed due to damage and eight others were closed due to their location in insecure areas. A total of 43 clinics have incurred damage since 7 July.

Health Update

Hospitals continue to require steady access to adequate amounts of fuel, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, including spare parts for medical equipment. The MoH Central Drug Store reported on 14 August that drug stock levels were maintained from June levels, improving one per cent for drug stocks and improving two per cent for medical disposables from June levels. In July, 27 per cent of essential medicines and 52 per cent of medical disposables were at zero stock, as incoming medical supplies were balanced by a high rate of consumption - times the usual monthly rate - especially in emergency medicine.

The extended ceasefire has also enabled the (MoH) to increase the referral of casualty patients to outside hospitals, especially to Turkey and East Jerusalem hospitals, which has reduced bed occupancy in surgical wards in Gaza from more than 100 percent to 80 percent, helping to improve quality care. On Wednesday, 18 injured Palestinians were transferred from Gaza to Ben-Gurion Airport by Israeli ambulances, from where they were medically evacuated by a Turkish aircraft to Ankara.

A total of 93 specialist physicians and nurses have entered Gaza on short missions since 7 July from the (MoH) in the West Bank (45), Palestinian and Arab physicians' groups (25) and international humanitarian agencies (23). A second medical delegation of specialist physicians and nurses from the MoH in the West Bank entered Gaza on 6 August. The latest delegation was a five-member surgical team from MAP-UK which entered Gaza on 12 August.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments First phase initial rapid needs assessment was launched yesterday to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase will start on Monday dependent on the ceasefire holding.

Additional fuel supply: needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours on 12 and 13 August (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours. On 12 August, a total of 270 truckloads of mostly food and medicine entered.
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00. No goods entered on 13 August.

Humanitarian needs and response

Field teams and humanitarian partners are in the field carrying out assessments today. Updated information on needs and response will be included tomorrow.

General Coordination

The joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC in Gaza which started on13 August, continued today, following preparations in the past days, including liaison with relevant government counterparts, the allocation of cluster representatives to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various technical authorities have committed their support. The assessment will take place in two phases: an overview at the governorate level, followed by an assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level starting on Monday, with the aim of covering 19 of the 25 municipalities and eight refugee camps on the first day. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

Since its activation, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of over 1,200 pallets of humanitarian relief supplies via 47 trucks from the West Bank on behalf of 17 humanitarian organisations for distribution within the Gaza Strip.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at $114 million, of this $96 million is for UNRWA, $16.5 million for WFP and $1.5 million (reported) for others which are mainly for Food, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, eleven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 2.6 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners are in the process of finalizing an application to the CERF Rapid Response window covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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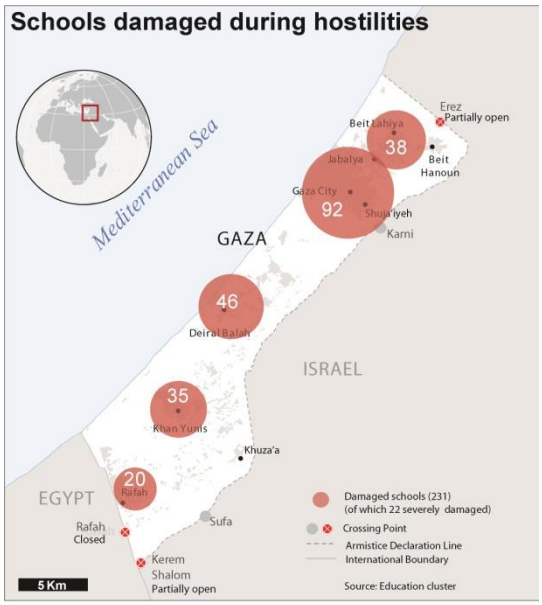
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 15 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 14 August (08:00 hrs) to 15 August (08:00 hrs).

Note: There will be no situation reports on 16 or 17 August. The next report will be issued on 18 August.

Highlights

- The five-day temporary ceasefire which entered into effect at midnight 13 August is holding, with no major incidents reported.
- The situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) is fluid and has risen again, with 218,367 now seeking refuge in 87 UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 100,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.
- An exceptional one-off food distribution, targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance, is continuing with 150,000 out of a targeted 730,000 people now reached.



1,975	67	365,000	1000's	150,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,417 civilians, of whom 459 are children and 239 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Of explosive remnants of war (ERW) dispersed throughout civilian areas.	People reached so far in exceptional UNRWA/WFP/MoSA food distribution.

Situation Overview

The ceasefire, extended until midnight, 18 August, is holding with no violations reported. However, in the absence of a permanent agreement, the situation in Gaza remains insecure, and the number of displaced fluctuates as families discover that their homes are uninhabitable or lack even the basic amounts of water, electricity, and food available in emergency shelters. It is estimated that 8,832 housing units have been totally destroyed, requiring reconstruction, and 7,960 have been severely damaged and are uninhabitable until major repairs can take place. Another 5,635 housing units have suffered major damage but are still inhabitable in part, while 33,625 have suffered minor damage.

Others are returning because they wish to secure their places in shelters should hostilities resume or because of general insecurity. Wednesday's incident in which six people were killed by unexploded ordnance (UXO) underlines the threat which the thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) dispersed throughout civilian areas pose to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last update, the Protection Cluster has recorded a further two fatalities; a 90-year-old woman and a 60-year-old man, who died from injuries sustained earlier. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 1,975, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 328 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,417 are believed to be civilians, including 459 children and 239 women, and 230 members of armed groups. The UXO fatalities recorded on Wednesday have not yet been included in the cumulative figures. According to the World Health Organization, as of 17:00 on 12 August, 10,193 Palestinians, including 3,084 children, 1,970 women and 368 elderly, have been injured.

Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in emergency shelters continues to fluctuate, and increased by at least 16,000 during the reporting period. As of yesterday afternoon, there were 218,367 hosted in 87 designated UNRWA schools, (up from 209,459 registered the previous day) and 20,888 in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA (up from 15,400 previously). The number of IDPs residing in government schools not assisted by UNRWA is unknown. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.

Infrastructure and services

A total of 230 schools (90 UNRWA and 140 government-run) have sustained some degree of damage, including 25 schools entirely destroyed or severely damaged since the current crisis began. UNRWA is devising a strategy regarding the new school year, in coordination with the Ministry of Education. If a permanent ceasefire is reached, it is expected it will take the Agency between two to three weeks to open its schools to some 235,000 children.

For service providers, a permanent or continued ceasefire is required to continue repairing water and wastewater networks and facilities. Many of the repairs in the worst affected areas need to be urgently addressed as families return to their homes. Over 50 per cent of water networks are estimated to be damaged in areas which experienced intense conflict, such as Beit Hanoun. As repairs are made and further destruction is discovered in these areas, the re-supply of spare and replacement parts will be necessary. In other heavily impacted areas such as Khuza'a, the demand for water is so high that tensions are developing around distribution areas when deliveries are attempted. Tanker drivers have been unable to deliver in eastern Khan Yunis and particularly Khuza'a, for these reasons; the WASH Cluster and partners are working closely with local representatives to address this problem.

Food Update

The crisis has worsened an already extremely fragile environment in terms of food security and livelihoods. Around 66 per cent of the population of Gaza was receiving food assistance prior to this crisis and the household food insecurity level or vulnerable to food insecure stood at 72 per cent of households. The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover, particularly the IDPs who will be homeless, due to the destruction of their homes. An exceptional one-off food distribution by UNRWA, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance, is continuing with 150,000 out of a targeted 730,000 people now reached.

The poultry sector has been particularly affected, with half of Gaza's poultry (broilers and layers) killed as a result of direct damage or because of restrictions on tending and feeding them., with the price of eggs rising by 40 per cent, Around 55,000 livestock head are in need of animal feed and water tanks in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of productive assets.

Key humanitarian priorities

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment was launched on Wednesday to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase will start on Monday if the ceasefire holds.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open 08:00-14:00 for urgent cases only.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open yesterday until 16:30. A total of 283 truck loads, mostly food (166) entered. It is normally closed on Friday but opened today because of high demand. The Government of Israel reports that on 13 August, 198 tons of gas, 244,000 litres of benzene and 353,000 litres of fuel for transportation were imported into Gaza through Israeli crossings
Rafah: No goods entered on 14 August.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares. It is likely that every child in the Gaza strip is affected by the crisis and will require some level of psychosocial support.
- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters and has reached more than 2,277 girls and 2,093 boys since 15 July; additionally they were able to reach over 3,076 women and 2,076 men.
- Since 8 July, the PCDCR (Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution) has provided initial PSS to 3,077 children across the Gaza Strip, including through home and hospital visits.
- 340,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal mobile phone subscribers in Gaza since 20 July.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to a total of 2,094 callers since 13 July.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 12,867 PSS sessions for 108,904 parents and recreational activities for 120,089 children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners covering 18,379 adult IDPs and 93,595 children.
- CTCCM (Community Training Centre and Crisis Management) has been providing PSS support to other IDP sites, including in two government schools, the Orthodox Church in Gaza and al Amal Institute, reaching 161 children and 20 women.
- UNICEF, in partnership with AMAAN, is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city managed by the MoSA.
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS has carried out 31 risk assessments for UNRWA and UNSCO of which 27 UNRWA installations have been cleared, and provided risk education for 26,000 people. Furthermore, 123 humanitarian workers have received risk education training.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations still face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.

- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 16,792 families (consisting of approximately 100,750 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,635 families (33,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 33,625 families (an estimated 201,750 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 218,367 people are being provided with shelter in 87 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 20,888 individuals are sheltered in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.
- Shelter partners have provided household NFIs to 52,889 families and hygiene NFIs to 65,566 families since the beginning of the emergency.
- On 14 August, UNRWA delivered 16 truckloads of NFIs to shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 68 million is needed for 16,792 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 6,504 displaced families.
- 21,836 family hygiene kits are needed for IDPs with host families and in UNRWA and government shelters.
- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 33,625 families (approximately 200,900 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- IDPs in shelters and with host families require drinking water and water for domestic use.
- Provision of fuel (500,000 litres per month) is needed to operate critical WASH facilities until repairs to the electricity grid leads to the resumption of the former power supply level. Emergency standby generators and municipal vehicles utilized for water distribution also need fuel.
- Damaged electricity distribution systems, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- Delivery of fuel through UNRWA is ongoing.
- Municipalities are distributing domestic and drinking water to IDPs and areas with no access to water. The Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) has also distributed 11,000 litres of chlorine to several groundwater wells and sprayed a number of sites with pesticides as a vector control measure.
- Potable water has been delivered to at least 274,824 people through potable water trucking, water vouchers, and bottled water. UNRWA and Oxfam have supplied 221,714 IDPs in schools, UNICEF with partners WFP and PHG have supported 43,000 individuals with water vouchers and water trucking, and PARC has tankered water to 10,110 affected families. ICRC, Anera, CHF, and UNICEF with partner Ma’an have ongoing water trucking programs with numbers of beneficiaries reached to be confirmed.
- At least 129,710 people have been provided with water storage containers for household use.

- WASH Cluster and partners are working closely with local representatives to address high tensions around distribution.
- CMWU continues to provide for all possible repairs and refurbishment of repairable facilities such as water and wastewater networks, water wells and desalination units.
- Gaza municipalities continued the removal of solid waste in Gaza city, in addition to carrying out critical operations and maintenance work to seven water lines, seven groundwater wells and several sewage lines.
- UNRWA sanitation staff removed 366 tons of solid waste from all refugee camps on 12 August and continued to carry out critical repairs of UNRWA installations.

Gaps

- Movement and access restrictions remain restricting factors.
- The constant movement of IDPs between their homes and designated shelters during ceasefires poses challenges in prioritizing responses undertaken by water and sanitation service providers.
- Decreasing capacity of the local market to meet the need for polythene tanks.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Hospitals continue to require steady access to adequate amounts of fuel, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, including spare parts for medical equipment.
- Essential medicines and medical disposables are needed.
- The time-consuming process related to the evacuation of priority patients out of Gaza, including issuing travel and medical documents and passports for foreign referrals, especially for patients whose homes and possessions were destroyed, needs to be addressed.
- Preventive health measures are needed for IDPs in shelters to prevent the outbreak of communicable diseases.
- Hospitals continue to require regular access to adequate amounts of fuel, medicines and medical supplies, as well as spare parts for medical equipment to maintain functionality.
- Continuity of care and rehabilitation of patients, especially of amputees, at the community level needs active follow-up.

Response

- The extended ceasefire has enabled the MoH to increase the referral of casualty patients to outside hospitals, especially to Turkey and East Jerusalem hospitals, which has reduced bed occupancy in surgical wards in Gaza from more than 100 per cent to 80 per cent, helping to improve quality care.
- A total of 93 specialist physicians and nurses have entered Gaza on short missions since 7 July from the (MoH) in the West Bank (45), Palestinian and Arab physicians' groups (25) and international humanitarian agencies (23).
- UNRWA and MoH are sharing data with WHO and working to expand and improve monitoring for main communicable diseases among IDPs in shelters.
- Oxfam, the Palestinian Water, UNRWA and WHO are in the process of drafting guidelines for water vendors in order to maintain the quality of water delivered to shelters and communities.
- The MoH in Gaza has received more than US$ 3 million in donations of drugs and disposables for distribution which is currently being processed. The WHO is assisting the MoH in speeding up the process.
- UNRWA began distributing maternity packages to new mothers who have given birth during the hostilities and who are registered as IDPs. A total of 344 babies have started their lives as IDPs in UNRWA schools.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- An estimated 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Additional bread production capacity is required due to lack of electricity in households.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs are required.
- Approximately 55,000 livestock heads are in need of animal feed and water tanks in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of productive assets.
- 1,000 broiler farmers and 220 layer farmers lost their production capacity and are in need of immediate assistance.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be maintained.

Response

- The regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing. The ceasefire is allowing for safer and more efficient delivery of food parcels.
- In addition, 150,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Delays at crossings complicate food delivery.
- Electricity shortages limit the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- 230 schools (140 governmental and 90 UNRWA schools) affected by shelling are in need of repair, including 25 severely damaged requiring reconstruction. The Ministry of Education also reported that another two higher education facilities were affected by shelling, bringing the total number of facilities in need of repair to two universities and four colleges.
- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start on 24 August.
- A lasting ceasefire to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year, is urgently needed.

Response

- The Education Cluster is coordinating with MoEHE and UNRWA regarding the new school year, and is engaged in ongoing assessments.

- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on psychosocial support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- A large number of schools are used as IDP shelters or collective centres, with no clear plan in place for longer term shelters for those whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- Storekeepers and logistics assistants have been hired locally to support the staging areas secured by the Logistics Cluster in the West Bank and the common warehouses in the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster is supporting the Palestinian authorities in facilitating the transport of more than 750 pallets of water and food for distribution to various locations within the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster has made two additional staging areas in Ramallah and Nablus available for the humanitarian community.
- On the 13 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 140 pallets of food and shelter supplies into the Gaza Strip on behalf of CHF International.
- Since activation, the Logistics Cluster has supported 17 humanitarian organisations including Global Communities and Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and facilitated the transportation of over 1,200 pallets of humanitarian relief.
- The Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of private donations from numerous local organisations including civil society groups and local communities. More than 500 pallets of items such as clothes, bedding, mattresses and diapers have been transported via 18 trucks for distribution within the Gaza Strip.

Gaps and Constraints

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip.
- Cargo bottlenecks are causing delays at Beituniya and Tarqumia crossings.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. Preparations for the second phase at municipality level are ongoing and, if the situation allows the second phase will start on Monday 18 August. Preparations include liaison with relevant government counterparts, the allocation of cluster representatives to various teams, and the conduct of relevant trainings. Various technical authorities have committed their support. The assessment at the municipality and refugee camp level starting on Monday, aims to cover 19 of the 25 municipalities and eight refugee camps on the first day. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

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The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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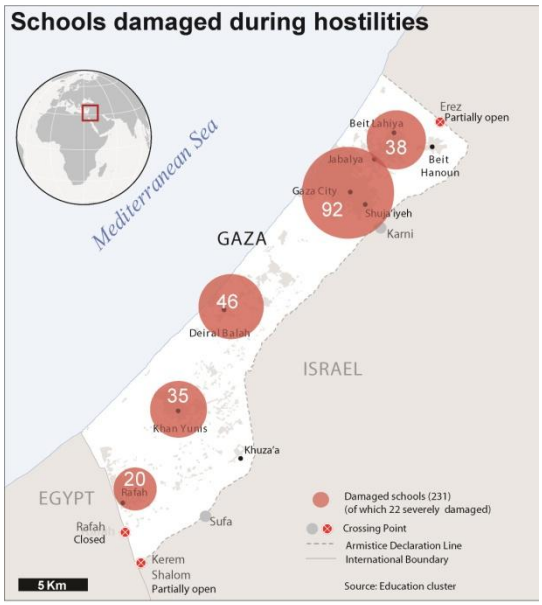
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 18 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 15 August (08:00 hrs) to 18 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 19 August.

Highlights

- The five-day temporary ceasefire which entered into effect at midnight 13 August expires at midnight tonight.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has risen again, with 237,659 now seeking refuge in 81 UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters, and is expected to increase further as the ceasefire deadline approaches.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 100,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.
- An exceptional one-off food distribution, targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance, is continuing with 300,000 out of a targeted 730,000 people now reached.
- The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that losses to the farming sector, both direct and indirect, amount to US$ 450 million.



1,976	67	380,000	$US 450 million	300,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,417 civilians, of whom 459 are children and 239 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, and three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Of losses suffered by the agricultural sector.	People reached so far in exceptional UNRWA/WFP/MoSA food distribution.

Situation Overview

The ceasefire, extended on 13 August, has held with no major incidents recorded during the reporting period. The ceasefire is scheduled to expire at midnight tonight, amidst ongoing negotiations in Cairo between the parties to reach a permanent ceasefire or to agree on another temporary extension.

On 17 August, Israel partially lifted access restrictions to the sea to allow fishermen to move three nautical miles (NM) from the Gaza shore. This was the limit established between early 2009, during the "Cast Lead" military offensive, until the 21 November 2012 ceasefire understanding that followed the "Pillar of Defense" offensive, when access at sea was extended to six NM. Fishermen had been prohibited from fishing during the most recent hostilities.According to the Oslo Accords, the fishing areas allocated to Palestinian fishermen should extend to 20 NM off the Gaza coast.

The relative calm has allowed for additional needs assessments to take place. According to preliminary findings by the Palestinian Federation of Industries, 2,695 businesses had to stop operating due to hostilities, resulting in approximately 30,000 workers totally or partially losing their jobs. Some 350 businesses were damaged, with 126 destroyed and 234 partially

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

damaged. Two thirds of the damaged businesses were in Gaza city. The Ministry of Agriculture has also carried out an assessment of damages to the farming sector with losses, both direct and indirect, estimated at US$ 450 million.

In the absence of a permanent agreement, the number of displaced has risen again, as families discover that their homes are uninhabitable or lack basic services, or they are returning because they wish to secure their places in shelters should hostilities resume again. At least 380,000 are seeking shelter in emergency shelters or with host families; an estimated 100,000 will be long-term displaced due to destruction/severe damage to homes. Despite ongoing repairs to utilities, the majority of the population continues to cope with severe shortages in water and power services; a permanent ceasefire is required to allow continued repairs to water and wastewater networks and facilities.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last update, the Protection Cluster has recorded another fatality, a 64-year-old man whose body was recovered from Beit Hanoun. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 1,976, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 329 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,417 are believed to be civilians, including 459 children and 239 women, and 230 members of armed groups. The UXO fatalities recorded on Wednesday have not yet been included in the cumulative figures. According to the World Health Organization, as of 17:00 on 12 August, 10,193 Palestinians, including 3,084 children, 1,970 women and 368 elderly, were injured.

Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in emergency shelters continues to rise. As of yesterday afternoon, there were 237,659 hosted in 81 designated UNRWA schools, (up from 229,872 registered the previous day) and 28,229 in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA (up from 26,949 previously).

The number of IDPs residing in government schools not assisted by UNRWA is unknown. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners. An estimated 100,000 people will be long-term displaced due to destruction/severe damage to homes. On 16 August, the Government of Qatar announced that it would donate US$1,000 to every Palestinian family whose house was destroyed during recent hostilities.

Almost half of the displaced in UNRWA shelters are children below the age of 18. Children have been particularly impacted by hostilities and need support to make sense of the violence they have witnessed. UNRWA has deployed counselors to all its shelters since the start of the emergency to promote positive coping mechanisms and enhance the resilience of individuals, families and communities.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, began today.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares. It is likely that every child in the Gaza strip is affected by the crisis and will require some level of psychosocial support.

- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters and has reached 6,106 girls and 5,389 boys since 15 July; additionally they were able to reach 5,652 women and 3,642 men.
- Since 8 July, the PCDCR (Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution) has provided initial PSS to 3,337 children across the Gaza Strip, including through home and hospital visits.
- 340,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal mobile phone subscribers in Gaza since 20 July.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to a total of 2,181 callers since 13 July.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 14,093 PSS sessions for 118,627 parents and recreational activities for 131,626 children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners covering 19,999 adult IDPs and 99,895 children.
- CTCCM (Community Training Centre and Crisis Management) has been providing PSS support to other IDP sites, including in two government schools, the Orthodox Church in Gaza and al Amal Institute, reaching 161 children and 20 women.
- UNICEF, in partnership with Ma'an Development Center, is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city managed by the MoSA.
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS has carried out 31 risk assessments for UNRWA and UNSCO of which 27 UNRWA installations have been cleared, and provided risk education for 26,000 people. Furthermore, 123 humanitarian workers have received risk education training.

Gaps and Constraints

- Local organizations still face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 16,792 families (consisting of approximately 100,750 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,635 families (33,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 33,625 families (an estimated 201,750 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 237,659 people are being provided with shelter in 81 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 28,229 individuals are sheltered in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.

- Shelter partners have provided household NFIs to 52,889 families and hygiene NFIs to 65,566 families since the beginning of the emergency.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 68 million is needed for 16,792 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 6,504 displaced families.
- 21,836 family hygiene kits are needed for IDPs with host families and in UNRWA and government shelters.
- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 33,625 families (approximately 200,900 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- IDPs in shelters and with host families require drinking water and water for domestic use.
- Provision of fuel (500,000 litres per month) is needed to operate critical WASH facilities until repairs to the electricity grid leads to the resumption of the former power supply level. Emergency standby generators and municipal vehicles utilized for water distribution also need fuel.
- Damaged electricity distribution systems, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs.

Response

- Delivery of fuel through UNRWA is ongoing.
- Municipalities are distributing domestic and drinking water to IDPs and areas with no access to water. The Ministry of Local Government (MoLG) has also distributed 11,000 litres of chlorine to several groundwater wells and sprayed a number of sites with pesticides as a vector control measure.
- Potable water has been delivered to at least 274,824 people through potable water trucking, water vouchers, and bottled water. UNRWA and Oxfam have supplied 221,714 IDPs in schools, UNICEF with partners WFP and PHG have supported 43,000 individuals with water vouchers and water trucking, and PARC has tankered water to 10,110 affected families. ICRC, Anera, CHF, and UNICEF with partner Ma'an Development Center have ongoing water trucking programs with numbers of beneficiaries reached to be confirmed.
- Domestic Water tankering to different areas in Gaza by UNICEF through Ma'an Development Center (1272 m^3 covering 8940 people in Gaza City), UNRWA and PARC.
- A total of eight public distribution points (bladders) each 5 m^3 installed in Khan Younis and Gaza City by UNICEF and Mercy Corps. An additional 660 water tanks each 1.5 m^3 have been installed as filling points or distributed to effected families by several organizations.
- At least 129,710 people have been provided with water storage containers for household use.
- WASH Cluster and partners are working closely with local representatives to address high tensions around distribution.
- 10,000 families have been reached by UNICEF through the WFP e-voucher system receiving the hygiene items.
- Over 6,300 jerry cans have been distributed by a number of partners including UNICEF, GVC and PARC.
- CMWU continues to provide for all possible repairs and refurbishment of repairable facilities such as water and wastewater networks, water wells and desalination units.
- Gaza municipalities continued the removal of solid waste in Gaza city, in addition to carrying out critical operations and maintenance work to seven water lines, seven groundwater wells and several sewage lines.
- UNRWA sanitation staff removed 366 tons of solid waste from all refugee camps on 12 August and continued to carry out critical repairs of UNRWA installations.

Gaps

- Movement and access restrictions remain restricting factors.
- The constant movement of IDPs between their homes and designated shelters during ceasefires poses challenges in prioritizing responses undertaken by water and sanitation service providers.

- Decreasing capacity of the local market to meet the need for polythene tanks.
- Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Hospitals continue to require steady access to adequate amounts of fuel, pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, including spare parts for medical equipment.
- Essential medicines and medical disposables are needed.
- The time-consuming process related to the evacuation of priority patients out of Gaza, including issuing travel and medical documents and passports for foreign referrals, especially for patients whose homes and possessions were destroyed, needs to be addressed.
- Preventive health measures are needed for IDPs in shelters to prevent the outbreak of communicable diseases.
- Hospitals continue to require regular access to adequate amounts of fuel, medicines and medical supplies, as well as spare parts for medical equipment to maintain functionality.
- Continuity of care and rehabilitation of patients, especially of amputees, at the community level needs active follow-up.

Response

- WHO has provided medicines and medical supplies worth US$ 1.7 to the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH) to fill critical shortages in hospitals.
- The extended ceasefire has enabled the MoH to increase the referral of casualty patients to outside hospitals, especially to Turkey and East Jerusalem hospitals, which has reduced bed occupancy in surgical wards in Gaza from more than 100 per cent to 80 per cent, helping to improve quality care.
- A total of 93 specialist physicians and nurses have entered Gaza on short missions since 7 July from the (MoH) in the West Bank (45), Palestinian and Arab physicians' groups (25) and international humanitarian agencies (23).
- UNRWA and MoH are sharing data with WHO and working to expand and improve monitoring for main communicable diseases among IDPs in shelters.
- Oxfam, the Palestinian Water, UNRWA and WHO are in the process of drafting guidelines for water vendors in order to maintain the quality of water delivered to shelters and communities.
- The MoH in Gaza has received more than US$ 3 million in donations of drugs and disposables for distribution which is currently being processed. WHO is assisting the MoH in speeding up the process.
- UNRWA began distributing maternity packages to new mothers who have given birth during the hostilities and who are registered as IDPs. A total of 344 babies have started their lives as IDPs in UNRWA schools.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- An estimated 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Families relying on agricultural-related livelihoods need food, other immediate assistance and support in re-establishing their sources of income.
- Approximately 55,000 livestock heads are in need of animal feed and water tanks in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of productive assets.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be maintained.

Response

- The regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing. The ceasefire is allowing for safer and more efficient delivery of food parcels.
- In addition, 300,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Lack of a proper mechanism to identify the most vulnerable groups relying on agricultural-related livelihoods and being heavily affected by the conflict.
- Delays at crossings complicate food delivery.
- Electricity shortages limit the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- 230 schools (140 governmental and 90 UNRWA schools) affected by shelling are in need of repair, including 25 severely damaged requiring reconstruction. The Ministry of Education also reported that another two higher education facilities were affected by shelling, bringing the total number of facilities in need of repair to two universities and four colleges.
- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start on 24 August.
- A lasting ceasefire to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year, is urgently needed.

Response

- The Education Cluster is coordinating with MoEHE and UNRWA regarding the new school year, and is engaged in ongoing assessments.

- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on psychosocial support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- A large number of schools are used as IDP shelters or collective centres, with no clear plan in place for longer term shelters for those whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- Storekeepers and logistics assistants have been hired locally to support the staging areas secured by the Logistics Cluster in the West Bank and the common warehouses in the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster is supporting the Palestinian authorities in facilitating the transport of more than 750 pallets of water and food for distribution to various locations within the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster has made five staging areas in Jerusalem, Hebron, Ashqelon, Ramallah and Nablus available for the humanitarian community.
- On the 14 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 326 pallets of food, shelter and WASH supplies into the Gaza Strip on behalf of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA).
- Since activation, the Logistics Cluster has supported 24 humanitarian organisations including OXFAM and CHF International, and facilitated the transportation of over 1,750 pallets of humanitarian relief.
- On 17 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation more than 160 pallets of privately donated items for distribution within the Gaza Strip. Items include water, food, blankets, diapers and clothes.

Gaps and Constraints

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip.
- Cargo bottlenecks are causing delays at Beituniya and Tarqumia crossings.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). If the situation allows, the remaining six municipalities will be covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps on 20 August. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

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Since its activation, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of over 1,200 pallets of humanitarian relief supplies via 47 trucks from the West Bank on behalf of 17 humanitarian organisations for distribution within the Gaza Strip.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal ((requirements of US $367 million) stands at US $120 million, of this US $96 million is for UNRWA, US $16.5 million for WFP and US $7.3 million (reported) for others which are mainly for Food, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, eleven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 2.6 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

The CERF Secretariat is also currently reviewing a package of proposals from UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners, covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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For more information, please visit www.ochaopt.org

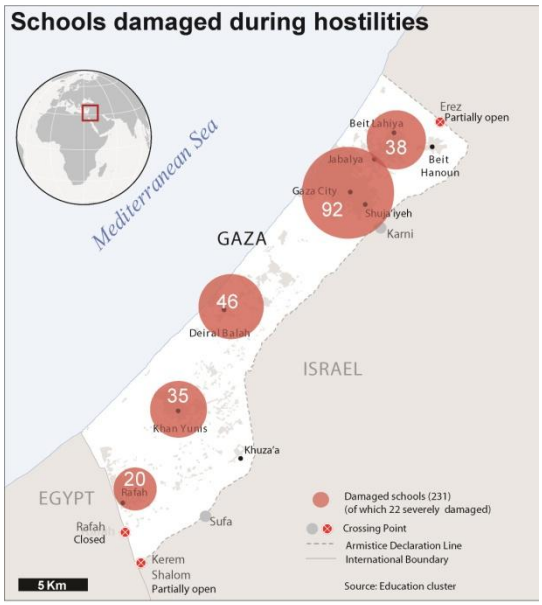
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 19 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 18 August (08:00 hrs) to 19 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 20 August.

Highlights

- The five-day temporary ceasefire which expired at midnight last night has been extended for another 24-hour period. However, at approximately 15:30 today, rockets fired from Gaza landed in southern Israel and, in response, the Israeli military has struck targets in Gaza.
- Due to the continuing uncertainty, the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) remains high, with 238,000 seeking refuge in 81 UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters.
- Alternative housing will be needed for the approximately 100,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged.
- The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimates that the fishing sector lost almost ten per cent of its annual catch due to recent hostilities.



1,976	67	380,000	10%	US$ 34 million
Palestinians killed, including 1,417 civilians, of whom 459 are children and 239 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, and three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Of annual fishing catch lost.	Of losses suffered by the water sector.

Situation Overview

The five-day temporary ceasefire which expired at midnight last night has been extended for another 24-hour period, as negotiations continue in Cairo between the parties to reach a permanent ceasefire or to agree on another temporary extension. However, at approximately 15:30 today, rockets fired from Gaza landed in southern Israel and the Israeli military responded by striking targets in Gaza,

In the absence of a permanent agreement the number of displaced remains high. Even in the event of a lasting ceasefire agreement, an estimated 100,000 people will be long-term displaced due to destruction/severe damage to their homes, estimated to be over 16,000 residences. Another 5,635 housing units have suffered major damage but are still inhabitable in part, while 33,625 have suffered minor damage. Assessments are currently being conducted to understand the needs of those affected. Options include cash subsidies; "self-help" repairs for homes in need of minor repairs; continued stay with host families; rental subsidies; and prefabricated and other housing solutions to replace destroyed and severely damaged homes. However, reconstruction will be the only option for many people, which given the enormous scope of the destruction and current access restrictions on construction materials, will take pose major problems.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Reconstruction is the main priority …. Construction materials must be allowed into Gaza to this effect – aggregate, bar, and cement. And their access to Gaza must be facilitated in such a way that fulfills Israel's security concerns. The United Nations stands ready to lend its support in this regard.

Robert Serry, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Briefing to the Security Council, 18 August 2014.

The relative calm has allowed for additional needs assessments to take place, including the UN-led joint needs assessment which was completed at the municipality level today. According to the Ministry of Agriculture losses to the farming sector, both direct and indirect, are estimated at US$ 450 million. The UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimate that the recent hostilities has resulted in substantial direct damage to Gaza's 17,000 hectares of croplands as well as much of its agri-infrastructure, including greenhouses, irrigation systems, animal farms, fodder stocks and fishing boats. Although Israel has partially lifted access restrictions to the sea to allow fishermen to move three nautical miles (NM) from the Gaza shore, fishermen were prohibited from fishing during the most recent hostilities; FAO estimates that the fishing sector lost almost ten per cent of its annual catch between 9 July and 10 August.

The Palestinian Water Authority has also carried out an assessment. Among the losses recorded are damage to water wells (11 completely destroyed, 15 partially destroyed); water tanks (five completely destroyed, 11 partially destroyed); desalination units (two completely destroyed, four partially destroyed); in addition to 29 kilometres of the water network completely destroyed and 17 kilometres partially destroyed. The cost of direct damage is estimated at US$ 34 million.

Hostilities and casualties

The Protection Cluster has not recorded any additional casualties since the last update. The cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July is at least 1,976, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 329 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,417 are believed to be civilians, including 459 children and 239 women, and 230 members of armed groups. The UXO fatalities recorded on Wednesday have not yet been included in the cumulative figures. According to the World Health Organization, as of 17:00 on 12 August, 10,193 Palestinians, including 3,084 children, 1,970 women and 368 elderly, were injured.

The recent conflict in the Gaza Strip has demonstrated, in the most tragic way, the risks that humanitarian workers take every day. In the last six weeks, at least 30 Palestinian colleagues have been killed, including 11 UNRWA personnel, 11 medical staff and eight firefighters - many in the line of duty. Seven technicians were also killed while trying to repair vital water and sanitation infrastructure. Over 70 aid workers have been injured,

'**The spirit of humanity shines bright in Palestine', article by James W. Rawley, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Al-Quds newspaper, on the occasion of World Humanitarian Day, 19 August.**

Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities stands at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in emergency shelters has remained about the same, 238,004 hosted in 81 designated UNRWA schools as of yesterday afternoon (up from 237,659 registered the previous day). There were also 25,334 IDPs in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA (down 28,229 from previously). The number of IDPs residing in government schools not assisted by UNRWA is unknown. Nearly 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners. It is anticipated that with the ceasefire apparently ending, more people will return to designated shelters or to host families.

UNRWA's continues its hygiene and water campaign which involves the dissemination of information on water conservation, appropriate hygiene practices and treatment of scabies and lice. Almost half of the displaced in UNRWA shelters are children below the age of 18. UNRWA has deployed counselors in all UNRWA shelters to promote positive coping mechanisms and enhance the resilience of individuals, families and communities. UNRWA has also continued to provide food, water and non food items to IDPs sheltered in its schools and, with other agencies, to the IDPs taking shelter in government schools.

The EU remains concerned about the disastrous humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip particularly the conditions of the displaced population, water supplies, electricity services, unexploded ordnance as well as destroyed and uninhabitable homes. The EU calls for increased efforts to facilitate, in accordance with international humanitarian law, immediate and unimpeded humanitarian access into the Gaza Strip including for humanitarian personnel and supplies, and for the mobilisation of

humanitarian aid for the population of Gaza.

Council of the European Union: Council conclusions on the Middle East (Gaza) Brussels, 15 August 2014.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, began on 18 August and was completed today. Information collected will be collated and analysed to determine the overall level of humanitarian needs.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours on (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours, (08:00-16:00).
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00.

Humanitarian needs and response

Field teams and humanitarian partners are in the field carrying out assessments today. Updated information on needs and response will be included tomorrow.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). The remaining six municipalities were covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps will be covered as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

Since its activation, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of over 1,200 pallets of humanitarian relief supplies via 47 trucks from the West Bank on behalf of 17 humanitarian organisations for distribution within the Gaza Strip.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at US $124 million out of a total request of $367 million (34%), of this US $96 million is for UNRWA, US $20 million for WFP and US $8 million for others, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, eleven project proposals were approved for a total of US$ 2.6 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

The CERF Secretariat is also currently reviewing a package of proposals from UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners, covering urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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The spirit of humanity shines bright in Palestine

By James W. Rawley, UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator
Published at Al-Quds newspaper in Arabic on 19 August

Today marks World Humanitarian Day, an annual occasion dedicated by the United Nations General Assembly to raising public awareness of the millions of people who risk their lives in order to provide food, water and other assistance to people in desperate need in conflicts, in natural disasters and other emergencies.

Around the world, violence against humanitarian workers is at an all-time high. The number of aid workers killed, kidnapped and seriously wounded globally has reached the highest number ever recorded. This is simply unacceptable and entirely unjustified. New research shows that in 2013, 155 aid workers were killed, 134 were kidnapped and over 170 were seriously wounded.

The recent conflict in the Gaza Strip has demonstrated, in the most tragic way, the risks that humanitarian workers take every day. In the last six weeks, at least 30 Palestinian colleagues have been killed, including 11 UNRWA personnel, 11 medical staff and eight firefighters - many in the line of duty. Seven technicians were also killed while trying to repair vital water and sanitation infrastructure. Over 70 aid workers have been injured. In addition, 98 UN premises, including schools where displaced Palestinians had sought shelter, and 58 hospitals and clinics were damaged and destroyed in the fighting – some apparently targeted.

One aid worker killed in the line of duty is one too many. Over 30 is intolerable. We must insist on accountability for those killed and injured, for the damage and destruction to schools, hospitals and other humanitarian facilities. This is a vital component of broader efforts to ensure accountability for the lives lost, homes destroyed and damage wrought during this conflict.

The men and women killed were not only our colleagues, they were also fathers and mothers, sons and daughters, trusted friends and good neighbors, all of whom were killed while pursuing the most basic human instinct: to help others in need of assistance. On World Humanitarian Day, we mourn the loss of these colleagues and commemorate their bravery, their compassion, and their commitment to humanity.

World Humanitarian Day is also about paying tribute to those among us who continue to embody this spirit of humanity. We need look no further than Palestine to see this in action.

In the past six weeks, tens of thousands of Palestinians in the Gaza Strip have opened their homes to provide shelter to others whose homes were destroyed or who fled in search of safety.

They have so generously shared their food, water and shelter – despite often being in a desperate situation themselves. We have seen Palestinians across the West Bank mobilize resources and donate much needed supplies, such as clothes, bedding, mattresses and diapers. These efforts evidence the sense of community service, of helping others, of compassion, that is so strong in Palestinian society and culture. This spirit of humanity shines bright against increasing attempts to dehumanize Palestinians and reduce them to stereotypes or nameless, faceless casualties.

As we move forward, the role of Palestinians in responding to urgent humanitarian needs generated by the conflict will continue to be critical. The scale of devastation, of death and destruction is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip. We, the United Nations and partners, remain steadfast in our commitment to helping the people of Gaza, to ensure, at this most difficult time, that they receive the help that they so desperately need. We are on the ground, scaling up our responses, providing food, water, shelter and healthcare to families across the Gaza Strip. We have appealed to the international community for an initial US$ 367 million to carry out immediate, life-saving responses related to protection, food security, health, water and sanitation as well as shelter and items such as mattresses, blankets and hygiene kits. Our efforts will continue in the weeks and months ahead.

However, these efforts can only continue if the violence stops and stops permanently. Humanitarian workers on the ground, the majority Palestinians, continue to risk their lives to deliver assistance; they face many challenges including the dangers posed by the thousands of unexploded weapons that are littered in residential and rural areas across Gaza. Just last week, three specialized Palestinian police officers, along with three other civilians, lost their lives when an unexploded weapon was accidentally detonated during efforts to remove it.

In paying tribute to our colleagues who lost their lives and to the tens of thousands of Palestinians who are working to help others affected by the devastating conflict, we must also shout loud and clear that enough is enough - that this endless cycle of violence must stop. We must demand that the parties to the conflict agree a permanent ceasefire and ensure the blockade is lifted in a manner that ensures the rights of Palestinians and addresses Israel's legitimate security concerns.

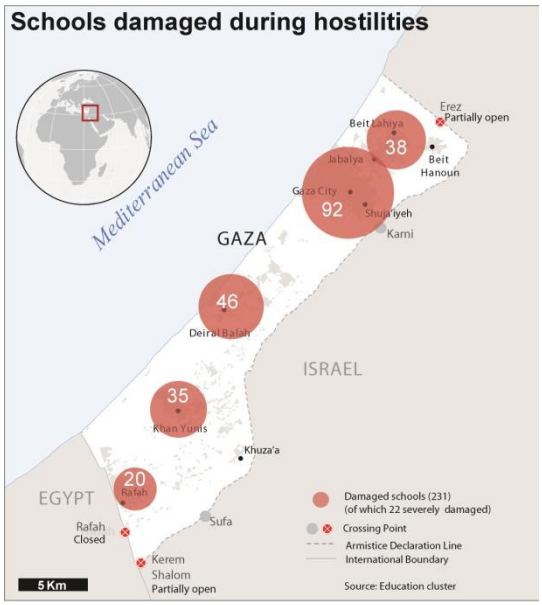
In commemorating our colleagues and the almost two thousand others who lost their lives during this conflict, we must seize the opportunity to bring about transformational change – from death and despair to hope and opportunity. We must demand that Palestinians, like Israelis, are able to live free from fear, in dignity and with equality. The spirit of humanity demands no less.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 20 August 2014, 0800 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 19 August (08:00 hrs) to 20 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 21 August.

Highlights

- Following a series of temporary ceasefires, hostilities have resumed, with rockets fired from Gaza into Israel and the Israeli military striking targets in Gaza. The Palestinian fatality toll is 1,999, of whom 1,434 have been identified as civilians, according to preliminary estimates.
- An estimated 1,000 of the 3,000 children who have been injured will suffer from a life-long disability.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has risen to more than 400,000, and is expected to increase further with the resumption of hostilities.
- There are approximately 103,000 people whose homes have been destroyed or severely damaged; UNRWA is expecting some 65,000 to 70,000 Palestinians to stay in its schools as long-term displaced.



1,999	66	+400,000	65,000	1,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,434 civilians, of whom 467 are children and 244 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, and three civilians including one foreign national.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.	Palestinians to stay in UNRWA schools as long term displaced	Children will suffer a life-long disability.

Situation Overview

A series of negotiated ceasefires, stretching over nine days in total, ended yesterday before the midnight deadline, with rockets and mortars fired from Gaza into Israel and the Israeli military striking targets in Gaza. Hostilities continued overnight and into today, resulting in additional Palestinian fatalities and property damage. There has been an increase in the number of internally displaced as Palestinians, in particular from the northern and eastern areas of Gaza, seeking a safe place in emergency shelters.

The Secretary-General condemns in the strongest terms the breach of the Egyptian brokered humanitarian ceasefire which was to expire at midnight local time. He is gravely disappointed by the return to hostilities. The Secretary-General reminds both sides of their responsibility not to let the situation escalate. The hopes of the people in Gaza for a better future and the hopes of the people in Israel for sustainable security rest on the talks in Cairo. The Secretary-General calls on the delegations to live up to this expectation and urges the parties to reach an immediate understanding on a durable ceasefire which also addresses the underlying issues afflicting Gaza.

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the Secretary-General on the situation in Gaza, 19 August 2014.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Hostilities and casualties

Twenty-two fatalities have been recorded in the reporting period, comprising 17 new deaths and five who succumbed to injuries sustained earlier. Eleven of these have been classified as civilians and the status of the others is unknown.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 1,999, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 334 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,434 are believed to be civilians, including 467 children and 244 women, and 231 members of armed groups. According to the World Health Organization, as of 17:00 on 12 August, 10,193 Palestinians, including 3,084 children, 1,970 women and 368 elderly, were injured.

The number of child fatalities exceeds the combined number of children killed in the two previous conflicts in Gaza, 350 in 2008-9 and 35 in 2012. An estimated 1,000 children injured will suffer from a disability for life, and a further 6,000 children will have a parent with a life-long disability. Based on the total number of adults killed, there may be up to 1,500 children orphaned.

The cumulative number of housing units destroyed or severely damaged (including those directly targeted or affected as collateral damage) is estimated at 17,200, nearly 270 per cent higher than the equivalent figure recorded during the "Cast Lead Operation" in 2008/9 (approx. 6,400). The number of units that sustained minor or major damage, but are still inhabitable, is estimated at 37,650.

No additional Israeli casualties were reported as a result of the renewal of rocket fire from Gaza into Israel, with most projectiles landing in open areas or intercepted in the air. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities remains at 64.

Displacement

As of yesterday afternoon, there were 238,564 IDPs hosted in 82 designated UNRWA schools, 26,085 IDPs in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA and another 10,241 in 11 government schools not assisted by UNRWA. Nearly 134,660 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various partners. However, it is anticipated that with the resumption of hostilities, more people will return to designated shelters or to host families.

Dedicated health teams have continued working in all UNRWA shelters and compile a daily health surveillance report to prevent a large scale outbreak of diseases. The report now includes 16 health issues of concern, up from an initial nine. Pending a lasting ceasefire, which will allow the UNRWA engineers to undertake shelter assessments, it is estimated that about 100,000 Palestinians have lost their homes through destruction or serious damage. Based on these figures, UNRWA is expecting some 65,000 to 70,000 Palestinian to stay in its schools as long-term displaced, and is urgently looking for donors who can support cash assistance to cover rental expenses to enable these individuals to rebuild their lives.

Infrastructure and services

Up to 15 August, at least 216 schools in Gaza, including 141 government schools, 75 UNRWA schools, and four private/kindergarten schools, were partially damaged due to Israeli airstrikes or shelling. At least 25 schools were reportedly severely damaged, to the extent that they can no longer be used. Two Israeli schools have been damaged by rocket fire from Gaza.

UNRWA estimates that 108 installations, in total, have been damaged since 8 July. Of these, 62 have been inspected by the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), with 59 installations cleared for UNRWA engineers to conduct assessments. With thousands of unexploded weapons scattered across the Gaza Strip, unexploded ordnance (UXO) is posing an increasing threat to the population. The continuing of hostilities will both delay clearance campaigns and add to the overall UXO risk.

Almost the entire population of Gaza (around 1,800,000) has been affected by the conflict and requires food and other assistance to recover. The exceptional one-off food distribution by UNRWA, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the MoSA, targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance, has so far reached around 375,000 out of a targeted 730,000. The resumption of hostilities puts food distribution activities at risk.

It is essential that the guns remain silent to allow civilians to resume the necessities of their daily lives, and to allow for increased humanitarian and early recovery efforts, addressing the manifold needs of the people in Gaza, such as urgent repairs of water and electricity networks, and finding more viable shelter for those displaced who are not able to return to their destroyed homes.

Robert Serry, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Briefing to the Security Council, 18 August 2014.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be maintained, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, began on 18 August and was completed yesterday. Information collected will be collated and analysed to determine the overall level of humanitarian needs.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza Strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours (08:00-16:00).
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares. Every child in the Gaza Strip is affected by the crisis and will require some level of psychosocial support.
- Child protection and PSS is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters and has reached 7,480 girls and 6,711 boys since 15 July; additionally they were able to reach 6,618 women and 4,314 men.
- Since 8 July, the PCDCR (Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution) has provided initial PSS to 3,860 children across the Gaza Strip, including through home and hospital visits.
- 480,000 child protection and PSS text messages have been sent to Jawal mobile phone subscribers in Gaza since 20 July.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has provided counselling to a total of 2,338 callers since 13 July.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 15,061 PSS sessions for 126,394 parents and recreational activities for 141,632children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners covering 21,213 adult IDPs and 105,859 children.
- CTCCM (Community Training Centre and Crisis Management) has been providing PSS support to other IDP sites, including in two government schools, the Orthodox Church in Gaza and al Amal Institute, reaching 221 children and 20 women.
- UNICEF, in partnership with Ma'an Development Center, is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city managed by the MoSA.

- PEDCOM is providing awareness sessions for parents, recreational activities for children, individual counselling and group sessions and capacity building of pre-school teachers on identifying and responding to psychosocial distress in young children
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS has carried out 67 risk assessments for UNRWA, UNDP and UNSCO, of which 59 UNRWA installations have been cleared.
- UNMAS is systematically delivering risk education and providing ERW awareness material to the persons working and living in the facilities where risks assessments are conducted (IDPs, Guards, etc.). UNMAS provided risk education for 26,000 people. Furthermore, more than 100 humanitarian workers in Gaza and in Jerusalem received education training on the danger of ERW.

- **Gaps and Constraints**

- Local organizations still face fuel and electricity shortages.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors.
- The number of social workers and PSS counsellors at hospitals is insufficient to meet current needs.
- UNMAS team is not able to conduct field activities until further notice due to the security situation.
- Displaced children and their families hosted with community members remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 17,200 families (consisting of approximately 103,200 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,635 families (33,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 32,400 families (an estimated 194,400 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 238,564 people are being provided with shelter in 82 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 26,085 individuals are sheltered in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA, and another 10,241 in 11 government schools. Nearly 134,660 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.
- Shelter and WASH partners have provided household NFIs to 53,250families and hygiene NFIs to 77,043families since the beginning of the emergency.
- In addition, Secours Islamique France (SIF) has distributed additional 500 kitchen household NFIs, 635 hygiene kits and 1,300 blankets.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 70 million is needed for 17,200 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 6,435 displaced families.
- 25,665 family hygiene kits are needed for IDPs with host families and in UNRWA and government shelters.
- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 33,400 families (approximately 200,400 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Updates to this section will be provided on Friday, 22 August.

Health and Nutrition

Updates to this section will be provided on Friday, 22 August.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- An estimated 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Families relying on agricultural-related livelihoods need food, other immediate assistance and support in re-establishing their sources of income. New equipment for 3,600 fishers should be provided in order to re-establish their livelihood.
- Approximately 55,000 livestock heads are in need of animal feed and water tanks in order to avoid further loss of livestock and additional erosion of productive assets.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be maintained.

Response

- The regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing. The ceasefire has allowed for safer and more efficient delivery of food parcels.
- In addition, 375,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- Lack of a proper mechanism to identify the most vulnerable groups relying on agricultural-related livelihoods and being heavily affected by the conflict.
- Delays at crossings complicate food delivery.
- Electricity shortages limit the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- According to field damage assessment, a total of 216 schools (141 government and 75 UNRWA schools) affected by shelling are in need of repair, including 25 severely damaged requiring reconstruction.[2]
- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start on 24 August.
- A lasting ceasefire is urgently needed to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year.

Response

- The Education Cluster is coordinating with MoEHE and UNRWA regarding the new school year, and is engaged in ongoing assessments.
- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on psychosocial support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- The need for longer-term shelter for tens of thousands of IDPs will present significant challenges to the operation of schools currently being used as shelters.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- Storekeepers and logistics assistants have been hired locally to support the staging areas secured by the Logistics Cluster in the West Bank and the common warehouses in the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster has made five staging areas in Jerusalem, Hebron, Ashqelon, Ramallah and Nablus available for the humanitarian community.
- On the 18 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 365 pallets of food, shelter and WASH supplies into the Gaza Strip on behalf of humanitarian organizations, including CHF and PARC.
- On the 18 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of almost 300 pallets of humanitarian relief items including more than 190 pallets of water, on behalf of the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) for distribution within the Gaza Strip.
- Since activation, the Logistics Cluster has supported 24 humanitarian organisations including OXFAM and CHF International, and facilitated the transportation of over 1,750 pallets of humanitarian relief.

Gaps and Constraints

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip.

  The Logistics Cluster is liaising with relevant authorities to ease the cargo bottlenecks and improve cargo prioritisation procedures causing delays at the border crossing points of Betunia and Tarqumia from the West Bank into Israel.

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[2] UNRWA has revised its damaged schools estimate from 90 to 75 buildings. The change was in part due to many schools operating in double shifts under different names.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). The remaining six municipalities were covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps will be covered as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

Since its activation, the Logistics Cluster has facilitated the transportation of over 1,200 pallets of humanitarian relief supplies via 47 trucks from the West Bank on behalf of 17 humanitarian organisations for distribution within the Gaza Strip.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at US $124 million out of a total request of US $367 million (34 per cent), of this US $96 million is for UNRWA, US $20 million for WFP and US $8 million for others, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, thirteen project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs, and the request is under processing by CERF.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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For more information, please visit www.ochaopt.org

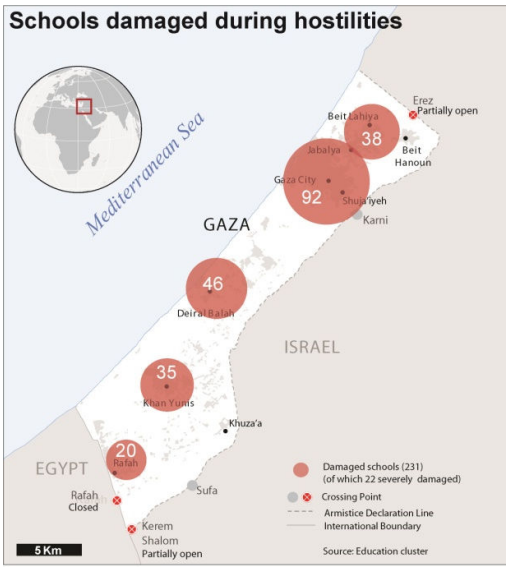
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 21 August 2014, 08:00 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 20 August (08:00 hrs) to 21 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 22 August.

Highlights

- Hostilities have continued, resulting in additional Palestinian casualties. The Palestinian fatality toll is now 2,030, of whom 1,444 have been identified as civilians, according to preliminary estimates.
- An estimated 1,000 of the 3,000 children who have been injured will suffer from a life-long disability.
- Since 7 July, at least 140 Palestinian families in Gaza have had three or more members killed in the same incident, for a total of 735 fatalities.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has risen to 435,000, and is expected to increase further with the resumption of hostilities.
- Latest development: 17:00 UNRWA is reporting an additional 23,000 IDPs seeking shelter in its schools and the seven PA schools which it supports.



2,030	66	140	1,000	435,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,444 civilians, of whom 475 are children and 246 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers and two civilians. One foreign national also killed.	Families in Gaza have lost at least three or more members in the same incident, totaling 735 fatalities.	Children will suffer a life-long disability.	People hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.

Situation Overview

Hostilities have continued during the reporting period, resulting in additional Palestinian casualties and property damage and a significant rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs.) Little movement or economic activity is reported because of the pervasive insecurity. Access restrictions to the sea, which were partially lifted on 17 August to three nautical miles (NM) from the Gaza shore, have been reinstated, with all fishing again prohibited.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, at least 31 persons, many of whose status still needs to be verified, have reportedly been killed. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 2,030, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 351 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,444 are believed to be civilians, including 475 children and 246 women, and 235 members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20 August, 10,224 Palestinians, including 3,106 children and 1,970 women and 368 elderly, were injured.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

The number of child fatalities exceeds the combined number of children killed in the two previous conflicts in Gaza, 350 in 2008-9 and 35 in 2012. An estimated 1,000 children injured will suffer from a disability for life, and a further 6,000 children will have a parent with a life-long disability. Based on the total number of adults killed, there may be up to 1,500 children orphaned. It is estimated that at least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support and that every child in the Gaza Strip is affected by the crisis and will require some level of psychosocial support.

We ran away from ash Shuja'iyeh at midnight. We saw our home being destroyed. I was crying because we have memories and dreams there. I am afraid they may bomb us. We are now in my grandfather`s house. I cannot live, I only feel pain. My memories, pictures, clothes, toys… everything is gone.

A 12-year-old girl to the Sawa Child Protection Helpline, which has provided counselling to over 2,300 callers since 13 July.

During the reporting period, at least 26 houses were totally destroyed in Israeli air strikes. In the majority of cases the targeted houses had already been evacuated, but surrounding houses were severely damaged or destroyed. Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, over a thousand homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 17,200 housing units have been totally destroyed or severely damaged during Israeli air strikes and shelling from 7 July to 20 August. Human rights organizations have expressed serious concerns regarding incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians, in violation of the principle of distinction.

Of particular concern is the alarming number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. As of 20 August, at least 140 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 735 civilian fatalities. A number of such incidents have been recorded since the resumption of hostilities in the afternoon of 19 August:

- At approximately 21:30 on 19 August 2014, Israeli planes attacked a three-storey house belonging to Rabah Shihda al-Dalu, in Sheikh Radwan, northwest of Gaza City. According to Israeli media, the target was Mohammed al-Deif, the Head of the Hamas military wing, and the ordnance used consisted of five one-ton bombs. The house was completely destroyed, four neighbouring houses were extensively damaged, as were the building and vehicles of a local transportation company. It is unclear if Al-Deif was killed, but his wife, son, daughter, and another woman and her two sons were killed. Fifteen others were injured. The body of Al-Deif's daughter was recovered today.

- At approximately 04:50 on 20 August, an Israeli plane launched a missile at a house in Deir al-Balah belonging to Mustafa Mohammed al-Louh. The house and a neighboring house belonging to the owner's son were destroyed, and seven members of the family were killed; three men; the pregnant wife of one; and their children. Another family member, a 17-year-old girl died of her wounds today.

- At approximately 02:30 today, 21 August, Israeli aircraft fired missiles at the house of Nasser Kellab, west of the town or Rafah. The targets were three senior Hamas commanders who were killed, as were another five persons, including children; bodies are still being recovered. Two people were also killed in a neighbouring house.

No additional Israeli casualties were reported as a result of the renewal of rocket and mortar fire from Gaza into Israel, with most projectiles landing in open areas or intercepted in the air. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities remains at 64.

Displacement

As of yesterday afternoon, there were 261,341 IDPs hosted in 82 designated UNRWA schools, up from 238,564 the previous day. Another 29,030 IDPs were hosted in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA, up from 26,085 the previous day. There is no update available on the 10,241 IDPS in 11 government schools not assisted by UNRWA or the 134,660 IDPs residing with host families, who have been registered and reached by various partners. However, it is anticipated that with the resumption of hostilities, these numbers are also rising and that more people will return to designated shelters or to host families in the absence of another ceasefire agreement. There is a need to open additional shelters in government schools, particularly in Gaza city.

Given the length of hostilities and the large numbers of IDPs overcrowding is a growing concern. It is estimated that over 100,000 Palestinians have lost their homes through destruction or serious damage. Based on these figures, UNRWA is

expecting some 65,000 to 70,000 Palestinians to stay in its schools as long-term displaced, and is urgently looking for donors who can support cash assistance to cover rental expenses to enable these individuals to rebuild their lives.

The new school year was scheduled to start on 24 August, with UNRWA expecting an enrollment of over 235,000 students in its schools, but a return to formal education is currently impossible. In line with global education practices and building on its experiences in Gaza and Syria whilst making use of pre-existing structures, such as the UNRWA TV and the Integrated Learning Programme, UNRWA will put into practice an alternative education system. The UNRWA education infrastructure has been severely damaged and requires extensive rehabilitation and refurbishment of all school buildings. Schools currently used as shelters will require varying degrees of rehabilitation in order to be ready for normal schooling, at least some three weeks subsequent to the clearance of unexploded ordnance through UNMAS and IDPs moving out of the schools.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be ensured, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, began on 18 August and was completed yesterday. Information collected will be collated and analysed to determine the overall level of humanitarian needs.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs in non-UNRWA facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza Strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours (08:00-16:00).
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Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00.

Humanitarian needs and response

Updated information on needs and response will be included tomorrow.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). The remaining six municipalities were covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps will be covered as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analysed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at US $176 million out of a total request of US $367 million (48%), however, of this around US $148 million is for UNRWA, US $20 million for WFP and only US $8 million for others, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza

emergency. To date, thirteen project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs, and the request is under processing by CERF.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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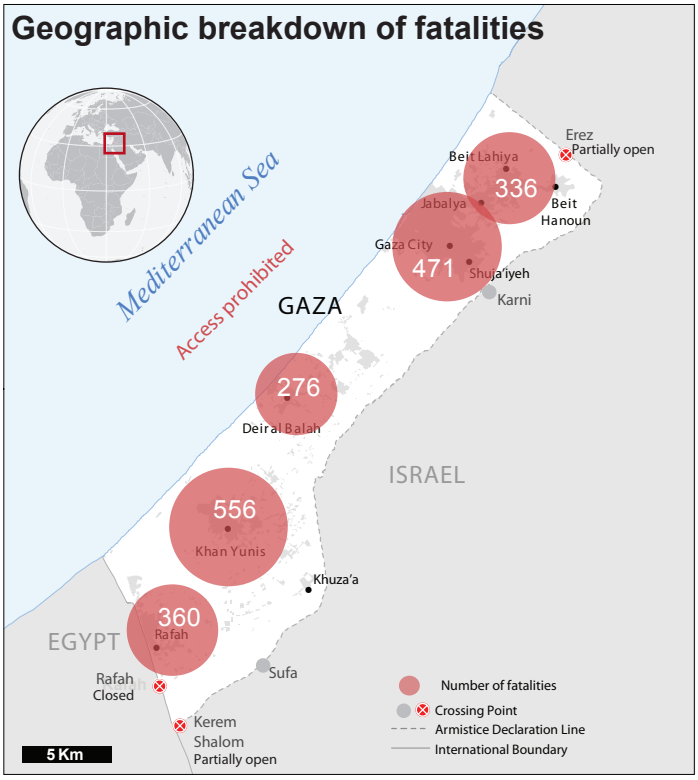
For more information, please visit www.ochaopt.org

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 20 August 2014, 8:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatalities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

10,193* Injured, 3,084 children, 1,970 women, 368 elderly

400,000* Displaced in UNRWA, government shelters & with host families

1,000 Children will suffer a life-long disability

6 hours of electricity per day on average

Situation Overview

A series of negotiated ceasefires, stretching over nine days in total, ended on 19 August before the midnight deadline. Hostilities continued overnight and into today, resulting in additional Palestinian fatalities and property damage. There has been an increase in the number of internally displaced as Palestinians, in particular from the northern and eastern areas of Gaza, seeking a safe place in emergency shelters.

Twenty-two fatalities have been recorded in the reporting period, comprising 17 new deaths and five who succumbed to injuries sustained earlier. Eleven of these have been classified as civilians and the status of the others is unknown.

The number of child fatalities exceeds the combined number of children killed in the two previous conflicts in Gaza, 350 in 2008-9 and 35 in 2012. An estimated 1,000 children injured will suffer from a disability for life, and a further 6,000 children will have a parent with a life-long disability. Based on the total number of adults killed, there may be up to 1,500 children orphaned.

Dedicated health teams have continued working in all UNRWA shelters and compile a daily health surveillance report to prevent a large scale outbreak of diseases. The report now includes 16 health issues of concern, up from an initial nine.

Damaged structures

216 schools damaged

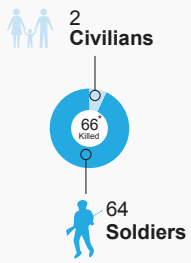
17,200 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

58 hospitals and clinics have been damaged

37,650 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

Israeli Fatalities

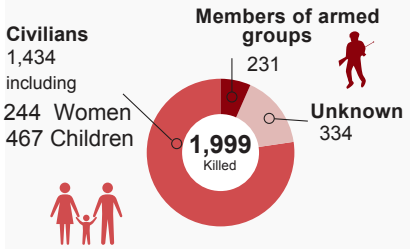
Fatalities by status



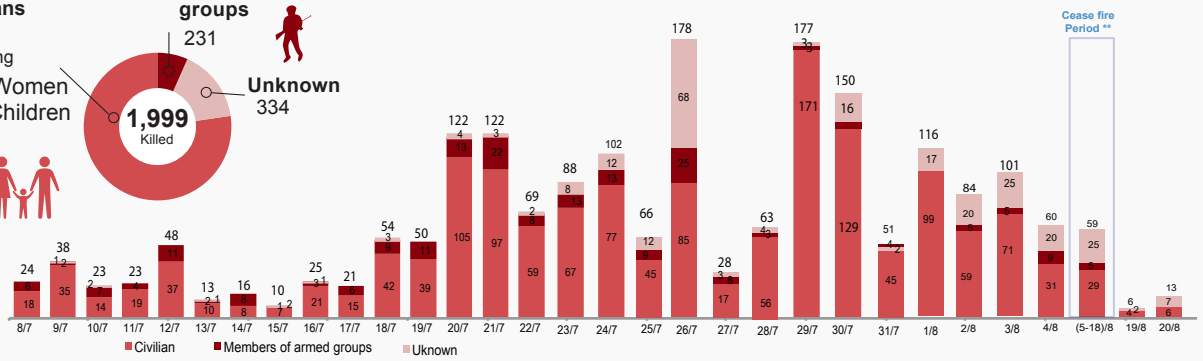
* 1 foreign civilian national was also killed in Israel

Palestinian Fatalities *

Fatalities by status



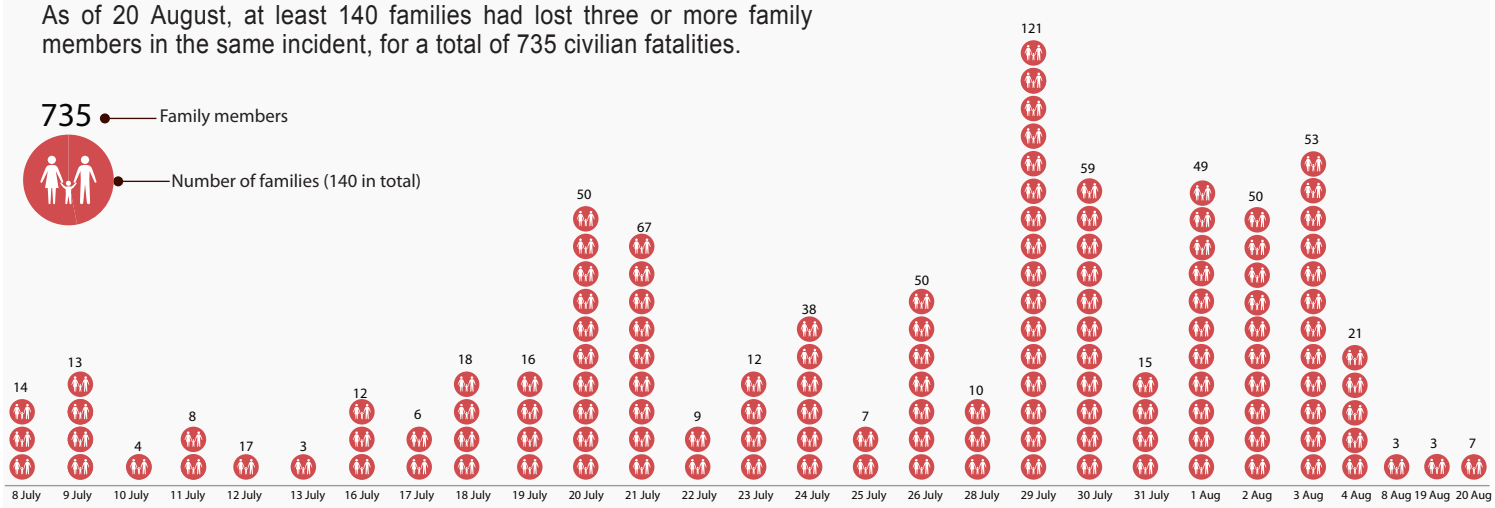
Fatalities by date



** With exception of one day (8 Aug.), between 5 and 18 August, there were series of temporary ceasefires.

Family-specific Fatalities

As of 20 August, at least 140 families had lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 735 civilian fatalities.



Creation date: 21 August 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications. As of 20 August, UNRWA was providing shelter to 238,564 persons in 82 shelters. Number of injuries, as of August 17 (17:00) : Ministry of Health.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 22 August 2014, 08:00 hrs)

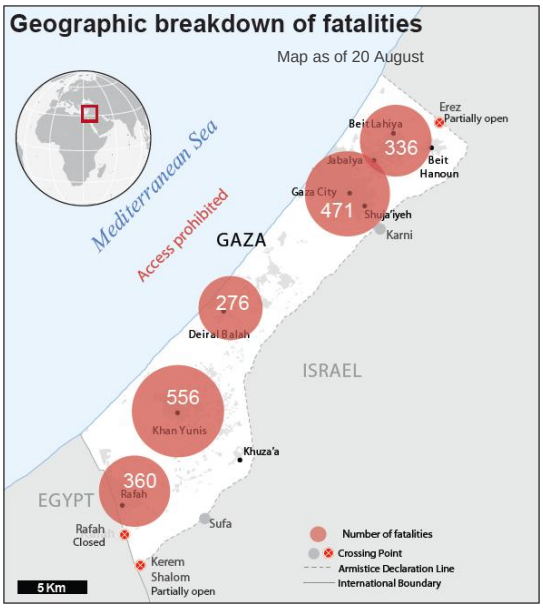
OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 21 August (08:00 hrs) to 22 August (08:00 hrs).

Note: There will be no situation reports on 23 or 24 August. The next report will be issued on 25 August.

Highlights

- Hostilities have continued, resulting in additional Palestinian casualties. The Palestinian fatality toll is now 2,042 of whom 1,444 have been identified as civilians, according to preliminary estimates.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has risen to 460,000, more than a quarter of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza. 280,000 are taking shelter in UNRWA schools.
- Since 7 July, at least 140 Palestinian families in Gaza have had three or more members killed in the same incident, for a total of 735 fatalities.



Latest development:

- It is reported that as many as 18 Palestinians, suspected of collaborating with Israel, were killed by Hamas on Friday.
- UNRWA expects to have about 292,000 persons in their shelters tonight, and to exceed 300,000 soon.
- A child in Israel has been reportedly killed by a mortar shell fired from Gaza.

2,042	66	140	460,000	60-70%
Palestinians killed, including 1,444 civilians, of whom 478 are children and 246 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers and two civilians. One foreign national also killed in Israel.	Families in Gaza have lost at least three or more members in the same incident, totaling 735 fatalities.	People hosted at UNRWA (280,000), government shelters and with host families.	Of the water network supplying Gaza city is now reported to be functioning.

Situation Overview

Hostilities have continued during the reporting period resulting in additional Palestinian casualties. Little movement or economic activity is reported because of the pervasive insecurity, and while core and emergency operations continue, staff movement has been put on hold or reduced to a minimum. UNRWA reports that many staff in its health centers, which serve both the refugee and non-refugee population, could not reach their workplaces, and that four of its 12 distribution centers closed yesterday, impacting the ongoing UNRWA/WFP exceptional food distribution.

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) continues to rise, with at least 460,000 persons – more than a quarter of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza – now displaced. Some 83 out of UNRWA's 156 school buildings are currently serving

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

as emergency shelters and, for safety reasons, all are located west of the former Israeli imposed "buffer zone", encompassing some 44 per cent of the Gaza Strip. However, since the resumption of hostilities on 19 August, airstrikes have been increasingly directed towards targets in the west of the Gaza Strip, increasing the risk to those displaced sheltering in UNRWA schools. If airstrikes to the west of the former buffer zone continue, UNRWA will have to consider opening emergency shelters in installations which have been cleared of unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the former buffer zone and may have to potentially relocate some of the displaced. UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start this coming Sunday.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, at least 12 persons, many of whose status still needs to be verified, have reportedly been killed, including one two-month-old baby who reportedly died from the consequences of gas inhalation in Rafah on 23 July. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 2,042, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 359 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,444 are believed to be civilians, including 478 children and 246 women, and 239 members of armed groups. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20 August, 10,224 Palestinians, including 3,106 children and 1,970 women and 368 elderly, were injured.

During the reporting period, at least 16 houses were totally destroyed in Israeli air strikes. In the majority of cases the targeted houses had already been evacuated, but surrounding houses were also severely damaged or destroyed. Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, over a thousand homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 17,200 housing units have been totally destroyed or severely damaged during Israeli air strikes and shelling from 7 July to 20 August. Human rights organizations have expressed serious concerns regarding incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians, in violation of the principle of distinction.

Of particular concern is the alarming number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. As of 20 August, at least 140 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 735 civilian fatalities.

Among the most serious incidents recorded during the reporting period:

- At approximately 09:30 on 21 August, an Israeli plane fired a missile at an agricultural plot belonging to the Al Reefi family, to the north of Gaza City. Five family members were killed, including three children, aged four, six and 13, and four were injured, including two children.
- At approximately 11:20 on 21 August, an airstrike hit a group of workers as they were digging new graves in the Al Sheikh Radwan cemetery in the north of Gaza City. Four of the workers were killed and a fifth was critically injured.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued. Most fell in open areas or were intercepted by the Iron Dome system but one Israeli man was wounded by mortar shrapnel on Thursday. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities remains at 64.

Displacement

As of yesterday afternoon, there were 279,389 IDPs hosted in 83 designated UNRWA schools, up from 261,341 the previous day. Another 34,602 IDPs were hosted in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA, up from 29,030 the previous day. There is no update available on the 10,241 IDPS in 11 government schools managed by MoSA . 137,411 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various partners. In addition, an estimated several thousand IDPs are taking shelter in public buildings and informal shelters. However, it is anticipated that with the resumption of hostilities, these numbers are also rising and that there may be a need to open additional shelters in government schools, particularly in Gaza city.

Given the length of hostilities and the large numbers of IDPs overcrowding, adequate protection and hygiene are growing concerns. UNRWA has completed an assessment of all sources of non-potable water to the shelters. All networks and wells providing water to the schools have been repaired, and all designated emergency shelters are connected either to a municipality network, to a water well, or to both. However, these sources do not provide sufficient amounts of water for the displaced. In the Rafah and Gaza governorates, the municipality network provides water to the shelters every two days for two hours at a time. In the Khan Yunis governorate water is supplied every three days for 1.5 hours. In the North and Middle Area, shelters receive municipality water on a daily basis.

However, even if they have access to adequate quantities of water, IDPs in host families and shelters may continue to face difficulties with proper hygiene. It is reported that women are frequently very uncomfortable and embarrassed with the lack of privacy. In addition to showers installed in the Arabic toilets in all its emergency shelters, UNRWA has started to put into practice more permanent solutions to improve hygiene. In Khan Yunis, two bathing areas have been established in each shelter where women and children can use bucket showers. An additional eight will be established for men. Currently, UNRWA is planning to start building external showers starting with the 16 designated emergency shelters that were identified to continue as long-term shelters for displaced who have no home to return to.

The number of IDPs seeking shelter in UNRWA installations as a result of the conduct of hostilities is unprecedented in UNRWA's history. … The anxiety, the stress caused by the constant shelling, the loss of loved ones and homes, as well as the overall lack of perspective for a life in Gaza contribute to increasing tensions in the overcrowded shelters.

UNRWA Gaza Situation Report, 21 August 2014.

Update on Services

Food

Although the Gaza Strip must imports most of what is consumed, locally- produced food represents an important source of nutritious and affordable food, with some 28,600 households relying on farming (19,000 households), livestock raising (6,000) and fishing (3,600) for their livelihoods.The UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimate that the recent hostilities have forced farmers and herders to abandon their lands, and resulted in substantial direct damage to Gaza's 17,000 hectares of croplands as well as much of its agricultural infrastructure, including greenhouses, irrigation systems, animal farms, fodder stocks and fishing boats. The poultry sector has been particularly affected, with half of Gaza's poultry (broilers and layers) killed as a result of direct damage or because of restrictions on tending and feeding them. Lack of electricity is affecting the storage capacity of fresh food for shops and households. Access restrictions to the sea, which were partially lifted on 17 August to three nautical miles (NM) from the Gaza shore, were reinstated again yesterday, with all fishing again prohibited.

The crisis has worsened an already extremely fragile environment in terms of food security and livelihoods. Around 66 per cent of the population of Gaza was receiving food assistance prior to this crisis and the household food insecurity level or vulnerable to food insecure stood at 72 per cent of households. An exceptional one-off food distribution by UNRWA, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), targeting families who do not regularly receive food assistance, is continuing with 415, 000 out of a targeted 730,000 people now reached. This complements the standard food assistance to 1,150,000 people provided by UNRWA and WFP in collaboration with their partners.

WASH

During the ceasefire, the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility CMWU was able to conduct temporary repairs to water and sanitation networks. The repairs concentrated on densely populated areas and reached an approximate coverage of eighty per cent for emergency access to water supply. An average 60 – 70 per cent of the network supplying Gaza city is now reported to be functioning.

However, preliminary findings from some communities interviewed during the joint rapid needs assessment revealed that water services, which are being delivered by municipalities are not always reaching the affected communities despite the best efforts. This is most likely due to hidden damages and frequent power cuts interrupting network pressure. For instance, in the Ash Shuja'iyeh neighborhood, one carrier line that was not classified as damaged was found filled with mud and debris. Although water was being pumped into the system, households along the street were not receiving any water. The eastern part of the area is receiving one to two hours of water every other day, while the western part is receiving two to three hours every other day. In areas with a severe level of destruction, sections of pipelines have been closed in order to secure a minimum pressure in the network. However, with the restarting of hostilities, repairs and assessments have again stalled.

It remains my conviction that we must not leave Gaza in the condition it was in before this latest escalation. Otherwise, the restrictions on the Strip – on exit and entry of goods and people – will continue to fuel instability, underdevelopment and conflict, and I am afraid the next escalation will be just a matter of time

Robert Serry, UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Briefing to the Security Council, 18 August 2014.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Protection of civilians: an immediate ceasefire is needed to protect civilians. While hostilities persist, all sides must respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack.

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be ensured, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, took place on 18 and 19 August. Information collected is being analysed to determine the overall level of humanitarian needs.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs across facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza Strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

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Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares. Every child in the Gaza Strip is affected by the crisis and will require some level of psychosocial support.
- There is an urgent need to strengthen preventative measures to protect women and children against different forms of violence while they are displaced in overcrowded shelters and host families.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- CPWG partners are providing PSS interventions in shelters and in host families.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS interventions through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters.
- UNICEF has reached 550,000 people in Gaza with life-saving and child protection SMS text messages, targeting the most vulnerable communities in Gaza.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has so far taken more than 200,000 calls.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 16,084 PSS sessions for 134,819 parents and recreational activities for 151,665 children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners covering 27,780 adult IDPs and 110,292 children.
- UNICEF, in partnership with Ma'an Development Center, is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in six shelters in Gaza city managed by the MoSA.
- Overall, fifty UNICEF psychologists are providing counseling to 3,000 children.

- PEDCOM is providing awareness sessions for parents, recreational activities for children, individual counseling and group sessions and capacity building of pre-school teachers on identifying and responding to PSS distress in young children.
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS is undertaking risk assessments in 5 governorates, and mainly for UNRWA installations. Clearance operations are being conducted by EOD police.
- UNMAS and child protection partners are also conducting Risk awareness/education, including to humanitarian workers and UNRWA staff.

Gaps and Constraints

- UNMAS is limited to conducting emergency responses;
- GBV needs assessment cannot be undertaken until the security situation improves.
- Local organizations are in great need of fuel and electricity to be able to continue conducting their interventions.
- Children and families are in desperate need of core child protection support and information, including psychosocial support; however the ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency psychosocial teams.
- Major electricity outages (two hours electricity a day) continue to hamper communication with staff and partners on the ground. Most child protection services remain closed.
- Children and families hosted in the community and in private schools remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 17,200 families (consisting of approximately 103,200 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,635 families (33,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 32,400 families (an estimated 194,400 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 279,389 people are being provided with shelter in 83 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 34,604 individuals are sheltered in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. There is no update available on the 10,241 in 11 government schools and then early 115,000 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various shelter partners.
- Shelter and WASH partners have provided household NFIs to 54,385 families and hygiene NFIs to 85,530 families since the beginning of the emergency. Standard household NFI kits include two mattresses and four blankets. Sometimes kitchen sets are also included, IDPs residing in shelter do not normally receive kitchen sets since there is no available capacity to cook. Such items are normally distributed to either IDPs with hosting families or those residing in damaged, but still inhabitable houses. Standard hygiene NFI kits usually include soap, shampoos, toothpaste, tooth brushes, towels, tissues paper and basic cleaning supplies.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 70 million is needed for 17,200 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 22,556 displaced families.
- 28,992 family hygiene kits are needed for IDPs with host families and in UNRWA and government shelters.

- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 32,400 families (approximately 194,400 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Drinking water has to be supplied separately from the municipal network, as the latter is not potable.
- IDPs at host families lack sufficient sanitary facilities, affecting mostly women.
- Some of the water network was damaged in the fighting and needs to be repaired.
- Hidden damages to WASH infrastructure still need to be discovered.

Response

- During the ceasefire, water service providers conducted temporary repairs to water and sanitation networks, mostly in densely populated areas, reaching an approximate coverage of 80 per cent for emergency access to water supply.
- In areas with a severe level of destruction, sections of pipelines were closed in order to secure a minimum pressure in the network.
- CMWU continues to provide for all possible repairs and refurbishment of repairable facilities.
- Support to network and facilities repair provided to CMWU/service providers through ICRC, UNRWA, UNICEF, Oxfam GB and Ma'an Development Center to address urgent damage to the system; Save the Children also plans to provide support to repairs in North Gaza.
- PWA and CMWU have issued damage assessment reports and are currently formulating figures in terms of impact on population.
- Tankering of Drinking water to different areas and shelters across Gaza Strip continues through a number of partners including UNRWA, Oxfam GB, UNICEF with GVC and PHG, ANERA, PU and PARC.
- A total of nine public distribution points (bladders) each 5 m3 have been installed in Khan Yunis and Gaza city by UNICEF and Mercy Corps. An additional 2,299 water tanks each 1.5 m3 have been installed as filling points or distributed to effected families by several organizations.
- Over 250,000 litres of bottled water were distributed by ANERA, CHF and PARC.
- An Emergency Water Tankering Working Group, led by the Palestinian Water Authority has been established and PWA drafted a "Quality Standards for Drinking Water in Emergencies" tip sheet. This will help regulate the distribution process and control the prices.
- During the past week, the Municipality of Gaza collected over 1,800 tons of solid wastes off the streets and managed to access the main landfill in Juhor Ad Dik.
- MoLG has continued to spray a number of sites with pesticides as a vector control measure.
- 13,000 families have been reached by UNICEF through the WFP e-voucher system and have received basic hygiene items.
- Over 5,830 jerry cans have been distributed by a number of partners including UNICEF, GVC and PARC.

Gaps and Constraints

- The resumption of hostilities has stalled repairs and assessments as lack of security restricts movement and access.
- Lack of electricity and fuel is also a restricting factor.
- There are shortages in financial resources, water trucks, generators, storage, pumps and management capacity.

Health and Nutrition

Updates to this section will be provided on Monday, 25 August.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- An estimated 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Families relying on agricultural-related livelihoods need food, other immediate assistance and support in re-establishing their sources of income. An early recovery to re-establish their livelihoods and production capacity is required.
- Restock with animal vaccination against FMD, Brucellosis, Chlamydia and Sheep pox are needed for 64,000 head of small ruminants and 20,000 head of cattle.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be consistently assured.

Response

- Despite ongoing hostilities, the regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing.
- In addition, 415,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- The ongoing military activity is putting food distribution and other humanitarian activities at risk.
- There is a lack of a proper mechanism to identify the most vulnerable groups relying on agricultural-related livelihoods and being heavily affected by the conflict.
- A lack of successful coordination at crossings complicates food delivery.
- Electricity shortages are affecting the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- According to field damage assessment, a total of 216 schools (141 government and 75 UNRWA schools) affected by shelling are in need of repair, including 22 completely destroyed.[2]
- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start this coming Sunday.
- A lasting ceasefire is urgently needed to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year.

Response

- The Education Cluster is coordinating with MoEHE and UNRWA regarding the new school year, and is engaged in ongoing assessments.
- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on PSS support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- The need for longer-term shelter for tens of thousands of IDPs will present significant challenges to the operation of schools currently being used as shelters.

Logistics

Updates to this section will be provided on Monday, 25 August.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). The remaining six municipalities were covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps will be covered as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analyzed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at US $176 million out of a total request of US $367 million (48%), however, of this around US $148 million is for UNRWA, US $20 million for WFP and only US $8 million for others, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, thirteen project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

[2] UNRWA has revised its damaged schools estimate from 90 to 75 buildings. The change was in part due to many schools operating in double shifts under different names.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs, and the request is under processing by CERF.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

REPORTING PERIOD: 12 - 18 AUGUST 2014

Key issues

- 139 injured in clashes, mainly during protests against Israeli military operations in Gaza.
- Four demolitions executed on 18 August.
- **Gaza Crisis:** for daily reports and updates on the Gaza emergency see: http://www.ochaopt.org/content.aspx?id=1010361

WEST BANK

139 Palestinian injuries, bringing the total to 2,139 since the Gaza military operation began

During the week, Israeli forces injured at least 139 Palestinians, including 29 children and three women. One member of Israeli forces was injured. The use of live ammunition accounted for approximately 27 per cent (37 out of 139) of all Palestinians injuries, compared to 80 per cent of all injuries during the previous week, with the majority of the remainder injured by rubber and metal-coated rubber bullets, or treated due to tear gas inhalation. Nearly 82 per cent of the injuries occurred in the context of clashes during continued protests against the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip. Nine injuries occurred in the context of search and arrest operations.

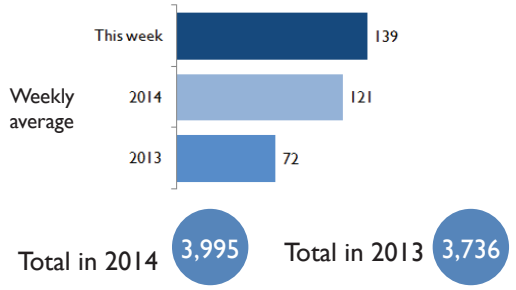
The incident resulting in the largest number of injuries took place on 15 August, at Bab Az Zaweya in Hebron, where a total of 45 Palestinians, including seven children, were injured, 29 by live ammunition. On the same day in Nablus, 29 Palestinians, including five children, were injured in clashes at the Beit Furik checkpoint, four with live ammunition. An additional 29 Palestinians, including six children, were injured near Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem this week, nine by rubber-coated metal bullets including a 21-year-old who sustained a serious injury in the head.

Since the beginning of the Israeli military operation in Gaza, Israeli forces have killed two children and injured 322 other children across the West Bank, including 136 injured by live ammunition. The vast majority of injuries were incurred in the governorates of Hebron (130), Jerusalem (39) and Nablus (36).

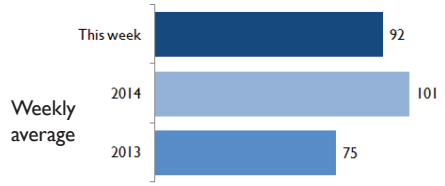
Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	0
In 2014 (to date):	38
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces



Settler-related incidents: Bracha settlers' attacks on Palestinians continue

Six incidents of settler violence were recorded this week, in two cases, resulting in damage to property. This brings the total number of settler-related incidents resulting in casualties and property damage to 237 in 2014. Additionally, there were three incidents resulting in injuries or property damage to settlers.

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Coordination Saves Lives

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Incidents this week involved settlers opening fire with live ammunition and vandalism in Burin (Nablus), and stoning Palestinian pedestrians and vehicles in East Jerusalem and Ramallah city. In one incident, on 17 August, settlers reportedly prevented Palestinian farmers from Hussan (Bethlehem) from reaching their land.

Similar to last week, two of this week's incidents involved Israeli settlers from the Bracha settlement (Nablus). On 11 August, a group from this settlement entered the Palestinian village of Burin. Palestinians began to throw stones and the settlers responded by firing live ammunition. Later, Israeli forces intervened and fired rubber bullets and gas canisters at Palestinians causing several injuries. Also on 16 August, a group of Bracha settlers entered the village of Burin and destroyed street lamps that were newly installed by the village council, giving rise to clashes between settlers and Palestinian civilians. Israeli forces intervened by firing tear gas canisters and rubber bullets at both Palestinians and settlers. No injuries were reported.

In his report to the Human Rights Council of 12 February 2014, the Secretary-General noted that ''attacks by settlers have occurred repeatedly in the same areas and often at the same times of year, raising concerns about the effectiveness of action by the Israeli authorities to prevent such violence. For example, Palestinian residents of Burin and neighboring villages in the Nablus governorate have repeatedly faced attacks on their person and property by settlers from the nearby Yitzhar and Bracha settlements.''[1]

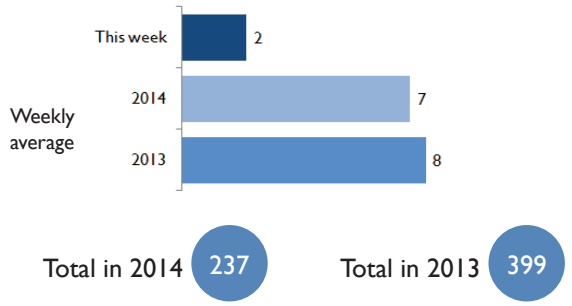
During the week, two incidents of land leveling of private Palestinian-owned land as well as 'State' land, for the benefit of settlements, were recorded in the governorate of Nablus.

In Nablus, on 11 August, Israeli bulldozers leveled land south of Qusra village for expanding Esh Kodesh outpost, and in the second instance in the last 40 days, leveled agricultural land east of the village of Burin, near the outpost of Giva'at Ronin and the settlement of Bracha.

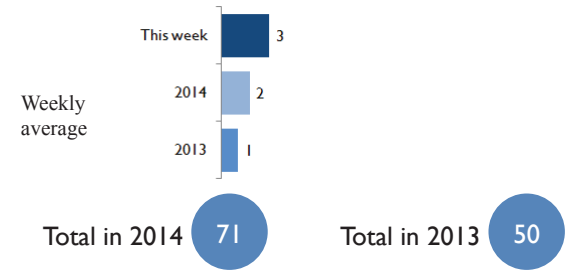
During the reporting period, two settlers were injured. According to Israeli media, on 15 August, a settler was injured as a result of the stoning of his car near Halhul (Hebron). The following day, a settler traveling near Husan (Bethlehem) was reportedly injured by stones and a Molotov cocktail thrown at his vehicle. Following the incident, Israeli

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



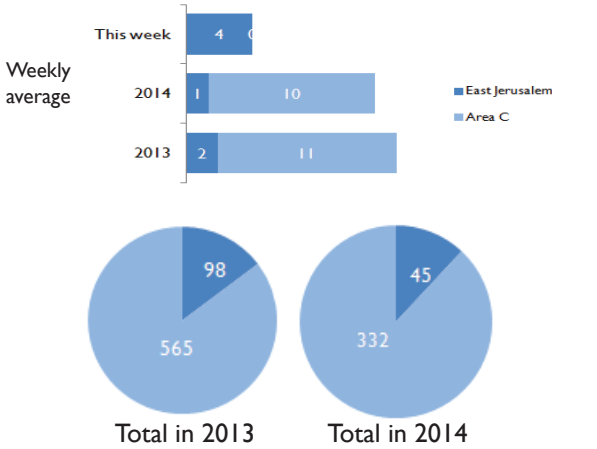
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



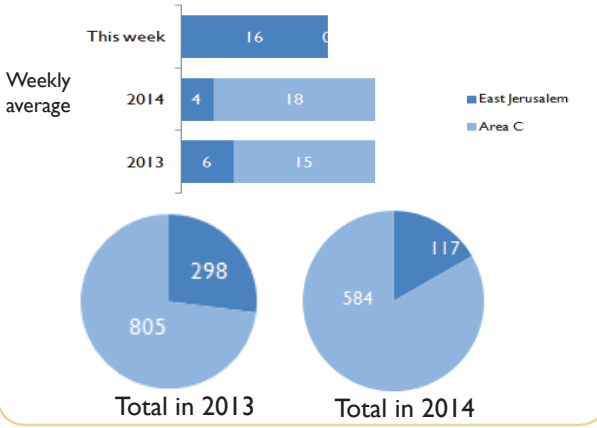
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



1. Report of the Secretary General to the Human Rights Council, 12 February 2014, A/HRC/25/38, para 42

forces carried out search and arrest operations in the village. Israeli media also reported property damage to the house of a settler in East Jerusalem by a molotov cocktail, on 14 August.

Israel demolishes four structures including the homes of two suspects in Hebron

During the week, a total of six structures (three residential) were demolished in Hebron, Bethlehem and East Jerusalem, all on 18 August. In total, 34 people including 20 children, were displaced and 10 otherwise affected. The demolition of two of the structures was implemented as punitive measures by the Israeli military, and the other two due to lack of Israeli-issued building permits.

The Israeli military carried out punitive demolitions of two houses and sealed a third house, belonging to three Palestinians in Hebron, suspected of abducting and killing three Israeli youths in June 2014. As a result, 18 people, including 9 children, were displaced. On June 30, and prior to the demolition of the aforementioned homes, Israeli forces had evacuated the families of two of the suspects from their apartments and conducted explosions, rendering the apartments uninhabitable. A total of 21 people were displaced due to the explosions of 30 June as well as the demolitions of 18 August. The demolitions follow a rejection by the Israeli High Court of Justice of petitions against this punitive action on 11 August. Of note, two of the suspects are still to be located and have not been charged or tried in a court of law.

Since occupying the West Bank, the Israeli army has demolished hundreds of houses as punitive measures against Palestinians who carried out attacks against Israelis, or who were suspected of involvement in such attacks. In 2005, the Israeli authorities officially suspended the policy of punitive demolitions following the recommendations of a military commission which found that the practice does not act as a deterrent.

The total number of punitive demolitions since 2005 is four. This year, the Israeli authorities resumed the practice on 2 July 2014, after the Israeli High Court of Justice sanctioned the punitive demolition of parts of the house of the family of a Palestinian from Idhna village (Hebron), suspected of the killing of an Israeli police officer in April 2014.

In East Jerusalem, Israeli authorities demolished a structure composed of two housing units, on the grounds of the lack of an Israeli-issued building permit. This brings to 29 the total number of demolished residential structures in East Jerusalem since the beginning of the year. According to the owners, the units were built on land purchased in 1995. Two demolition orders were issued in 1999 and November 2013, which their lawyer succeeded in postponing, and no final demolition order was received prior to the demolition. Two families comprising 16 Palestinians, including 11 children, were displaced.

On the same day, in Al Walaja (Bethlehem) Israeli authorities demolished three structures: an agricultural room built as an extension to a cave, a bathroom and an animal shelter, for lack of an Israeli-issued building permit. The structures were all located within the Jerusalem municipality boundary. During the demolition, Israeli forces damaged/uprooted nine trees and caused damage to other belongings. In total ten family members were affected.

Restrictions on access to Al Aqsa compound continue after Ramadan

Similar to last week, incidents of restrictions on the access of Palestinians to Al Aqsa Mosque continue, in conjunction with a rise in the number of incidents of settlers and other Israeli groups, entering the compound, under the protection of Israeli forces. Two Palestinians, including one woman, were arrested for verbally protesting against the entry of settlers and other Israeli groups. On five different days this week, Israeli authorities restricted the access of Palestinians, including Jerusalem ID holders, to men over 50, while women of all ages were not allowed to enter between the early morning hours and noon time. Concurrently, on five different days, Israeli settlers and other Israeli groups, protected by Israeli forces, entered and toured the compound. Restrictions on the access of Palestinians to Al Aqsa Mosque compound are a key source of tension with Israeli forces in the West Bank.

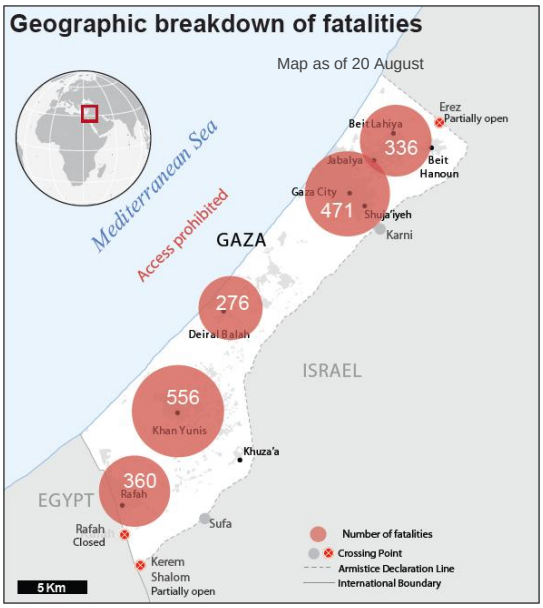
Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
For more information, please contact Mai Yassin at yassinm@un.org or +972 (0)2 5829962.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 25 August 2014, 08:00 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 22 August (08:00 hrs) to 25 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 26 August.

Highlights

- The emergency is now in its 49th day. The Palestinian fatality toll is now 2,076 of whom 1,454 have been identified as civilians, according to preliminary assessments.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) has risen to 475,000, more than a quarter of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza. Over 280,000 are taking shelter in UNRWA schools.
- The number of displaced in southern Israel is also rising, following the killing of a boy by a mortar shell on Friday.
- Nearly half a million children in Gaza were unable to return to primary and secondary schools yesterday, the scheduled start to the new academic year.
- Both Erez and Rafah are currently closed following attacks on the crossing points.



2,076	67	140	475,000	500,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,454 civilians, of whom 491 are children and 253 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers and three civilians. One foreign national also killed in Israel.	Families in Gaza have lost at least three or more members in the same incident, totalling 735 fatalities.	People hosted at UNRWA (approx. 280,000), government shelters and with host families.	Children in Gaza unable to start the new school year.

Situation Overview

Hostilities have continued for the 49th day in Gaza and southern Israel, resulting in mounting casualties, the continuing destruction of infrastructure and a rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs). The Israeli military has intensified the sending of messages through leaflets, phone calls and mobile phone texts warning civilians to stay away from "terrorists and terror infrastructure", causing panic among the population in Gaza. Although the bombing of residential structures has been characteristic of the military offensive to date, with over 17,000 buildings destroyed or severely damaged, the weekend witnessed the destruction of a number of entire multi-storey buildings.

On 23 August, the Israeli air force levelled the 13-storey building (Al-Zafer Tower 4), southwest of Gaza city, alleging that Hamas was running an operations centre from one of the floors. The 49-apartment tower had housed at least 40 families, all of whom are now displaced. Israeli forces provided a number of warnings, including small rockets and phone calls to some of the

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

families living in the tower, ordering them to evacuate. At least 18 people from the neighbourhood were reportedly injured. Also destroyed over the weekend were the seven-storey Zourab office block in Rafah, believed to house an office used by the Hamas-run interior ministry, and a two-storey shopping mall, also in Rafah.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, at least 46 persons, many of whose status still need to be verified, have reportedly been killed, including three who died from injuries sustained earlier. The figures consist of 26 civilians including 14 children and 6 women, and 10 members of armed groups. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 2,076, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 369 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,454 are believed to be civilians, including 491 children and 253 women, and 253 members of armed groups.

Approximately 25 Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel have reportedly been killed in Gaza since 21 August. These have not been included in the fatality toll above.

The Palestinian Center for Human Rights (PCHR) is following up with concern reports of extra-judicial executions carried out in the Gaza Strip ... These executions have targeted persons suspected of collaboration with Israeli occupation forces. The latest of such executions took place at approximately 09:00 (local time) on Friday, 22 August 2014, when at least 9 persons, including 2 women, were executed by firing squad in al-Katiba yard in the west of Gaza City. Identities of those persons are still unknown to PCHR, as the executions were carried out under strict security measures. PCHR calls upon the Palestinian National Authority and resistance groups to intervene to stop such extra-judicial executions whatever their reasons or motives are.

PCHR Calls for Stopping Extra-Judicial Executions in Gaza, 22 August 2014

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20 August, 10,224 Palestinians, including 3,106 children and 1,970 women and 368 elderly, have been injured. Preliminary estimates indicate that up to 1,000 of the children injured will have a permanent disability.

During the reporting period, at least 56 houses were totally destroyed in Israeli air strikes. Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, over a thousand homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 17,200 housing units have been totally destroyed or severely damaged during Israeli air strikes and shelling from 7 July to 20 August. Human rights organizations have expressed serious concerns regarding incidents where civilians or civilian objects have been directly hit by Israeli airstrikes, in circumstances where there was allegedly no rocket fire or armed group activity in the close vicinity. Such cases raise concerns about the targeting of civilians, in violation of the principle of distinction.

Among the most serious incidents recorded during the reporting period:

- At around 20:30 on 22 August, the Israeli air force struck a five-storey residential building belonging to Abu Aqleen family south of Gaza city, reportedly injuring at least 40 people, including 15 children. Although, the Israeli military fired a warning strike that hit the roof, families were still fleeing the building when the main attack took place.

- At around 23:50 on 24 August, an IDF airstrike hit an open field next to Isleem factory in Al Yarmouk neighbourhood in central Gaza City. Two children, aged one-and-a-half and 16, living in a neighbouring house were killed inside their homes. A number of neighbouring houses were also severely damaged.

- On 23 August 2014, two Israeli missiles struck a house belonging to Abdul Jawad Mheesin, located behind the Yafa Hospital in Deir Al Balah. The first, a warning missile, had led people to evacuate the building. However, the second missile seven minutes later destroyed the house and killed a woman who had returned to pick up personal belongings. This strike also destroyed a neighbouring house, killing another woman and her eight-year old son.

Of continuing concern is the number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. As of 20 August, at least 140 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 735 civilian fatalities. Two additional incidents occurred in the reporting period.

- At around 00:15 on 23 August, an Israeli plane launched two missiles at a four-storey house belonging to the Abu Dahrouj family in al-Zawaida village. The second one destroyed the house and killed five members of the family, including Hayel Shihda Abu Dahrouj, his wife, two children, and his aunt.

- At approximately 16:20 on 24 August, an Israeli strike hit a house belonging to the Joudah family in Tal El Za'atar neighbourhood in Jabalia, reportedly killing five people, including a mother and her four children.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued. Most of the rockets fell in open areas or were intercepted by the Iron Dome system but a four-year-old Israeli boy was killed by a mortar on 22 August. Since 8 July, four civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and dozens directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. At least six Israeli children have reportedly been injured due to rocket fire from Gaza. The total number of Israeli military fatalities remains at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) continues to rise, with at least 475,000 persons – more than a quarter of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza – now displaced. As of yesterday evening, there were 283,220 IDPs hosted in 85 designated UNRWA schools. Another 36,136 IDPs were hosted in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA and 13,729 IDPS in 17 government schools managed by MoSA. 140,895 IDPs residing with host families have been registered and reached by various partners. In addition, an estimated several thousand IDPs are taking shelter in public buildings and informal shelters.

Before the conflict, UNRWA, based on previous hostilities, had anticipated some 35,000 to 50,000 displaced people in its installations for a period of days in the event of a military escalation. The current number of IDPs represents six times the maximum number of displaced foreseen in its contingency plan and is unprecedented in the Agency's 64 years history in Gaza.

Despite substantive improvements over the past week, the ever growing numbers of IDPs in shelters presents a massive challenge to UNRWA. Currently, all of its designated emergency shelters are connected to water wells or the municipality network, or both, and 495 water tanks have been installed to improve storage capacity and water supply, as municipal water is supplied only for a few hours per week. UNRWA's hygiene and water campaign continues in the designated shelters, with 137 IDP committees (including at minimum two women, two men and four youths, comprising two girls and two boys) established with 1,314 members. Hygiene focal points and facilitators have organized 697 awareness sessions among 36,291 IDPs focusing on cleanliness, usage of cleaning materials, best practices in water use, how to keep food from being contaminated and how to treat lice and scabies. The campaign is supported by posters in all shelters. With prolonged displacement, posters made of durable material are being put up on the walls in all shelters, including in toilets and water points, informing residents about water conservation, appropriate hygiene practices and the treatment of scabies and lice. The deteriorating security situation, however, largely prevents the movement of staff working on the campaign.

Hygiene awareness, health monitoring and training to shelter management committees is also being provided in the government schools. Management committees include the IDPs themselves. However, the government schools lack paid staff to ensure data registration, cleaning and additional security. Hygiene concerns, for example lice, are being addressed by the relevant cluster partners.

There are also reports of significant displacement in southern Israel, particularly among communities which are in range of mortar fire from Gaza, which the Iron Dome system is unable to intercept. Many families had evacuated at the beginning of the conflict in July, relocating to family and friends in more northerly locations. However, many returned during the extended ceasefire period, but have evacuated their homes again since the resumption of hostilities last week. This movement has reportedly intensified after the killing of a four-year-old boy in one of the affected communities by a mortar shell fragment on Friday. The number of people affected is unknown, as residents have been making informal arrangements, but Israeli media report that 400 families have requested official assistance from the Israeli authorities in relocating.

Update on Education

Nearly half a million children in Gaza were unable to return to primary and secondary schools yesterday, the scheduled start to the new academic year. To mark the occasion school bells were rung at 07:00 in all 85 UNRWA emergency shelters, as a reminder that, despite the hostilities, every child in Gaza has the right to education.

According to current estimates, the school term will not resume until at least two or three weeks into a durable ceasefire. Schools currently used as shelters will require varying degrees of rehabilitation in order to be ready for normal schooling. Initial repairs must also be carried out in war-damaged schools, and unexploded ordnance will need to be cleared to restore safety. With nearly half of Gaza's children suffering mental distress, psychosocial support will have to be included in the school curriculum to heal children's psychological scars. This will only be possible once students are able to resume classes and their lives.

According to the most recent estimates, at least 244 schools in Gaza, including 141 government schools, 75 UNRWA schools, four private schools, 25 kindergartens, six universities and five colleges have been affected by shelling. In southern Israel, two schools have been damaged by rocket fire from Gaza.

Education is the foundation of any society. To invest in education is to invest in peace and stability. For this, the humanitarian community needs the ability to quickly bring in materials and equipment required for the repair, reconstruction and building of schools in Gaza on a large scale.

Ms. June Kunugi, UNICEF Special Representative in the State of Palestine, 24 August 2014.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Protection of civilians: an immediate ceasefire is needed to protect civilians. While hostilities persist, all sides must respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack.

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be ensured, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, took place on 18 and 19 August. Information collected is being analysed to determine the overall level of humanitarian needs.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs across facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza Strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Initially open for movement on 24 and 25 August, but closed both days due to mortar fire on the crossing. The GoI reports that there have been 4,124 crossings into Israel and 2,933 crossings into Gaza through Erez since the beginning of the conflict.
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open today as per its regular operating hours (08:00-16:00). Fuel: Since the beginning of the conflict it is reported that 9.6 million litres of fuel and 4.20 million litres of benzene for transportation has been imported into the Gaza Strip.
Rafah: The Rafah crossing is closed following a strike in the early hours of this morning by an Israeli plane which damaged the building and reportedly killed a security guard.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares. Every child in the Gaza Strip is affected by the crisis and will require some level of psychosocial support.
- There is an urgent need to strengthen preventative measures to protect women and children against different forms of violence while they are displaced in overcrowded shelters and host families.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- CPWG partners are providing PSS interventions in shelters and in host families.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS interventions through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters.
- UNICEF has reached 710,000 people in Gaza with life-saving and child protection SMS text messages, targeting the most vulnerable communities in Gaza.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has thus far provided counselling to a total of 2,587 callers.

- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 16,084 PSS sessions for 134,819 parents and recreational activities for 151,665 children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners covering 27,780 adult IDPs and 110,292 children.
- CTCCM (Community Training Centre and Crisis Management) has been providing PSS support to other IDP sites, including in two government schools, the Orthodox Church in Gaza and al Amal Institute, reaching 221 children and 20 women.
- UNICEF, in partnership with Ma'an Development Center, is providing daily PSS and extracurricular activities to 2,000 children in 13 shelters managed by MoSA in Gaza city and north Gaza Strip. Ma'an has also organized one open day in Khan Yunis and delivered 9 workshops on child protection minimum standards to 9 shelter's management committees.
- Overall, fifty UNICEF psychologists are providing counselling to 3,000 children. Also, to date, there are 90 counsellors covering all UNRWA shelters.
- PEDCOM is providing awareness sessions for parents, recreational activities for children, individual counseling and group sessions and capacity building of pre-school teachers on identifying and responding to PSS distress in young children.
- IMC are working in 25 locations, targeting 4,500 children through Child Friendly Spaces; child care workers with training on classroom-based interventions and psychosocial first aid; mothers through support sessions; and are providing case management.
- CFTA organizes open days in the Khan Yunis community over several days delivering art and recreational activities for children.
- CMBM provided psychosocial support activities for children in shelters in Rafah government. A total of 5,122 children have been reached through these activities to date.
- El Wedad has been providing psychosocial, first aid and relaxation techniques to 121 children in southern Remal.
- Tamer Association is providing psychosocial support to the communities of Ad Darraj, northern Remal, Jabalia Al Balad, Deir Al Balah, and Khan Yunis, as well as to IDPs in shelters in southern Remal, and Al Darraj, reaching 2,995 children.
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS is undertaking risk assessments in 5 governorates, and mainly for UNRWA installations. Clearance operations are being conducted by EOD police.
- UNMAS and child protection partners are also conducting Risk awareness/education, including to humanitarian workers and UNRWA staff.
- On 20 and 21 of August, UNMAS, in coordination with UNRWA, UNDSS and CLA, conducted an emergency response at Rafah crossing after an aircraft bomb landed in the custom office. The humanitarian corridor between Israel and Gaza is cleared.

Gaps and Constraints

- UNMAS is limited to conducting emergency responses;
- GBV needs assessment cannot be undertaken until the security situation improves.
- Local organizations are in great need of fuel and electricity to be able to continue conducting their interventions.
- Children and families are in desperate need of core child protection support and information, including psychosocial support; however the ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency psychosocial teams.
- Major electricity outages continue to hamper communication with staff and partners on the ground. Most child protection services remain closed.
- Children and families hosted in the community and in private schools remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 17,200 families (consisting of approximately 103,200 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,635 families (33,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 32,400 families (an estimated 194,400 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- 283,220 people are being provided with shelter in 85 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 36,136 individuals are sheltered in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. In addition, 13,729 people are being provided with shelter in another 17 government schools and 140,895 IDPs registered with MoSA are hosted with relatives and reached by various shelter partners.
- Shelter and WASH partners have provided household NFIs to 54,520families and hygiene NFIs to 86,165families since the beginning of the emergency. Standard household NFI kits include two mattresses and four blankets. Sometimes kitchen sets are also included; IDPs residing in shelter do not normally receive kitchen sets since there is no available capacity to cook. Such items are normally distributed to either IDPs with hosting families or those residing in damaged, but still inhabitable houses. Standard hygiene NFI kits usually include soap, shampoos, toothpaste, tooth brushes, towels, tissues paper and basic cleaning supplies.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 70 million is needed for 17,200 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 24,477 displaced families.
- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 32,400 families (approximately 194,400 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Drinking water has to be supplied separately from the municipal network, as the latter is not potable.
- IDPs at host families lack sufficient sanitary facilities, affecting mostly women.
- Some of the water network was damaged in the fighting and needs to be repaired.
- There is a need to assess WASH facilities requirements in the newly opened government school as a temporary shelter in Gaza city.
- The population across the Gaza Strip uses potable water for domestic purposes, which places an unsustainable pressure on the capacity for production and distribution of portable, desalinated water. WASH Cluster will consult with municipalities, CMWU and PWA on how to satisfy this need.
- An additional government school opened in Gaza City (Fahmi al Jerjawi) with 679 IDPs. WASH implementing partners are assessing and coordinating the need for WASH response.

Response

- On 23 August, the municipality of Gaza distributed 200 m3 of water in 13 government and seven UNRWA schools used as temporary shelters; opened streets that were bombed in Az Zaytoun neighborhood; removed rubble from a well; and managed to collect 500 tons of solid waste off the streets.
- Ongoing operation and maintenance works in water wells and sewage pumping stations in addition to water and sewage system repairs.
- CMWU continues to provide for all possible repairs and refurbishment of repairable facilities.
- Support to network and facilities repair provided to CMWU/service providers through ICRC, UNRWA, UNICEF, Oxfam GB and Ma'an Development Center to address urgent damage to the system; Save the Children also plans to provide support to repairs in North Gaza.

- Tankering of drinking water to different areas and shelters across Gaza Strip continues through a number of partners including UNRWA, Oxfam GB, UNICEF with GVC and PHG, ANERA, PU and PARC.
- WASH partners, including GVC, PHG and Oxfam, installed water tanks in several location in Central Gaza Strip.
- MoLG has continued to spray a number of sites with pesticides as a vector control measure.
- 10,000 families have been reached by UNICEF through the WFP e-voucher system and have received basic hygiene items.

Gaps and Constraints

- The resumption of hostilities has stalled repairs and assessments as lack of security restricts movement and access.
- Lack of electricity and fuel is also a restricting factor.
- There are shortages in financial resources, water trucks, generators, storage, pumps and management capacity.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Health facilities damaged and/or closed due to insecurity, as well as continuing problems of access of staff to clinics, have hindered the delivery of health services. Four Ministry of Health primary health clinics which were totally destroyed in the past month are located in areas of great need and alternatives are urgently required for residents (Ash Shuja'iyeh, Juhor al Dik, Khuza'a and Khan Yunis).
- The presence of thousands of UXOs in urban areas represents a public health hazard, especially for children.
- The health situation in shelters varies depending on the location of shelter, crowdedness and management. Disease surveillance systems are active in UNRWA-operated shelters and medical teams have been designated to all, providing medicines and referrals.
- The pediatric hospital Al Nasser reports 180 per cent bed occupancy rate because of the closure of the damaged Al Durra Pediatric Hospital which has raised Ministry of Health concerns about possible communicable disease outbreak due to the crowded conditions.
- A number of hospital generators have broken down or need spare parts and maintenance due to overload caused by electricity shortages and prolonged use.
- Continuity of care, quality follow up of casualty cases that have been discharged and rehabilitation of patients, especially of amputees, at the community level needs active follow-up.

Response

- 19 Health Cluster partners have detailed more than 150 activities which are ongoing or fully implemented since July 7. in response to the humanitarian emergency in the Gaza Strip.
- A total of US$10.8 million in drugs, medical disposables, fuel and other items have been donated for the health sector in Gaza since July 7, with the majority of donations destined for the Ministry of Health. Drug donations have maintained drug stocks without further deterioration (at 28 per cent zero stock) but without allowing real gains to chronically low drug levels.
- The reactivation of the Health Cluster has been endorsed by the Interagency Standing Committee in light of the ongoing emergency in Gaza and need for higher visibility of the health situation and coordinated health strategies through the UN cluster system and with other partners.
- The Government. of Israel reports that it has facilitated 264 ambulance transfers since the beginning of the conflict.

Gaps and Constraints

- Health assessments have been delayed due to the continuing lack of security for data collectors as well as health staff in outlying clinics and mobile clinics.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- An estimated 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Families relying on agricultural-related livelihoods need food, other immediate assistance and support in re-establishing their sources of income. An early recovery to re-establish their livelihoods and production capacity is required.
- Restock with animal vaccination against FMD, Brucellosis, Chlamydia and Sheep pox are needed for 64,000 head of small ruminants and 20,000 head of cattle.
- The poultry sub sector needs immediate assistance to reactivate the production capacity.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be consistently assured.

Response

- Despite ongoing hostilities, the regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing.
- In addition, 506,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- The ongoing military activity is putting food distribution and other humanitarian activities at risk.
- There is a lack of a proper mechanism to identify the most vulnerable groups relying on agricultural-related livelihoods and being heavily affected by the conflict.
- A lack of successful coordination at crossings complicates food delivery.
- Electricity shortages are affecting the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- During the reporting period, another two schools were extensively damaged by shelling, bringing to 220 the number of schools affected (141 government, 75 UNRWA schools and four private schools) that are in need of repair; this includes 22 schools completely destroyed.
- UNRWA and government schools will not be ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start this coming Sunday.
- A lasting ceasefire is urgently needed to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year.

Response

- UNRWA, in coordination with MoEHE and partners, planned to implement a three-phase back-to-school plan in war torn Gaza this week, to help students and teachers start to transition into a new school year. The plan includes psychosocial interventions, and implementing a new technology, UNRWA's satellite TV education programs and self-learning material for all children.
- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on PSS support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- The need for longer-term shelter for tens of thousands of IDPs will present significant challenges to the operation of schools currently being used as shelters.

Logistics

Needs

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip is urgently required to ensure the delivery of much needed relief supplies and to guarantee transporters are able to continue working.
- There is an urgent need to ensure coordination with relevant authorities and organisations operating in the Gaza Strip and coordinate proper humanitarian space to ensure safe passage, delivery and distribution of aid cargo.

Response

- On 24 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 436 pallets of food, shelter and WASH supplies into the Gaza Strip on behalf of humanitarian organizations, including UNICEF and Handicap International.
- On the 24 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of over 160 pallets of humanitarian relief items on behalf of the Palestinian Authorities and 110 for the Ministry of Health for distribution within the Gaza Strip.
- Five trucks transported over 120 pallets of privately donated clothes, food, bedding and diapers from Hebron to the Ministry of Social Affairs in Gaza; facilitated by the Logistics Cluster.
- Since activation, the Logistics Cluster has supported 24 humanitarian organisations including OXFAM and CHF International, and facilitated the transportation of over 3,070pallets of humanitarian relief via 118 trucks on behalf of 28 humanitarian organizations for distribution within the Gaza Strip.
- The Logistics Cluster is requesting a list of sector cargo priorities for the Gaza humanitarian response in case all cargo requests cannot be delivered in a timely manner due to the security crossing process.
- The Logistics Cluster is negotiating with the Egyptian authorities regarding humanitarian access through the Rafah crossing from Egypt to the Gaza Strip. It is also looking into a possible coordination with the Egyptian Red Crescent Society to send shipments from Egypt into the Gaza Strip starting from next week.

Gaps and Constraints

- Safe and secure transportation inside the Gaza Strip remains an ongoing constraint limiting the ability of the delivery of urgently required relief supplies.
- The increasing needs and deteriorating situation is forcing the humanitarian community to augment its pipelines, increasing pressure on Kerem Shalom, the only goods crossing into the Gaza Strip. The Logistics Cluster is liaising with relevant authorities to ease the cargo bottlenecks and improve cargo prioritization procedures causing delays at the border crossing points of Beituniya and Tarqumiya from the West Bank into Israel.

General Coordination

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). The remaining six municipalities were covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps will be covered as soon as the situation

allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analyzed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities. Clusters and sectors are currently engaged in ongoing analysis of the data generated from the two level needs assessments.

Today, UNDP and OCHA met with the Minister of Public Works and Housing and the Minister of Social Affairs, as well as a representative of the Palestinian Energy Authority and the Manager of the Gaza Power Plant to discuss the energy situation in Gaza and possible ways forward. OCHA provided information on the impact of the lack of electricity on the humanitarian situation and emergency fuel distributions as coordinated by OCHA and delivered by UNRWA. One of the outcomes of the meeting was that a task force of key actors would be established to work in a more concerted way on energy issues; it was proposed that the task force would be chaired by the Palestinian Energy Authority.

Also today, the Gaza EOC and representatives of the ministries of health and education linked into a discussion organized by MOPAD on the establishment of a 100-day plan for Gaza.

Funding

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at US $177 million out of a total request of US $367 million (48%), however, of this around US $148 million is for UNRWA, US $20 million for WFP and only US $9 million for others, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org.

Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, thirteen project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs, and the request is under processing by CERF.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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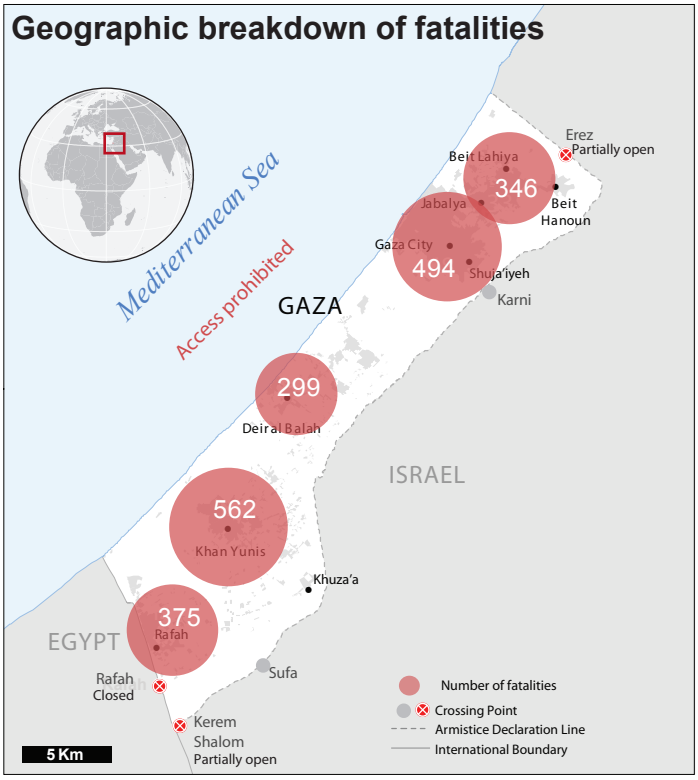
For more information, please visit www.ochaopt.org

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 25 August 2014, 8:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatalities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

10,224* Injured, 3,106 children 1,970 women 368 elderly

475,000* Displaced in UNRWA government shelters & with host families

500,000 Children unable to start the new school year.

6 hours of electricity per day on average

Situation Overview

On 23 August, the Israeli air force levelled the 13-storey building (Al-Zafer Tower 4), southwest of Gaza city, alleging that Hamas was running an operations centre from one of the floors. The 49-apartment tower had housed at least 40 families, all of whom are now displaced.

Of continuing concern is the number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. As of 20 August, at least 140 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 735 civilian fatalities. Two additional incidents occurred in the reporting period.

On 23 August, An Israeli plane launched two missiles at a four-storey house belonging to the Abu Dahrouj family in al-Zawaida village. The second one destroyed the house and killed five members of the family, including Hayel Shihda Abu Dahrouj, his wife, two children, and his aunt.

On 24 August, an Israeli strike hit a house belonging to the Joudah family in Tal El Za'atar neighborhood in Jabalia, reportedly killing five people, including a mother and her four children.

Damaged structures

216 schools damaged

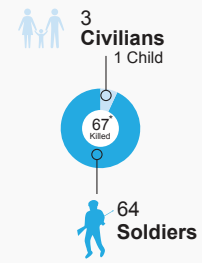
17,200 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

58 hospitals and clinics have been damaged

37,650 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

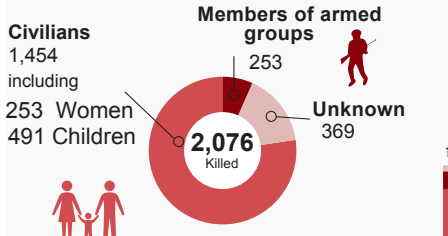
Israeli Fatalities

Fatalities by status

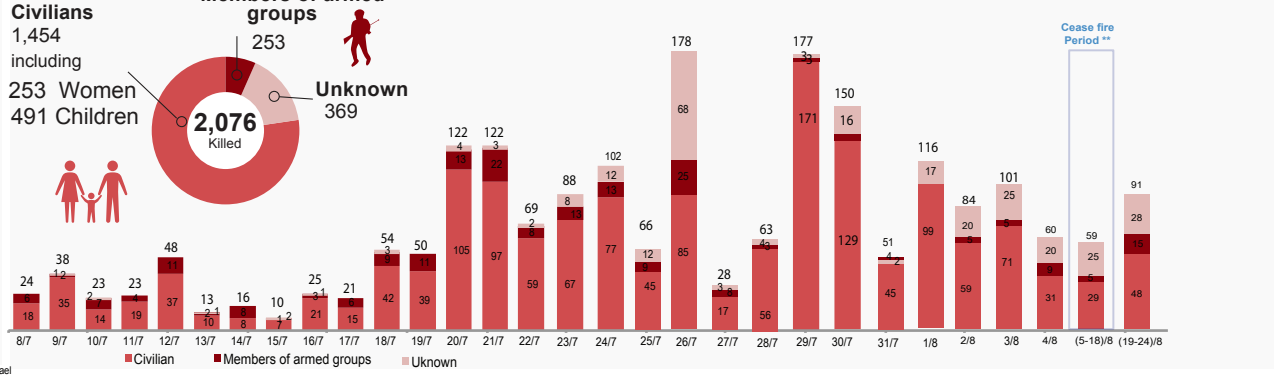


Palestinian Fatalities *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date

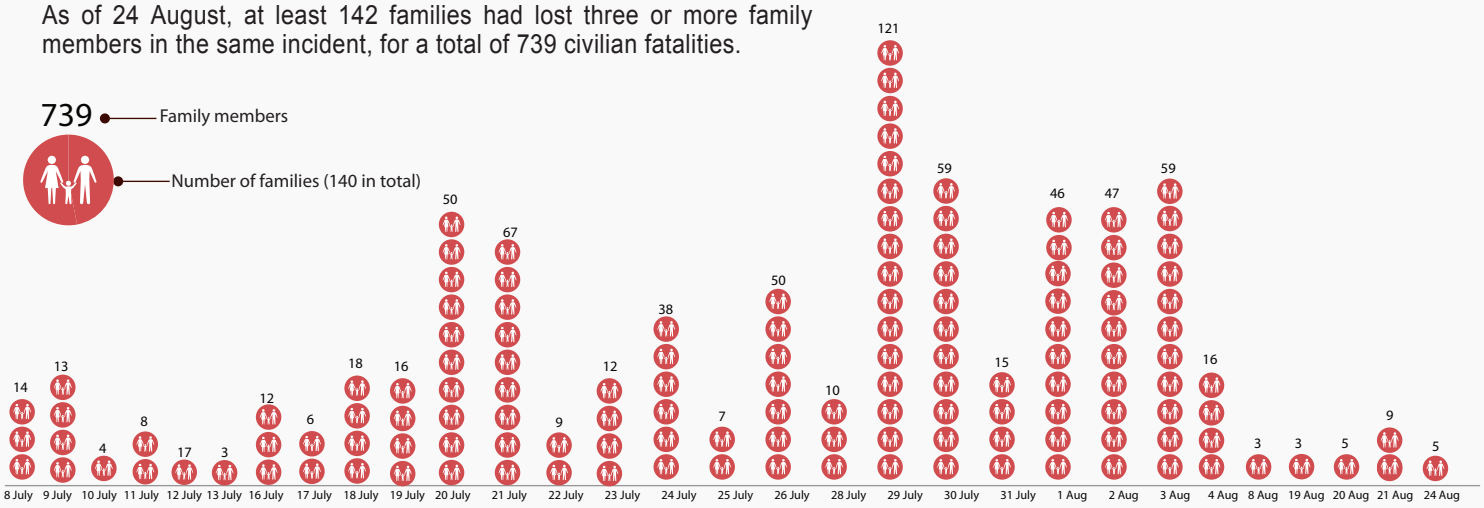


* 1 foreign civilian national was also killed in Israel

** With exception of one day (8 Aug.), between 5 and 18 August, there were series of temporary ceasefires.

Family-specific Fatalities

As of 24 August, at least 142 families had lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 739 civilian fatalities.



Creation date: 26 August 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

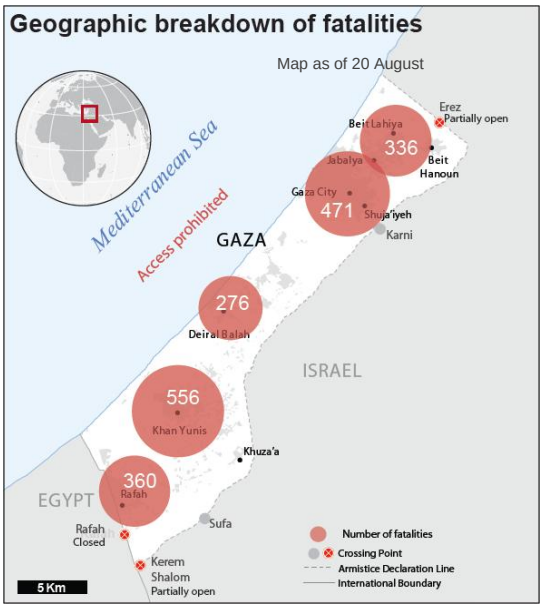
* Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.
As of 20 August, UNRWA was providing shelter to 283,220 persons in 85 shelters. Number of injuries, as of August 20 (17:00) : Ministry of Health.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 26 August 2014, 08:00 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 25 August (08:00 hrs) to 26 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 27 August.

Highlights

- The emergency is now in its 50th day. The Palestinian fatality toll is now 2,101 of whom 1,460 have been identified as civilians, according to preliminary assessments.
- Two more multi-storey buildings in Gaza were targeted and destroyed by the Israeli air force overnight.
- The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) remains at 475,000, more than a quarter of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza. Approximately 290,000 are taking shelter in UNRWA schools.
- Rafah and Erez passenger crossings have reopened today, despite damage sustained in previous days; Kerem Shalom commercial crossing closed today due to rocket fire from Gaza.



Latest Development: 13:15: A vehicle belonging to the Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO) was reportedly struck in Beit Lahia by an Israeli missile, killing two utility workers.

2,101	67	142	5	475,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,460 civilians, of whom 493 are children and 253 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers and three civilians. One foreign national also killed in Israel.	Families in Gaza have lost at least three or more members in the same incident, totalling 739 civilian fatalities.	High-rise buildings destroyed since Sunday.	People hosted at UNRWA (approx. 290,000), government shelters and with host families.

Situation Overview

Hostilities in Gaza and southern Israel have now entered the eight week. The reporting period saw the continuation of a new Israeli trend of bombing high-rise buildings. Overnight, the Israeli air force fired multiple missiles that completely levelled the 16-storey structure known as 'Little Italy' in the Nasser neighbourhood of Gaza city. The building, which housed over 60 apartments and dozens of shops, was evacuated following warning calls. Another airstrike destroyed the 14-storey al-Basha building in the Rimal area of Gaza city. Although warning messages were also reportedly delivered in this incident, 15 people were injured.

The new trend is believed to be an intensification of the targeting of structures alleged to be the 'command centres' of armed groups or from whose vicinity projectiles have been fired. It is adding significantly to the number of displaced and depleting

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

the number of housing units available to the long-term homeless, already estimated at over 100,000, as a result of the latest escalation in hostilities.

All three crossing points between Gaza and the outside world have come under attack over the past few days. The Erez passenger crossing between Gaza and Israel opened today, having closed on 24 and 25 August, due to mortar fire from Gaza on both days. The Kerem Shalom commercial crossing between Gaza and Israel opened today, but closed in the late morning following a security incident. The Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt is functioning, despite being hit by an Israeli airstrike early yesterday morning, which killed a security guard and caused extensive damage to the terminal. The crossing was also partially closed today while the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) deactivated unexploded ordnance.

Hostilities and casualties

Since the last situation update, at least 25 persons, many of whose status still need to be verified, have reportedly been killed. The figures consist of four civilians, including two children and one woman, and eight members of armed groups. Two of the fatalities died of wounds sustained earlier and one body was recovered from Rafah.

This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 2,101, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 376 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,460 are believed to be civilians, including 493 children and 253 women, and 265 members of armed groups. Approximately 25 Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel have reportedly been killed in Gaza by armed groups since 21 August. These have not been included in the fatality toll above.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20 August, 10,224 Palestinians, including 3,106 children and 1,970 women and 368 elderly, have been injured. Preliminary estimates indicate that up to 1,000 of the children injured will have a permanent disability. An estimated 373,000 children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares, and require specialized psychosocial support (PSS).

Of continuing concern is the number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. As of 25 August, at least 142 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 739 civilian fatalities.

Indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued. Most of the rockets fell in open areas or were intercepted by the Iron Dome system but up to 25 people were lightly injured when a house in Ashqelon was struck by a rocket. Since 8 July, four civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national and dozens, including at least six children, directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. The total number of Israeli military fatalities remains at 64.

Displacement

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) remains at an estimated 475,000 persons – more than a quarter of the entire Palestinian population of Gaza. As of yesterday evening, there were 289,109 IDPs hosted in 85 designated UNRWA schools, and another 35,013 IDP hosted in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. There is no update available on the 13,729 IDPS registered in 17 government schools managed by MoSA or the 140,895 IDPs residing with host families, who have been registered and reached by various partners. In addition, an estimated several thousand IDPs are taking shelter in public buildings and informal shelters.

Before the conflict, UNRWA, based on previous hostilities, had anticipated some 35,000 to 50,000 displaced people in its installations for a period of days in the event of a military escalation. The current number of IDPs represents six times the maximum number of displaced foreseen in its contingency plan and is unprecedented in the Agency's 64 years history in Gaza.

The exponential growth in the number of IDPs has placed the schools used as shelters under enormous strain - shelters are hosting an average of 3,400 persons each - requiring UNRWA to adapt its assistance mechanisms, shelter management and buildings to accommodate an extremely high number of IDPs for a prolonged period of time. With several failed humanitarian pauses and ceasefires over recent weeks, and the increase of airstrikes and shelling during the daytime, many families are hesitant to leave the shelters. Some of the families have already been displaced for more than six weeks.

Those displaced to UNRWA shelters, regardless of their refugee status, are assisted by a team who are experienced in emergency response. Each team consists of qualified staff including health professionals, teachers, social workers, psychosocial counselors, engineers, water focal points, security guards and operations managers. They are supported by community volunteers, cash for work beneficiaries, and shelter committees. UNRWA staff are trained to ensure that shelters remain neutral and that only civilians gain access to them. UNRWA also provides initial technical support to counterparts involved in establishing non-UNRWA shelters, and further contributes food and NFI assistance for the populations taking refuge in these shelters.

There are also reports of significant displacement in southern Israel, particularly among communities which are in range of mortar fire from Gaza, which the Iron Dome system is unable to intercept. Many families had evacuated at the beginning of the conflict in July, relocating to family and friends in more northerly locations, but returned during the extended ceasefire period,

only to evacuate their homes again since the resumption of hostilities last week. This movement has reportedly intensified after the killing of a four-year-old boy in one of the affected communities by a mortar shell fragment on Friday, with hundreds reportedly leaving yesterday. According to some sources, as many as 70 per cent of the 40,000 residents of communities near the Gaza border may now have left their homes.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Protection of civilians: an immediate ceasefire is needed to protect civilians. While hostilities persist, all sides must respect international human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack.

Humanitarian space: access for humanitarian workers to carry out life-saving activities should be ensured, among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas, and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure. Removal of the threat of numerous UXO in built up areas is vital.

Joint needs assessments: the first phase initial rapid needs assessment, covering the governorate level, was launched on 13 August to inform responses by humanitarian organizations. The second phase, covering the municipal level, took place on 18 and 19 August. Information collected is being analysed to determine the overall level of humanitarian needs.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Strengthen response to IDPs: improving priority response to IDPs across facilities and with host families; ensuring common standards of response to IDPs throughout the Gaza Strip, including comprehensive and common registration.

Erez: Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Opened initially but closed at 11:30 following a security incident.
Rafah: Operational despite extensive damage suffered on 25 August.

Humanitarian needs and response

Updated information on needs and response will be included in tomorrow's situation report.

General Coordination

Yesterday, UNDP and OCHA met with the Minister of Public Works and Housing and the Minister of Social Affairs, as well as a representative of the Palestinian Energy Authority and the Manager of the Gaza Power Plant to discuss the energy situation in Gaza and possible ways forward. OCHA provided information on the impact of the lack of electricity on the humanitarian situation and emergency fuel distributions as coordinated by OCHA and delivered by UNRWA. One of the outcomes of the meeting was that a task force of key actors would be established to work in a more concerted way on energy issues; it was proposed that the task force would be chaired by the Palestinian Energy Authority.

Today, an OEC meeting was convened with the participation of Clusters / Sectors and OCHA. An IDP meeting to coordinate the IDP response was also held between OCHA, MoSA, and Clusters / Sectors today.

The first phase of the joint rapid needs assessment, led by the EOC started on 13 August, and data analysis in ongoing. The second phase of the joint rapid needs assessment started on 18 August, covering 19 municipalities (some 80 assessment staff were involved and at least 250 key informants interviewed, including youth, persons with disabilities and elderly). The remaining six municipalities were covered on 19 August and the eight refugee camps will be covered as soon as the situation allows. Data collected will be entered on tablets and linked directly to a database. The information will be subsequently validated and analyzed, before it is disseminated. Protection and gender concerns have been integrated throughout the process as have questions on the information needs of affected communities. Clusters and sectors are currently engaged in ongoing analysis of the data generated from the two level needs assessments.

Funding

Today, UNRWA issued a revised version of its Flash Appeal which requests US $296 million to cover immediate and basic needs during hostilities of up to 360,000 IDPs staying in emergency shelters and families not staying in shelters during hostilities who require food assistance. The appeal also requests support for those who will remain displaced or to support the return of IDPs following cessation of hostilities. A revised version of the Crisis Appeal will follow next week.

Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at approximately US $177 million out of a total request of US $367 million (48 per cent); the vast majority of this represents funding for UNRWA, as well as US $20 million for WFP food assistance, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org. Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, 13 project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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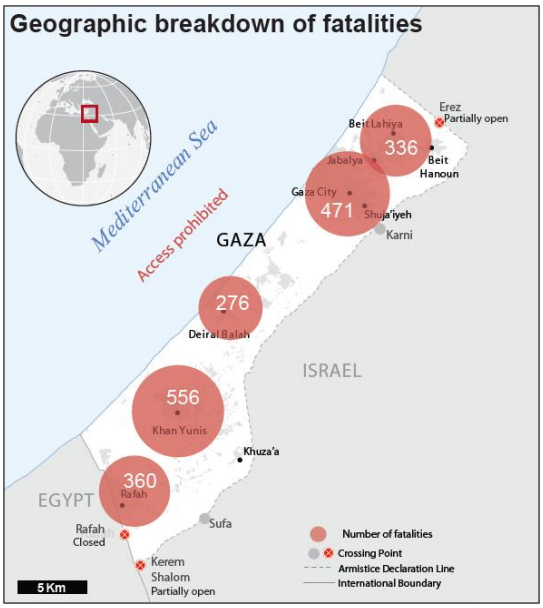
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 27 August 2014, 08:00 hrs)

OCHA

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 26 August (08:00 hrs) to 27 August (08:00 hrs). The next report will be issued on 28 August.

Highlights

- An open-ended ceasefire brokered by the Egyptian government and agreed by the armed groups in Gaza, the Palestinian Authority and Israel entered into force yesterday at 19:00.
- The Palestinian fatality toll has reached 2,104 of whom 1,462 have been identified as civilians, including 495 children, according to preliminary assessments.
- Tens of thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) have today left emergency shelters. However, over 100,000 people, whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged, will need longer-term shelter solutions.
- Despite extensive repairs, electricity outages of 18 hours a day continue in most areas across Gaza, disrupting service provision.



2,104	69	108,000	6	18
Palestinians killed, including 1,462 civilians, of whom 495 are children and 253 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including four civilians. One foreign national also killed in Israel.	People had their homes destroyed or severely damaged	High-rise buildings destroyed since Sunday.	Hours of scheduled electricity outages are implemented across Gaza.

Situation Overview

An open-ended ceasefire brokered by the Egyptian government and agreed by the armed groups in Gaza, the Palestinian Authority and Israel entered into force yesterday at 19:00. If it continues to hold, this agreement will have ended the longest, deadliest and most destructive escalation in hostilities affecting the population of Gaza since the beginning of the Israeli occupation in 1967, with serious impact on Israelis as well.

The terms of the agreement, however, were not officially released. According to media reports, in addition to a complete cessation of military action by both sides, the agreement calls for a further opening of the crossings with Israel and Egypt to allow the easier flow of goods, including humanitarian aid and reconstruction equipment, alongside the transfer of control over the Gaza side of the crossings to the Palestinian Authority; a reinstatement of the six nautical miles fishing limit into the Mediterranean sea; and the relaxation of access restrictions into areas up to 100 metres from Gaza's perimeter fence with Israel. Other issues, including Hamas' demand to open a seaport and airport in Gaza and to release Palestinian prisoners, as well as Israel's demand to disarm militant groups in Gaza and obtain the remains of two Israeli soldiers, are expected to be dealt with in the context of indirect negotiations scheduled to start in a month.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

This morning, as the ceasefire appeared to be holding, tens of thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) begun to return to their homes, either to resettle, to assess damage or to collect belongings. However, it is estimated that over 18,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, rendering more than 108,000 people homeless. The provision of temporary housing solutions to these people is one of the major challenges facing the local authorities and the humanitarian community in the coming period. Additionally, the mass movement of civilians, children in particular, into areas that were intensively targeted by airstrikes and shelling, raises once again the concern about Explosive Remnants of War (ERW). This poses an imperative on all relevant actors to adopt immediate measures to prevent further casualties, including the rapid clearance of built up areas and critical facilities, and awareness raising campaigns amongst the most vulnerable.

[...] A brighter future for Gaza and for Israel depends on a sustainable ceasefire. It is up to the parties to live up to this responsibility… Any peace effort that does not tackle the root causes of the crisis will do little more than set the stage for the next cycle of violence. Gaza must be brought back under one legitimate Palestinian Government adhering to the PLO commitments; the blockade of Gaza must end; Israel's legitimate security concerns must be addressed… The Secretary-General urgently calls on both parties to return to meaningful negotiations towards a final status agreement that addresses all core issues and ends the 47-year occupation.

Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, 26 August

Hostilities and casualties

Israeli airstrikes and Palestinian mortar and rocket fire continued yesterday uninterruptedly until 19:00, resulting in additional casualties on both sides, alongside significant property losses in Gaza.

Since the last situation update, at least three Palestinians have reportedly been killed, including two children. This brings the cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July to at least 2,104, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 377 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,462 are believed to be civilians, including 495 children and 253 women, and 265 members of armed groups. Additionally, approximately 25 Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel have reportedly been killed in Gaza by armed groups since 21 August (not included in the fatality toll above).

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20 August, 10,224 Palestinians, including 3,106 children and 1,970 women and 368 elderly, have been injured. Preliminary estimates indicate that up to 1,000 of the children injured will have a permanent disability.

In one of the yesterday's incidents, at around 13:15, a vehicle belonging to the Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO) travelling in Beit Lahia town was directly hit by an Israeli air strike, reportedly killing two workers on their way to repair transmission lines damaged during previous bombardments. Since the start of the Gaza emergency, at least 14 electricity, water and waste water technicians employed by local utilities have been killed during Israeli attacks and at least ten other have been injured.

Also yesterday in Beit Lahia, at around 18:30, an Israeli air strike targeted and destroyed a five-storey building, comprising ten apartments, resulting in no casualties. This is the sixth high-rise building to be razed to the ground since Sunday, in the context of policy of intensified destruction of structures alleged by the Israeli military to be the 'command centres' of armed groups or from whose vicinity projectiles have been fired. This policy has added to the number of displaced and depleted the number of housing units available to the long-term homeless.

While most of the rockets and mortars shot yesterday by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern Israel fell in open areas or were intercepted by the Iron Dome system, one of the mortars hit and killed two Israeli men, one of whom was a civilian while the status of the other is unclear. This brings the cumulative Israeli fatality toll to 69, of whom at least four were civilians, including one child, in addition to one foreign national killed in Israel. Dozens of other Israelis, including at least six children, have been directly injured by rockets or shrapnel.

Displacement

Despite the announcement of the ceasefire, the vast majority of IDPs spent the night in shelters and with host families. As of yesterday evening, their number was estimated at 475,000 persons, including over 289,000 hosted in 85 designated UNRWA schools, 35,000 in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA, nearly 14,000 registered in 17 government schools managed by MoSA, and some 141,000 residing with host families, who have been registered and reached by various partners.

Today, as the ceasefire appeared to be holding, there has been a massive movement of IDPs out of emergency shelters. As of this afternoon, almost 233,000 IDPs had left the UNRWA shelters and approximately 54,300 remained. New estimates of the number of IDPs in government schools and with host families were not available at the time of writing. It remains uncertain how many of the IDPs left temporarily, for example to gather personal items from their homes, to return for the night.

There has been also significant displacement in southern Israel, particularly among communities which are in range of mortar fire from Gaza, which the Iron Dome system is unable to intercept. Many families had evacuated at the beginning of the conflict in July, relocating to family and friends in more northerly locations, but returned during the extended ceasefire period,

only to evacuate their homes again since the resumption of hostilities last week. This movement has reportedly intensified after the killing of a four-year-old boy in one of the affected communities by a mortar shell fragment on Friday, with hundreds reportedly leaving yesterday. According to some sources, as many as 70 per cent of the 40,000 residents of communities near Gaza may have left their homes. Media reports have indicated that the ceasefire has not triggered so far significant return to these communities.

Water and electricity

Following the ceasefire, GEDCO teams resumed intensive repairs of damaged electricity lines. However, only little progress was achieved so far in the areas that sustained the most severe damage, such as Beit Hanoun, Eastern Gaza city, Johr Ad Deik, Al Bureij, Al Maghazi, Khuza'a and East of Rafah. Therefore, scheduled power cuts across Gaza continue for up to 18 hours per day, on average, with Gaza City suffering 20 hours of outages per day. While nine of the ten Israeli feeder lines are working, the Gaza Power Plant remains off, following the damage sustained by an Israeli airstrike on 29 July.

The Coastal Municipalities Water Utility estimates that 75 per cent of the water network has been rendered functional after receiving emergency repairs and supplies water on a regular basis. As a result, 25 per cent of the population, located in Gaza city and Jabalia, receive water supply for six to eight hours once every five days; 50 per cent receives water supply once every four days; 15 per cent, located in Rafah, receive water supply once every two days; and 10 per cent receive water supply once a day.

Emergency education

Nearly half a million children in Gaza were unable to return to primary and secondary schools this week, the scheduled start to the new academic year. Schools currently used as shelters will require varying degrees of rehabilitation in order to be ready for normal schooling. Initial repairs must also be carried out in war-damaged schools, and unexploded ordnance will need to be cleared to restore safety. UNRWA is coordinating with the Ministry of Education a three-phase plan. The first phase expands ongoing psychosocial activities; the second phase involves enhancing learning skills; and the third phase will be a return to education in school buildings.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Temporary shelter and housing solutions to IDPs: immediate and short term plans to accommodate the tens of thousands of families who were rendered homeless are urgently needed.

Sustained opening of crossing: is vital, alongside the removal of restrictions on the entry of materials for rehabilitations and reconstruction.

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW): rapid clearance of built-up areas and critical facilities, as well as awareness raising campaigns amongst the most vulnerable, are urgently needed.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours (08:00-16:00).
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Specifically, there is a need to increase the number of structured activities and specialized PSS support, as opposed to PSS first aid, for children and families identified as requiring a referral to such services.
- Up to 1,500 orphaned children will need sustained support from the child protection and welfare sectors.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) infest civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- CPWG partners are providing PSS interventions in shelters and in host families.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS interventions through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters.
- UNICEF has reached 750,000 people in Gaza with life-saving and child protection SMS text messages, targeting the most vulnerable communities in Gaza.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has thus far provided counselling to a total of 2,812 callers.
- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 16,084 PSS sessions for parents and recreational activities for children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners. Numbers of reached beneficiaries are currently being updated.
- CFTA has organized open days in the Khan Yunis and Tomoh has conducted five open days in the neighbourhood of Sheikh Radwan of Gaza city; both are providing PSS support through structured group activities to the communities of Ad Darraj, Northern Remal, Jabalia El Balad, Deir Al Balah, and Khan Yunis.
- ERW awareness campaign for families in UNRWA shelters continues. Radio and TV ERW awareness messages are broadcasted several times a day to spread awareness about the danger posed by unexploded ordnance.
- UNMAS is undertaking risk assessments in five governorates, and mainly for UNRWA installations. Clearance operations are being conducted by EOD police.

Gaps and Constraints

- Major electricity outages continue to hamper communication with staff and partners on the ground. Most child protection services remain closed.
- Core child protection interventions to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation are limited and systems to detect, prevent and respond to cases of child abuse in shelters and host communities remain weak.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that 18,080 families (consisting of approximately 108,500 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,800 families (34,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 38,000 families (an estimated 228,000 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.

Response

- As of yesterday, 287,034 people were provided with shelter in 85 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and 31,251 individuals were sheltered in seven government shelters supported by UNRWA. In addition, 13,810 people were being provided with shelter in another 18 government schools and 140,895 IDPs registered with MoSA were hosted with relatives and reached by various shelter partners.
- Shelter and WASH partners have provided household NFIs to 57,572 families and hygiene NFIs to 96,303 families since the beginning of the emergency. Standard household NFI kits include two mattresses and four blankets. Sometimes kitchen sets are also included; IDPs residing in shelter do not normally receive kitchen sets since there is no available capacity to cook. Such items are normally distributed to either IDPs with hosting families or those residing in damaged, but still inhabitable houses. Standard hygiene NFI kits usually include soap, shampoos, toothpaste, tooth brushes, towels, tissues paper and basic cleaning supplies.
- Through its partners in Gaza, UNFPA delivered 2,000 hygiene/dignity kits to displaced women.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of more than US$ 74 million is needed for 18,080 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.

- Emergency shelter kits are needed for 22,256 displaced families.
- Shelter NFIs such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin are needed for 38,000 families (approximately 228.000 individuals) whose homes sustained minor damage.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

This section will be covered of the Situation Report of 29 August.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Health facilities damaged and/or closed due to insecurity, as well as continuing problems of access of staff to clinics, have hindered the delivery of health services. Four Ministry of Health (MoH) primary health clinics which were totally destroyed in the past month are located in areas of great need and alternatives are urgently required for residents (Ash Shuja'iyeh, Juhor al Dik, Khuza'a and Khan Yunis). Overall, four of the 32 hospitals and thirty of the 97 primary health care centres in the Gaza Strip remain closed today according to the Ministry of Health.
- The presence of thousands of UXO in urban areas represents a public health hazard, especially for children.
- The health situation in shelters varies depending on the location of shelter, crowdedness and management. Disease surveillance systems are active in UNRWA-operated shelters and medical teams have been designated to all, providing medicines and referrals.
- The pediatric hospital An Nasser reports 180 per cent bed occupancy rate because of the closure of the damaged Ad Durra Pediatric Hospital which has raised Ministry of Health concerns about possible communicable disease outbreak due to the crowded conditions.
- A number of hospital generators have broken down or need spare parts and maintenance due to overload caused by electricity shortages and prolonged use.
- Continuity of care, quality follow up of casualty cases that have been discharged and rehabilitation of patients, especially of amputees, at the community level needs active follow-up.

Response

- 22 Health Cluster partners reported on more than 170 activities which are ongoing, fully implemented or planned.
- A total of US$10.8 million in drugs, medical disposables, fuel and other items have been donated for the health sector in Gaza since 7 July, with the majority of donations destined for the Ministry of Health. Drug donations have maintained drug stocks without further deterioration (at 28 per cent zero stock) but without allowing real gains to chronically low drug levels.
- The reactivation of the Health Cluster has been endorsed by the Interagency Standing Committee in light of the emergency in Gaza and need for higher visibility of the health situation and coordinated health strategies through the UN cluster system and with other partners.

Gaps and Constraints

- Health assessments have been delayed due to the continuing lack of security for data collectors as well as health staff in outlying clinics and mobile clinics.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- Over 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- Families relying on agricultural-related livelihoods need food, other immediate assistance and support in re-establishing their sources of income. An early recovery to re-establish their livelihoods and production capacity is required.
- Restock with animal vaccination against FMD, Brucellosis, Chlamydia and Sheep pox are needed for 64,000 head of small ruminants and 20,000 head of cattle.
- Livestock sector also requires fodders, water and other veterinary care.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be consistently assured.

Response

- The regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing.
- In addition, at least 506,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- Food assistance for those people who have their houses totally or severely damaged is ongoing. A new project is targeting additional 18,000 households who will receive food baskets.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to patients and hospital staff.
- The emergency voucher for hosted families is targeting 23,000 households.
- Food Security Sector (FSS) partners are delivering complementary food distributions to IDPs at UNRWA and government shelters.

Gaps and Constraints

- There is a lack of a proper mechanism to identify the most vulnerable groups relying on agricultural-related livelihoods and being heavily affected by the conflict.
- Electricity shortages are affecting the storage capacity of fresh food for both shops and households.
- The price of some food items has gone up, including fresh fruit, vegetables and eggs, due to the large damage sustained to farms and agricultural lands, among other reasons.
- Immediate emergency funds to cover massively increasing food needs of IDPs and returnees are required.

Education

Needs

- 220 schools (141 government, 75 UNRWA schools and four private schools) are in need of repair, including 22 schools which were completely destroyed.
- UNRWA and government schools are not ready for the new school year which was scheduled to start last Sunday.
- The current ceasefire must last so that unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year, can take place.

Response

- UNRWA, in coordination with MoEHE and partners, planned to implement a three-phase back-to-school plan in war torn Gaza this week, to help students and teachers start to transition into a new school year. The plan includes PSS interventions, and implementing a new technology, UNRWA's satellite TV education programs and self-learning material for all children.
- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on PSS support and recreational activities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- The need for longer-term shelter for tens of thousands of IDPs will present significant challenges to the operation of schools currently being used as shelters.

Logistics

Needs

- Unrestricted movement of humanitarian cargo from the West Bank and Israel to the Gaza Strip is required.
- Safe and secure humanitarian space to ensure transportation and distribution within the Gaza Strip of relief supplies is needed.

Response

- On 25 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 510 pallets of food, shelter and WASH supplies into the Gaza Strip.
- On the 26 August, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of over 22 pallets of food items for distribution within the Gaza Strip.
- Logistics Cluster has provided the humanitarian community three dedicated warehouses and one refrigerated warehouse inside the Gaza Strip.
- Logistics Cluster has also provided five staging areas available in Jerusalem, Hebron, Ashqelon, Ramallah and Nablus for consolidation, palletisation, loading and dispatch.
- Logistics Cluster facilitates coordination of transport services.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cargo transported via the Betunia crossing from the West Bank into Israel is experiencing significant delays due to limited capacity, security equipment, variable cargo prioritisation procedures and limited opening hours.
- Cargo transported via the Tarqumia crossing from the West Bank into Israel is experiencing delays due to increasing number of trucks and complex security procedures.
- The Logistics Cluster is requesting a list of sector cargo priorities for the Gaza humanitarian response in case all cargo requests cannot be delivered in a timely manner due to the security crossing process.

General Coordination

On 25 August, UNDP and OCHA met with the Minister of Public Works and Housing and the Minister of Social Affairs, as well as a representative of the Palestinian Energy Authority and the Manager of the Gaza Power Plant to discuss the energy situation in Gaza and possible ways forward. OCHA provided information on the impact of the lack of electricity on the humanitarian situation and emergency fuel distributions as coordinated by OCHA and delivered by UNRWA. One of the outcomes of the meeting was that a task force of key actors would be established to work in a more concerted way on energy issues; it was proposed that the task force would be chaired by the Palestinian Energy Authority.

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information needs of affected communities. Clusters and sectors are currently engaged in ongoing analysis of the data generated from the two level needs assessments.

Funding

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Based on available information, funding to the Gaza Crisis Appeal stands at approximately US $177 million out of a total request of US $367 million (48 per cent); the vast majority of this represents funding for UNRWA, as well as US $20 million for WFP food assistance, leaving large gaps to respond in other critical sectors such as Health, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, Education and Shelter and Non Food Items. Many key UN and NGOs partners identified for the Gaza response have received little to no funding to date for their projects in the Crisis Appeal. The Crisis Appeal is available online at www.ochaopt.org. Donors and recipient agencies are kindly requested to report funding received to fts@un.org.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, 13 project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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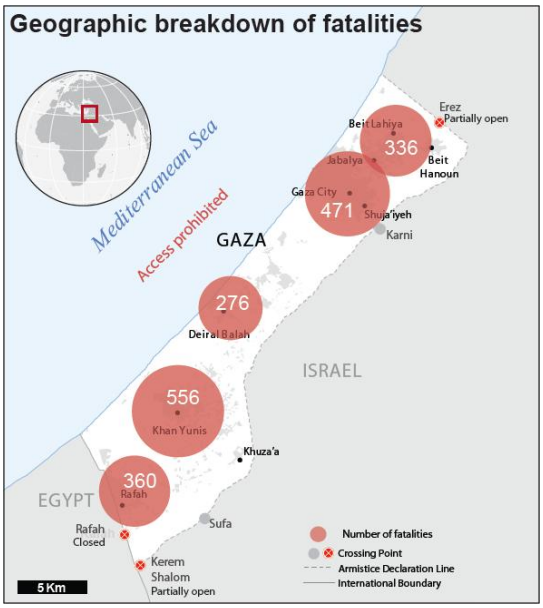
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 28 August 2014, 08:00 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 27 August (08:00 hrs) to 28 August (08:00 hrs).

Note: The next report will be issued on 4 September and will cover the period from 08:00 28 August to 08:00 4 September.

Highlights

- The open-ended ceasefire which entered into force on Tuesday evening is holding, with no violations reported.
- The Palestinian fatality toll is 2,104, of whom 1,462 have been identified as civilians, including 495 children, according to preliminary assessments.
- Tens of thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) have today left emergency shelters. However, over 100,000 people, whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged, will need longer-term shelter solutions.
- Despite extensive repairs, electricity outages of 18 hours a day continue in most areas across Gaza, and only 10 per cent of the population receive water once a day.



2,104 Palestinians killed, including 1,462 civilians, of whom 495 are children and 253 are women.[1]	**69** Israelis killed, including four civilians. One foreign national also killed in Israel.	**108,000** People had their homes destroyed or severely damaged	**10%** Of the Gaza population receive water once a day for six to eight hours.	**18** Hours of scheduled electricity outages are implemented across Gaza.

Situation Overview

The open-ended ceasefire brokered by the Egyptian government on Tuesday evening is holding. Recent days have witnessed a dramatic decline in the number of internally displaced persons (IDPs), but figures may rise again as Palestinians find their homes uninhabitable or decide that the security and services in shelters and host families is preferable to what is available in their communities.

As the ceasefire allows for more in-depth sectoral assessments to be conducted, it is clear that the scale of damage is unprecedented, with approximately 13 per cent of the housing stock affected. Five per cent of the housing stock is uninhabitable - an estimated 18,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, leaving more than 108,000 people homeless. This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units, due to people living in overcrowded or inadequate conditions. The provision of temporary housing solutions to these people is one of the major challenges facing the local authorities and the humanitarian community in the coming period.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) are a major protection concern and poses risk to those returning to their homes and for repair and reconstruction. ERW are strewn throughout the Gaza Strip, contaminating homes, gardens, roads and streets, fields, agricultural lands, abandoned shelters and schools. Numerous kinds of ERW have been identified, including non-exploded tank shells, missiles, aircraft bombs, rockets, bullets, shrapnel, fuses, gas canisters and flechettes. The UN Mine Acton Service (UNMAS) cannot, at this stage, determine the full extent of ERW contamination, but extensive damage to buildings and estimates based on a failure rate of 10 per cent, indicate that contamination levels will be higher than in previous conflicts. UNMAS anticipates a minimum of 1,890 explosive items to be secured or destroyed. There is need to add to this ERW estimate, the abandoned ammunition, improvised devices or Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) from the armed groups.

Hostilities and casualties

There are no reports of additional casualties or the recovery of bodies since the last situation update. The cumulative death toll among Palestinians since 7 July is at least 2,104, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 377 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,462 are believed to be civilians, including 495 children and 253 women, and 265 members of armed groups. Approximately 25 Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel have reportedly been killed in Gaza by armed groups since 21 August (not included in the fatality toll above).

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 20 August, 10,224 Palestinians, including 3,106 children and 1,970 women and 368 elderly, have been injured. Preliminary estimates indicate that up to 1,000 of the children injured will have a permanent disability and up to 1,500 orphaned children will need sustained support from the child protection and welfare sectors.

The cumulative Israeli fatality toll is 69, of whom at least four were civilians, including one child, in addition to one foreign national killed in Israel. Dozens of other Israelis, including at least six children, were directly injured by rockets or shrapnel.

Displacement

Before the conflict, UNRWA, based on the experience of previous escalations of hostilities, had anticipated sheltering some 35,000 to 50,000 displaced people in its installations for a limited period. The actual number reached six times the maximum number in its contingency plan, and was unprecedented in the Agency's 64-year history in Gaza. In total, the number of displaced, including those staying with host families, reached over 500,000 people at the height of the conflict, representing 28 per cent of the population of Gaza. The numbers decreased during the extended period of temporary ceasefires between 11 and 19 August, but again soared to 475,000 in recent days due to resumed hostilities, due to general fear and a lack of access to basic services.

With the declaration of the open-ended ceasefire there was a dramatic decline in the number of IDPs, with the numbers in UNRWA designated shelters decreased from 289,000 to 53,000 between 26 and 27 August. As of this afternoon, the number of IDPs staying in UNRWA shelters was 52,235 with 60 shelters remaining open. Updated estimates of the number of IDPs in government schools and with host families are not available. However, it is estimated that some 108,000 people will remain displaced long-term due to the destruction of, or severe damage to, their homes. According to preliminary findings from the Initial Rapid Assessment,, carried out by humanitarian actors through OCHA coordination. other factors which may delay the return of IDPs are the pervasive presence of ERW, lack of belief in a permanent ceasefire, lack of availability of basic services, and the destruction of livelihoods as a result of hostilities.

There was also significant displacement in southern Israel during the 50-day emergency, particularly among communities which are in range of mortar fire from Gaza, which the Iron Dome system was unable to intercept. According to some sources, as many as 70 per cent of the 40,000 residents of communities near Gaza had left their homes, with many waiting to see if the ceasefire holds before deciding to return to their communities.

Water and electricity

Gaza's public services, already over stretched, were placed under extreme strain during the conflict. Water and electricity networks were damaged and Gaza's only power plant shut down after an Israeli airstrike on 29 July. Necessary repairs and maintenance could not take place due to hostilities and, in several instances, the direct targeting of personnel: at least 14 electricity, water and waste water technicians employed by local utilities were killed by Israeli attacks and at least ten others were injured.

Following the open-ended ceasefire, Gaza Electricity Distribution Corporation (GEDCO) teams resumed intensive repairs to damaged electricity lines. However, limited progress has been achieved so far in the areas that sustained the most severe damage, such as Beit Hanoun, Eastern Gaza city, Johr Ad Deik, Al Bureij, Al Maghazi, Khuza'a and East of Rafah. Therefore, scheduled power cuts across Gaza continue for up to 18 hours per day, on average, with Gaza city suffering 20 hours of outages per day.

The Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) estimates that 75 per cent of the water network is now functional after emergency repairs. However, only 10 per cent of the population of the Gaza Strip receive water once a day, for six to eight

hours; 15 per cent, in Rafah, receive water once every two days; 50 per cent receives water once every four days; and 25 per cent, in Gaza city and Jabalia, receive water once every five days; (in all cases the duration is for six to eight hours).

It is also estimated that eighty per cent of waste water services, 70 per cent of waste water treatment plants, and sixty per cent of desalination plants are now functional,

Emergency education

Nearly half a million children in Gaza were unable to return to primary and secondary schools this week, the scheduled start to the new academic year. Schools currently used as shelters will require varying degrees of rehabilitation in order to be ready for normal schooling. Initial repairs must also be carried out in war-damaged schools, and unexploded ordnance will need to be cleared to restore safety. UNRWA is coordinating with the Ministry of Education a three-phase plan. The first phase expands ongoing psychosocial activities; the second phase involves enhancing learning skills; and the third phase will be a return to education in school buildings.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Temporary shelter and housing solutions to IDPs: immediate and short term plans to accommodate the tens of thousands of families who were rendered homeless are urgently needed.

Sustained opening of crossing: is vital, alongside the removal of restrictions on the entry of materials for rehabilitations and reconstruction.

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW): rapid clearance of built-up areas and critical facilities, as well as awareness raising campaigns amongst the most vulnerable, are urgently needed.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours (08:00-16:00).
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00 for Egyptian citizens; conflict injuries; critical medical cases (non-conflict related); foreign residency card holders; those with third country visas; and dual nationals.

General Coordination

The data collection for the Inter-agency Rapid Needs Assessment (IRA), led by the EOC has been completed. Clusters and sectors are currently engaged in analysis of the data generated from the two level needs assessments, which covered both the governorate and municipal levels. A report summarizing the main findings of the IRA will be released next week.

Funding

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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

REPORTING PERIOD: 19 - 25 AUGUST 2014

Key issues

- Clashes during protests against the Gaza offensive continued: one Palestinian child killed and 79 Palestinians injured
- Israel demolished 11 homes in Area C, displacing 54 Palestinians
- **Gaza Crisis:** for daily reports and updates on the Gaza emergency see: http://www.ochaopt.org/content.aspx?id=1010361

WEST BANK

A 14-year-old child killed and at least 79 Palestinians injured in clashes

During the week, Israeli forces killed a Palestinian child and injured at least 79 Palestinians, including 23 children and one woman, mostly in clashes during continued protests against the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip. No injuries were reported amongst Israeli forces.

On 25 August, a 14-year-old child died due to injuries sustained by live ammunition on 22 August, when shot by Israeli forces during a protest against the Israeli offensive in the Gaza Strip, near the Beit Furik checkpoint (Nablus). This incident brought the number of fatalities in the West Bank since the start of the Gaza offensive to 20, of whom three were children. During the same incident, Israeli forces injured another 8 people, including four children by live ammunition, one of them nine-years old.

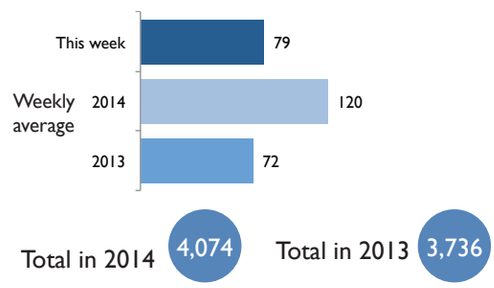
There were at least 22 incidents of clashes during protests against the Gaza events that resulted in injuries this week. The highest number of injuries were sustained in the governorates of Hebron (39 injuries) and Jerusalem (19). About half of this week's injured were by rubber and rubber-coated metal bullets, approximately 28 per cent were injured by live ammunition and the remainder were medically-treated tear gas inhalation or physical assaults by Israeli forces.

The use of live ammunition as a crowd control method has been on the rise since the start of the protests against the Gaza offensive on 7 July: of the 2,218 injuries recorded in this period, 38 per cent were by live ammunition, compared to 14 per cent in the first half of 2014 and 4 per cent in 2013. Additionally, while the absolute number of children injured during this period (345 children) increased significantly compared to previous weeks, they account for 16 per cent of all injuries, a decrease compared to the equivalent figure during the first half of 2014 (29 per cent) and 2013 (32 per cent). This suggests a broader involvement of adults in demonstrations and clashes in protests since the Gaza offensive began, than in previous periods.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	1
In 2014 (to date):	39
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces

www.ochaopt.org

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs occupied Palestinian territory

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Intense search and arrest operations continue

During the week, a total of 96 search and arrest operations were recorded across the West Bank, compared to a weekly average of 86 in the first five months of 2014, prior to the kidnapping and killing of the three Israeli youths on 12 June, and 75 on average per week in 2013. Overall, since that event, a total of 1,454 such operations have been recorded and around 2,100 Palestinians were arrested.

The highest number of search and arrest operations took place in the southern West Bank. During the reporting period 26 out of 96 search and arrest operations took place in Hebron and Bethlehem bringing to 505 the total of search and arrest operations in these governorates since 12 June. In one search and arrest operation in Hebron city on 19 August, Israeli forces physically assaulted a six-month pregnant woman, then detained and interrogated her in Kiryat Arba police station for around six hours. According to the woman, she was denied medical attention, and continued to bleed from an injury in her leg which required stitches. During the same incident, her brother was beaten on his broken leg and arrested.

According to information provided to OCHA from various sources, since 1 June, Israeli forces have raided 1,414 homes, causing damage in around 280 homes and affecting over 12,050 Palestinians in the southern West Bank.

Multiple incidents of stone and Molotov-throwing affecting Palestinians and Israeli settlers

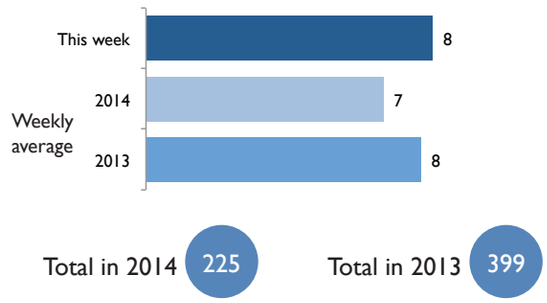
Eight incidents of settler violence resulting in injuries or damage to property were recorded this week, bringing the cumulative number of such incidents to 225 in 2014. Additionally, there were six incidents resulting in injuries or property damage to settlers.

During the reporting period, three Palestinians were physically assaulted in separate incidents in the Israeli-controlled H2 area of Hebron city (Hebron), in Mikhmas (Jerusalem) and in West Jerusalem. Since the beginning of 2014, 63 Palestinians were physically assaulted and injured by settlers, compared to 72 in 2013.

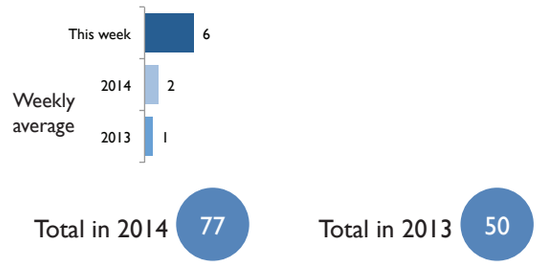
Four incidents resulting in damage to property were recorded during the week and involved stoning of Palestinian vehicles in two incidents in

Settler-related violence*

Incidents resulting in Pal. casualties or property damage



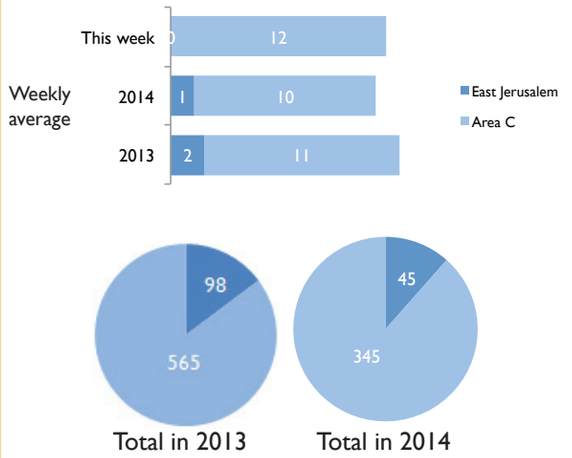
Incidents resulting in Isr. casualties or property damage



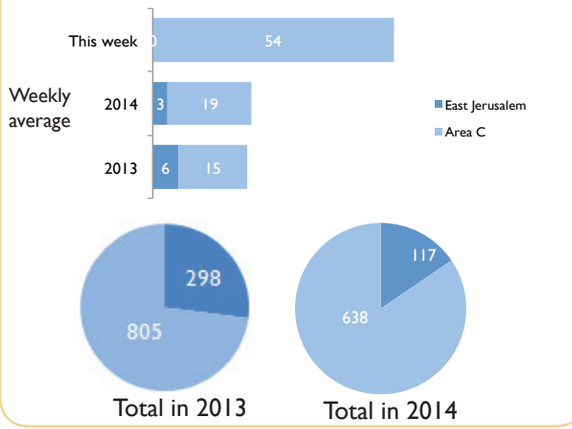
*Excluding casualties by Israeli forces.

Demolitions and related displacements

Structures demolished



People displaced



Bethlehem and Tulkarem; throwing of Molotov cocktails towards a family park in Dura al Qari' village (Ramallah) as well as vandalism and spraying 'revenge' in different locations in the park; and running over and killing of five sheep while injuring five others, belonging to a Palestinian from the community of Mak-hul (Tubas).

An additional kidnapping attempt of a Palestinian child by Israelis was reported by Palestinians this week in the Beit Hanina neighborhood of East Jerusalem, on 20 August, raising the number of such reports in East Jerusalem alone to a minimum of nine since 13 June 2014.

Other incidents not resulting in injuries were reported during the week and involved verbal threats to United Nations employees (Jerusalem), stoning of vehicles (Jericho) and leveling of private Palestinian-owned land near Kisan (Bethlehem). In one such attack, on 21 August, Israeli settlers accompanied by Israeli forces threw sound bombs at a Palestinian house in the H2 area of Hebron's Old City. On 25 August, a group of settlers accompanied by Israeli forces entered the village of Kifl Haris (Salfit), reportedly to visit a Jewish religious site. Meanwhile, Israeli forces closed the village's entrances, and prohibited Palestinian movement in the area. No clashes or damages were reported.

According to Israeli media sources, Palestinian stone throwing at settlers and settler vehicles in three separate incidents accounted for the injury of seven Israelis, including an infant and three children. The infant was injured as a result of stone throwing in the Old City of Jerusalem; the three children were injured as a result of stone throwing towards their vehicle in Wadi Joz (East Jerusalem); and the other three sustained injuries when their vehicle overturned on road 60 near the entrance of Beit Ummar (Hebron), following stone throwing by Palestinians. Additionally, four incidents resulting in property damage were reported, including three involving throwing of Molotov cocktails and, in one incident, opening of fire at the Pisgat Zeev settlement in East Jerusalem from the direction of Shu'fat Refugee Camp (Jerusalem); this was followed with firing of live ammunition by Israeli forces, which injured a 20-year-old Palestinian.

11 homes demolished in Area C, displacing 54 Palestinians

During the week, a total of 11 residential structures and one animal shelter were demolished by the Israeli authorities in Jerusalem, Ramallah, Nablus and Tubas governorates, all on 20 August. In total, 54 people, including 33 children, were displaced, including four families for the second time in one year and including four refugee families. All the structures were located in Area C and demolished due to lack of building permits bringing the total number of structures demolished in Area C in 2014 to 345, compared to 350 in the equivalent period of 2013.

Three of the demolished homes were 100-year-old historical structures built in Aqraba village (Nablus). The houses were rehabilitated by the village council in order to house 17 Palestinians, including 12 children, who are now displaced. According to the village council, no demolition orders or prior notice were issued. The rest of the targeted structures were located in two Bedouin communities: East Tayba (Ramallah), Baqa'a (Jerusalem) as well as the village of Al Aqaba (Tubas). Two families in the latter community, which is located in a "firing zone", were displaced for the second time in two months.

Also in Area C and on grounds of lack of Israeli-issued building permits, Israeli authorities delivered at least two demolition orders and five stop-work orders for a total of seven structures, in the governorates of Tubas, Ramallah and Jerusalem, affecting a total of 22 family members including 11 children.

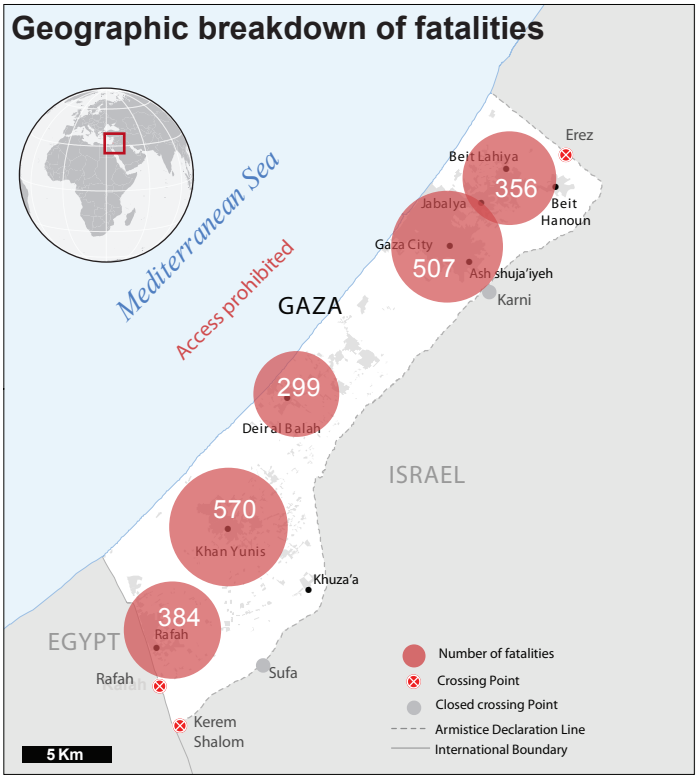
Over *60 per cent of the West Bank is classified as Area C* where Israel retains extensive control, including over planning and zoning. Seventy per cent (70%) of Area C is included within the boundaries of the regional councils of Israeli settlements (as distinct from Israel's designated municipal boundaries) and is off-limits for Palestinian use and development. Palestinian construction in another 29% of Area C is heavily restricted, and only approximately 1% of Area C has been planned for Palestinian development.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
For more information, please contact Amal Husein at huseina@un.org or +972 (0) 592911038

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 29 August 2014, 8:00 hrs)

OCHA

Geographic breakdown of fatalities



1.8 million affected people in the Gaza Strip

11,231* Injured, 3,436 children 3,540 women 418 elderly

106,600* Displaced in UNRWA , government shelters & with host families

500,000 Children unable to start the new school year.

18 hours of scheduled electricity outages are implemented across Gaza.

Situation Overview

As the ceasefire allows for more in-depth sectoral assessments to be conducted, it is clear that the scale of damage is unprecedented, with approximately 13 per cent of the housing stock affected in Gaza Strip. Five per cent of the housing stock is uninhabitable - an estimated 17,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, leaving approximately 100,000 people homeless. This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units, due to people living in overcrowded or inadequate conditions. The provision of temporary housing solutions to these people is one of the major challenges facing the local authorities and the humanitarian community in the coming period.

Gaza's public services, already over stretched, were placed under extreme strain during the conflict. Water and electricity networks were damaged and Gaza's only power plant shut down after an Israeli airstrike on 29 July. Necessary repairs and maintenance could not take place due to hostilities and, in several instances, the direct targeting of personnel: at least 14 electricity, water and waste water technicians employed by local utilities were killed by Israeli attacks and at least ten others were injured. Despite extensive repairs, electricity outages of 18 hours a day continue in most areas across Gaza, and only 10 per cent of the population receive water once a day.

Damaged structures

220 schools damaged

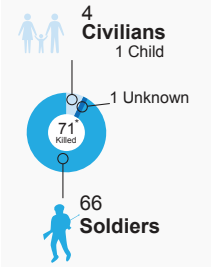
17,000 housing units destroyed or severely damaged

62 hospitals and clinics have been damaged

37,650 housing units sustained damage but are still inhabitable

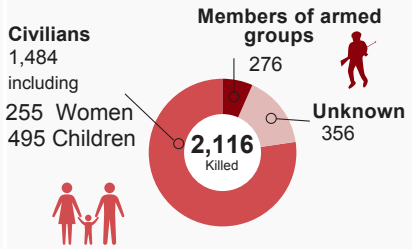
Israeli Fatalities

Fatalities by status

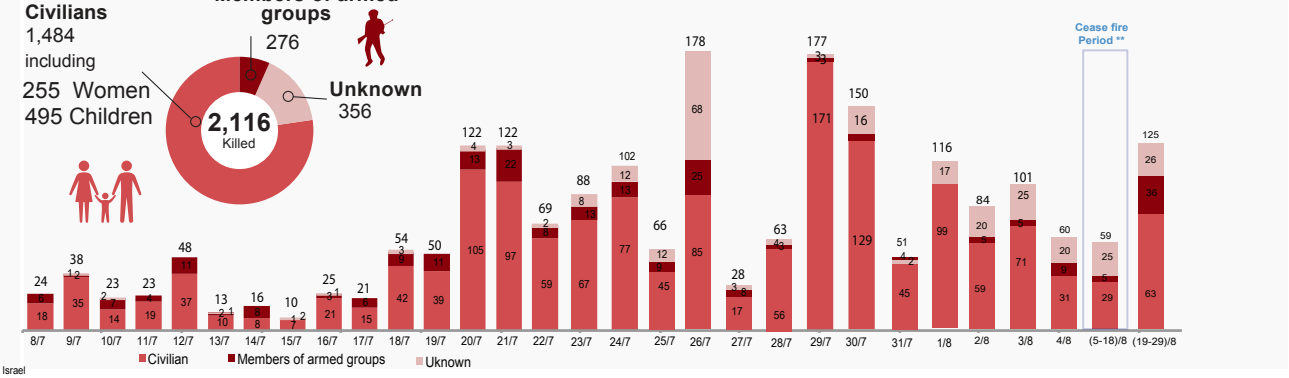


Palestinian Fatalities *

Fatalities by status



Fatalities by date

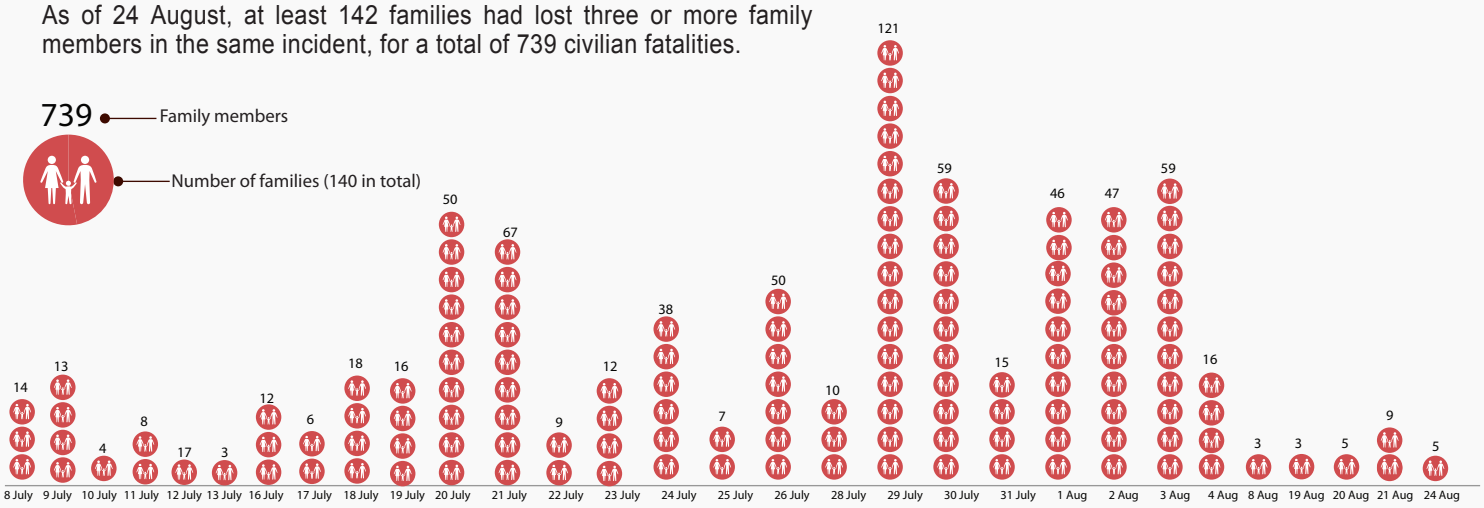


* 1 foreign civilian national was also killed in Israel

** With exception of one day (8 Aug.), between 5 and 18 August, there were a series of temporary ceasefires.

Family-specific Fatalities

As of 24 August, at least 142 families had lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 739 civilian fatalities.



Creation date: 1 Sep. 2014 **Data sources:** UN OCHA, Financial Tracking System, Situation reports. **Feedback:** ochaopt@un.org http://ochaopt.org

* Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications. As of 29 August, UNRWA was providing shelter to 55,849 persons in 41 shelters, estimated 50,000 IDPs with host families. Number of injuries, as of August 31 (17:00) : Ministry of Health.

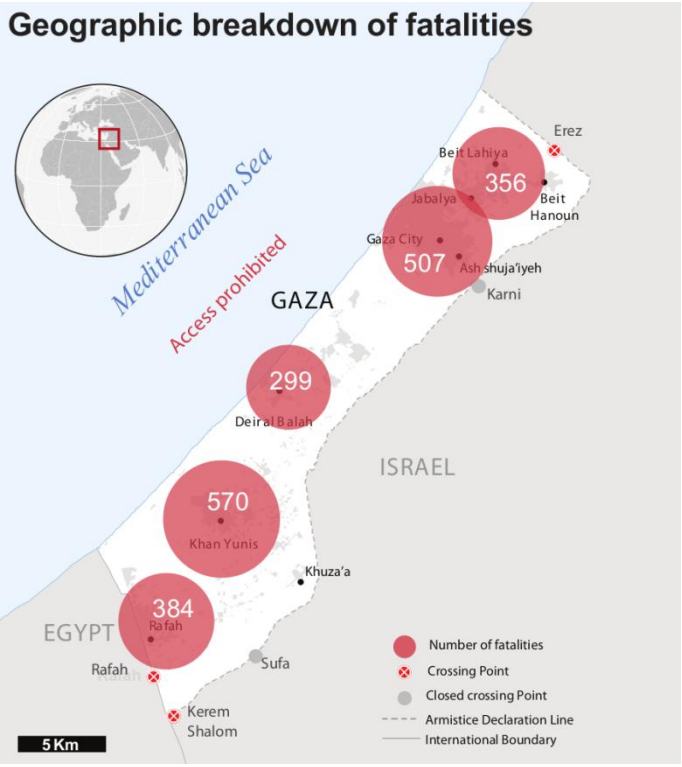
Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza Emergency
Situation Report (as of 4 September 2014, 08:00 hrs)

This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 28 August (08:00 hrs) to 4 September (08:00 hrs).

Highlights

- The open-ended ceasefire which entered into force on 26 August is holding, with no violations reported.
- The Palestinian fatality toll is 2,131, of whom 1,473 have been identified as civilians, including 501 children, according to preliminary assessments.
- Approximately 110,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) still remain in UNRWA emergency shelters and with host families.
- 18,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, leaving approximately 108,000 people homeless.
- 450,000 people are unable to access municipal water due to infrastructure damage and/or low pressure.

(Map as of 29 August).



2,131	71	110,000	18,000	450,000
Palestinians killed, including 1,473 civilians, of whom 501 are children and 257 are women.[1]	Israelis killed, including 66 soldiers, a security coordinator and four civilians. One foreign national civilian was also killed in Israel.	IDPs remain in UNRWA emergency shelters or with host families.	Housing units destroyed or severely damaged, leaving approximately 108,000 people homeless.	People unable to access municipal water due to damage and/or low pressure.

Situation Overview

The open-ended ceasefire which entered into force on 26 August continues to hold. The scale of damage resulting from the 50-day escalation in hostilities is unprecedented since the beginning of the Israeli occupation in 1967. All governorates in Gaza witnessed extensive aerial bombardment, naval shelling and artillery fire, resulting in the widespread loss of life and livelihoods. Damage to public infrastructure was also unprecedented, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without adequate services, including electricity, clean water and quality healthcare.

[1] Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

+ For more information, see "background on the crisis" at the end of the report

The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July and despite extensive repairs, electricity outages of 18 hours a day continue in most areas across Gaza. Extensive damage to the water and wastewater system means that 20 to 30 per cent of households, or 450,000 people, remain unable to access municipal water due to damage and/or low pressure. Following the ceasefire there was a steep decline in the number of internally displaced persons, but figures have gradually risen again in UNRWA shelters, and an estimated 110,000 are still displaced, including with host families. Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) are a major protection concern and pose a risk to those returning to their homes and involved in repair and reconstruction activities.

The majority of the Gaza population has lost its productive assets. According to the Palestinian Federation of Industries, 419 businesses and workshops were damaged, with 128 completely destroyed. With limited activity at the commercial crossings and extensive damage to private infrastructure and other productive assets, business activities were largely paralyzed during the operation. Hostilities forced farmers and herders to abandon their lands, and resulted in substantial direct damage to Gaza's 17,000 hectares of croplands as well as much of its agricultural infrastructure, including greenhouses, irrigation systems, animal farms, fodder stocks and fishing boats. Access to the sea was also prohibited for most of the 50 days of hostilities; restrictions have been restored to the six nautical mile limit, but there have been reports of shooting at, and detaining, fishermen in recent days, reportedly for exceeding this limit.

These losses come on top of an already fragile economy and livelihoods. Around 66 per cent of the population of Gaza was receiving food assistance prior to the crisis and the household food insecurity level or vulnerable to food insecure stood at 72 per cent of households. Unemployment has increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade with Egypt, soaring from 28 per cent in the third quarter (Q3) of 2013 to 45 per cent in Q2 2014; almost 70 per cent of the youth aged 20-24 were unemployed in Gaza in Q2 2014. It is expected that labour market conditions in Gaza will further deteriorate following the conflict, exacerbating the impact of the blockade and the longstanding access restrictions imposed by Israel which have been preventing any meaningful economic activity.

In addition to shelter solutions, the main priority for humanitarian agencies continues to be the repair and reconstruction and the restoration of essential services to affected communities, which effectively means the entire population of the Gaza Strip. However, this will not be possible without a more permanent agreement that will allow for the entry of the materials needed to re-build homes, schools and hospitals, to repair roads, electricity lines and water and sanitation networks and bring about transformational change in Gaza.

Going back to the status quo ante won't solve the problem, it will only defer it for another day. It will not stop the bloodshed, it will make it even worse the next time the cycle rolls over the people of Gaza and plagues the people of Israel. Gaza is an open wound and Band Aids won't help. There must be a plan after the aftermath that allows Gaza to breathe and heal.

UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, 21 July.

Hostilities and casualties

The cumulative death toll among Palestinians as a result of the hostilities is at least 2,131 according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, including 379 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,473 are believed to be civilians, including 501 children and 257 women; 279 members of armed groups. Many fatalities involved multiple family members, with at least 142 Palestinian families having three or more members killed in the same incident, for a total of 739 fatalities. Approximately 25 Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel have reportedly been killed in Gaza by armed groups since 21 August (not included in the fatality toll above).

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 26 August, 11,100 Palestinians, including 3,374 children and 2,088 women and 410 elderly, have been injured. Preliminary estimates indicate that up to 1,000 of the children injured will have a permanent disability and up to 1,500 orphaned children will need sustained support from the child protection and welfare sectors.

The cumulative Israeli fatality toll is 71, of whom 66 were soldiers, one security coordinator, and four were civilians, including one child; one foreign national civilian was also killed in Israel. Dozens of other Israelis, including at least six children, were directly injured by rockets or shrapnel.

Displacement

At the height of the conflict, an estimated 485,000 people – twenty-eight per cent of the population of Gaza – were internally displaced, including in UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters (290,000), government schools (15,000), in informal shelters such as empty buildings, churches or mosques, and with host families (170,000), representing 28 per cent of the population of Gaza. The numbers decreased during the extended period of temporary ceasefires between 11 and 19 August, but soared again to 475,000 prior to the 26 August open-ended ceasefire.

Following the ceasefire there was a dramatic decline in the number of IDPs, with the numbers in UNRWA designated shelters decreased from 289,000 to 53,000 between 26 and 27 August. However, the numbers have been climbing gradually again with

some 60,812 registered in 31 UNRWA shelters as of yesterday evening - higher than the number of displaced sheltered during the peak of the 'Cast Lead' hostilities in December 2008/January 2009. The reason for the increase appears to be a movement from government shelters – most of which have now closed – and host families to UNRWA shelters. An estimated 50,000 are staying with host families and 700 sheltering in two government schools.

WASH

The water and wastewater situation in Gaza was already critical before the emergency, due to continued over-pumping and contamination of the coastal aquifer, and continual electricity and fuel shortages. Water and wastewater services were further hampered during the war, due to aggravations of electricity and fuel shortages and the inaccessibility of many wells, pumping stations, and other facilities within the Israeli declared buffer zone. Despite the improved access to these areas following the cessation of hostilities, services remain affected due to the damage sustained to some facilities, including the Gaza Power Plant (GPP).

An initial Damage Assessment Report (DAR) by the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) indicates that 12 per cent of wells have been destroyed or damaged, particularly in Gaza City, Beit Hanoun, and Deir al Balah municipalities. Agricultural and standby wells, typically with lower water quality and no chlorination, have been used by many municipalities to supplement water supplies and replace damaged wells. The DAR further identified over 33,000 metres of damaged water and wastewater networks but the figure does not include northern Gaza, which was either inaccessible or covered with rubble at the time of the report. The DAR also indicates that five per cent of main lines, three per cent of distribution lines, and 12 per cent of household connections have been damaged. There have been complaints about water quality in Rafah and Gaza municipalities, with particular concerns about sewage entering water pipes due to damage. Wastewater treatment plants in Beit Lahiya and Gaza City are not fully functioning due to damage in the plants themselves or to pressure lines. Consequently, raw sewage is discharging directly to sea or infiltrating into sand dunes. Although solid waste is being collected in most areas, it is less frequent than usual and is gathered in temporary sites within communities rather than dumped in designated landfills.

CMWU has been actively repairing damage and addressed about 80 percent of the priority repairs, focusing on those affecting the greatest number of people. Despite this, current estimates are that 20 to 30 percent of households, or 450,000 people, remain unable to access municipal water due to damage and/or low pressure. Additionally, many of these repairs are temporary and will require longer term repair after emergency works are completed. The reduction in network pressure due to damage and power cuts are also reducing the availability of water to households, with the result that the number of pumping hours reported by municipalities does not always correspond with the hours households receive water. Additionally, households which do not have electricity and/or supplemental pumps cannot fill rooftop storage tanks when water is available.

Shelter

An estimated five per cent of the entire housing stock in Gaza is uninhabitable - 18,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, leaving approximately 108,000 people homeless. This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units, due to people living in overcrowded or inadequate conditions.

Assessment teams from UNRWA, UNDP, and the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MPWH) will conduct detailed damage assessment in all locations starting next week. UNRWA and UNDP teams will conduct detailed damage assessment for shelters of refugee and non-refugee families respectively. Joint teams including UNRWA, UNDP and MPWH will be formed for quality control and appeals.

Health

Gaza's health system suffers from chronic shortages in medicine, medical supplies and equipment and there have been limited training opportunities for staff. The energy crisis and the lack of financial support for the Ministry of Health had negatively impacted the continuity and quality of services prior to the recent emergency.

Over the past week a number of health facilities that had been closed throughout the hostilities have re-opened and are providing services, however, suffering from the same chronic conditions as previously with regard to lack of electricity, shortage of drug supplies and equipment. As of 3 September, three out of 32 hospitals remain closed with a further three having opened with limited service capacity; 24 out of 97 primary health centres (PHCs) remain closed. The closure of the PHCs has resulted in the overburdening of facilities in their vicinity, causing long waiting hours and considerable strain on staff and supplies. With 50 PHCs and 17 hospitals having reported damage to their infrastructure there is urgent need to repair and reopen facilities to ensure basic services are met in all five Gaza governorates.

Education

All 474,000 children enrolled in government, UNRWA or private primary and secondary schools and 55,003 children enrolled in kindergartens, as well as 30,002 university-aged youths, have been affected by the conflict. Twenty-two schools were completely destroyed and 118 schools damaged by conflict. UNRWA has reported at least 75 damaged school buildings. Many of the higher education facilities, including the Islamic University in Gaza, have also been affected. The education sector was already overstretched prior to the crisis, suffering from a shortage of almost 200 schools, with classes running in double shifts.

The new school year was scheduled to start on 24 August, but has been postponed to 14 September. When schools open, children will face even more acute over-crowding and under-resourcing as a result of the collateral damage suffered. Priorities are ERW clearance and the rehabilitation of schools from damage sustained and because of their employment as emergency shelters for IDPs. Furniture, textbooks and learning materials will also need to be replaced. Transportation is also a concern as students and teachers may need to travel some distance to schools, due to displacement or damaged schools. Additionally, with hundreds of thousands of children in need of psychosocial support (PSS), teachers and educational staff (many of whom have also experienced acute trauma) will be stretched to provide the appropriate support required to ease children back in to school and to provide ongoing support throughout the school year.

Key humanitarian priorities:

Temporary shelter and housing solutions to IDPs: immediate and short term plans to accommodate the tens of thousands of families who were rendered homeless are urgently needed.

Sustained opening of crossings: is vital, alongside the removal of restrictions on the entry of materials for rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW): rapid clearance of built-up areas and critical facilities, as well as awareness raising campaigns amongst the most vulnerable, are urgently needed.

Additional fuel supply: fuel is needed to operate backup generators at essential facilities, including water, sanitation and health, for longer hours.

Erez: Open for movement during normal working hours (08:00-16:00).
Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba): Operational.
Kerem Shalom: Open as per its regular operating hours (08:00-16:00).
Rafah: Open from 09:00 to 15:00 for Egyptian citizens; conflict injuries; critical medical cases (non-conflict related); foreign residency card holders; those with third country visas; and dual nationals.

Humanitarian needs and response

Protection

Needs

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS). Children are showing symptoms of increasing distress, including bed wetting, clinging to parents and nightmares.
- Specifically, there is a need to increase the number of structured activities and specialized PSS support, as opposed to PSS first aid, for children and families identified as requiring a referral to such services.
- Up to 1,500 orphaned children will need sustained support from the child protection and welfare sectors.
- Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) infest civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW.

Response

- Protection Cluster members are investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- CPWG partners are providing PSS interventions in shelters and in host families.
- PRCS continues to provide PSS interventions through UNWRA and governmental schools/shelters.
- UNICEF has reached 750,000 people in Gaza with life-saving and child protection SMS text messages, targeting the most vulnerable communities in Gaza.
- The Sawa Child Protection Helpline has thus far provided counselling to a total of 2,812 callers.

- Since 8 July, UNRWA Community Mental Health Programme (CMHP) has conducted 16,084 PSS sessions for parents and recreational activities for children. CMHP also coordinated and supervised the implementation of sessions by other partners. Numbers of reached beneficiaries are currently being updated.
- CFTA has organized open days in the Khan Yunis and Tomoh has conducted five open days in the neighbourhood of Sheikh Radwan of Gaza city; both are providing PSS support through structured group activities to the communities of Ad Darraj, Northern Remal, Jabalia El Balad, Deir al Balah, and Khan Yunis.
- Since 27 July, UNMAS has conducted 147 risk assessments in all governorates in places such as schools, health facilities, food distribution centres and the Rafah crossing.
- 17 Risk Education Sessions have been conducted by UNMAS, reaching 1,488 persons, including 478 humanitarian workers from NGOs and UN agencies.
- More than 50,000 ERW awareness flyers have been distributed to IDPs by UNRWA and UNMAS, as well as to all people living or working in and around the infrastructures assed by UNMAS.
- An estimated 1 million of people have been indirectly reached by radio spots, safety SMS messages and/or TV spots.

Gaps and Constraints

- Major electricity outages continue to hamper communication with staff and partners on the ground. Most child protection services remain closed.
- Core child protection interventions to protect children from violence, abuse and exploitation are limited and systems to detect, prevent and respond to cases of child abuse in shelters and host communities remain weak.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- It is estimated that about 18,000 families (consisting of approximately 108,000 individuals) whose homes were totally destroyed or heavily damaged are in need of transitional shelter support, as well as emergency NFI kits. In the medium term, they will require cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- Emergency shelter repair items are needed for about 5,800 families (34,800 individuals), whose homes were damaged but are still inhabitable. Another 38,000 families (an estimated 228,000 individuals), whose homes sustained minor damage need basic NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.
- Household and hygiene NFIs are required for individuals in collective centres, host family situations and other locations of displacement.
- Emergency shelter materials to support individuals in collective centres and host family situations are required to provide some basic level of privacy in crowded conditions.

Response

- As of yesterday, about 60,000 people were provided with shelter in 31 designated UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and an estimated 50,000 with IDPs are hosted with relatives.
- Shelter and WASH partners have provided household NFIs to 57,572 families and hygiene NFIs to 118,630 families since the beginning of the emergency. Standard household NFI kits include two mattresses and four blankets. Sometimes kitchen sets are also included; IDPs residing in shelter do not normally receive kitchen sets since there is no available capacity to cook. Such items are normally distributed to either IDPs with hosting families or those residing in damaged, but still inhabitable houses. Standard hygiene NFI kits usually include soap, shampoos, toothpaste, tooth brushes, towels, tissues and basic cleaning supplies.

Gaps and Constraints

- More assessment is needed to identify the current needs of IDP at shelters or host families, and of people who returned to their homes.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- On average, 20 to 30 per cent of water networks remain significantly damaged.
- Wastewater networks are similarly affected, with 20 to 30 per cent damages.
- The majority of communities report that people do not have sufficient hygiene items. Additional items requested include lice treatment shampoo, cleaning supplies for shelters and households, and underwear for women and girls.

Response

- PWA, CMWU and municipalities are coordinating and progressing with damage repair to WASH facilities and major damages in pipelines.
- Over 350,000 beneficiaries have received potable water through trucking from ACF, OXFAM, PU, Save the Children and UNICEF.
- Over 24.000 beneficiaries have received municipal water through trucking from ACF, Save and UNICEF.
- Overall, response activities include: support to network and facilities repair, generators and spare parts, consumables (including chlorine), potable water trucking, domestic water trucking, provision of bulk storage (tanks) and HH storage (jerry cans), set up of public distribution points, bottled water, water vouchers, hygiene kits and hygiene promotion.

Gaps and Constraints

- The problematic area for WASH response now lies within communities and neighborhoods east of Salah ad Deen Road, which have been partially or completely destroyed. For those areas which require urban or rural planning / master plans, service providers depend upon comprehensive reconstruction plans in order to re-design the water and sanitation network.

Health and Nutrition

Needs

- Health facilities damaged and/or closed have hindered the delivery of health services. A number of health facilities which had been closed throughout the hostilities re-opened during the reporting period. As of yesterday, three of the 32 hospitals and 24 of the 97 primary health care centres in the Gaza Strip remained closed according to the Ministry of Health.

Response

- Health service providers are conducting defaulter tracing of children who have missed their vaccination requirements during the past two months.
- Several partners are providing static PHC services where health facilities have been destroyed and mobile clinics continue to support the compromised health system throughout Gaza.
- Health posts remain installed in all remaining shelters, providing basic health care to about 60,000 people.
- The early warning system for communicable disease is established in most health facilities and currently not reporting any major public health concerns.
- Since the beginning of the Gaza crisis, UNRWA's health centres have recorded more than 650,000 patient visits, including maternal health care visits, child visits, such as for example for immunization, visits by people with non-communicable diseases, such as hypertension and diabetes, and about 388,000 visits to seek medical care for acute and common illnesses.

Gaps and Constraints

- Health centres are suffering from chronic problems such as lack of electricity and shortage of drugs, including those which have re-opened during the last week.

Food Security

Needs

- IDPs are in need of food and other immediate assistance.
- The entire population of Gaza has been affected by the conflict and almost all need food and other assistance to recover.
- Over 100,000 people whose homes were destroyed or damaged beyond repair will need food and other assistance for a longer term.
- The lack of electricity limits the storage capacity for fresh food for both shops and households. Bakeries face challenges with their generators and fuel stock.
- WFP requires approximately US$ 63 million for emergency humanitarian response in Gaza for a period of three months, in addition to funds for regular programmes.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population should be consistently assured.

Response

- The regular food assistance to more than one million UNRWA and WFP core beneficiaries is ongoing.
- In addition, approximately 690,000 out of around 730,000 people have been reached by the one-time exceptional food distribution to affected families who are not receiving regular food assistance implemented by UNRWA, WFP and the Ministry of Social Affairs.
- Food assistance for those people who have their houses totally or severely damaged is ongoing.
- WFP and partners are working to support the opening of schools with an emergency school meals programme.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, is providing ready-to-eat emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA and government shelters on a daily basis.
- WFP continues to provide food assistance to IDPs hosted with relatives and to some 2,000 patients and hospital staff.
- Between 26 August and 2 September, a total of 30 WFP trucks crossed from Israel into Gaza through Kerem Shalom cargo.
- On 27 August and on 2 September, two WFP humanitarian convoys successfully crossed from Egypt into the Gaza Strip through the Rafah crossing, carrying a combined load of 25,000 food parcels, enough to feed approximately 150,000 people for five days.

Education

Needs

- Twenty-two schools were completely destroyed and 118 schools damaged by conflict.
- The current ceasefire must last so that unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year, can take place.

Response

- Preparations for the new school year, which is set to start on 14 September following a three-week delay, are ongoing.
- UNRWA, in coordination with MoEHE and partners, planned to implement a three-phase back-to-school plan in war torn Gaza this week, to help students and teachers start to transition into a new school year. The plan includes PSS interventions, and implementing a new technology, UNRWA's satellite TV education programs and self-learning material for all children.
- The Education Cluster is also working with service providers to coordinate a special package for returning school students, with a focus on PSS support and recreational activities.
- UNMAS is assessing all schools affected by the conflict for UXOs in order to allow children to restart school in the coming days. ERW risk education is being prepared to be integrated in official educational curriculum.

Gaps & Constraints

- Inadequate funding for cluster activities.
- The need for longer-term shelter for tens of thousands of IDPs will present significant challenges to the operation of schools currently being used as shelters.

Logistics

Needs

- Unrestricted movement of humanitarian cargo from the West Bank and Israel to the Gaza Strip is required.
- Safe and secure humanitarian space to ensure transportation and distribution within the Gaza Strip of relief supplies is needed.

Response

- During the reporting period, the Logistics Cluster facilitated the transportation of 1,360 pallets of supplies into the Gaza Strip, supporting the work of 16 organizations.
- Logistics Cluster has provided the humanitarian community three dedicated warehouses and one refrigerated warehouse inside the Gaza Strip.
- Logistics Cluster has also provided five staging areas available in Jerusalem, Hebron, Ashqelon, Ramallah and Nablus for consolidation, palletisation, loading and dispatch.
- Logistics Cluster facilitates coordination of transport services.

Gaps and Constraints

- Cargo transported via the Beitunia crossing from the West Bank into Israel is experiencing significant delays due to limited capacity.
- Cargo transported via the Tarqumia crossing from the West Bank into Israel is experiencing delays due to increasing number of trucks and complex security procedures.

General Coordination

The data collection for the Multi-Cluster Inter-agency Rapid Needs Assessment (MIRA), led by the EOC has been completed. Clusters and sectors have completed analysis of the data generated from the two level needs assessments, which covered both the governorate and municipal levels. A report summarizing the main findings of the MIRA will be released next week.

The Humanitarian Coordinator and the Deputy Prime Minister discussed the necessary complementarity and coordination between the Humanitarian Appeal (Gaza Crisis Appeal) and the Government-led 100 Day Plan. A joint presentation to donors by the Deputy Prime Minister and the Humanitarian Coordinator of the revised Gaza Crisis Appeal is scheduled for 9 September in Ramallah.

Funding

Based on information available, partners have so far received approximately $186 million for their projects in the appeal. This is largely made up however, of funding to a few big UN agencies. Despite reasonable to good funding to these larger UN agencies, many humanitarian partners working in critical areas have received little to no funding for their Crisis Appeal interventions, including national NGOs who are key partners on the ground. Particular attention must be paid to key sectors for example Health, WASH, Education and Protection, which have been underfunded to date. Much more funding is also needed in Shelter and Food Security given the size of the request.

According to FTS, up to $171 million has been directed outside the appeal (committed and pledged) since the start of the Crisis, the bulk of which destined for Gaza. Of the funding reported outside the appeal, the majority has been from Gulf-based donors ($125 million), with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia the largest contributor ($80 million).

A revised Gaza Crisis appeal is due to be issued shortly.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. To date, 13 project proposals were approved for a total of US $3.1 million. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

UN humanitarian agencies, in cooperation with NGO partners have applied to the CERF Rapid Response window to cover urgent needs in food assistance, psychosocial support, WASH, rubble removal and critical drugs.

Background to the crisis

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups.

This development marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has been gradually undermined since December 2013. The latest escalation round started in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up to the start of the current operation a total of 15 Palestinians, including one civilian, were killed, and another 58 others, mostly civilians, injured, as a result of Israeli airstrikes in the Gaza Strip; seven Israelis, five of whom were civilians, were injured due to rocket fire.

The current crisis comes against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability. Unemployment increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade, exacerbating the impact of the Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. Additionally, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014. Delivery of basic services has been also undermined due to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

OCHA oPt

REPORTING PERIOD: 26 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER 2014

Key issues

- 38 Palestinians injured: the lowest number in eleven weeks
- 16 homes demolished in area C and East Jerusalem, displacing 76 Palestinians
- 3,799 dunums in the vicinity of Gush Etzion settlement block, declared 'state land'
- **Gaza Crisis:** for daily reports and updates on the Gaza emergency see: http://www.ochaopt.org/content.aspx?id=1010361

WEST BANK

Sharp decline in injuries following the open-ended ceasefire

This week witnessed a sharp decline in demonstrations and clashes with Israeli forces across the West Bank, largely due to the open-ended cease fire agreement reached between Israel and Palestinian factions in Gaza, which came into effect on 26 August. Overall, Israeli forces injured at least 38 Palestinians, including 11 children, in various incidents during the week - approximately one third of the weekly average of Palestinian injuries in the West Bank in 2014, and less than half of the injuries reported during the previous week. Four injuries were reported amongst Israeli forces.

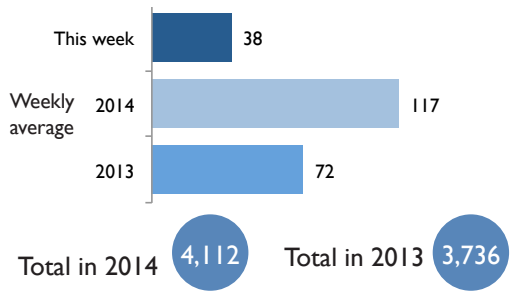
Two of the Palestinian injuries resulted from live ammunition in clashes with Israeli forces during a search and arrest operation in Duheisha refugee camp (Bethlehem). A total of 78 such operations were recorded during the week, compared to a weekly average of 126 since 12 June 2014, following the kidnapping and killing of three Israeli youths and the launching of a massive arrest campaign, focused in the southern West Bank. Of note, on 26 September, Israeli forces returned around 1000 computer and surveillance cameras which were seized during the massive arrest campaign in the Hebron governorate.

In two separate incidents on 28 and 29 August, ten Palestinians including four children, were injured in Beit Ummar village (Hebron) during periodic protests against the expansion of the settlement of Karmi Zur on village land. Another seven injures were recorded in Kafr Qaddum during the weekly village protest against the longstanding closure of one of the main routes into the village, which passes through the nearby settlement of Qedumim.

Palestinian Fatalities by Isr. forces

This week:	0
In 2014 (to date):	39
Equivalent 2013 period:	9

Palestinian Injuries by Isr. forces



Search and arrest operations by Isr. forces

Drop in the number of recorded settler violence incidents

Three incidents of settler violence resulting in damage to property were recorded this week compared to a weekly average of seven incidents resulting in both casualties and damage to property in 2014. Additionally, there were four incidents

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resulting in injuries or property damage to Israeli settlers.

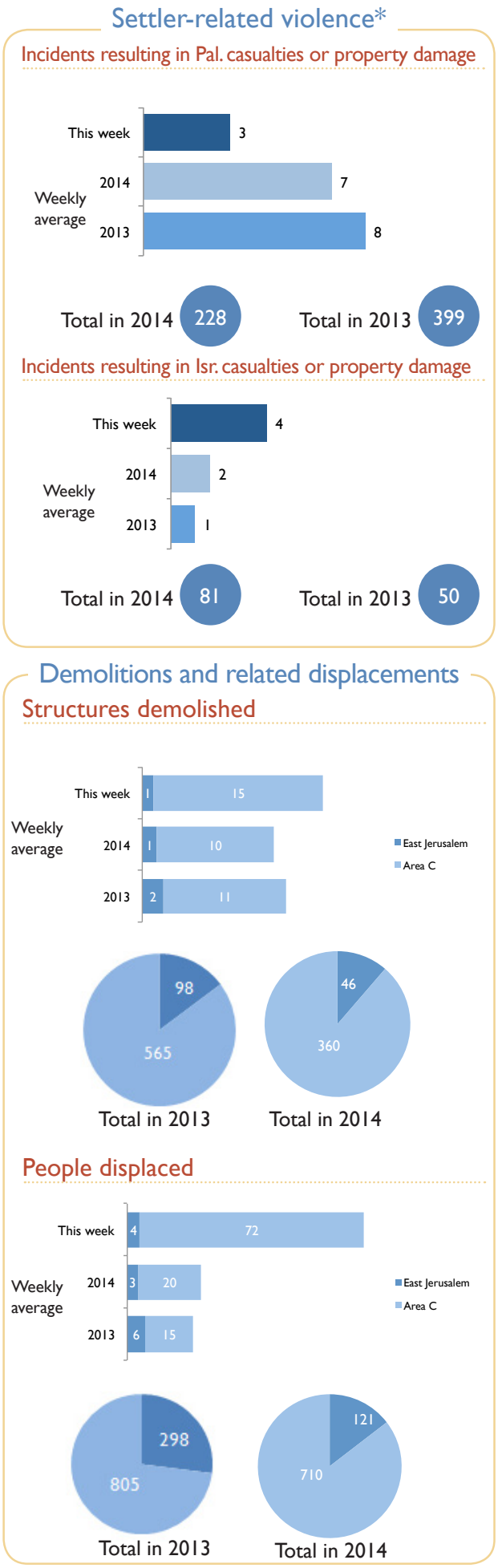
In two separate incidents, on 28 August and 1 September in the village of Beit Ummar (Hebron) settlers from Bat Ayin reportedly cut down a total of 37 trees and grape vines on land belonging to Palestinians. These incidents took place despite measures implemented by the Israeli authorities following an Israeli High Court of Justice decision in 2013, to address systematic settler violence in this area. Additionally, settlers from the settlement of Itamar reportedly set fire to ten dunums of land in Awarta village (Nablus). Since the beginning of 2014, 113 incidents of settler violence affecting agricultural property, including arson, were recorded, compared to 219 in 2013.

Other settler attacks not resulting in injuries or damage to property were reported during the week. On 31 August, armed Israeli settlers from a settlement outpost in Nablus (Hill 777) raided a house in the nearby village of Yanun (Nablus) and threatened a Palestinian shepherd they accused of theft. On 30 August, two Palestinians, including a 13-year-old child were physical assaulted by Israeli settlers in Hebron's old city and subsequently arrested by Israeli forces.

According to Israeli media sources, there were four separate incidents of Palestinian stone-throwing at Israeli vehicles in the governorates of Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Ramallah, resulting in the injury of three Israelis, including two women, and damage to one vehicle.

Large area in Bethlehem intended for settlement expansion declared 'State Land'

On 25 August, the Israeli Civil Administration (ICA) announced the declaration of 3,799 dunums of land (1 dunum = 1000 m2) in the Bethlehem governorate, within the Gush Etzion settlement block, as "state land". The affected areas are adjacent to the Green Line and lie within the village boundaries of Surif, Nahhalin, Husan, Al Jab'a and Wadi Fukin villages. People claiming private ownership over the land were given 45 days to appeal the declaration before a military committee. According to Israeli media, the area is expected to be allocated for the "legalization" and expansion of the settlement outpost of Geva'ot. This follows a case earlier this



year, on 6 April 2014, in which the ICA had declared as 'state land' 1,000 dunums of land in Area C in western Bethlehem governorate.

On 1 September, the spokesman for the UN Secretary-General stated that "the seizure of such a large swathe of land risks paving the way for further settlement activity, which- as the United Nations has reiterated on many occasions- is illegal under international law and runs totally counter to the pursuit of a two-state solution''

According to Israeli official data, over 99 percent of all state land in Area C has been included within the jurisdictional boundaries of Israeli settlement local and regional councils and subsequently allocated for settlement or closed military training purposes or nature reserves.

On 26 August, Israeli authorities delivered a requisition order for around 11 dunums of land in the villages of Sa'ir and Ash Shuyukh (Hebron) near the settlement of Asfar(Mezad), citing "military security purposes". The owners were given seven days to appeal the order.

76 Palestinians displaced following demolitions; plans for the "relocation" of Bedouin communities advanced

During the week, a total of 15 structures, including eight residential structures were demolished by the Israeli authorities in the Jerusalem and Hebron governorates in addition to a residential structure that was self-demolished. In total, 76 people, including 48 children, were displaced, and seven others affected. Five of the structures were funded by international donors. All but one of the affected structures were located in Area C and demolished due to lack of Israeli-issued building permits, bringing the total number of structures demolished in Area C in 2014 to 361, compared to 350 in the equivalent period of 2013.

The demolitions took place in Khirbet Ar Rahwa (Hebron); the town of Az Za'ayyem (Jerusalem); and the Bedouin community of Az Za'ayyem (Jerusalem). The latter, occurred on 28 August, and affected five structures, including one donor-funded, belonging to four refugee families. According to some of the families, they were not given time to vacate their belongings and furniture, and some of it was lost under the rubble. This is one of the Bedouin communities that are at risk of forcible transfer due to an official "relocation plan" advanced by the Israeli authorities.

In connection to this plan, last week the Israeli Civil Administration (ICA) deposited for public objection three out of four residential outline plans entailing the creation of a new town in An Nuwei'ma (Jericho), which will accommodate the transfer of Bedouin communities from their current places of residence. Interested parties have 60 days to lodge objections to the plans with the ICA. The UN Secretary-General has stated previously that the implementation of the proposed "relocation" would amount to individual and mass forcible transfers and forced evictions, prohibited under international humanitarian law and human rights law.

On 26 August, in the Beit Safafa neighborhood of East Jerusalem, a Palestinian family self-demolished its house, to avoid paying demolition fees if the demolition were to be carried out by the Israeli authorities. According to the family, the house was built on privately owned land 14 years ago. A stop work order was delivered to the family in 2008 for lack of an Israeli-issued building permit and the subsequent and final demolition order was delivered in June 2014.

Please note that the figures in this report are subject to changes upon the receipt of additional information.
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Joint Press Release

Aid agencies request $551 million for urgent humanitarian needs for civilians affected by the Gaza Crisis

Ramallah, 9 September 2014

Today, the Deputy Prime Minister of the State of Palestine, H.E. Dr. Mohammad Mustafa, and the Humanitarian Coordinator, Mr. James W. Rawley, released the updated Gaza Crisis Appeal, which focuses on addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of Palestinians in Gaza affected by the recent armed conflict.

"The past months have been some of the grimmest for our people in Gaza, who are now experiencing urgent humanitarian needs. The Gaza Crisis Appeal is an essential first response to these needs. This Appeal and our "Bridging to Recovery" Initiative represent the start of the Gaza Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan developed by the Government," said Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Mustafa. "We challenge the world to be ambitious and daring in helping us realise recovery, reconstruction and a better future for Gaza as part of an independent prosperous Palestinian state. An immediate measure is to end the blockade on Gaza and ensure our people never again experience the horrors of this summer."

"It is painfully clear that the scope of damage and devastation is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip. Equally clear is that the crisis is far from over," said Mr. Rawley. "It is imperative that this Appeal be strongly supported so that the humanitarian needs identified through the multi-cluster rapid assessment (MIRA) can be addressed. But this will only carry us through the next few months and is not a solution. We need fundamental changes in the Gaza Strip, to transform the situation from one of death and despair to one of hope and opportunity. Foremost among these is a continued ceasefire, a full lifting of the blockade, and a political solution."

The 2014 Gaza Crisis Appeal requests $551 million in support of the vulnerable population of the Gaza Strip affected by the conflict. It focuses on displaced persons, the injured, the elderly, children, and women, as well as farmers and fishermen who have lost their livelihoods. The Appeal includes the provision of food assistance and basic supplies; expanding access to health, water and education; and meeting the protection needs of the population, including psychosocial support. Assistance will be provided by the Government, UN agencies, and international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

ENDS

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United Nations

GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

September 2014 Update

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Coordination Saves Lives

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

$ 551.2 MILLION REQUESTED

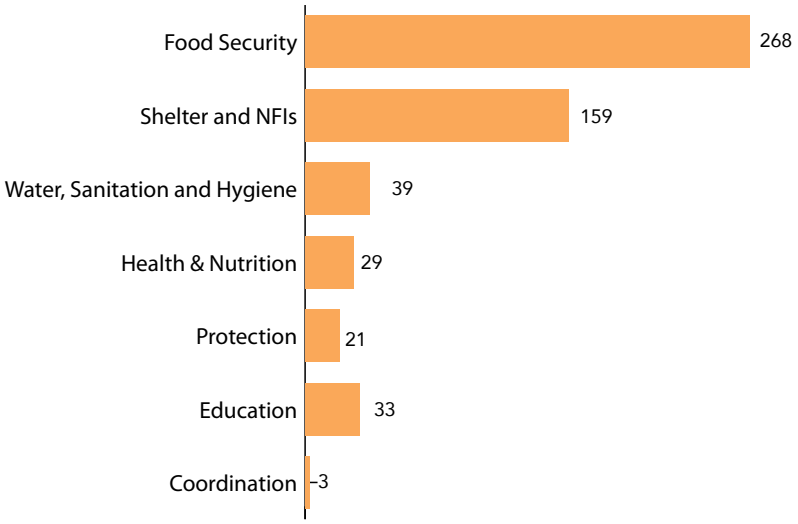
The Gaza Crisis Appeal presents the joint strategy of the humanitarian community, including UNRWA, to respond to the current crisis in the Gaza Strip. The Gaza Crisis Appeal is closely coordinated with the Palestinian Government's ongoing immediate response, as well as its early recovery and reconstruction strategy.

Amounts requested and planning figures will be updated if the situation on the ground requires and are valid as of 1 September 2014. The Gaza Crisis Appeal requirements are reflected in revised requirements for the 2014 Strategic Response Plan for the oPt

1.8 MILLION
AFFECTED AS A RESULT OF THIS CRISIS

100,000
ESTIMATED DISPLACED PEOPLE IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE; ALL 1.8 MILLION ARE BEING TARGETED IN SOME WAY BY THE PROJECTS IN THIS APPEAL

REQUIREMENTS BY CLUSTER (US$ MILLION)



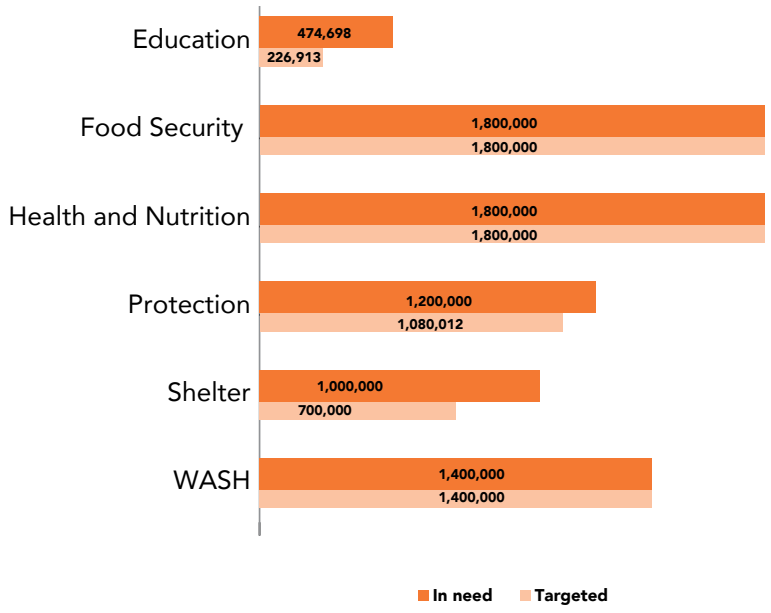
1. The appeal requirements will be reflected in the revised 2014 Strategic Response Plan.

LINKING THE HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY WITH LONGER TERM RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION PLAN FOR GAZA

As with the SRP (former CAP), the Gaza Crisis Appeal has been prepared in close coordination with the Palestinian Government and draws upon priorities jointly identified as result of the need assessment process between the humanitarian community and the government ministries. The Gaza Crisis Appeal is a key component in the Government's multi-phased strategy for response, as laid out in the Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan 2014-2017, which will be launched ahead of the donors' conference in October 2014.

As part of the Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan the Government will initiate rapid and sustainable recovery with select priority interventions– particularly in areas beyond the scope of the humanitarian appeal, such as the private sector, utilities and essential government services - under the "Bridging to Recovery" Initiative in the coming weeks.

PEOPLE IN NEED AND TARGETED



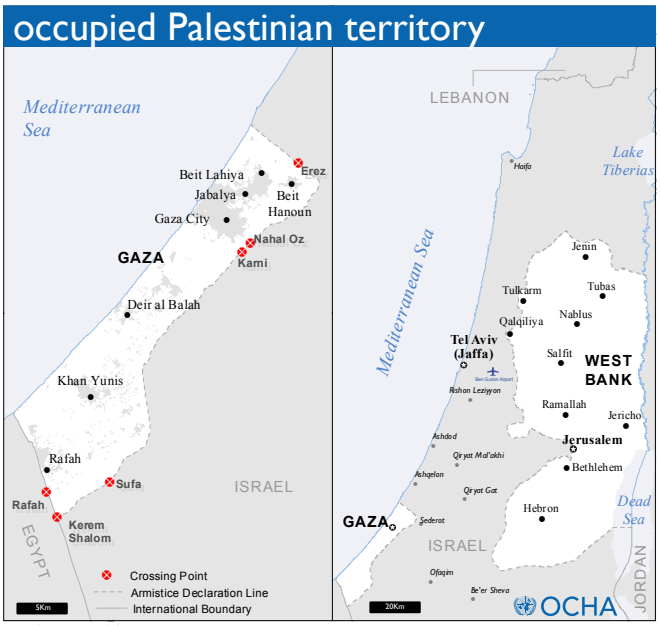
OVERVIEW OF THE CRISIS

On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a military operation, "Protective Edge", in the Gaza Strip.The bombardment and military ground operations have resulted in a very high civilian death toll, huge destruction and devastation of civilian buildings and infrastructure, and large scale displacement, unprecedented in the Gaza Strip since at least the start of the Israeli occupation in 1967. Every man, woman and child in the Gaza Strip - some 1.8 million people – have been directly affected by the conflict. While all geographic areas of Gaza were affected by the violence, many areas were damaged by extensive aerial bombardment, naval shelling and artillery fire, resulting in widespread loss of life and extensive damage to civilian property and public infrastructure, including the total destruction of some neighbourhoods. Following several short-lived cease-fires, on 26 August at 19:00 the parties to the conflict reached an open-ended cease-fire which has held to date.

The hostilities also had a severe impact on the Israeli civilian population. Communities and cities in the vicinity of the Gaza Strip in particular were under uninterrupted rocket and mortar fire by Palestinian factions, resulting in at least five civilian deaths, including one child, damage to property, and mass displacement.

At least 1,473 Palestinian civilians were killed, including 501 children and 257 women. Many fatalities involved multiple family members, with at least 142 Palestinian families having three or more members killed in the same incident, for a total of 739 fatalities[1]. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, over 11,100 Palestinians, including 3,374 children and 2,088 women, were injured. Furthermore, five civilians, including one foreign national in Israel were killed (the status of one additional person killed in Israel is unknown) and dozens of Israeli civilians including at least six children have been directly injured by rockets, mortars or shrapnel. Throughout the hostilities, there was significant, credible information that the parties to the conflict on both sides violated international law, including actions that may amount to war crimes, particularly with respect to the principles of distinction, proportionality and precautions in attack.

Accountability for the lives lost, homes destroyed and damage wrought is crucial for individual victims and for communities and required by international law. Alleged violations must be investigated promptly, thoroughly, independently, impartially and effectively, including as part of an international process, and victims assured a remedy for harm suffered. The continued failure to ensure proper accountability on both sides following earlier escalations of hostilities in Gaza is a serious concern.



Map Source(s): OCHA oPt. *The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.* Map created on 09.07.2014

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW)[2] and other explosive hazards are widely dispersed in civilian areas throughout the Gaza Strip, posing an urgent humanitarian threat to the civilian population. This also limits the freedom of movement of humanitarian workers delivering essential lifesaving services, and will impede reconstruction efforts once the conflict has ended[3].

The level of internal displacement has been staggering. At the height of the conflict an estimated 500,000 people – twenty-eight percent of the population – were internally displaced in UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters, government schools and informal shelters, and with host families. Following the cease-fire that started on 26 August 2014, there was a dramatic decline in the number of IDPs, with the numbers in UNRWA designated shelters decreasing from 289,000 to 53,000 between 26 and 27 August. However, the numbers have been climbing gradually again with some 60,812 registered in 31 UNRWA shelters as of 3 September. The reason for the increase appears to

be a movement from government shelters – most of which have now closed – and host families to UNRWA shelters. An estimated 50,000 are staying with host families and 700 sheltering in two government schools. Schools presently used as shelters will require varying degrees of rehabilitation and ERW clearance where needed, in order to be ready for the new school year, the delay of which has affected nearly half a million children in Gaza.

Approximately five per cent of the housing stock has been rendered uninhabitable by the conflict. An estimated 18,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, leaving more approximately 108,000 people homeless[4]. This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units, due to people living in overcrowded or inadequate conditions. The provision of temporary housing solutions to the homeless is one of the major challenges facing local authorities and the humanitarian community in the coming period.

Damage to public infrastructure is also unprecedented, further undermining an already precarious situation. Virtually the entire population is without adequate services, including electricity, clean water and quality healthcare. The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July and despite extensive repairs, electricity outages of 18 hours a day continue in most areas across Gaza. Widespread damage to water and wastewater systems means that only 10 per cent of the population is receiving water once a day. Twenty-two schools were completely destroyed and 118 schools damaged by conflict, while over 67 hospitals and clinics have been damaged. Approximately 500,000 children are unable to start the new school year. [5]

The majority of the Gaza population has had at least some of its productive assets destroyed or negatively affected. According to the Palestinian Federation of Industries, 360 businesses and workshops were damaged, with 126 completely destroyed. With limited activity at the commercial crossings and extensive damage to private infrastructure and other productive assets, business activities were largely paralyzed during the operation. Hostilities forced farmers and herders to abandon their lands, and resulted in substantial direct damage to Gaza's 3,200 hectares of croplands as well as much of its agricultural infrastructure, including greenhouses, irrigation systems, animal farms, fodder stocks and fishing boats. Access to the sea was also prohibited for most of the 50 days of hostilities. The current fishing limit stands at six-nautical miles, which is still limiting the capacities of fishers in Gaza.

> *[...] A brighter future for Gaza and for Israel depends on a sustainable ceasefire. It is up to the parties to live up to this responsibility… Any peace effort that does not tackle the root causes of the crisis will do little more than set the stage for the next cycle of violence… the blockade of Gaza must end; Israel's legitimate security concerns must be addressed… The Secretary-General urgently calls on both parties to return to meaningful negotiations towards a final status agreement that addresses all core issues and ends the 47-year occupation.*
>
> Statement attributable to the Spokesman for the UN Secretary-General, 26 August.

The Government and humanitarian partners have been carrying out rapid assessments to better understand the scope of needs now and in the months ahead, and scaling up their responses to reach people in need. The operating environment for humanitarian and government workers continues to be challenging, given the scale of needs and the presence of ERWs and other explosive hazards. Risk assessments of affected infrastructures with a high humanitarian value as well as awareness activities have taken place since the earliest stage of the emergency, and will be strengthened in the coming months to reduce the humanitarian impact of ERWs. Special focus is placed on identifying the needs of particularly vulnerable people, including children, female heads of households, the elderly, the disabled, new orphans and IDPs with host families. There is a heightened risk of domestic and gender-based violence during these difficult times, particularly among families living in overcrowded and stressful conditions.

This latest conflict has compounded and exacerbated the pre-existing dire situation of Palestinians in Gaza. The ongoing occupation, characterized by the blockade, control of the access restricted areas, denial of human rights and recurrent conflict, as well as internal political

instability have resulted in large scale poverty, an extremely fragile economy and aid dependency. Around two thirds of the population of Gaza were receiving food assistance prior to the crisis, and food insecurity or vulnerability to food insecurity affected 72 per cent of households. Unemployment has increased dramatically since mid-2013, following a halt of the illegal tunnel trade with Egypt, soaring from 28 per cent in the third quarter of 2013 to 45 per cent in the second quarter of 2014; nearly 70 per cent of young people aged 20-24 were unemployed in Gaza in Q2 2014. It is expected that labour market conditions in Gaza will further deteriorate following the conflict, exacerbating the impact of the blockade.

Although the terms of the cease-fire agreement, have not been officially released, some details have been made public via media reports. In addition to a complete cessation of military action by both sides, the agreement calls for a further opening of the crossings with Israel and Egypt to allow the easier flow of goods, including humanitarian aid and reconstruction equipment, alongside the transfer of control over the Gaza side of the crossings to the Palestinian Authority; a reinstatement of the six nautical miles fishing limit into the Mediterranean Sea; and the relaxation of access restrictions into areas up to 100 metres from Gaza's perimeter fence with Israel. Other issues are expected to be dealt with in the context of indirect negotiations scheduled to start in a month.

The crisis in Gaza is far from over

This updated Gaza Crisis Appeal is seeking $551.2 million to respond to the most basic needs of the population. However, humanitarian assistance and a strong mobilization of resources alone will be insufficient for Gaza to recover, and we cannot return to the status quo ante.

All parties must allow and facilitate the rapid and unimpeded delivery of humanitarian relief for civilians in need.As the Occupying Power, Israel is responsible for ensuring that the basic needs of Palestinians are met. Adequate funding for the Appeal is critical; however pre-existing restrictions on materials needed to re-build homes, schools and hospitals, to repair roads, electricity lines and water and sanitation networks need to be lifted to restore the local economy and social services.

The last weeks of conflict have brought into stark relief the need for fundamental change – to allow Palestinians in Gaza to lead a normal life and ensure their ability to enjoy fully their human rights. The cumulative impact of years of violence and occupation has damaged the very fabric of society in Gaza. The lives of hundreds of thousands of children and youth have been overshadowed by recurrent violence, impunity, poverty and despair. Families have been separated and communities pulled apart. The ceasefire presents an opportunity to bring about transformational change in Gaza – from death and despair to hope and opportunity. Without such change, recovering from the past 50 days of conflict will be near impossible and the ground will be laid for another round of hostilities in the future.

3. As of 2 August

MULTI-CLUSTER/SECTOR INITIAL RAPID ASSESSMENT (MIRA) FINDINGS

On 13, 18 and 19 August, under the coordination of OCHA and in close cooperation with line ministries, an Inter-Cluster Joint Multi-Cluster/Sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) was conducted in Gaza at Governorate and Municipality levels with the aim of gathering baseline information on the humanitarian situation and needs arising from the conflict in Gaza to inform the humanitarian response to the current situation. Representation of different segments of the population including women, children, and persons with disabilities, the elderly and internally displaced persons was ensured.

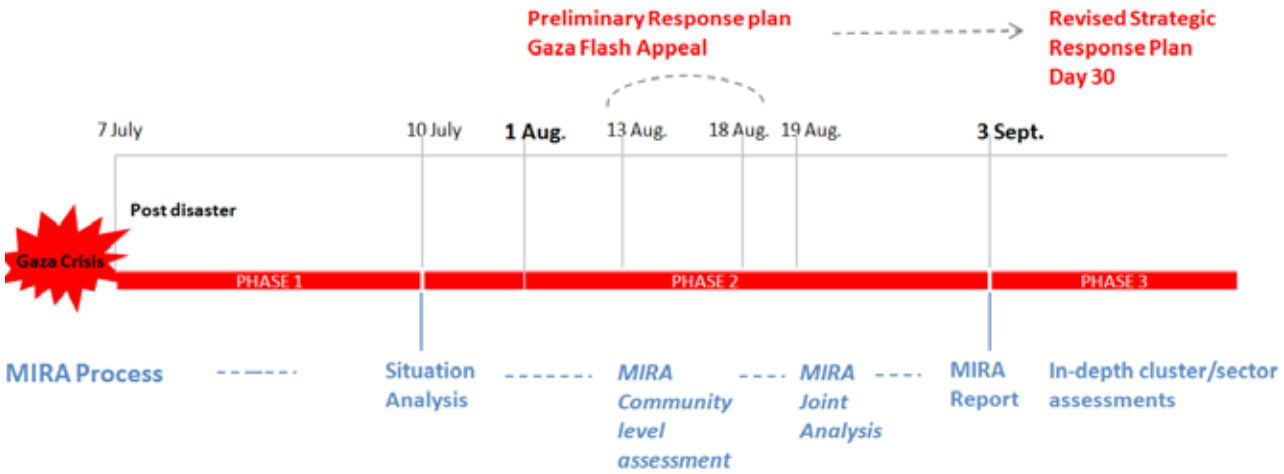
The specific objectives of the assessment were to:

1. Better understand the needs of people affected by the crisis
2. Better prioritize needs to help the most vulnerable receive appropriate and timely assistance
3. Create a common operational picture on which to inform strategic planning and revise Gaza Appeal
4. Facilitate the sharing of resources to ensure an even coverage of the affected area

Cluster coordinators, in conjunction with line ministries, played a crucial role in identifying a list of key informants who were later interviewed in both governorates and municipalities. The key informants were selected with great care, covering all thematic areas in the questionnaire to guarantee credible and trusted information. The list of informants included representatives from line ministries as well as CWMU and the Gaza Power Plant,

community leaders, NGOs, CBOs, mayors, teachers, and health experts.

The assessment's findings and analysis revealed four key issues of concern: 1.Casualties; 2.Displacement; 3. Access to Services; and, 4. ERW and other explosive hazards. A MIRA report is currently being finalised and will provide a comprehensive overview of the extent of damage and severity of needs.

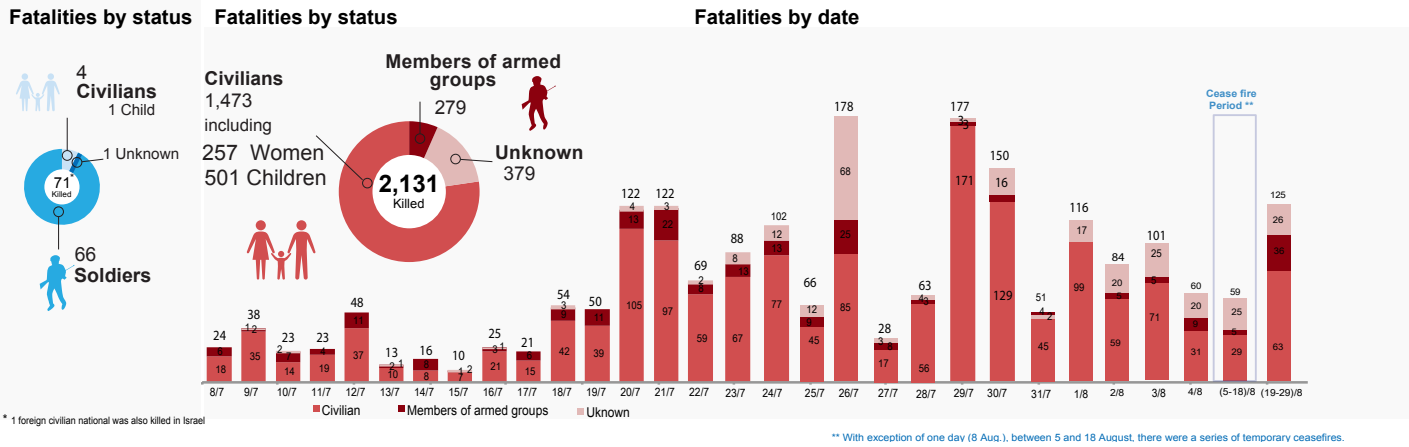


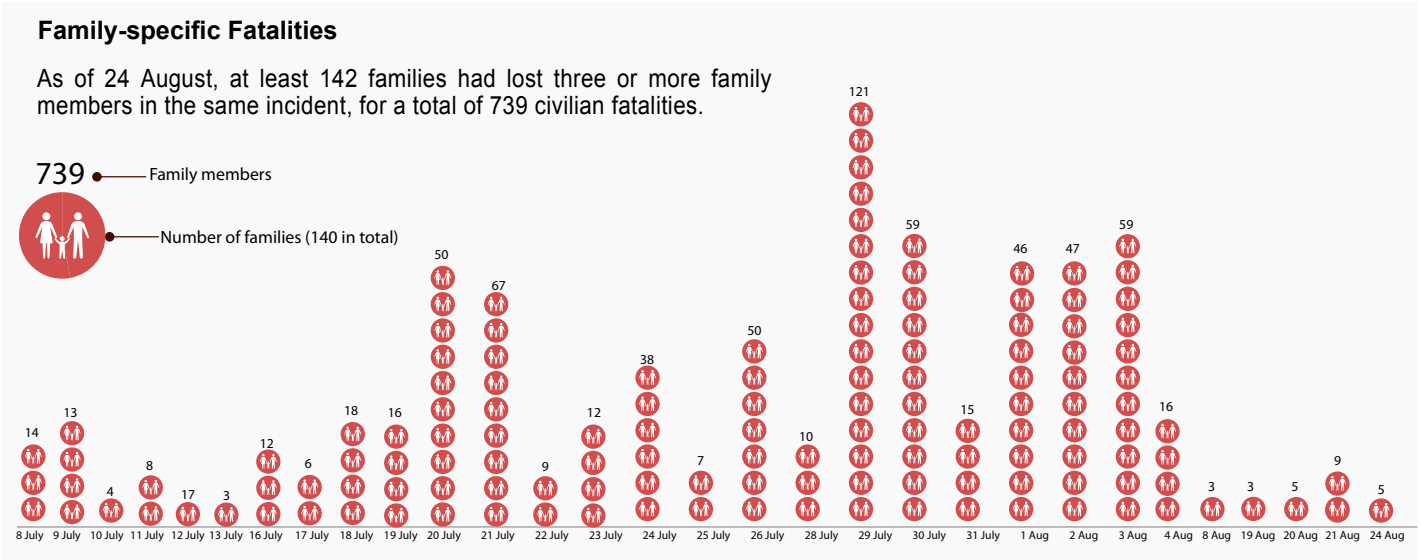
Casualties

At least 1,473 Palestinian civilians were killed, including 501 children and 257 women. Many fatalities involved multiple family members, with at least 142 Palestinian families having three or more members killed in the same incident, for a total of 739 fatalities[6]. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, over 11,100 Palestinians, including 3,374 children and 2,088 women, were injured.

Displacement

Based on previous escalations, actors on the ground had anticipated and prepared for the displacement of some 50,000 people to emergency shelters; however, the actual number of the displaced reached ten times that estimate, passing 500,000 people at the height of the conflict (28 per cent of the population). The numbers decreased during the temporary ceasefires, but again reached 475,000 people in the last days of hostilities, due to general fear and a lack of access to services for many in their community. While there was a dramatic decline in the number of IDPs immediately after the end of the hostilities on 26 August, it is estimated that over 100,000 people will be long-term displaced because they have no homes to return to. Other factors which may delay the return of IDPs are the pervasive presence of ERW, a lack of faith in a permanent ceasefire, unavailability of basic services, and the destruction of livelihoods as a result of hostilities.

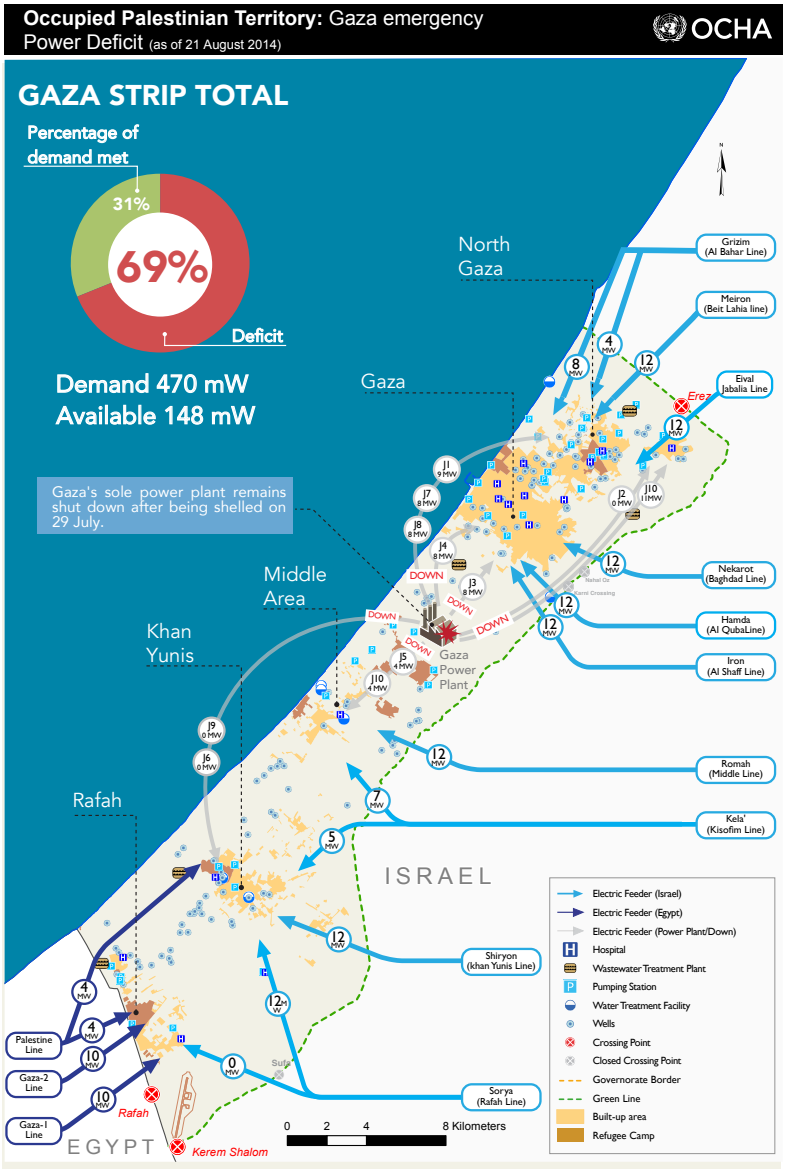




Access to basic services.

Gaza's energy crisis and crumbling public services were put under extreme strain during the conflict. Water and electricity networks were damaged and Gaza's only power plant was hit by Israeli artillery several times, resulting in its eventual shut-down. Necessary repairs and maintenance could not take place due to the security situation and in several instances the direct targeting of personnel.

The majority of Gaza's population is facing problems in accessing basic services. This includes both IDPs and non-displaced people who lost their productive and non-productive assets and therefore have no or limited livelihoods. Among them are municipal workers who have not received salaries for the past four months, and farmers who have lost their means of production, temporarily (i.e. due to no access) or on a longer term basis (i.e. destruction/damages of productive assets).

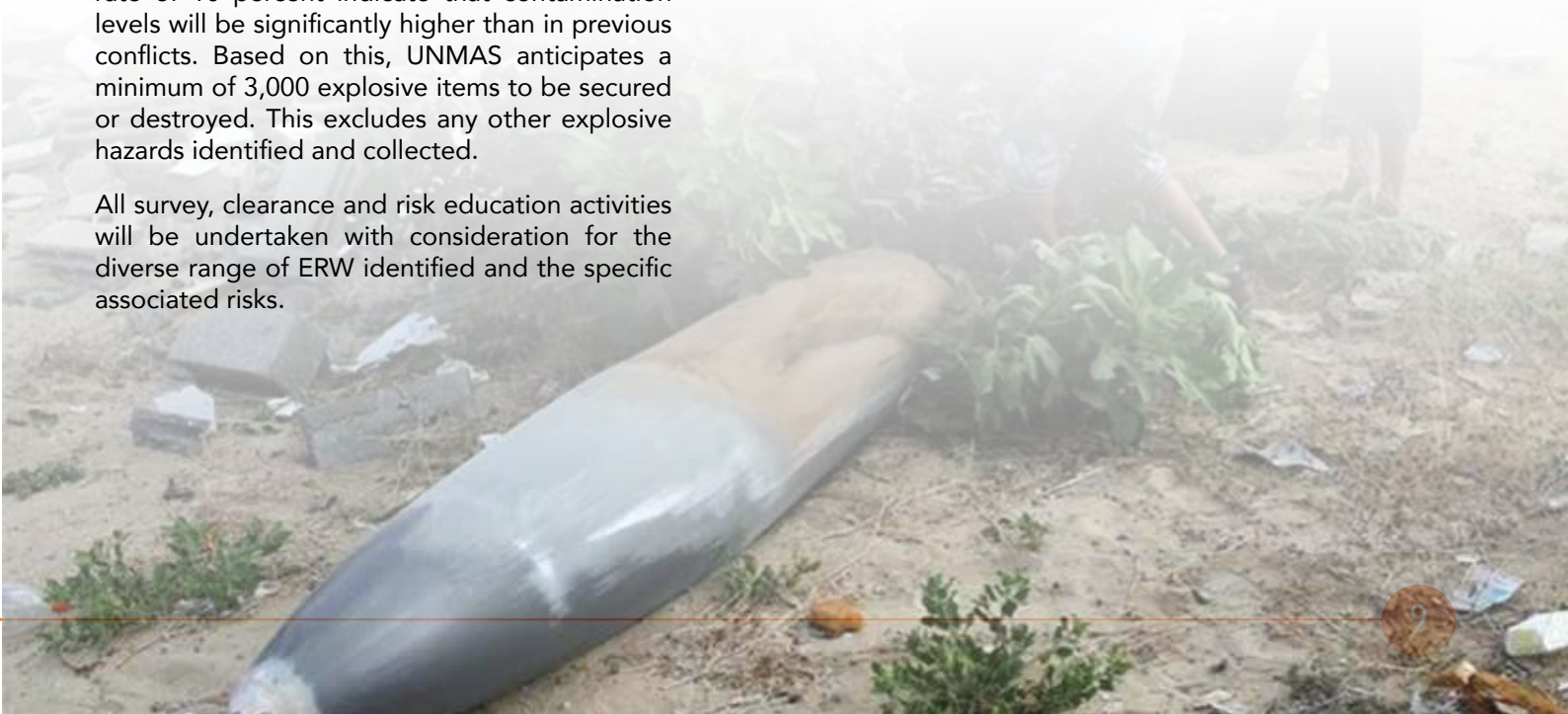


Explosive Remnants of War

UNMAS estimates that thousands of ERW and other explosive hazards now litter Gaza, posing a major risk to civilians, particularly children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. The presence of ERW and other explosive hazards has been identified as a main protection concern and a main obstacle to the return of IDPs.[7] Contamination is expected throughout the Gaza Strip, in all types of civilian and public infrastructure. Particular areas of concern are: schools, UN premises, government buildings, roads and agricultural land, as well as private dwellings.

UNMAS cannot determine, at this stage, the exact level of ERW contamination. However, extensive damage to buildings, and a minimum failure rate of 10 percent indicate that contamination levels will be significantly higher than in previous conflicts. Based on this, UNMAS anticipates a minimum of 3,000 explosive items to be secured or destroyed. This excludes any other explosive hazards identified and collected.

All survey, clearance and risk education activities will be undertaken with consideration for the diverse range of ERW identified and the specific associated risks.



PEOPLE IN NEED AND TARGETED

The entire Gazan population of almost 1.8 million people has been affected by this crisis. Following the cessation of hostilities, there are still an estimated 110,000 displaced people[8] in need of food, water and health services and shelter solutions. A damaged and overwhelmed health system has left most of the population without access to adequate health services. The crisis also directly impacted the mental well-being of all of Gaza's residents, particularly children and their families, many of whom have had to endure the third such crisis in six years. At least 1.4 million people have lost some or all of their previous access to water and sanitation services.

Through the projects identified in this appeal, humanitarian actors are focusing on the new vulnerabilities and needs generated by this crisis. These include:

- **IDPs:** Approximately 110,000 people remain displaced and are in continued need of water tankering and hygine kits; as well as food and cash vouchers. The high numbers of children and women in need of care in shelters and host communities raises significant child and women protection concerns, including family separation, where children are sent to stay with extended family members, increasing children's (girls in particular) vulnerability to abuse and exploitation. In addition, the loss of household belongings and the lack of water and fuel increase the burden of care which falls on women. Protection needs related to the greater exposure of women, boys and girls to gender based violence (GBV)9, domestic violence, family disputes and violence against children in the context of overcrowded shelters and hosting families need to be addressed. The latter, together with the specific humanitarian needs of women and girls, such as with regard to NFIs (hygiene kits), food ratio for pregnant and lactating women, sexual and reproductive health services, access to information, as well as the approach to providing assistance for female IDPs, all require a gender sensitive humanitarian response. Immediate and short term plans to accommodate the tens of thousands of families rendered homeless are urgently needed. Ensuring that displaced people have a safe and appropriate shelter to return to is also a priority. Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and other explosive hazards represent one of the major threats to IDPs' safe return to their homes
- **Children:** Over half of Gaza's population is under the age of 18. The intense psychosocial stress caused by violence has deeply affected children and at least 373,000 children have already been identified as in need of psychosocial support. Death, injury and the homelessness have created a population of orphans, children with disabilities and children in need of child protection services. Given the situation, parents were focused on survival and were unable to take care of children as well as they had previously been. As a result many children, for example when sick, were not accessing the support and treatment they needed. The thousands of ERW left in conflict areas occupied by civilians affect the entire population; however, these are a particular threat to children, especially boys, who are the first victims of incidents involving ERW. Children also make up a high proportion of those killed and injured: some 33 per cent of civilians killed and 30 per cent of those injured were children. Children made up a high number of those displaced. Extensive child protection and welfare support will be required to address the complex needs of children. Specific interventions will also be required to prevent violence and engage young people in constructive activities.
- **Women,** including female-headed households and pregnant and lactating women: Women, as the primary care givers, experience the brunt of household traumas and the efforts to overcome them. The results of the MIRA reveal that IDPs in shelters, and in particular women IDPs, perceive a heightened vulnerability among female family members in relation to access to key services, safety and security. Ninety-six per cent of the municipalities' respondents to the MIRA assessment identified incidents of GBV, domestic violence, child abuse/violence against children or family disputes. Cases of sexual harassment of women and adolescent girls in shelters have been reported. In addition, female headed families, including war widows, both in shelters and host families are a

priority group in need of protection and support. During the time of the crisis, more than 40,000 pregnant women were deprived of access to basic reproductive health services, and around 5,500 deliveries took place in extremely poor conditions in hospitals, shelters and homes. According to UNFPA an increased occurrence of pregnancy-related complications such as bleeding, premature delivery and miscarriages as a result of extreme stress experienced by pregnant women in Gaza had been documented during operation Cast Lead in 2008/0910 and must be assumed to have taken place during the past 50 days. Evidence is currently being collected in a comprehensive reproductive health assessment. Due to an increased caseload and compromised capacity at the newborn health facilities, neonatal mortality was reported to double from seven per cent to 14 per cent at Shifa hospital. The current emergency has left health-care centres damaged, without adequate medical equipment and stock, and health-care providers unable to properly attend to the needs of women and girls requiring Sexual and Reproductive Health services. Due to loss of place of residence, it is expected that about 3,000 displaced pregnant women will continue to suffer from lack of access to basic services, special dietary needs and access to daily life and vitamin supplements.

- **Elderly people:** Older people aged 55 and above account for 5.5 per cent of Gaza's population (approximately 94.000 people). The psychological toll of the conflict on older people is also of concern, as for many, the experience of previous Israeli invasions in the Gaza Strip has already undermined their sense of security. The elderly and the chronically ill lacked access to adequate medical treatment and medication, as well as adult diapers and attention to special dietary needs. In addition, due to lack of transportation persons with disabilities and elderly persons reported facing challenges when required to evacuate their homes. The social and economic situation facing many older people makes them vulnerable to shocks and emergencies. The situation is particularly harsh for older women who are widows: over 40 per cent of the relatively young older women (aged 60-69) are widowed, a number rising to 90 per cent for those over the age of 80. Older women with disability were identified as more vulnerable and in need of special care and support.

- **People with injuries:** Due to overcrowding in hospitals, people with injuries were released prematurely from hospitals or were not provided with needed surgical care to the limitations in availability of health. Continuity of care for injured people that were discharged early and who may suffer from further impairment if not provided with adequate care, including rehabilitation services, is of key importance, The restrictions on transfers and referrals of patients outside Gaza have implications on the prospects for survival and access to lifesaving health care for increasing numbers of the many of the casualties.

- **People with disabilities:** According to a disability survey conducted by PCBS in 2012, it is estimated that 6.9 per cent of the population in Gaza (some 124,200) are persons with disabilities In addition, it is estimated that 10 percent of the injured due to the recent hostilities may acquire a long-term or permanent impairment, thus increasing by 1,000 the number of persons with disabilities (30 per cent of whom are children). It is important that comprehensive services are provided to persons with disabilities as part of the humanitarian response. These range from health care, rehabilitation services, provision of assistive devices and items, to psychosocial support (which often improves the quality of the rehabilitation while ensuring faster results) as well as livelihood support.

- **Farmers and fishers with damaged livelihoods:** Many farmers, herders and fishers were badly affected by the hostilities due to destruction of productive assets and the loss of their livelihoods. Some 92 per cent of the 25 communities interviewed during the MIRA confirmed that agriculture was severely impacted by the crisis. The Ministry of Agriculture has estimated direct and indirect losses in the Agriculture sector at US$ 450 million and estimates that around 24,000 households dependent on farming, fishing or herding will need assistance to minimise the deterioration of their productive assets and restore their livelihoods. The shelling of large areas of Gaza has rendered swathes of agricultural land inaccessible due to the presence of ERW and other explosive hazards. These dangerous items represent a high risk to farmers, who may unintentionally detonate them when working their land or trying to clear it themselves. Damage to the electrical grid also presents a serious impediment for many farmers to irrigate their fields due to wells that have been damaged. The period following the war is also an important seasonal period for some crops; inability to undertake time-critical field operations may lead to additional losses, further livelihood erosion and increased dependency on food assistance for a large part of the agricultural population in the Gaza Strip.

HUMANITARIAN IDP SOLUTIONS STRATEGY

While plans for the short- to medium-term are being developed, the Gaza context will make reaching durable solutions difficult to achieve. This relates to the uncertain outcome of planned longer-term political negotiations, the pre-existing humanitarian challenges due to the long-standing blockade, and limited options for rapid recovery in Gaza, particularly with regard to the housing and infrastructure situation. Humanitarian assistance is by no means a solution to these problems, and is more unsustainable following the devastation of this latest conflict.

IDP assessment

Assessments are still being conducted to understand which temporary and/or transitional options IDPs prefer. However, it is imperative that any solution undertaken is durable and consistent with the rights of the protected population. The assessments will include:

- Needs as perceived by the IDPs themselves.
- IDP intentions, including the conditions needed for return and preferred solutions based on their circumstances.
- Options for transition and return: It is estimated that transitional solutions will need to support affected households for several years, particularly if movement and access restrictions remain in place, even at a reduced level. Israeli authorities' restrictions on items classified as "dual-use" include many materials required for interim and long-term solutions, such as trailers, cement, aggregates, steel, sealing materials and machinery.

Transition and return solutions under discussion include:

Collective centre management for a prolonged time period: This option can be considered as the most immediate solution particularly in the weeks following a ceasefire.

Continued stay with host families: For some families, a prolonged stay with host families or in empty parts of residential buildings is an option, provided that host families and IDPs receive systematic support. However, this will not be a workable option for many IDPs, given the general overcrowding and associated protection concerns, as well as depletion of the resources and services provided to the general population. Cash assistance to host families and additional material support, particularly for the production of electricity and water supply, would be needed.

Rental subsidies: All actors consider rental subsidies for a period of six months to two years among the preferred options to facilitate safe, temporary return. However, several obstacles impede the implementation of this option, including the lack of available housing, funding challenges, and improbability that a lasting solution will have been achieved by the end of the rental subsidy period.

Cash subsidies to encourage "self-help" repairs: Cash subsidies (up to US$7,000) to cover the expenses for families whose homes need minor repairs are an option which could be implemented as soon as a more lasting ceasefire is reached. Materials for minor repairs are readily available on the market, as are the human resources to carry out the work.

Prefabricated housing in-situ of destroyed and severely damaged homes: This alternative could be applicable to few IDPs from more rural settings, where prefabricated units could be set up on the farmland. It is likely that access restrictions apply to the entry of prefabricated units. Additionally, it is highly likely that achieving a durable solution will take considerable time, and attention needs to be given to providing adequate service to the prefabricated units, and to the units' ability to withstand various climatic conditions. Options under discussion are caravans and trailers or other housing units that can be assembled rapidly.

Reconstruction: The only option for many people will be reconstruction, which given the scope of the destruction and the current access restrictions, will take several years. To accelerate reconstruction, particularly of residential structures, the current project-based approval system imposed on international agencies (mainly UN) will need to be converted into an (annual) framework agreement, and modalities will need to be found to revive the private construction sector. Housing options that involve the use of fewer items on the "dual-use list", such as clay or mud-brick homes, while appropriate to the climate, are generally not desired.

"Social housing" projects: While not discussed in depth, some development actors suggest that the concept of social housing projects initially supported by the international community could be an option. This approach requires further examination of the legal aspects, and would require both multi-year planning and appropriate beneficiary selection criteria.

Of the identified options, rental subsidies, cash subsidies, reconstruction and "social housing" projects are the preferred solutions. Ultimately, the goal is to return people to secure, safe, permanent and dignified accommodation as early as possible.

RESPONSE PRIORITIES[11]

- Enhance the protection of affected populations by promoting respect for international humanitarian law and human rights; providing legal support to pursue accountability for committed violations and address other needs arising from the conflict (i.e. protecting the inheritance rights of women and children, loss of documentation, etc); mitigating the impact of violations that have occurred; providing psychosocial support for children and other affected groups; child protection interventions for orphans and families rendered permanently homeless; and addressing immediate ERW and other explosive threats; addressing the protection needs of children and female IDPs, in particular of pregnant women and female headed households, including through responding to GBV survivors, child protection, psychosocial and livelihood support
- Address the shelter needs of the affected population, both in the immediate term through effective shelter management and in the medium term, through supporting the displaced to return to adequate housing in a timely manner, through either temporary rental assistance or immediate shelter repair and reconstruction.
- Ensure provision of basic services, including water and sanitation, health, energy and solid waste collection, social protection to vulnerable groups including for GBV survivors, child protection/welfare as well as education, to the affected population with a particular focus on IDPs in UNRWA-run, governmental and informal shelters as well as those with host families
- Meet the food security needs of affected populations and food insecure families and enable recovery and restoration of damaged livelihoods.
- Meeting the needs of IDPs is a key cross-cutting issue across clusters. Transition and return solutions for IDPs have been discussed and laid out in an IDP strategy paper (see option under discussion in above section on humanitarian IDP solution strategy).

OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Major roads and infrastructure have been severely damaged during the hostilities, impacting humanitarian response efforts. Efforts should be made to identify key roads and infrastructure that have been affected by the war and ensure these areas are secured. Efforts led by UNMAS should be scaled up to ensure that the ERW threats to vehicles transporting aid items and humanitarian personnel in Gaza are minimized.

A lack of security challenged humanitarian operations throughout the crisis, as the dangerous operating environment had significant implications on the protection of civilians and aid workers and on needs assessment and the delivery of assistance. Movement was restricted for all actors due to security concerns and coordination with Israeli forces which were not always approved, or delayed or not respected by the forces .

The UN Access Coordination Unit (ACU) has engaged military actors in a variety of issues to increase humanitarian access to Gaza, including negotiating to keep checkpoints and crossings open; obtaining access for humanitarian aid workers into Gaza; overseeing the evacuation of over 1,200 dual-nationals and foreign residents from Gaza to Jordan; ensuring pipelines remain open for the entry of humanitarian aid items, facilitating the expedited entry of critical materials into Gaza; and providing coordinates of civilian installations such as non-UNRWA IDP shelters to COGAT/CLA Erez. Some international organisations experienced challenges in the entry of national and international staff into Gaza.

Bottlenecks have already been experienced at checkpoints from the West Bank into Israel, which have limited capacity and limited facilities to scan exiting trucks. The Rafah Crossing from Egypt into Gaza has been functioning but below capacity. Most of Gaza's crossings to the outside world remain effectively sealed and the reopening of previously functioning commercial crossings into Gaza should be considered as the recovery begins, as well as rigorous prioritization of humanitarian aid items and personnel to enter Gaza.

RESPONSE CAPACITY

Generally adequate human resource capacity and skills, and high awareness among communities prevented disease outbreaks and other associated challenges. Certain coping mechanisms further mitigated the impact of the crisis, such as strong community solidarity, individual initiatives to provide shelter and food, or informal credit between households. Yet chronic shortages and crumbling infrastructure across sectors, combined with a conflict of unprecedented scale, left actors struggling to respond. Local municipalities were facing great challenges to continue providing essential services. The Palestinian Civil Defense was inadequately prepared to carry search and rescue operations due to the shortage of cars and equipment, a lack of training, and general insecurity. The private sector, already weakened by the long-standing restrictions and economic crisis, sustained significant damages as a result of the hostilities. Nevertheless, the private sector played an important role in meeting certain needs, for example the need for emergency drinking water.

Throughout the crisis the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in Gaza, chaired by OCHA, met daily. Since the ceasefire, the EOC now meets twice a week, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. OCHA, UNRWA, the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA), the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE), the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PCRS) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) continued the coordination of opening up additional government schools for IDP shelters. Also, MoSA organized an EOC in Ramallah with the participation of all relevant Palestinian line Ministries and some UN and NGO partners (national and international). Under the leadership of the HC, the HCT met weekly in Jerusalem during the seven-week long conflict, to discuss issues of concern. In addition, seven briefs for the international donor community were conducted by the HC, five of which jointly with the UNRWA Commissioner General (four in Jerusalem and one in Tel Aviv), and the initial edition of the Crisis Appeal was launched by the HC, MoSA and UNRWA in Ramallah on 1 August. On 16 August, the HC, OCHA and UNRWA briefed Ambassadors in Amman, Jordan.

The logistics cluster, formally activated under the leadership of the World Food Programme (WFP), has been providing critical logistical coordination and information management services to enhance the predictability, timeliness and efficiency of the emergency response under the Cluster approach; consolidate cargo and provide common transport and storage services to the humanitarian community to address key logistics constraints and allow safer and coordinated access; and, provide the humanitarian community with the staffing and logistics capabilities that can help speed up the provision of assistance to people in need. The logistics cluster will reinforce the capacity of aid organizations to facilitate the entry of humanitarian goods and personnel into Gaza.

Early recovery continues to be mainstreamed through existing clusters and will be coordinated closely with the Government, which is overseeing the immediate implementation of priority early recovery interventions from its Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan.

FUNDING

Based on information available, partners have so far received approximately $186 million for their projects in the appeal –which represents 33% of the latest requirements. This is largely made up however, of funding to a couple of big UN agencies. Despite reasonable to good funding to these larger UN agencies, many humanitarian partners working in critical areas have received little to no funding for their Crisis Appeal interventions, including national NGOs who are key partners on the ground. Particular attention must be paid to key sectors for example Health, WASH, Education and Protection, which have been underfunded to date. Much more funding is also needed in Shelter and Food Security given the size of the request.

According to FTS, up to $171 million has been directed outside the appeal (committed and pledged) since the start of the Crisis, the bulk of which destined for Gaza. Of the funding reported outside the appeal, the majority has been from Gulf-based donors ($125 million), with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia the largest contributor ($80 million)."

CLUSTER NEEDS AND PLANNED RESPONSES

Education

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PEOPLE IN NEED
Total: 474,698
(Female: 237,801
Male: 236,897)

PEOPLE TARGETED
Total: 226,913
(Female 119,626
Male 107,287)

PEOPLE REACHED: 0

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
32.5 million

Key needs

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) assessed that at least 148 public schools were damaged during the conflict, of which 26 have been completely destroyed. UNRWA reports an additional 75 school buildings damaged. Another 36 UNRWA schools continue to serve as temporary shelters for more than 55,000 displaced persons. Schools used as temporary shelter at the height of the conflict (25 public schools and 100 UNRWA schools) will also need to be rehabilitated in the wake of widespread reports of skin disease outbreaks, and over-extended WASH facilities will, in most cases, need to be refurbished. Considering that prior to the crisis Gaza already faced a shortage of almost 200 schools, and that two-thirds of schools operated on double shifts (limiting students' classroom time to only four hours/day), the impact of the hostilities on the education system will be significant.

One hundred per cent of the affected population (474,000 school-aged children and 55,003 kindergarten-aged children) have lost access to education, as schools were unable to open on their scheduled start date of August 24th, and will remain closed until at least September 14th. Another 30,002 university-aged youths have lost access to education, as universities and colleges in Gaza also remain closed. According to initial reports, 11 Higher Education Institutions have been damaged. When schools eventually open, children will face even more acute over-crowding and under-resourcing as a result of the collateral damage suffered during this conflict. Additionally, with hundreds of thousands of children anticipated to be in need of psychosocial support (PSS), teachers and educational staff (many of whom have also experienced acute trauma) will be strained to provide the appropriate support required to ease children back into school, and to provide ongoing support throughout the school year.

In order to start the school year, the Education Cluster will work with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) and implementing partners to rehabilitate damaged infrastructure and clean lightly damaged schools and compounds. Schools used for weeks (or potentially months) as shelters for thousands of IDPs will require rehabilitation, particularly WASH facilities, to restore them to their pre-crisis state. Additional support will be required to replace lost or destroyed teaching and learning materials, school furniture, and student supplies. Perhaps most significantly, psychosocial support (PSS) and extra-curricular activities will be a cornerstone of the coming school year, in order to restore structure and stability to the lives of children most affected by the conflict. Both the MoEHE and UNRWA will implement a special Back to School package to ease children back into the formal learning environment.

Response: achievements to date and gaps

Schools have not yet re-opened following the cessation of hostilities, so cluster response has thus far been limited to assessment of damage and response planning. In addition to the overall MoEHE assessment of damaged schools and needs for classroom materials and furniture, the cluster is also coordinating an assessment of damaged kindergartens (KGs) led by Save the Children, and a damage assessment of higher education facilities led by UNESCO. The cluster is also coordinating with UNMAS to ensure high-risk schools are cleared of ERW and other explosive hazards in time for the re-opening of schools in mid-September.

UNRWA will coordinate the required reconstruction, rehabilitation and educational activities required to re-open schools once a ceasefire has occurred. Cluster members will focus on reconstruction and rehabilitation of damaged MoEHE infrastructure, as well as the

provision of stationary and uniforms to public school students who lost their homes and/or were displaced during the conflict. UNRWA is working with the MoEHE on a three-phase plan for the re-opening of schools in Gaza that will involve the use of new technology, UNRWA's satellite TV channel and self-learning materials made available to all children. Students and educators need time to adjust, to reflect and to be ready to learn again. Schools in Gaza will therefore not initially undertake standard curriculum learning. Education Cluster members in Gaza are available to support the MoEHE in the roll out of the three-phase plan at the 395 public schools in Gaza.

Priority interventions for the Education Cluster are:

1. School reconstruction and rehabilitation (including replacement of damaged furniture and classroom materials): At least 148 public schools have been damaged, and 26 of those completely destroyed. The cluster plans to coordinate an assessment of damages to public schools (both primary and secondary) and kindergartens (KGs)/early childhood development (ECD) centres, and will need to fundraise for these rehabilitation costs. It is expected that a significant amount of destroyed furniture and classroom supplies will need replacing in these schools, KGs and other education facilities. It is important to note that intensified advocacy will be required to ensure a sustained humanitarian corridor to allow for access of construction materials into Gaza.
2. Provision of PSS and extra-curricular activities: The cluster will work closely with the child protection working group (CPWG) to develop a special Psychosocial Support (PSS)/extra-curricular activity programme for children and youth returning to school which could ease children's transition, enable them to process some of their experiences and create a common framework for children and youth to cope and move forward. This would be supplemented at the community level by PSS activities in community-based organizations (CBOs) and family centres (coordinated through the CPWG). University students and teachers are also in need of psychosocial support interventions.
3. Procurement of school uniforms, stationary and other student supplies: The cluster will seek to support families who have lost their homes or experienced significant damage to their homes, through the provision of school uniforms and supplies for children returning to school. The cluster is also reaching out to WFP to explore the possibility of expanding the school feeding programme, particularly for the most affected communities.

Gaza Response Education - Logical Framework

Planned Response	Response Indicator	Target	Achieved/ Reached	Constraints in Meeting Targets
School reconstruction and rehabilitation (including replacement of damaged furniture and classroom materials)	# of damaged education facilities (including KGs) and their WASH facilities repaired and rehabilitated (classrooms and toilets), including those used as temporary shelters for IDPs	122 damaged schools 26 destroyed schools 25 schools used as collective centers	0	Schools will not open until at least September 14th
	# of damaged education facilities, including those used as temporary shelters for IDPs, that have destroyed furniture and supplies replaced with school furniture (desks, chairs and blackboards)	122 damaged schools 26 destroyed schools	0	Schools will not open until at least September 14th
Provision of extra-curricular activities	# of female and male adolescents and children benefiting from the recreational activities	226,913	0	Schools will not open until at least September 14th
	# of returning school students (boys and girls) receiving ECD kits and recreational kits	25,000	0	Schools will not open until at least September 14th
Procurement of school uniforms, stationary and other student supplies	# of children (boys and girls) receiving uniforms and educational supplies, including school bags, stationary kits and hygienic kits	50,000	0	Schools will not open until at least September 14th

Food Security

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The crisis in Gaza has worsened an already extremely fragile environment in terms of food security and livelihoods. Around 66 per cent of the people in Gaza were receiving food assistance prior to this crisis with 72 per cent of households deemed food insecure or vulnerable to food insecurity.[13]. The forced displacement of around 490,000 people has rapidly increased the level of food insecurity. All those currently displaced are in immediate need of emergency food assistance. Food security sector partners anticipate this figure will carry on rising as long as military activities continue on the ground. It is a high priority to support thousands of displaced people gathered in different informal centres in Gaza City in need of food, water NFIs and other assistance.

The livelihoods of farmers, breeders, herders and fishers have been severely impacted partly as a consequence of the direct destruction of their land or productive assets, and partly due to their inability to tend to their land and livestock. More than 19,400 farming and herding families, 3,600 fishing families and 4,000 agricultural wage labourers' families have stopped their economic activities and are suffering huge damage and losses of their productive assets. The closure of access to the sea as well as intense shelling has prevented fishers from accessing their livelihoods from the outset of this crisis. Farmers, herders and fishers need immediate assistance including food support to feed their animals, as well as urgent post-conflict support in the form of return packages, repairs and inputs to support them and reactivate their livelihoods to avoid long-term food aid dependence. An assessment of the contamination level of agricultural land will provide further clarity on the health implications of this for farmers, herders and consumers.

PEOPLE IN NEED
1,800,000
(: 900,000
Male: 900,000)

PEOPLE TARGETED
1,800,000
Female: 900,000
Male: 900,000

PEOPLE REACHED:
1,800,00012 with at least one type of support.

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
268.2 million

Although detailed figures on agricultural losses and damages are not yet available, 92 percent of the 25 communities interviewed in the MIRA reported that farmers, herders and fishers were heavily affected as a result of damage and losses sustained to their livelihoods assets. Of the 25 surveyed communities, nine indicated shortages in the availability of agricultural inputs such as seeds, seedling, pesticides and fertilizers on the market, which is compromising their attempts to partially recover. Three communities noted that inputs are available however; prices have risen to unaffordable levels. Water for irrigation was also reported to be unavailable or inaccessible by two thirds of communities due to the destruction of the water wells, ponds, water carriers and networks, or due to the electricity cuts.

The cluster's priorities include:

1. Immediate food assistance to displaced people and food insecure people.
2. Urgent after-conflict food assistance support to those who remain displaced or those who return back home but have lost their livelihood or continue to remain food insecure.
3. Provision of cash assistance to targeted food-insecure households affected by the conflict.
4. Urgent input support and immediate restoration of productive capacities and assets for farmers, herders and fishers with a particular focus on seasonal time-bound activities.
5. Support to the livestock sector through provision of fodder and water to prevent complete livestock loss.

Gaza Response Food Security- Logical Framework

Planned Response	Response indicator	Target	Achieved/ Reached	Constraints in meeting targets
Immediate food assistance to displaced people and food insecure people	# of UNRWA/WFP core beneficiaries and IDPs (disaggregated by sex) receiving food assistance as percentage of planned figure (Unit=Number)	1,800,000 (this includes 730,000 people targeted through the special distribution)	1,704,000 (this also includes 619,000 from the special distribution)	Resources allocated for the contingency response have been overstretched during the conflict period. Availability of funds is the major concern with regard to the post-conflict phase in light of the potential extended status of displacement and increased caseload.
Provide cash assistance to targeted food-insecure households affected by the conflict	# of HHs (IDPs, host families, and those who have lost their livelihoods) receiving vouchers as a form of cash assistance (disaggregated by sex)	75,000 including an estimated 30,000 HHs who have lost their livelihoods	45,000 reached through voucher support including food, WASH and NFI vouchers	Continuous funding needed to carry out cyclical assistance for months to come.
Urgent input support and immediate restoration of productive capacities and assets for farmers, breeders, herders and fishers with a particular focus on seasonal, time-bound activities	# of fishers (disaggregated by sex) assisted	1500	0	Timely available funds are needed in order to avoid further erosion.
	# HHs of farmers (disaggregated by sex) assisted with agricultural input packages and asset restoration(	14,000	0	Lack of or delayed funds to address agricultural seasonal-bound activities might trigger negative copying mechanisms.
Support the livestock sector (fodder and water) to prevent complete livestock loss	# of herders (disaggregated by sex) assisted with agricultural input packages (including fodder distribution and water tanks, livestock, plant production and household food production)	4000	1,112	Timely availability of funds.

Health and Nutrition

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The conflict of July and August 2014 has resulted in severe loss of human life and a high number of injured as well as extensive disruption of the already over-stretched health system in Gaza, including damage to infrastructure, breakdown of services and interruption of health management and coordination structures. The health system is struggling to cope with the consequences of the conflict on top of chronic medical supply shortages, poorly functioning medical equipment and power outages. A financial crisis has disabled the payment of salaries to medical/health staff and support services for more than five months prior to the crisis, further staining and burdening the health services during the crisis. Women, children, people living with disabilities and the elderly were the most hit by the crisis, which has even increased their vulnerability. As of 28 August the death toll stood at 2,145 (including 581 children, 102 elderly), and the injured numbered 11,231 persons (including 3,436 children, 418 elderly and more than 2000 women).

Prior to the conflict, Gaza residents were served by 32 hospitals. Out of which 14 Ministry of Health (MoH) hospitals provided 90 per cent of hospital care at the secondary and tertiary level, with a monthly load of more than 80,000 patients in emergency rooms and provision of more than 3,000 major surgical procedures.

During the conflict 51 per cent of all major hospitals and clinics were damaged and 27 per cent of the hospitals closed due to damage or insecurity, substantially reducing total hospital care capacity in Gaza. On 1st of September 6 hospitals remain closed, although 3 of these, which had been damaged, have reopened with limited services. Out of the 97 primary health care centres 24 remain closed – of which 13 had to close within the last week of the conflict.

During the conflict large numbers of injured people have overwhelmed the hospitals that remained functional, with a 50 per cent increase in major surgical procedures. As trauma related surgery took absolute priority there is now a backlog of an estimated 6.000 elective surgeries that could not be provided during the conflict. The number of trauma patients who had to be discharged prematurely due to the overwhelming number of patients in the still functioning health facilities is yet to be determined, as is the scope of need for revision and wound management resulting from these early discharges. Due to influx with high numbers of wounded, maternity wards were converted into surgical departments to treat wounded women, leading to disrupted obstetric care, reduction of

PEOPLE IN NEED
Total: 1.8 million
(Female 900,000
Male 900,000)

PEOPLE TARGETED
Total: 1.8 million
(Female 900.000
Male 900.000)

PEOPLE REACHED:
Total: 300,000
(Female 150,000
Male 150,000)

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
29.3 million

caesarean section rates and 1-hour discharge of women after delivery. Shortages of drugs and disposables have been an ongoing challenge, with 130 types of drugs and 472 types of disposables out of stock in Gaza as of Mid-August 2014. These chronic shortages were exacerbated by the increase in demand as a result of the conflict. Referrals of patients with chronic illnesses have been partially replaced by referrals of casualties for specialized treatment outside of Gaza, creating a backlog of patients with chronic illnesses awaiting referral for their treatment abroad. Generator fuel shortages pose an additional problem. Hospitals currently depend on their diesel-powered generators to an unanticipated extent, after destruction of the Gaza power plant further reduced an already weak electric power supply.

Disruption of medical supply systems and the lack of reliable and safe access to health facilities have left chronic disease patients without medication refills, while routine antenatal and postnatal care and immunization programs have broken down. Primary health care services, including community based mental health programmes, were put on hold and are only slowly coming back.

During the conflict one quarter of Gaza's population were forced to seek refuge in schools and other public buildings. UNWRA and the MoH were able to install medical posts in most of the shelters, ensuring very basic primary health care services and disease surveillance. The health information system in Gaza is very well developed. However, in the current situation an early warning system needed establishing, to ensure

the daily monitoring of 13 communicable diseases. The analysis of disease notifications from UNRWA and MoH clinics shows an increase in cases of diarrhea and skin infections, as well as viral meningitis, however none to levels of public health concern. The environment, however, remains favourable for disease outbreak and a strengthening of reporting systems and outbreak preparedness remains crucial to ensure early detection and enable adequate responses to potential outbreaks.

Prior to the conflict, the prevalence of anemia was high among pregnant women (35.8 per cent in Gaza) and infants (33.7 per cent). Poverty, food insecurity, insufficient micronutrient supplementation and low rates of exclusive breastfeeding are among the factors contributing to chronic micronutrient deficiencies among children. Based on Ard El Insan (AEI) project statistics of the last 3 years (2011-2013), the prevalence of severe and moderate anemia among children under 5 was 29.4 per cent, while 58.2 per cent were mildly anemic; 8.6 per cent of children under five were identified as wasted and 14.6 per cent were identified as growth faltering cases. The current emergency, large number of IDPs and increased unemployment rates will contribute to a deterioration of nutritional status of women and children.

An emergency operations room was established in the MoH in Ramallah and Gaza respectively with support from WHO, for follow up on the health situation in Gaza, and monitoring all assistance, interventions and donations to the health sector. The health cluster has been reactivated and health cluster partners have met frequently throughout the conflict to provide a coordinated and timely response to the needs. Sub-working groups on Foreign Medical Teams are operational, and further working groups on disabilities; mental health and psychosocial support are planned. The collection of data on partner activities (4W) indicate that 23 partners are in the process of or planning over 200 individual activities, ranging from drug donations to health promotion activities. The emergency operations room is now closed and coordination continues through the health cluster and with respective counterparts in the MoH.

Planned response:

1. Provision of public health services through activities such as rehabilitation of health facilities, coordination of medical equipment and spare parts; restocking of essential drugs and medical supplies; deployment of medical staff and mobile clinics; strengthening disrupted disease surveillance system; provision of generators and fuel to maintain electricity in order to maintain services, as well as the cold chain. Ensure support to maternities and emergency obstetric care, in order to minimize further negative consequences of the situation on pregnant women and their new-borns.
2. Facilitate the entry of medical supplies and foreign medical teams to Gaza, to assist the medical teams in performing special medical interventions.
3. Advocate for the right to health and provide OCHA and the HCT with the necessary information for press releases and humanitarian monitoring purposes. WHO has continuously advocated (through press releases, joint statements, daily updates, website items and regular situation reports) for respect and protection of neutrality of health facilities, for access for patients to health treatment within and outside of Gaza, for facilitation of entry of medical supplies through a humanitarian corridor, and for humanitarian assistance, especially medicines and medical supplies, from the donor community to support the Ministry of Health and the health sector generally in Gaza.
4. Coordinate among different clusters/sectors, to synergize efforts and strengthen cooperation and collaboration in order to reach out to those in remote locations and avoid duplication of aid and services in the best interest of beneficiaries.

Gaza Response Health- Logical Framework

Planned Response	Response Indicator	Target	Achieved/ Reached	Constraints in Meeting Targets
Ensure that the specific needs of trauma patients resulting from the crisis are met	# of trauma patients who are able to receive timely and appropriate care, including referral outside of Gaza	100 %	50%	Complex process of referral due to the closure of borders and permit procedures from Israeli and Egyptian authorities, overload on triage system and overburdening of health services during the conflict - early discharge and inappropriate capacity to provide adequate wound management, lack of access to health facilities for patients due to closure, damage, staff shortages, drug/consumable supplies
Provide access to essential health services for IDPs, including specialist services that also take into account the needs of specific, vulnerable, groups	# of displaced people who are able to access health care, including specialist services for groups with specific needs	100%	60%	Numbers continue to fluctuate and are expected to decrease further over time as people return into housing when and where possible, breakdown by sex currently not predictable as data available for IDPs is not segregated; specialized service facilities have been destroyed and require reconstruction in order to provide adequate services, quality of care substantially reduced due to closure of facilities, limitations in drugs/consumable supplies
	# of women affected by the conflict who are able to access specialist health care, such as maternal and neo-natal care	100%	40%	Target here is to reach the pre-crisis values taking into consideration the disruption of services due to destruction, lack of resources and continued displacement of about 108,000 people.
	# of vulnerable people accessing quality and affordable essential health by type of service (non IDPs)	100%	60%	Reduced availability of health services leading to overcrowding in those facilities that operate long waiting hours/long walking distances to health facilities have a negative impact on health seeking behavior.
Referral of survivors of conflict-related violence and GBV to protection organizations	# of survivors of violence referred from health facility to protection organizations	100%	10%	Health facilities are not well equipped to provide confidential and survivors' centered response. Medical and health staffs are not well trained to provide the needed care and psychosocial support to survivors of GBV. GBV referral system is not in place and would need to be established and coordinated.

Protection

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PEOPLE IN NEED
Total: 1.2 million
(Female: 590,400
Male: 609,600)
(Children below age of 15: 478,800 Elderly above 65 years: 34,800)

PEOPLE TARGETED
Total: 1.08 million
Female: 529,200
Male: 550,800

PEOPLE REACHED
Total:372,985
(Female: 211,673 (89,494 girls and 122,179 women)
Male: 161,312 (93,148 boys and 68,164 men)14
People indirectly reached through ERW education: 1 million)

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
20.6 million

Key needs

There have been a high number of civilian fatalities and injuries in Gaza. The Protection Cluster has raised serious concerns about attacks impacting civilians and civilian objects, which may be in violation of international humanitarian and human rights law, possibly amounting to war crimes. From 7 July to 1 September, at least 2,122 Palestinians, comprising at least 1,484 civilians, including 495 children and 255 women, have been killed.[15] According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, as of 1 September, 11,100 Palestinians, including 3,374 children, 2,088 women and 410 elderly, were injured.

Thousands of ERW and other explosive hazards have been reported in civilian areas since the beginning of the conflict. The impact of ERW and other explosive hazards represents a high risk for civilians – especially for children, families living or going back to areas affected by the conflict and farmers - and impedes freedom of movement for humanitarian and other workers in neighbourhoods that have been heavily impacted by strikes. Moreover, the threat of ERW and other explosive hazards in debris of destroyed or damaged infrastructure obstructs the delivery of essential humanitarian services, and makes reconstruction efforts extremely dangerous. Given the scope and scale of operation "Protective Edge", urgent emergency ERW and other explosive hazards risk education is required to minimize civilian casualties throughout Gaza before and during the conduct of clearance operations.

According to the findings of the Joint Initial Rapid Assessment (IRA) in all municipalities but one, respondents identified the need for legal support to pursue accountability for the death, injuries and destruction of property as a result of the hostilities. Accountability is crucial both in responding to the immediate needs of victims to obtain redress for violations, but also as a preventive measure to deter future violations. The failure of the parties to this conflict to address impunity in previous rounds of hostilities contributed to the excessive loss of life and destruction witnessed in Gaza in the past two months.

All governorates and municipalities also indicated an increase in adult stress-related symptoms; 92 per cent of municipalities reported increased stress in children, while women are reporting an urgent need for psychosocial assistance for themselves and their children. Children are among the most affected by the loss of homes and are even more exposed to the impact of the conflict. There has been a high number of child casualties (children make up 33 per cent of the civilian fatalities and 30 per cent of all injuries) and many children have been affected by the loss and injury of relatives or their homes. Ensuring family support for orphaned children will be a particular challenge.

Damage to public infrastructure is also unprecedented, further undermining an already precarious situation. Virtually the entire population is without adequate services, including electricity, clean water and quality healthcare. The Gaza Power Plant (GPP) remains inoperable following an Israeli airstrike on 29 July and despite extensive repairs, electricity outages of 18 hours a day continue in most areas across Gaza. Widespread damage to water and wastewater systems means that only 10 per cent of the population is receiving water once a day. It is also estimated that at 220 schools in Gaza are damaged and 62 hospitals and clinics have been damaged.

As of 29 August, UNRWA was providing shelter to 55,849 persons in 41 shelters, estimated 50,000 IDPs with host families.[16] However it is estimated that some

108,000 people will remain displaced in the long term due to the destruction of, or severe damage to, their homes.[17] Emergency shelters will continue to be needed during the transition period, until alternative housing options are identified for the IDPs that were rendered homeless. Overcrowding and lack of privacy remains a concern for IDPs in shelters and host families, a situation that heightens the exposure of women and children to violence, abuse and neglect. Children are particularly vulnerable to abuse and women are more vulnerable to sexual assault and domestic violence.

According to the results of the MIRA, an increase in different forms of violence had been identified across the five governorates: in 36 per cent of municipalities, respondents identified incidents of GBV, in 32 per cent, child abuse/violence against children; and in 20 per cent, domestic violence; and 44 per cent of municipalities reported an increase in family disputes. Adequate responses to ensure the protection of women and children against all forms of violence, including GBV, and the mitigation of its effects on their psychological and physical wellbeing are needed.

The situation of ''war widows" heading families is of particular concern. Experience from previous hostilities shows that the practice has been to forcibly marry them to the brothers or close relatives of their deceased husbands, exposing these women and their children to an increased risk of gender-based violence and child abuse.[18] Another practice is the disinheritance of women and children, whereby the property of the deceased husband/father is distributed to his extended family members, leaving the widow and her children with little or nothing. This not only negates families' protection rights but often forces the family into further poverty, thus increasing child protection vulnerabilities. Evidence from previous crises in Gaza has shown an increase in GBV incidence in the aftermath of conflict or hostilities.

Vulnerable and marginalized groups face increased specific protection risks, in particular older people and persons with disabilities, with women being at higher risk than men. In Gaza, people 55 years and older account for 6.1 per cent of the population (approximately 110,799 people) and persons with disabilities account for 7 to 10 per cent of the population (between 126,000 and 270,000 people). There is limited data on their protection situation, risks and needs, but information collected from the IRA has shown that humanitarian assistance needs to respond to the specific needs of these groups, including the provision of assistive and mobility devices, the provision of health care for those with chronic diseases and adapted food for the dietary needs of the elderly. Unless this is addressed, the humanitarian response will not be tailored to their specific needs and may fail to meet their rights.

Planned response:

The protection cluster and its partners will address the abovementioned protection concerns and needs through the following responses:

1. **Psychosocial support to children:** at least 373,000 children already require direct and specialized psychosocial support on the basis of families who have experienced a death, injury or loss of home since the beginning of the Israeli military operation. Since 8 July, 15 organisations have implemented activities through 23 implementing partners providing child protection and psychosocial interventions. These efforts have reached 67,000 children and 19,000 adults in government shelters and host communities. UNRWA and partners have reached more than 100,000 children and 100,000 adults in UNRWA shelters through more than 20,000 mental health awareness and psychosocial support programmes, and animation activities have been conducted for caregivers and children in the shelters. The emergency psychosocial teams were able to provide initial psychosocial first aid to over 5,000 children, including through home and hospital visits. Going forward, the immediate priorities are the provision of structured and specialized psychosocial support for children and their families, in particular women and survivors of GBV, with clear referral pathways between the various interventions. In addition, school-based psychosocial support for children is required.

2. **Community-based child protection responses:** during the crisis partners have focused on enabling access to a 24/7 child protection helpline, provision of emergency psychosocial support, referral to emergency services and sending psychosocial and child protection messages via sms. The priority going forward is the establishment of Family Centres and Child Friendly Spaces, to provide displaced children, orphans, and children affected by house damage with child protection services in a holistic way, including identification, referral, and case management/ follow up for the most vulnerable children and families (including children with disabilities, and female headed households).

3. **Child Protection supplies:** More than 100 family kits, 100 psychosocial kits, 1,000 recreational kits and 24,000 pieces of clothing for women and children have been distributed. Going forward, the immediate priority is to procure clothing for 75,000 children and women, 1,200 recreation kits to support psychosocial and other essential NFIs.

4. **Removal of ERW and other explosive hazard:** UNMAS is augmenting its capacity to ensure rapid, safe and efficient removal and destruction of ERW, and to provide technical support to humanitarian actors. Four Technical Advisors have been deployed, and others will follow in the coming weeks. To date, UNMAS Technical Advisors have conducted, at the request of UN agencies, over 130 risk assessments of infrastructures having high humanitarian impact, such as UNRWA schools/shelters, distribution centres, health centres, water and sanitation infrastructures, Rafah crossing and other UN buildings. UNMAS will continue to provide expertise to humanitarian actors and will strengthen its operations now that a ceasefire has been reached, in order to start survey and clearance of affected areas.

5. **Targeted ERW awareness/risk education activities:** Since 14 July radio spots have been airing daily on radio stations to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by ERW and other explosive hazards, reaching up to 1 million people on a regular basis. Awareness campaigns have reached 26,000 beneficiaries and more than 50,000 leaflets were distributed to persons staying in UNRWA shelters, as well as in places where ERW risk assessments have been conducted. The priority going forward is to scale up mass awareness as well as targeted education campaigns, including school based and curriculum based ERW education, with a focus on children (especially boys), farmers and communities living in and near the access restricted areas. Risk education and advice are also provided, upon request, to humanitarian workers, especially those working on rubble removal. So far 243 humanitarian workers received ERW awareness briefing, including national and international workers from NGOs and UN agencies.

6. **Monitoring and documentation of cases and violations of international law:** OHCHR, as Protection Cluster lead, has been working with Palestinian and Israeli human rights organisations to document, verify and report on information on civilian fatalities. The Protection Cluster has identified incidents which raise serious concerns about possible violations of IHL and human rights law in the conduct of hostilities. Human rights organisations have monitored and documented reports of violations, and will continue and expand their monitoring activities now that the security situation allows this. Based on this, human rights organizations have already started supporting interventions on behalf of victims and their families to seek accountability.

7. **Legal assistance to pursue accountability for violations:** based on the monitoring and documentation of violations of international humanitarian and human rights laws, human rights organisations have started to provide legal assistance to victims of violations and their families to pursue accountability for any identified violations. Up to date human rights organizations have provided legal support to 268 families with an estimated population of 1608 persons. Also, legal support will be required to respond to other needs arising from the conflict, including in relation to loss of identification, property and family law related documentation, in relation to inheritance rights of women and children and legal support to vulnerable IDPs to secure interim housing solutions.

8. **Monitoring and reporting on grave violations against children:** the UNICEF-led working group on monitoring of grave violations has been able to verify each case of a child killed, and produce daily updates and provide a daily analysis of killings, injuries and attacks on schools. Going forward, the priority is to support partners in continuing to provide quality, timely and reliable data on grave violations in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 1612

9. **Gender based violence response:** UNFPA, as chair of the Gender-based violence working group, is leading and coordinating a GBV rapid needs assessment in Gaza, together with UN Women and other relevant stakeholders. The objective is to identify main protection gaps in relation to GBV response, including mapping of GBV services. UNFPA procured and distributed dignity kits to women and girls in IDP shelters that benefited up to 40,000. UN Women organized a meeting of national civil society organizations active in Gaza, to address the protection issues faced by women and girls and vulnerable groups during the crisis. During the crisis, partners have focused mainly on providing psychosocial support and providing NFIs to IDPs. Priority Interventions will now focus on: GBV prevention and provision of multi-sectoral responses (including legal and psycho-social responses, health care, NFI, etc.) in order to address the expected increase in GBV, and in particular the provision of medical/ health, psychosocial and support referral pathways to other sectors; the creation of safe spaces for women, girls and youth in IDP shelters and within hosting communities to address the needs for psychosocial and community support to affected population; and he provision of GBV protection supplies such as dignity kits that can be utilized to provide prevention and mitigation from GBV.

10. **Mainstreaming protection across cluster and sector humanitarian response to the crisis:** technical support is required to ensure that protection is at the core of the humanitarian response, including in common and sectoral needs assessments. Efforts will include data disaggregation by sex, age and disability and the monitoring of the needs of vulnerable groups, so that the specific needs of different gender age groups and persons with disabilities can be properly identified and addressed.

Gaza Response Protection- Logical Framework

Planned Response	Response Indicator	Target	Achieved/Reached	Constraints in Meeting Targets
Psychosocial support to children	# of children (boys and girls) receiving professional psychosocial support	375,000	167,000 children have been reached at MoSA/ UNRWA shelters and host communities through recreational and PSS low level interventions Estimated 6,000 children, of which an estimated 45 – 50 % are girls, have received structured psychosocial interventions	Most interventions to date have been the identification of children, basic psychosocial first aid and large recreational activities. Lack of funds and restrictions on movement have prevented more structured and professional interventions
	# of adults (disaggregated by sex) receiving professional psychosocial support	60,000	119,000 adults have been reached at MoSA/ UNRWA shelters and host communities through recreational and psychosocial low level interventions	Support provided to date has been low level informal activities
Community-based child protection responses	# of family centers to be re-commissioned to target displaced children and children affected by house damage, serving as child friendly spaces with a range of child protection interventions	21	10 are in the process of being established	Restrictions on movements due to security concerns; destruction of proposed locations; lack of funding
Removal of unexploded ordnance	# of ERW-related accidents among boys, girls, women and men is minimal	as close to 0 as possible	0 incident	5 persons killed and 1 injured in an ERW accident. (The killed include 2 journalists and 3 members of the Palestinian Explosive Ordnance Disposal police).
	% of priority humanitarian locations opened without injury or additional damage to the structure as a result of ERW or other explosive hazards	100% of urgent priorities as agreed upon by local authorities and humanitarian actors	100%	No ERW-related reported to date
Targeted ERW awareness/risk education activities	# of persons reached by ERW risk education activities	900,000	51,243. These include: -1,243 who received ERW risk education (1,000 IDPs and 243 humanitarian workers) -50,000 flyers distributed to IDPs and to all persons in/around infrastructure assessed An estimated 1 million persons have been indirectly reached - through radio, TV and sms.	Security situation and access to persons at-risk (before the ceasefire)
Legal assistance to pursue accountability for violations	# of individuals (disaggregated by sex) in Gaza who receive legal assistance to access legal remedies in Israel for losses of life, injuries and property destruction or damage sustained during Operation Protective Edge	100% of key cases where there is available evidence to suggest that a violation of IHL and IHRL occurred	Human Rights organizations have so far filed 33 criminal cases and 268 civil complaints. Work is ongoing on other cases.	The challenge is that timely and good quality legal support and documentation of possible violations may not necessarily lead to criminal investigations and legal remedies.
Gender based violence response	# of IDPs in temporary shelters with access to adequate protection systems and referral pathways to deal with threat and incidence of insecurity (violence, theft, GBV, harassment.etc.)	80% of IDP temporary shelters with a protection system in place and referral pathways established	Up 40,000 IDPs were reached with GBV services and support	Weak capacity in addressing GBV prior to recent conflict and lack of adequate funding can be hindering factors. Lack of adequate GBV protection supplies
	# of organizations that provide safe and confidential psychosocial support to GBV survivors	100% of organizations have the capacity to provide confidential psychosocial support to GBV survivors	0%	Mapping of organizations providing psychosocial support to survivors is underway. 27 organizations identified to provide GBV survivors with services during the recent conflict. Not all organizations providing psychosocial support are equipped or trained to provide confidential support to survivors.

Shelter and Non Food Items

Key needs

The scale of damage and subsequent displacement due to the conflict is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip, with approximately 13 per cent of the housing stock affected. Five per cent of the housing stock has become uninhabitable (severely damaged or destroyed). This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units. The highest number of completely destroyed homes is found in northern Gaza, followed by Khan Younis, while most homes with damage severe enough to make them uninhabitable are found in Rafah.

Living conditions for IDPs are particularly difficult. The collective centres remain overcrowded and lack any privacy, leading to protection and social concerns. Moreover, the collective centres are not adequate for people with disabilities, elderly, persons injured during the hostilities and other persons with specific needs, especially regarding mobility. Access to adequate WASH facilities is also a concern, impacting IDPs' health. Conditions in host-family situations are equally challenging, with many stating that overcrowding and limited support are severe concerns.

A priority concern to the shelter cluster is the difficulty many households face in accessing functioning markets or shops (this is in addition to the limited access to basic services). Therefore, in-kind distributions may remain an appropriate modality given that many households may be unable to purchase the necessary items with cash. Of equal priority is the poor access to electricity and fuel for the vast majority of households. However, the immediate concern for households are cooking needs; the limited fuel supply will place a further strain on households as the weather grows cooler.

The need to start the new scholastic year is becoming increasingly urgent. Moreover, the need to also seek temporal and transitional shelter solutions is compounded by the vast destruction of buildings, severe concerns of overcrowding, the lack of available construction material and the limited housing units for rent. These issues are currently under discussion within the shelter cluster, including other temporary options such as prefabricated units (in certain circumstances), and techniques such as gabion baskets.

Another immediate priority is clearance of ERW and other explosive hazards and removal of ERW contamination, identifying and classifying structures that have had their structural integrity affected by the ordnance in urban areas of Gaza, thereby removing the immediate threats to life posed by the use of structurally unsafe, bomb damaged structures. Rubble removal from the destroyed/damaged buildings and debris clearance of household points is also a priority.

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PEOPLE IN NEED
Total:1 million
(Female:496,827
Male :503,173)

PEOPLE TARGETED
Total:700,000
(Female:347,550
Male: 352,450)

PEOPLE REACHED Total:361,000
(Female :179,000
Male:182,000)

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
158.7 million

Response to date and outstanding needs:

1. **Safe shelter for IDPs and provision of NFIs:** ensure adequate and safe shelter for IDPs by supporting UNRWA and government-run formal shelters, IDPs sheltering in private homes with host families and relatives in camp management and provision of NFIs.

   Response to date: distribution of different NFIs kits, including: 60,000 household items mainly mattresses, blankets and kitchen sets, and the distribution of 100,000 hygiene kits for IDPs, host families and other people in need.

   Outstanding needs: the distribution of 75,000 household kits, and the continue distribution of hygiene kits on a regular basis.

2. **Cash rental subsidy:** provide rapid economic support to displaced families affected by the conflict and those unable to return to their homes due to total or severe destruction of their housing units, allowing them to cover rental fees, living expenses and purchase of basic household items.

   Response to date: no response.

   Outstanding needs: to support 1,000 families in paying rental cost.

3. **Immediate repair and rehabilitation of shelters:** restore decent living conditions for families whose housing units have sustained damage due to the recent bombing in the Gaza Strip, ensure the early and safe return of people to their homes, and reduce the psychological trauma and distress caused by displacement.

   Response: no response.

   Outstanding needs: support more than 38,000 housing unit owners in restoring minor damages to their homes.

4. **Rubble and debris removal:** remove rubble and debris caused by collapsing buildings and infrastructure damaged in the current conflict, to reduce the risks of ERW and other explosive hazards and improve access to different services.

   Response to date: no response.

   Outstanding needs: removing at least 100,000 tons of rubble.

5. **Improve the IDPS living conditions by providing temporal shelter solutions:** in order to restore dignity, provide privacy by reducing overcrowding and free more collective centers so as to start the new scholastic year.

   Response to date: no response.

   Outstanding needs: 10,000 temporal shelter solutions.

Gaza Response Shelter/NFIs- Logical Framework

Planned Response	Response Indicator	Target	Achieved/ Reached	Constraints in Meeting Targets
Safe shelter for IDPs and provision of NFIs	% of people affected by conflict related displacement or natural hazards in Gaza who receive NFI assistance	80%	TBD[19]	The access of people staying with host families is limited. Dynamic IDP movement. Irregularity in distribution of NFIs.
	# of people affected by conflict related displacement in Gaza who receive rental cash subsidy	6,850 (male: 3,400, female: 3,450)	0	Limited funds. Limited vacant housing units for rental.
	# of host families who received cash support to improve and upgrade house facilities and living space	2,000	0	The host families will not accept prolonged stay of IDPs. Lack of materials for upgrading.
Improve the IDPS living conditions by providing temporal shelter solutions.	# of housing units (prefabricated units, addition of new floors, etc.) distributed and installed for families whose homes were totally destroyed	10,000	0	Restricted/delayed/ partial preparation materials' entry, including cement and aggregate. Restriction or delays on housing unit component entry into Gaza.
	% of displaced people affected by the conflict unable to return to their homes due to total or severe destruction who receive temporal shelter solutions	30%		Some families will not agree to live in collective centers.
Immediate minor damage repair and rehabilitation of shelters	# of people affected by conflict who receive cash assistance, cash for work assistance or materials to repair/ winterize their lightly damaged homes.	203,000 (male: 105,000, female: 98,000)	0	Lack of materials for repairs (windows, glass, aluminum). 1. Limited funds.
	# of people affected by conflict related displacement who receive cash assistance, cash for work assistance, materials, contracting to repair/ rebuild their moderately to severally damaged homes	55,000 (male: 27,300, female: 28,500)	0	Lack of construction materials. Limited funds.
Support the safe return and early recovery of persons displaced by the conflict by allowing them access to their homes, and facilitate the movement of basic supplies and services by removing rubble and debris	# of MT of rubble cleared from access roads, houses, roads, pavements and other spaces in Gaza	100,000	0	Appropriate heavy machinery and equipment to manage rubble, including crushers, are not adequate Dump sites identification and management Environmental constrains.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

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PEOPLE IN NEED
1.4 million

PEOPLE TARGETED
1.4 million

PEOPLE REACHED
Total: 510,000

REQUIREMENTS (US$)
39 million

Affected population groups for WASH interventions

IDPs currently in shelters and host families

After the start of the ceasefire, the number of IDPs hosted in UNRWA shelters dropped drastically, from 300,000 and is since stabilizing (the number on 3 September was 60,812 in 31 shelters). The number of IDPs in governmental schools dropped from 12,000 to 1,300. It is believed that an unaccounted for number of families are still residing in informal shelters. The number of persons staying with host families is unknown.

Permanently displaced families without the possibility of return to their properties

According to the shelter cluster, 18,000 households, or approximately 100,000 individuals have lost their homes which were destroyed or severely damaged. All proposed transitional and future shelter options will require water and sanitation services. However, these can only be started after a decision for recommended shelter options has been taken. Currently, proposed options consist of collective shelters, continued stay in host families with vouchers or other types of support, rental subsidies and re-integration packages. Decisions for reconstruction have yet to be taken.

Communities and neighbourhoods with damaged water and sanitation infrastructure

CMWU reports the following functionality of water and sanitation services (26 August): 75 per cent of the water network has been rendered functional after receiving emergency repairs, and now supply water on a regular basis. Overall, 80 per cent of the wastewater services, 60 per cent of desalination plants and 70 per cent of wastewater treatment plant capacity is functional. Noting that these figures relate to the total infrastructure of the whole Gaza Strip. Damages in affected communities east of Salah Ed Den are much more severe and functionality therefore much lower.

It is feared that the estimated drop in IDPs, of 250,000 in one day, will put considerable pressure on the water sector and the humanitarian community to deliver services to communities and neighborhoods. Part of the current IDP numbers may be attributed to the lack of access, in particular to water. The WASH Cluster is currently assessing, with CMWU and municipalities, where people have moved to and what condition of water and sanitation services exist at their current location, in order to define response options. Families who have chosen to live in makeshift shelters next to their destroyed houses are already seen to be living without access to adequate sanitation. WASH cluster needs to focus on the lack of sanitation in destroyed areas, in particular in view of the coming winter season and expected rains.

Findings of PWA/CMWU and MIRA assessments

PWA/CMWU conducted a rapid damage assessment from 7th July to 14th August. Damage occurred to groundwater wells, desalination plants, water reservoirs, water networks, wastewater treatment plants, wastewater collection networks and pumping stations. The total / partial destruction after the assessment stands at:

(i) Water Supply: filtration and treatment plants (10 per cent totally destroyed / 19per cent partially destroyed), distribution centers (24 per cent / 25 per cent), wells (five per cent/ seven per cent), pumping stations (0 per cent / 38 per cent), storage tanks (19 per cent / 42 per cent).

(ii) Wastewater Services: wastewater treatment (0 per cent totally destroyed / 60 per cent partially destroyed), disposal systems (0 per cent / 10 per cent), sewage pumping stations (0 per cent / 27 per cent).

The damage assessment report further identified over 33,000 meters of damage to the water and wastewater networks, with the majority located in Khan Younis

(17,800 km), particularly Bani Suheila, Abasan Al Jadida, Khuza'a, Al Fukhari, and Al Qarara. Damages in Northern Gaza are not included in this figure and will be extensive. Bulldozer damage had a significant impact, in addition to damage from bombing and artillery fire in the eastern areas and Beit Hanoun.

CMWU has been actively repairing damages, and has addressed 80 per cent of the priority repairs focusing on assisting the largest number of people. Despite this, current estimates are that 20 to 30 per cent of households, or 450,000 people, remain unable to access municipal water due to damages and/or low pressure. Additionally, many of these repairs are temporary and will require longer term repair after emergency works are completed, and many unseen damages are not yet known.

Households buy potable desalinated water from private vendors and tankers, whose systems were also disrupted by the war. Demand for desalinated water has also increased, due to shortages in municipal supplies and use of desalinated water for domestic uses. Some areas have reported increases in prices of tankered water, up to double previous rates; other areas report only marginal price increases. The price change decreases the economic access of already vulnerable families, exacerbating the problems of access to drinking water. Stabilizing desalinated water prices and increasing families' ability to purchase this water is critical.

Villages that received Merkorot water via the network (potable) or small municipal desalination plants, such as Khuza'a, Abasan Al Jedida, Abisan Kabira and Juhor Ad Dek, were particularly affected, as they were unlikely to have established relationships with private tankers and had badly damaged networks. The fact that the Gaza drinking water supply is reliant on the private sector makes collecting information on access to drinking water challenging.

Household water storage in each governorate is also critical, with some areas such as Beit Hanoun, Wadi Al Salqa, Shokat as Sufi, Khu'zaa, Juhor Ad Dek, and Az Zahra'a losing up to 70 – 95 per cent of previous household storage capacity.

Damages to the water and sewage treatment infrastructure and the inability to repair them, as well as the inadequate hygiene facilities in the IDP shelters, have resulted in reduced opportunities for washing, using toilets, and basic hygiene. Reduced access to water, limited privacy and cramped living conditions have led to increased cases of diarrhea, lice, and skin rashes, most acutely in temporary school shelters. This has negatively impacted the privacy and dignity of women and girls at IDP centers and host families in particular.

Solid waste was being collected in most areas, although less frequently than usual, and was not transported to landfills. Instead, waste was being gathered to temporary sites within communities. Areas with significant numbers of IDPs, such as Gaza City or Jabaliya, have the same or reduced amount of equipment, yet face increased population size which puts a further strain on capacity.

Provided and ongoing response

Response capacity stands at the following figures: 18 agencies with their local partners are currently included in the WASH emergency response in Gaza: ACF, ANERA, CHF, Dan Church Aid (Jabalia Rehabilitation Center), GVC, ICRC, Islamic Relief, Maan, Mercy Corps, Oxfam GB, PARC, PHG, PRCS, PU-AMI, Save the Children, UNICEF, Welfare Association. Twelve of them have ongoing operations.

These agencies report in 12 different response activities, namely: Support to network and facilities repair, generators and spare parts, consumables (including chlorine), potable water trucking, domestic water trucking, provision of bulk storage (tanks) and HH storage (jerry cans), set up of public distribution points, bottled water, water vouchers, hygiene kits, hygiene promotion.

Agencies work in all Gaza Strip governorates, including the following municipalities: Khan Yunis: Abasan al Kabira, Bani Suheila, Khan Yunis, Khan Yunis Camp, Khuza'a (5), Middle Area: Al Maghazi, Al Burej, An Nusseirat, Az Zawayda, Deir al Balah, Deir al Balah Camp, Moghraqa, Zahra, Juhor Ad Dek, Mussader, Wadi As Salqa (11), North Gaza: Jabalia, Beit Lahiya, Beit Hanoun (3), Rafah: Rafah, Shokat.

WASH Cluster priorities: Future response needed

The WASH cluster priorities are grouped into two types of interventions:

A. **Support to service providers; and,**

B. **Response at household and community level.**

A. Support to service providers: Needs for repair of damaged water and sanitation infrastructure

The PWA/CMWU damage assessment report is available. The preliminary cost is estimated at around US $34 million at the time of publishing the report, is expected to increase due to unforeseen damages hidden under the mass of debris. Top urgent emergency repairs have been continuously carried out. Repairs have focused on main lines and densely populated areas. Eight water technicians lost their lives during operation, maintenance and repair works; some of them were directly targeted. Four GEDCO technicians were killed while on duty.

Damage repair is grouped into four phases: (A) Urgent repair activities (ongoing process); (B) Fast track plan (focusing on providing minimum water and wastewater services, this includes replacement and repairs for water and wastewater networks); (C) Intermediate track plan; and, (D) Longer term track plan.

In order to carry out these repairs financial resources, equipment and spare parts are needed. The strengthening of coping mechanisms (self-help initiatives of families and communities and the inclusion of the private sector), in particular construction companies and manufacturers of items such as pipes and storage tanks, is essential to deliver the most efficient and fastest possible emergency response and recovery interventions. The WASH cluster plans to carry out a mapping exercise of capacities and bottlenecks, with the aim of formulating appropriate measures and projects to strengthen self-recovery.

The electricity system has been severely damaged and needs urgent repair. Gaza's sole power plant was hit. Before the start of hostilities, the Gaza Strip was supplied with electricity from three sources: purchases from Israel (120 megawatts, MW) and from Egypt (28 MW), and production by the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) (60 MW). This supply met approximately 46 per cent of the estimated demand.

Water and wastewater facilities with electrical generators are heavily used and overloaded by long hours of operations. Additional and replacement generators are urgently required. All generators need continuous diesel fuel supply until the electrical power plant will be functioning again. UNRWA is currently supplying 500,000 litres of diesel fuel. Only with longer term funding to operate 'standby' generators, will WASH facilities continue to be operational.

Support to solid waste collection and disposal is essential, in particular for the Municipality of Gaza, including permanent disposal of the Yarmouk temporary solid waste dumping site.

B. Support to households and communities:

WASH cluster partners support should include the following interventions:

- Potable water supply, in form of cash, water voucher, or in-kind trucking support;
- New water tankers for potable water trucking;
- Trucking of water for domestic use or temporary community distribution systems coordinated with CMWU:
- Bulk storage, PE plastic tanks and small storage (Jerry cans) including support to Gaza based production of tanks;
- Sanitary installations for IDPs and rehabilitation of household sanitation, solar heaters;
- Solid waste management trucking;
- Hygiene kits and vouchers for hygiene items;
- Hygiene promotion – Communities;
- Hygiene promotion - Mass media/Campaigns.

All WASH Cluster activities have been and continue to be closely coordinated with water authorities and service providers.

Additional note

The package of projects put forward by the cluster should be regarded as a tool to activate immediate response, and not as an exhaustive list of needs and responses. The activities are, in fact, lifesaving and thus urgent funding must be mobilized as soon as possible. The appeal will have to be continuously expanded to include increased needs., noting that the lack of funding received before the escalation has increased vulnerability of the water and sanitation sector.

Gaza Response WASH-- Logical Framework

Type of Response	Planned activities	Response Indicator	Target	Achieved/ Reached	Constraints in Meeting Targets
Support to service providers	A1. Support to water, wastewater network, and facilities repair A2. Support to electricity repair A3. Supply fuel for generators, facilities, and solid waste collection vehicles A4. Generators including spare parts and consumables A5. Other consumables, e.g. chlorine A6. Other spare parts and equipment for infrastructure repair, including large construction equipment	% of water and wastewater network that has been rendered functional after having received urgent repair activities	80%	77% water 81% wastewater	1. Continued truce/ ceasefire situation allows repairs 2. Necessary funding is secured 3. Service providers have the necessary information for rebuilding plans from other sectors 4. Spare parts, equipment and reconstruction material are allowed entry into Gaza 5. Economic sanctions on energy are lifted. At a minimum, the electricity system is repaired and / or in its absence fuel is provided to run services 6. Destroyed areas receive UXO/ERW clearance 7. Unity government and/or humanitarian situation facilitates municipal service provision 8. Shelter options and eligible families identified and registered 9. Population movements tracked regularly.
		% of population receiving water supply for at least 6 hours every 2 days	60%	25%	
		% of jointly agreed prioritized materials (spare parts, generators, fuel) delivered to service providers for repair, operation, and maintenance of WASH systems	75%	No baseline available	
	Support to Solid Waste Management of municipalities and communities	# of people (disaggregated by sex) benefitting from solid waste removed and appropriately managed	500,000	0	
Response at the household and community levels	B1. Potable water supply, in form of cash, water voucher, or in-kind trucking support including B2. New water tankers, B3. Water for domestic use trucking, B4. Bulk and HH storage including support to Gaza based production of tanks	# of IDPs being served by emergency water tankering or water vouchers to allow them to access a minimum amount of 3 liters of potable water per capita per day	600,000	422,749	
		# of households provided with domestic water storage tanks of at least 0.5 m^3 capacity.	25,000	2,391	
	B5. Sanitary installations for IDPs and rehabilitation of household sanitation, potentially including mobile latrines and B6. Solid waste collection at community level	# of IDPs outside of school shelters with access to emergency environmental sanitation services	10,000	0	
	B7. Hygiene kits and vouchers for hygiene items, B8/9. Hygiene promotion	# of people (disaggregated by sex) receiving hygiene kits and hygiene promotion outside of school shelters	100,000	10,000	

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF THE MOST VULNERABLE

Women and children have been most affected during the current hostilities, as evidenced by the high number of fatalities, injuries and displacement amongst them. The response will ensure that gender sensitive approaches will be mainstreamed throughout the response, starting with data collection for assessments of needs. In the immediate term, this is particularly critical to interventions related to shelter and NFIs. There are also indications of gender specific needs related to psychosocial support for boys and girls, as well as women.

Efforts to ensure outreach to women in particular during the emergency response will secure their access to critical information on available protection and basic services including reproductive health services and child health and hygiene. As the main care providers to their families, women will play a significant role in mitigating threats related to worsening water and sanitation conditions. Direct consultations will be pursued as a valuable source of information on the needs of the affected population and the adequacy of the humanitarian response.

Building on evidence from previous crises, the recovery stages will prioritize gender specific needs associated with coping strategies, such as increased incidence of domestic violence, early marriage and gender biases in access to livelihoods and shelter.

Particular attention will also be paid to the needs of the elderly and people with disabilities. It is important that comprehensive services are provided to persons with disabilities as part of the humanitarian response. These range from health care, rehabilitation services, provision of assistive devices and items, to psychosocial support (which often improves the quality of the rehabilitation while ensuring faster results) as well as livelihood support. The elderly and the chronically ill lack proper access to adequate medical treatment and medication; they require adult diapers and attention has to paid to their special dietary needs. In addition, due to lack of transportation persons with disabilities and elderly persons reported facing challenges when required to evacuate their homes.

GAZA CRISIS, WHAT IF?

...WE FAIL TO RESPOND

If humanitarians are not able to raise funds and deliver aid for the Gaza crisis.

- 450,000 people will not have adequate access to water.
- More than 220 damaged schools will not be ready for the upcoming school year, added to the existing shortage of almost 200 schools.
- The trauma faced by over 373,000 children will go untreated with essential, direct psychosocial support.
- Over 110,000 IDPs will not receive the immediate food assistance they need to see them through these months of crisis.
- Over 37,000 housing units with major to minor damages will be left unrepaired, and the families that called them home will have no place to return to.

ENDNOTES

1. OCHA Situation Report (as of 4 September 2014, 8:00 hrs): http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_sitrep_04_09_2014.pdf
2. Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) are explosive munitions left behind after a conflict, including unexploded artillery shells, grenades, mortars, rockets, air-dropped bombs, and cluster munitions. ERW consist of unexploded and abandoned explosive ordnance, but do not include landmines.
3. On 23 July 2014 UNMAS was tasked by the United Nations Secretary-General "to immediately develop and implement an effective security plan for the safe and secure handling of any weapons discovered in UN premises." Further, he has directed UNMAS to "immediately deploy personnel with expertise to deal with the situation."
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. OCHA Situation Report (as of 4 September 2014, 8:00 hrs): http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_sitrep_04_09_2014.pdf
7. In particular the IDPs located in the following places: Deir Al-Balah (Deir Al-Balah Locality - 15,000 IDPs ; Al Maghazi Camp – 14,000 IDPs; Al Musadda – 5,000 IDPs; Az Zawayda – 2,000 IDPs (300 families) are coming from Maghazi and Buriej, Gaza city and north Gaza); Gaza north (Beit Lahiya; Beit Hanoun – 50,000 IDPs); Khan Yunis: Abasan al Kabira – 28,000 IDPs are estimated; Bani Suheila; Khan Yunis; Wadi as Salqa - 10 IDPs estimated); Gaza: (Juhor ad Dik – 8,500 IDPs; Al Mughraqa (Abu Middein) – 9,000 IDPs estimated during the crisis, and 180 now; important sites contaminated such as Ez Zahra garden, El Wafa Hospital in Ez Zahra area); Rafah (Shokat as Sufi; An Naser).
8. OCHA Situation Report as of 4 September 2014, 8:00 hrs): http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_sitrep_04_09_2014.pdf
9. Gender-based violence is a broader umbrella term referring to any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females, which in most settings privilege men.
10. UNFPA: "Gaza Crisis: Impact on Reproductive Health and Obstetic Care, Final Report, 13 Febraruy 2009: http://www.unfpa.org/emergencies/gaza/docs/gaza_impact_rh.pdf
11. The priorities listed in this section were the four over-arching agreed strategic priorities for response used by clusters/sectors to guide and shape the formulation of their individual response plans.
12. Most of the assistance provided to the beneficiaries is of a cyclical nature and therefore funds should continue to be secured in order to assure uninterrupted assistance.
13. Sefsec 2014. This includes those who are food insecure and those who are vulnerable to food insecurity.
14. Child Protection actors have reached: 119,000 adults (58,310 females, 60,680 males); and 167,000 children (81,830 girls, 85,170 boys); Legal aid providers have reached: 1,608 individuals: (787 females, 821 males, including 314 girls and 328 boys); Gender-based violence service providers have reached: 34,134 women, 10,866 men, and 15,000 (children, 7350 girls, 7650 boys); and ERW Education activities have reached: 51,243 (directly reached) 1 million (indirectly reached).
15. OCHA Humanitarian Snapshot (as of 29 August 2014, 8:00 hrs): http:/ http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/humanitarian_Snapshot_31_august_2014_oPt_V4.pdf/ www.ochaopt.org/documents/humanitarian_Snapshot_31_august_2014_oPt_V4.pdf
16. Ibid.
17. OCHA Situation Report (28 August 20148:00 hrs): http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_sitrep_28_08_2014.pdf
18. According to a study by the Culture and Free Thought Association (CFTA) in 2012,widows of ''martyrs" are forced to marry their husband's brother.
19. To date 60,000 household items mainly mattresses, blankets and kitchen sets, and the distribution of 100,000 hygiene kits for IDPs, host families and other people in need.

LIST OF APPEAL PROJECTS

The majority of projects contained in this appeal are either new projects that have been developed in response to this crisis or existing 2014 SRP projects that have reprogrammed all of their activities and requirements towards meeting current needs in Gaza. A small minority of the projects in this appeal address both crisis needs and ongoing protracted needs in Gaza or Gaza and the West Bank. Such projects are indicated in the table with an *.

Education

Project Code	Appealing organisation	Project Title	Crisis Appeal requirement (USD)
OPT-14/ E/60999/R	NRC	'Better Learning' - Emergency Education Response	750,150 (of a broader project of $932,150)
OPT-14/ E/61171/R	UNICEF	Urgent support to girls and boys in Gaza to ensure their return to school	15,513,173
OPT-14/ E/61173/R	UNICEF	Mitigating the impact of conflict on adolescent girls and boys through sports, art, and after schools community engagements.	1800228 (of a broader project of $2,500,228)
OPT-14/ E/70157/R	UNDP	Education Facilities Emergency Rehabilitation in the Gaza Strip - Gaza 2014	2,845,260
OPT-14/ E/70170/R	UNESCO	Protect education from attack, promote schools as safe zones and provide inclusive quality education in affected secondary schools in Gaza	750,000
OPT-14/ E/70220/R	CRS	PRP: Rehabilitation of Private Kindergartens	496,291
OPT-14/ E/70236/R	COOPI	Support to the Education Sector in Gaza	695,500
OPT-14/ E/70253/R	RI	Responding to critical emerging education needs in Gaza	1,434,705
OPT-14/ E/70620/R	SBOS	Non Food Items to 4000 Children of 1000 Displaced Families Affected by the Recent War in Northern Governorates of Gaza Strip	230,050
OPT-14/ E/70669/R	TASD	INEE and non-formal education for 6,000 school children displaced at 15 shelter centers after the recent war on Gaza	242,890
OPT-14/ E/70693/R	UNESCO	Protecting higher education institutions as safe zones and mitigating the impact of the crisis on university students and teachers to ensure the right to quality higher education in Gaza	1,000,000
OPT-14/ E/70716/R	ACTED	Emergency support to children through informal education	200,000
OPT-14/ E/70725/R	ACT/DCA	Providing school uniforms schools bags and stationary, to children who lost all their belongings during the Gaza 2014 war	241,000
OPT-14/ E/70847/R	SC	Supporting Gaza children to survive and thrive - Phase 1, relief	849,000
OPT-14/ E/70848/R	SC	An integrated community-based early recovery model for enhancing children's well-being and access to quality basic and early childhood education	2,250,000
OPT-14/ E/70849/R	SC	Restoration of Kindergarten Facilities in Gaza	3,276,000
TOTAL			**32,574,247**

Food Security

Project Code	Appealing organisation	Project Title	Crisis Appeal Request (US$)
OPT-14/ ER/60910/R	COOPI	Enhancement of protection and living conditions of vulnerable and marginalized communities of the northern governorates of West Bank and Gaza Strip	1,775,000 (of a broader project of $2,902,375)
OPT-14/ A/60976/R	FAO and ACF Spain	Emergency support to low resilience fishers, urban and peri-urban livelihoods in the Gaza Strip through small scale domestic food production	5,000,000
OPT-14/F/61024/R	WFP	Emergency food assistance to the non-refugee population in the Gaza Strip, EMOP 200298	63,160,303 (of a broader project of $102,367,463)
OPT-14/ A/61036/R	FAO	Prepare and respond to shocks affecting low resilience herders in the West Bank and Gaza Strip	10,600,000 (of a broader project of $13,500,000)
OPT-14/ A/61109/R	FAO	Prepare and respond to shocks affecting low resilience farmers in the West Bank and Gaza	10600000 (of a broader project of $13,500,000)
OPT-14/ A/61167/R	Oxfam Italia	Emergency support to communities affected by IHL violation in Gaza Strip and WB	1,560,292 (of a broader project of $1,816,000)
OPT-14/F/70117/R	WVI	Enhanced Food Security and Improved Access to Livelihoods of Vulnerable Families in the Gaza Strip	4,783,748
OPT-14/F/70130/R	FAFD	Emergency response - Support the steadfastness of the people displaced from the war of Gaza	148,000
OPT-14/F/70147/R	CARE International	Early Recovery and Protecting Livelihoods of Affected Small Scale Farmers by the Israeli Offensive, especially the so called "Protective Edge"	249,228
OPT-14/F/70184/R	WA	Restoration of affect agriculture land in support of livelihoods in Gaza strip immediatly post conflict	221,222
OPT-14/F/70206/R	SC	Livelihood Support to Vulnerable and Food Insecure Households in Gaza Strip through Cash for Work activities - Round III	1,086,000
OPT-14/F/70215/R	CRS	Restoring Livelihoods of Conflict-Affected Fishermen in Gaza	475,494
OPT-14/F/70239/R	OXFAM GB	Emergency Food Vouchers for Conflict Displaced Families in the Gaza Strip	1,877,141
OPT-14/F/70242/R	SCC	Humanitarian assistance and restoring livelihood of small-scale farmers in Gaza strip	620,000
OPT-14/F/70244/R	ACPP	Emergency action to mitigate the urgent food needs of 28,490 IDPs (9,900 women, 6,590 men, 7,200 girls and 4,800 boys) in vulnerable areas of the Gaza Strip, OPT, affected by Israeli military attacks, with a special focus on infants and children.	958,696
OPT-14/F/70248/R	PFA	Repair and Rehabilitation of Damaged Agricultural Open Fields in Khan Yunis and Middle Area Affected by the Recent War on Gaza	233,046
OPT-14/F/70256/R	UNRWA	Cash-for-Work Opportunities Supporting Emergency Response and Early Recovery in the Gaza Strip	8,000,000
OPT-14/F/70319/R	UNRWA	Food Distribution in Designated Emergency Shelters	150,195,000
OPT-14/F/70327/R	UNRWA	Cash for Work	6,680,000
TOTAL			**268,223,180**

Health and Nutrition

Project Code	Appealing Organization	Project Title	Crisis Appeal Request (US$)
OPT-14/H/61081/R	ACT/DCA	Humanitarian Emergency Response for Combating Malnutrition in under five year old children in The Gaza Strip	165000 (of a broader project of $765,557)
OPT-14/H/61093/R	UNFPA/MAP	Life-saving continuum of obstetric and newborn care in the Gaza Strip	395,280
OPT-14/H/70097/R	Al Makassed Hospital	Medical care for Gaza casualties	5,000,000
OPT-14/H/70125/R	UHWC	Emergency Intervention in order to guarantee health services in the Northern area of Gaza Strip - Palestine	265,197
OPT-14/H/70127/R	UNFPA	Enhance institutional and community level emergency preparedness and response for reproductive health	756,000
OPT-14/H/70168/R	HelpAge International	Gaza Emergency: A health and protection response targeting older widows, women and men	438,410
OPT-14/H/70176/R	WHO	Procurement of essential pharmaceuticals and supplies to the health sector to respond to most urgent humanitarian needs in oPt.	7,640,707
OPT-14/H/70203/R	HI	Emergency intervention for the most vulnerable women, men and children affected by the Gaza crisis	770,000
OPT-14/H/70207/R	Medico International	Gaza War 2014: Life-saving Primary Health and Post-surgical Medical Care and Urgently Required Medical Supplies to the Stock of the MoH in the Gaza Strip	653,923
OPT-14/H/70209/R	WHO	Strengthening health information and coordination in emergency for more effective humanitarian health action in Gaza	462,000
OPT-14/H/70247/R	MDM	Support of the surgical response in Gaza, to face the continuous inflow of injured people, due to the "protective Edge Operation"	150,000
OPT-14/H/70251/R	MDM	Support to psychosocial response for Gaza emergency 2014	60,000
OPT-14/H/70323/R	UNRWA	Ensuring access to health care in the Gaza Strip	7,907,415
OPT-14/H/70255/R	UNICEF	Gaza crisis: Urgent child health care and improved young child feeding for affected communities	4,729,536
TOTAL			**29,393,468**

Protection

Project Code	Appealing Organization	Project Title	Crisis Appeal Request (US$)
OPT-14/MA/60531/R	UNMAS	Protection of the people living and working in Gaza against the increased risk posed by Explosive Remnants of War	1,500,000
OPT-14/H/61043/R	ACT/DCA	Providing Psychosocial Support for Children in Northern Gaza and mobile emergency trauma outreach	433,777 (of a broader project for $515,410)
OPT-14/H/61196/R	UNICEF	Gaza Component scaled up: Humanitarian Psychosocial Response for Children and Families	3,491,247 (of a broader project of $4,381,247)
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/61197/R	UNICEF	Gaza crisis: Community Based Humanitarian Child Protection Mechanisms in Gaza (Child Friendly Spaces)	1,368,095
OPT-14/MA/61199/R	UNICEF	Gaza crisis: Saving Lives of Children and Families through mine/ ERW risk education (MRE) in oPt	234,533
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/61200/R	UNICEF	Informing humanitarian programmatic and advocacy response through documentation of grave violations against children affected by armed conflict	556,416
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70114/R	WVI	Psychosocial support for war-affected children and mothers in Gaza.	2,368,800
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70129/R	CMBM	Alleviating Psychological Trauma and Stress Among Children and Emergency Service Providers	450,149
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70138/R	IMC	Psychosocial support for children and their families residing in ARA affected by the on-going hostilities	439,583
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70163/R	PCHR	Enhanced protection for civilians in the Gaza Strip and challenging impunity	577,000
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70175/R	TASD	An Emergency Recovery of 1,000 Displaced Families and their 4,000 Children Through Psychosocial Support	212,074
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70188/R	ACT/CA UK	Essential Psychosocial support for vulnerable people in Khan Younis, Gaza	120,000
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70189/R	B'Tselem	Promoting respect for IHL and human rights: Gaza Crisis Appeal 2014	50,587
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70196/R	WCH	psychosocial protection emergency project	311,688
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70219/R	Solidaridad	Comprehensive protection response, including GBV, to women, men girls and boys affected by the Crisis in the Gaza Strip	178,200
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70231/R	SC	Intensive Family Focused Crisis Counseling Services for Gaza	1,445,000
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70243/R	UN Women	Improved psychosocial status and SGBV support to women, men, girls and boys in overcrowded and internally displaced families in the Gaza Strip	235,332
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70326/R	UNRWA	Psychosocial support	5,100,000
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70674/R	Al Mezan	Provision of legal assistance to Palestinians in Gaza seeking accountability and/or redress in Israel following Operation Protective Edge	356,000
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70683/R	UNFPA	Responding to -increased vulnerability of Gender Based Violence among displaced population- in Shelters and hosting communities in –Crisis affected Gaza	529,000
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70688/R	NRC	Legal assistance for IDPs in Gaza to access shelter assistance and other services	181,500
OPT-14/P-HR-RL/70859/R	Internews	Gaza Humanitarian Information Service (GHIS), Bridges With Gaza (Jossor ma'Gaza)	481,000
TOTAL			**20,619,981**

Shelter and Non Food Items

Project Code	Appealing Organization	Project Title	Crisis Appeal Request (US$)
OPT-14/S-NF/60446/R	NRC	Emergency response to new displacement related shelter/NFI needs in Gaza Strip	645,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70135/R	MDC	Support For Gaza's Displaced People:Health, Dignity, Safety and Well-Being	807,736
OPT-14/S-NF/70136/R	UN-HABITAT	Repair of Minor Housing Damage with Households	2,117,670
OPT-14/S-NF/70148/R	UNDP	Emergency Rubble and Debris removal in the Gaza Strip-Gaza 2014	1,321,243
OPT-14/S-NF/70164/R	UN-HABITAT	Urban Profiling - assessment of priority urban areas	347,425
OPT-14/S-NF/70177/R	Global Communities	Emergency Non-Food Item (NFI) Assistance	250,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70186/R	Global Communities	Emergency Shelter Rehabilitation and Winterization	2,000,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70211/R	UNDP	Emergency Cash Assistance for affected Non-refugee families in Gaza Strip - Gaza 2014	3,309,995
OPT-14/S-NF/70223/R	UNDP	Quick Impact Housing Rehabilitation Programme in the Gaza Strip - Gaza 2014	14,958,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70301/R	UNOPS	To provide access to electricity for IDPs in Gaza	11,545,407
OPT-14/S-NF/70320/R	UNRWA	Non-Food Items Distribution in the Gaza Strip	37,290,429
OPT-14/S-NF/70330/R	UNRWA	Conditional Cash Assistance	9,605,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70331/R	UNRWA	UNRWA Installation Repair	1,560,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70329/R	UNRWA	Shelter repair	45,875,000
OPT-14/S-NF/70701/R	RA	Emergency relief to some of Gaza's most vulnerable (disabled and their families, newborns and moms) who have lost their homes in Israeli operation "Protective Edge"150	126,139
OPT-14/S-NF/70668/R	COOPI	Emergency response for the distribution of NFIs to the HHs affected by the hostilities in Gaza Strip	512,016
OPT-14/S-NF/70667/R	ACTED	Emergency assistance to households with homes affected by minor damages in the Gaza strip	702,990
OPT-14/S-NF/70664/R	Global Communities	Emergency and Transitional Shelter Assistance (ETSA)	8,837,100
OPT-14/S-NF/70658/R	UNDP	Emergency Transitional Housing - Gaza Crisis 2014	15,680,001
OPT-14/S-NF/70576/R	HAI	Supporting displaced Gazans vulnerable families with housing units	321,700
OPT-14/S-NF/70498/R	CMAD	Emergency and Humanitarian Assistance to families displaced in Gaza due to the recent hostilities	219,136
OPT-14/S-NF/70318/R	TdH - L	Meeting the immediate relief, child protection and livelihood needs of 1,600 families in Gaza	685,791
Total			**158,717,778**

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Project Code	Appealing Organization	Project Title	Crisis Appeal Request (US$)
OPT-14/ WS/61095/R	ACF	WASH emergency response in Gaza: rehabilitation of household and community WASH infrastructure, and provision of safe drinking water	982,930
OPT-14/ WS/61161/R	UNICEF	Gaza crisis: WASH Cluster Coordination	308,853
OPT-14/ WS/70113/R	WVI	Hygiene support for war-affected families in Gaza.	2,281,250
OPT-14/ WS/70201/R	UNDP	Emergency Solid Waste Removal and Management in the Gaza Strip - Gaza 2014	1,102,500
OPT-14/ WS/70254/R	UNICEF	Gaza crisis: Immediate WASH response to ensure provision of safe drinking water and urgnet hygiene improvement	11,876,216
OPT-14/ WS/70257/R	GVC	Emergency Response to Water and Sanitation needs in the Middle Area, Gaza Strip	1,725,639
OPT-14/ WS/70261/R	NRC	Rapid response to emergency WASH needs in Gaza Strip	984,400
OPT-14/ WS/70263/R	OXFAM GB	Emergency Water Supply for Conflict Displaced Families in the Gaza Strip	1,115,635
OPT-14/ WS/70266/R	ACPP	Emergency action to mitigate the urgent water and hygiene needs of 16,940 IDPs in vulnerable areas of the Gaza Strip, oPt, affected by the crisis, with a special focus on women and children	320,580
OPT-14/ WS/70267/R	ACPP	Emergency action to mitigate the urgent WASH needs of 24.000 people (8.640 women, 5.760 men, 5.760 girls and 3.840 boys) in vulnerable areas of the Gaza Strip, OPT, affected by Israeli military attacks, with a special focus on women and children.	669,350
OPT-14/ WS/70285/R	SC	Restore the water supply and improve hygiene in affected Households in Eastern Gaza city	1,450,000
OPT-14/ WS/70325/R	UNRWA	Environmental Health (WASH)	16,280,000
Total			**39,097,353**

Coordination and Support Services

Project Code		Project Title	Crisis Appeal Request (US$)
OPT-14/ CSS/70237/R	UN Women	Engendering Emergency Humanitarian Response to the Gaza Crisis	202,500
OPT-14/ CSS/70691/R	WFP	Logistics Cluster Support and Logistics Augmentation in Response to the Gaza Crisis	2,402,579
TOTAL			**2,605,079**

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INITIAL RAPID ASSESSMENT

27 August 2014

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Coordination Saves Lives

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

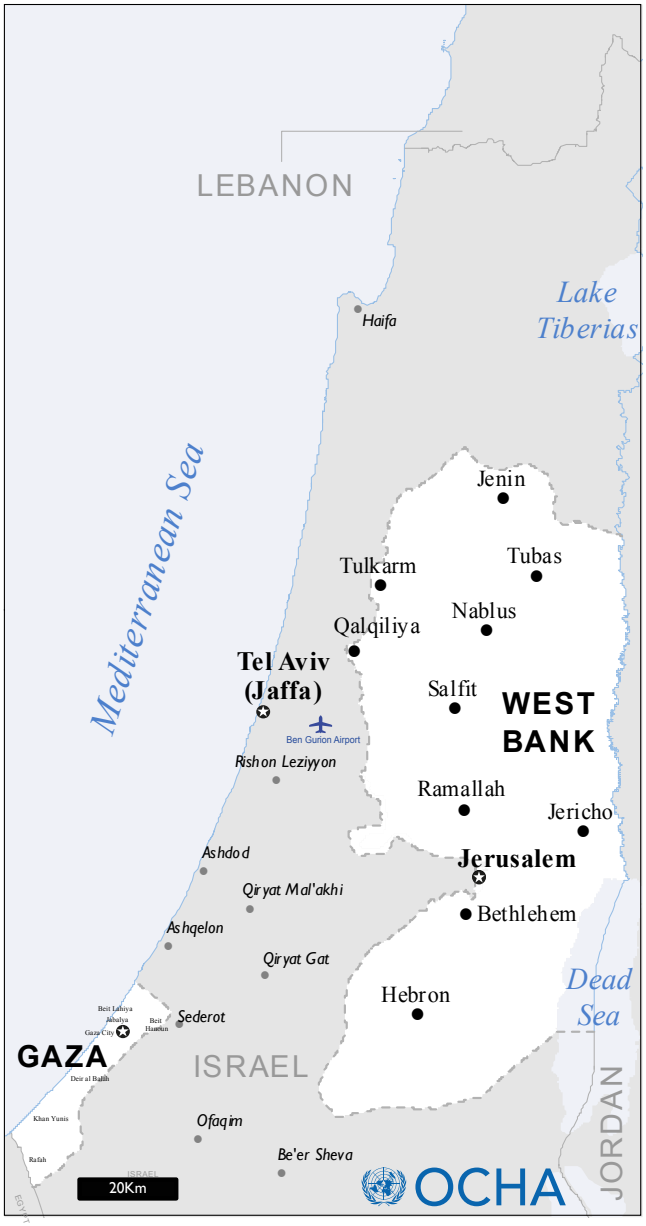
On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a military operation code-named "Protective Edge", in the Gaza Strip, following several weeks of escalation. The scale of destruction, devastation and displacement wreaked in the 50 days of conflict that ensued is unprecedented in Gaza, since at least the start of the Israeli occupation in 1967. Following several short-lived cease-fires, on 26 August, the parties to the conflict reached an open-ended cease-fire which has held to date.

On 13, 18 and 19 August, under the coordination of OCHA, a Multi-Cluster/Agency Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) was carried out in Gaza with the aim of gathering baseline information on the needs arising from the military operation, and informing the humanitarian response. A 400-point questionnaire was developed and the assessment teams, drawn from the relevant clusters, UN agencies, NGOs, and line ministries visited all five governorates and 25 municipalities in Gaza. The list of informants included community leaders, NGOs, CBOs, mayors, teachers, youths, IDPs, health experts, and representatives from the electricity and water utilities. Among the key findings:

1. Protection concerns

Due to the densely populated and urbanized nature of Gaza, virtually the whole population was exposed to conflict and affected by damage to vital electricity and water infrastructure. Palestinians residing east of Salah ad-Din Road, in northern Gaza, Rafah and certain parts of Gaza City were particularly affected. Throughout the conflict there was a real fear among the population that no person or place was safe, as evidenced by attacks on hospitals, residential buildings and schools designated as shelters. Psychosocial distress levels, already high among the population of Gaza, have worsened significantly as a result of the conflict.

The lack of protection is most evident in the high level of civilian casualties. According to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster, since 7 July up to 28 August, at least 2,133 Palestinians have been killed. This figure includes 362 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,489 are believed to be civilians, including 500 children (187 girls and 313 boys), 257 women and 282 members of armed groups. Many fatalities involved multiple family members, with at least 142 Palestinian families having three or more members killed in the same



incident, for a total of 739 fatalities. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, over 11,100 Palestinians, including 3,374 children, 2,088 women and 410 elderly were injured. Preliminary estimates indicate that up to 1,000 of the children injured will have a permanent disability and up to 1,500 orphaned children will need sustained support from the child protection and welfare sectors.

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW), from Israeli fire, are widely dispersed in and around homes and public spaces and buildings throughout Gaza. It is estimated that some 1,900 items have to be secured, including non-exploded tank shells, missiles, aircraft bombs, rockets, bullets, shrapnel, fuses, gas canisters and flechettes. These, in addition to ERW contamination from Palestin-

ian armed groups, pose a major risk to the population, especially to children. The main priority is the clearance of ERW and risk awareness campaigns.

In addition, an increase in the prevalence of a number of existing protection concerns was identified during the assessment. These included excessive disciplinary measures by parents/teachers against children (violence against children was identified in 16 of 25 municipalities); manifestations of gender-based violence (GBV); and increased stress and domestic violence among the affected population. The crisis exacerbated existing child protection issues and undermined protective factors. Children witnessed parents and family being killed and were confronted with the added distress associated with displacement – and being separated from their families – in addition to the tense and volatile situation in shelters. An estimated 373,000 children will require specialized psychosocial support.

The assessment identified the need for legal support to address some of these protection needs, including pursuing accountability for alleged violations of international law resulting in deaths and injuries, as well as destruction of property as a result of the military operation.

2. Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)

At the height of the conflict, an estimated 500,000 people – 28 per cent of the population – were internally displaced, including in UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters (293,000), government schools (49,000), in informal shelters such as empty buildings, churches or mosques, and with host families (170,000). It is estimated that some 108,000 people will be long-term displaced as their homes have been rendered uninhabitable.

As the number of IDPs in shelters was many times more than had been anticipated in contingency plans based on previous experience of hostilities, overcrowding, a lack of dignity and privacy, lack of adequate sanitation and hygiene, insufficient access to water for drinking and for domestic use, and a lack of electricity were some of the concerns raised. Health concerns included communicable diseases, a lack of medical staff in shelters and a lack of medication and health care for chronic diseases. Shelters also provided very limited privacy for women. IDPs with host families also put a significant strain on the already depleted resources of host families and communities.

Priorities include supporting IDPs and host families in finding more durable solutions in terms of shelter, protection and access to services and livelihoods.

3. Humanitarian space

Movement was restricted for all actors due to security concerns, the unpredictable nature of the conflict and challenging coordination with Israeli forces. These factors significantly impeded the ability of humanitarian organizations to conduct their work, field visits, and monitoring in a safe manner. Primary security concerns included collateral damage to UN and NGOs facilities, vehicles, and aid workers, but there have also been incidents of discontent among the local population towards the international community. Though not always successful, coordination with the Israeli forces through the Coordination and Liaison Authority (CLA) in Erez occurred regularly for areas considered as high risk, and engagement with military actors was maintained for: the opening of crossings and checkpoints; access for humanitarian personnel; the evacuation of dual-nationals and foreign residents; the functioning of humanitarian pipelines and the expedited entry of critical materials into Gaza; and the provision of coordinates of civilian installations to the Israeli authorities.

4. Health

Gaza's health system suffers from chronic shortages in medicine, medical supplies and equipment, and there have been limited training opportunities for staff. The energy crisis and the lack of financial support for the Ministry of Health had negatively impacted the continuity and quality of services prior to the recent emergency.

During the conflict, at least 15 out of 32 hospitals were damaged and six closed down as a result (three remain closed). Out of 97 primary health centres (PHC) monitored for damage and closures, 45 reported damage and 17 were closed. Four are completely destroyed. The reduction in the number of operational hospitals and PHCs throughout the conflict exacerbated the pressure on the still functioning facilities, especially when receiving large numbers of casualties. Consequently, patients had to be discharged prematurely or were deprived of appropriate care for their condition, with potential long-term negative consequences. The overwhelming number of injuries and limited resources resulted in an increase in the number of patients referred for treatment outside of Gaza, including cases of multiple trauma and increased risk of complications. Complicated referral procedures led to a backlog of patient referral, with 500 patients being processed and waiting as of 28 August.

Priorities are the repair and rehabilitation of damaged facilities; maintaining supplies of fuel, medicines and medical disposables; the improvement of IDP shelters to

prevent communicable disease outbreaks; and improving the referral process to hospitals outside of Gaza.

5. Education

The new school year, scheduled to start on 24 August, has been postponed to 14 September, impairing more than half a million children's access to education. Twenty-six schools have been completely destroyed and 122 damaged during the conflict, 75 of which are UNRWA schools. At least 11 higher education facilities have also been affected. The education sector was already overstretched prior to the crisis, suffering from a shortage of almost 200 schools, with classes running in double shifts. When schools open, children will face even more acute over-crowding and under-resourcing, as a result of the collateral damage incurred.

Priorities are ERW clearance and the rehabilitation of schools from damage sustained and due to their use as emergency shelters for IDPs. Furniture, textbooks and learning materials will also need to be replaced. Additionally, with hundreds of thousands of children in need of psychosocial support, teachers and educational staff (many of whom have also experienced acute trauma) will be stretched to provide the appropriate support required to ease children back into school and to provide ongoing support throughout the school year.

6. Food Security

Around two thirds of the population of Gaza was receiving food assistance prior to the crisis, and food insecurity or vulnerability to food insecurity affected 72 per cent of households. At least 40,000 people employed in the agriculture/fishery sector were directly affected by the crisis.

The most frequently identified concerns regarding food security and nutrition included: loss of the source of income and livelihoods due to severe damage to agricultural lands; death/loss of animals, inability to access agricultural lands, particularly in the Israeli-imposed three-kilometre buffer zone, and loss of employment. This, combined with the lack of disposable income due to livelihoods losses from the prolonged blockade, has constrained the ability of most households to purchase food from the local market and re-engage in food production for subsistence and income. In several communities, dietary diversity was highlighted as an issue of concern, particularly for children and pregnant and lactating women, due to the lack of diversity in large scale food assistance programmes and the high prices of fresh food and red meat. The lack of cooking gas, fuel, and cooking utensils, as well as the limited access to water were also highlighted as constraints to households' ability to consume cooked food.

Among the priorities are food assistance to all IDPs and food insecure families; temporary employment and in-kind assistance for repair of productive assets; emergency support to revitalize the food production sector; market monitoring and enforcement of price ceilings for basic food commodities; and livelihoods support to fishermen.

7. Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFIs)

Some 13 per cent of the entire housing stock in Gaza, comprising 44,300 housing units, is affected. Approximately five per cent of the housing stock is uninhabitable: an estimated 18,000 housing units have been either destroyed or severely damaged, leaving more than 108,000 people homeless. This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units, due to people living in overcrowded or inadequate conditions. Although people in the shelters received basic non-food items (NFIs), needs remain, particularly among host families and the homeless. There were concerns about items not being distributed equally across shelters and among IDPs.

Priorities are the continued provision of Non-Food Items (NFIs) to IDPs; transition and return solutions for IDPs with a protection focus; ERW clearance and rubble removal; and the entry of construction materials for repair and reconstruction.

8. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Gaza already faced a challenging situation in regards to water and wastewater prior to the escalation, and services were further hampered during the war, due to electricity and fuel shortages and the inaccessibility of many installations. Despite improved access to these areas following the cessation of hostilities, services remain affected due to the damage sustained by some facilities, including the Gaza Power Plant (GPP). Approximately half a million people were directly affected by damage to water facilities, and one million were affected due to damage to the wastewater plant and wastewater pumping stations.

Between 20 and 30 per cent of water and sewage networks remain damaged, mostly in the former Israeli-imposed three-kilometre buffer zone. Some 30 to 50 per cent of water storage capacity at the household level

is damaged, putting a particular strain on host families. Water, when available, is rarely adequate because of reduced network pressure from damage and power cuts. Households with no electricity and/or supplemental pumps cannot fill rooftop storage tanks even when water is available. Damage to treatment plants and energy shortages has also resulted in an increase in the discharge of raw sewage into the environment. Although solid waste is being collected in most areas, collection is less frequent than usual and the waste is gathered in temporary sites within communities, rather than dumped in designated landfills.

Priorities included repairs to essential infrastructure and increased distribution of potable and domestic water to households, municipalities and shelters.

Vulnerable groups

Women: As the primary care givers in Gaza, women will have to deal with the large numbers of family members killed and injured and the long-term impact of damaged infrastructure and reduced services, while themselves suffering from psychosocial stress. Displacement proved especially difficult for women and girls, with increased evidence of GBV in shelters, limited privacy, compromised dignity, and reduced access to hygiene. During the emergency, more than 40,000 pregnant women were deprived of access to basic reproductive health care. Due to an increased caseload and reduced capacity at newborn health facilities, neonatal mortality was reported to double from seven to 14 per cent at Shifa Hospital; and damaged healthcare centres will reduce their access to sexual and reproductive health services. Female headed families, including new war widows, are a priority group in need of protection and support.

***Children*:** Children were not sheltered from the effects of the conflict and, as parents were focused on survival, they were not able to adequately take care of their children. Incidents of violence against children and child abuse increased, and family separation occurred.

***Persons with disabilities*:** These are estimated to represent 2.4 per cent of the population of Gaza. Shelters were generally described as inadequate for persons with disabilities, although UNRWA shelters provide for accessible toilets and entrances, in addition to some ad hoc support. It is estimated that some 10 per cent of the injured – 1,000 persons – may be long-term or permanently impaired. Comprehensive services will need to be included as part of the humanitarian response, including health care, rehabilitation services, provision of assistive devices and items, as well as psychosocial and livelihood support.

***Elderly*:** People aged 55 and above account for 5.5 per cent of the population of Gaza. Elderly persons lacked access to adequate medical treatment and medication and faced additional challenges in evacuating their homes and staying in shelters. Their social and economic situation makes them vulnerable to shocks and emergencies, and their experience of multiple hostilities has undermined their sense of security and increased the psychological toll. The situation is particularly difficult for older women who are widows: over 40 per cent of relatively young older women (aged 60-69) are widowed, a number rising to 90 per cent for those over the age of 80.

HOSTILITIES IN GAZA

1. Background

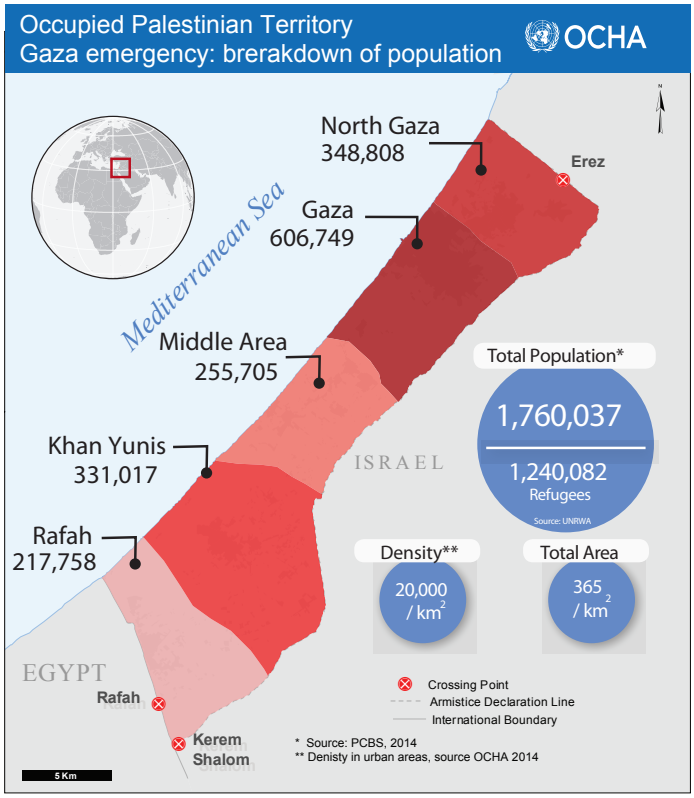
On 7 July 2014, the Israeli army launched a large military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed "Protective Edge", with the stated objective of stopping Palestinian rocket firing at southern Israel and destroying the military infrastructure of Hamas and other armed groups. This marked the collapse of the Egyptian-brokered ceasefire understanding reached between Israel and Hamas in November 2012, which has gradually eroded since the beginning of 2014. By contrast, the previous year recorded the lowest levels of conflict and casualties in Gaza and southern Israel since the outbreak of the second Intifada in September 2000, despite a severe deterioration in the living conditions in the Gaza Strip since the second half of 2013.

The latest escalation, which led to the launch of the Israeli offensive, started in early June 2014. It was characterized by an intensification of rocket and mortar firing by Palestinian armed groups at southern Israel, alongside an increase in Israeli airstrikes. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, between 1 June and 7 July a total of 16 Palestinians, including two civilians, were killed, and another 58 Palestinians and seven Israelis, mostly civilians, injured.

2. Underlying drivers of vulnerability

The escalation in hostilities came against a backdrop of a significant deterioration in the living conditions in the Gaza Strip since mid-2013, following the shutdown of the illegal tunnels with Egypt. This exacerbated an already fragile situation generated by the Israeli blockade, imposed since June 2007.

The longstanding Israeli restrictions on external trade, including with Israel, and on transfers to and from the West Bank have prevented the realization of the Gaza Strip's economic potential. The access restrictions between the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, applied regarding both people and goods, are part of an official policy adopted by the Israeli authorities, which calls for keeping the connections between the two parts of the oPt.[1] This has been compounded by the restrictions on access to agricultural land and fishing waters, and the chronic shortage of electricity. These constraints have discouraged investment, prevented sustainable growth, and perpetuate high levels of unemployment, food insecurity and aid dependency.



The blockade in general and the ban on the import of basic construction materials in particular, have encouraged the development of a system of tunnels dedicated to the smuggling of restricted goods into Gaza. In 2012, an estimated 1.7 million tonnes of aggregate, cement and steel bars were transferred to Gaza via the tunnels, compared to approximately one million tonnes of the same materials which entered through the Kerem Shalom crossing for authorized projects. Overall, the volume of construction materials transferred through the tunnels

in the first five months of 2013 was over three times the amount allowed through the Kerem Shalom crossing, around 7,500 tonnes of construction materials were entering each day.

The almost total halt in smuggling activities since July 2013, following the closure of most tunnels by the Egyptian authorities, has led to a gradual depletion of the stocks of building materials available on the market and to the freezing of most construction activities. Consequently, it is estimated that over 30,000 workers have lost their jobs, bringing the unemployment rate by the second quarter of 2014 to almost 47 per cent (relaxed definition), the highest since 2008.

Additionally, due to the restrictions imposed by Israel and Egypt on financial transfers to the Gaza Strip, former de facto government employees, including the security forces, have not been paid salaries regularly since August 2013 and no salaries at all since April 2014.

In recent years, the smuggling tunnels also became the main source for the supply of fuel to the Gaza Strip, due to the lower cost of Egyptian-subsidized fuel compared to Israeli fuel. The former was used not only by the private sector, but to operate schools, hospitals and water and sanitation facilities. The Gaza Power Plant (GPP), in particular, which supplied 30 per cent of the electricity available in Gaza, had become entirely dependent on Egyptian diesel smuggled through the tunnels. The disruption in the fuel supply to the GPP following the halt in tunnel activities has triggered scheduled outages of 12-18 hours per day. Together with the fuel shortages that limited the ability to rely on backup generators, this crisis severely undermined the provision of basic services, including health, water, sanitation and solid waste management.

Finally, in recent years, the Rafah border crossing with Egypt has become the primary exit and entry point to the Gaza Strip for Palestinians, due to the long-standing restrictions imposed by Israel on the movement of people via the Erez Crossing. However, severe restrictions on the operation of the crossing, imposed by the Egyptian authorities from June 2013 onwards in the context of political uncertainty and military operations in northern Sinai, drastically reduced the passage of pedestrians in both directions.

3. Scope of the humanitarian crisis

All geographic areas of Gaza were affected by conflict since the emergency was declared on 7 July, and witnessed aerial bombardment, naval shelling or artillery fire. Some 43 per cent of Gaza, located three kilometres from the security fence towards the west and in northern Gaza, were designated by the Israeli military as a "Buffer Zone". Communities in this area experienced ground operations and fighting and were the worst affected, particularly Khuza'a, East Rafah, Al-Qarara, Bani Suhaila, Al-Maghazi Camp, Al-Bureij Camp, Ash-Shuja'iyeh neighborhood in Gaza City, East of Jabalia, as well as Beit Hanoun, Umm An-Nasser and Beit Lahiya in northern Gaza.

Due to its densely populated and largely urban environment, all people in Gaza were exposed to conflict, resulting in a pervasive sense of insecurity and the feeling that nowhere was safe. Similarly, all people were affected by damages to vital infrastructure, such as the electricity and water networks, which impacted on basic service delivery and household comfort. At least four sites of archaeological value have been damaged, two of them very heavily, according to a UNESCO initial assessment.

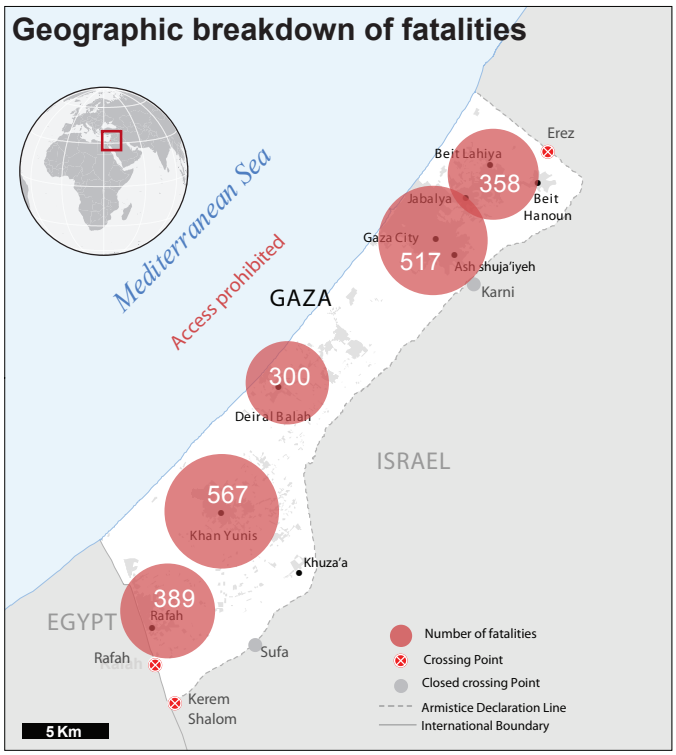
At the height of the conflict, more than 500,000 people were internally displaced, including in UNRWA schools designated as emergency shelters (293,000 in 85 UNRWA schools), government schools (approximately 49,000), in informal shelters such as empty buildings, churches or mosques, and with host families (170,000).

The majority of the Gaza population has lost at least some of its productive assets. Farmers, fishermen and herders in Gaza have also been unable to access their assets. This MIRA assessment suggests that at least 40,000 people working in the agriculture/fishery sector were directly affected by the crisis. Civil servants continued to be denied their salaries and many industrial establishments have been destroyed, rendering thousands of people in Gaza without income. These losses come on top of already fragile economy and livelihoods.

ISSUES OF CONCERN

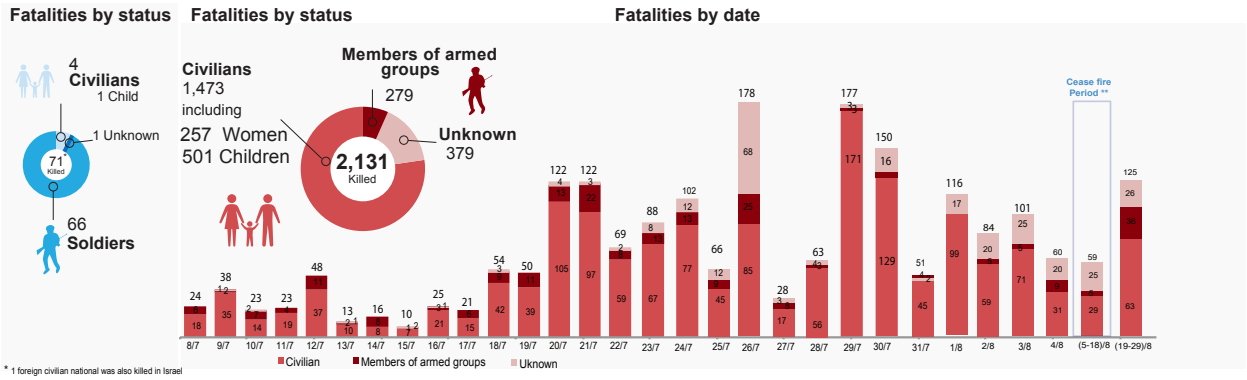
Casualties

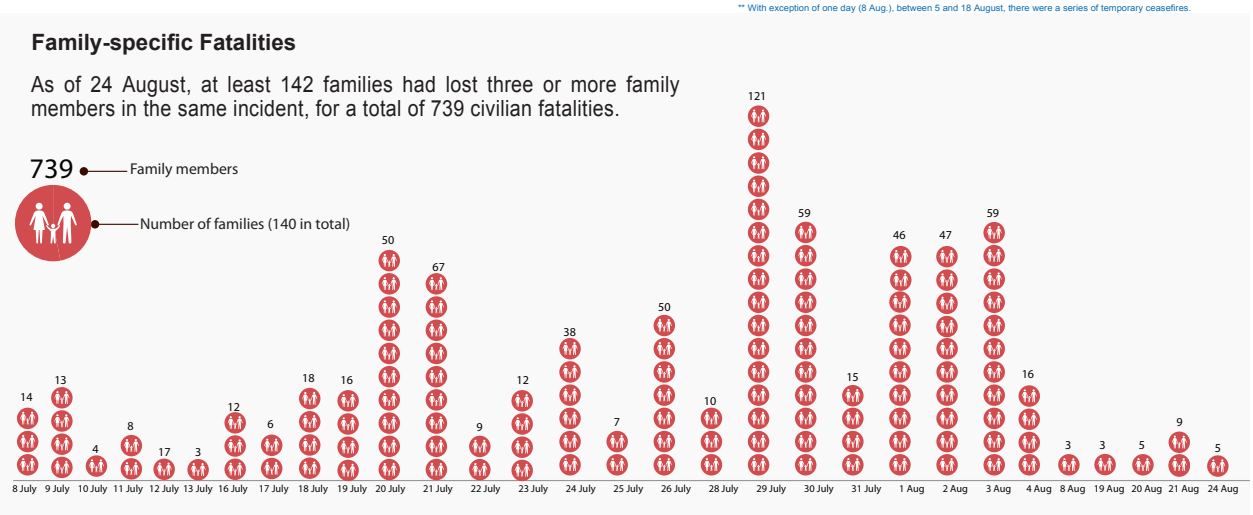
According to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources, since 7 July up to 28 August, at least 2,133 Palestinians have been killed. This figure includes 362 persons who could not be yet identified or their status established. Of the initially verified cases, 1,489 are believed to be civilians, including 500 children (187 girls and 313 boys), 257 women and 282 members of armed groups. At least 142 families lost three or more family members, a total of 739 people. The geographic distribution of the fatalities per Governorate shows that: 16.7 per cent were killed in Northern Gaza, 24.1 per cent in Gaza, 26.7 per cent in Khan Yunis, 14 per cent in the Middle Area - Deir al-Balah and 18.5 per cent in Rafah. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, over 11,100 Palestinians, including 3,374 children, 2,088 women and 410 elderly were injured.



Displacement

Based on past experience, actors on the ground had anticipated and prepared for the displacement of some 50,000 people to emergency shelters. However,

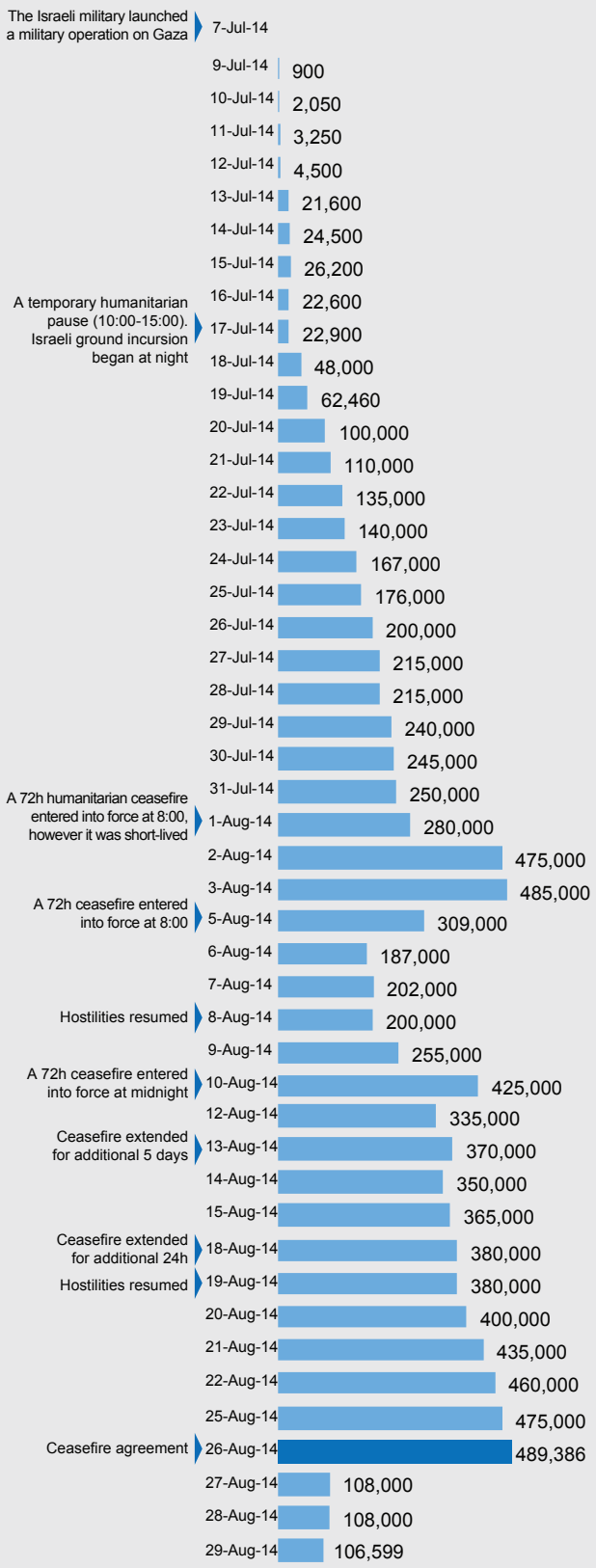




Gaza Strip: Internally Displaced People (IDPs) Figures
As of 30 of August 2014

OCHA

IDPs hosted at UNRWA schools, government shelters and with host families



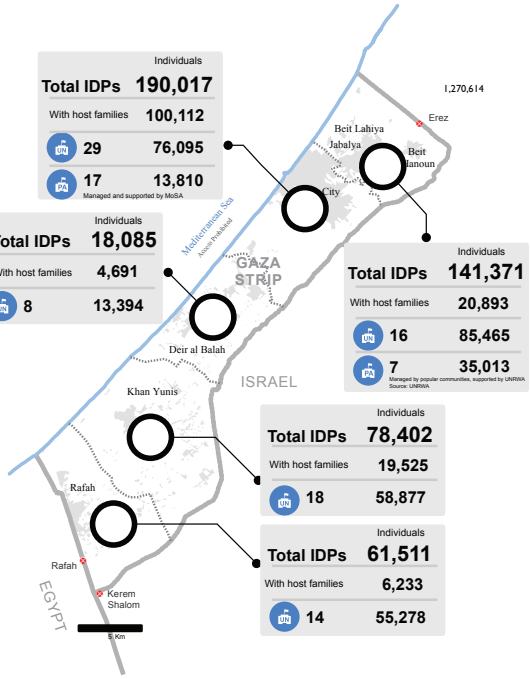
Before Ceasefire
as of 26 August

489,386
Total of IDPs in the Gaza Strip

Total for IDPs with host families
151,454 Individuals

Total for IDPs at schools

	Schools	Individuals
UN	85	289,109
PA	24	48,823



After Ceasefire
as of 29 August

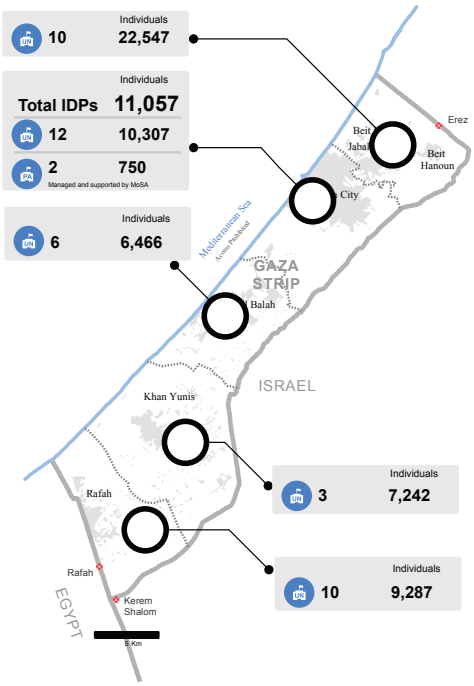
106,599
Total of IDPs in the Gaza Strip

Total of IDPs with host families
50,000 Individuals

*Number of IDPs with host families is an estimate; Ministry of Social Affairs is working on updating the total figure.

Total of IDPs at schools

	Schools	Individuals
UN	41	55,849
PA	2	750



Legend
- PA shelter*
- UNRWA school shelter**

Creation date: 30 August 2014 **Data sources:** UNRWA figures as of 29 August 2014, *Source: Ministry of Social Affairs. **Source: UNRWA

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the actual number of displaced reached approximately 500,000 at the height of the conflict (28 per cent of the population). The numbers decreased during the temporary ceasefires, but again reached 475,000 people in the last days of hostilities, due to general fear and a lack of access to services in their normal places of residence. Immediately after the end of the hostilities, on 26 August, there was a dramatic decline in the number of IDPs, with the number of those at UNRWA designated shelters decreasing from 289,000 to 53,000 between 26 and 27 August. Yet, it is estimated that some 108,000 people will be long-term displaced because they do not have homes to return to. Most displacement occurred from areas in the Israeli-imposed buffer zone, mainly from northern Gaza and eastern Gaza City.

The most recurrent concerns affecting IDPs in shelters that were raised during the interviews include:

- Inadequate sanitation and hygiene, in particular lack of showers (16 municipalities)
- Overcrowding and a lack of privacy (15 municipalities)
- Insufficient access to water (drinkable and for domestic use) and a lack of electricity (14 municipalities)
- Insufficient food supply and concerns about the quality and adequacy of the food provided (12 municipalities)
- Health concerns, including the spread of communicable diseases; shortage of medical staff and medication, particularly for chronic diseases (15 municipalities)
- Shortage of NFIs (12 municipalities)

The overcrowding and lack of privacy had a harsher impact on women and girls, who were compelled to compromise modesty norms, while feeling scrutinized by others (particularly fathers and brothers). In some schools used as shelters, such as in Az-Zaytoun and Ash-Shuja'iyeh, adolescent girls were reportedly prevented from leaving the classrooms or mixing with others. There is anecdotal information provided by community-based organisations and women's organisations of sexual harassment of women and adolescent girls in shelters. Further, most shelters were perceived as inadequate for persons with disabilities.

IDPs also put a significant strain on the already depleted resources of host families and communities: in three municipalities, respondents highlighted serious concerns about access to water, including for drinking, lack of adequate hygiene, shortage of food, and shortage of NFIs. The situation of IDPs in informal shelters was perceived to be even more precarious, as they were less likely to receive assistance than those staying in designated schools and in relatives' houses. Key informants in five municipalities reported an increase in family disputes.

Overall, IDPs' difficult living conditions, both in the emergency shelters and with host families, coupled with incidents where shelters came under attack, generated widespread feelings of insecurity and loss of dignity.

In all but three municipalities, respondents listed the destruction/demolition of their homes as the main obstacle to return. Other impediments included: fear of ERW, lack of access to basic services, and the loss of sources of livelihood. In five municipalities, the reluctance to return was associated to the location of homes within the Israeli declared "buffer zone" or in close proximity to the fence with Israel.

Access to basic services

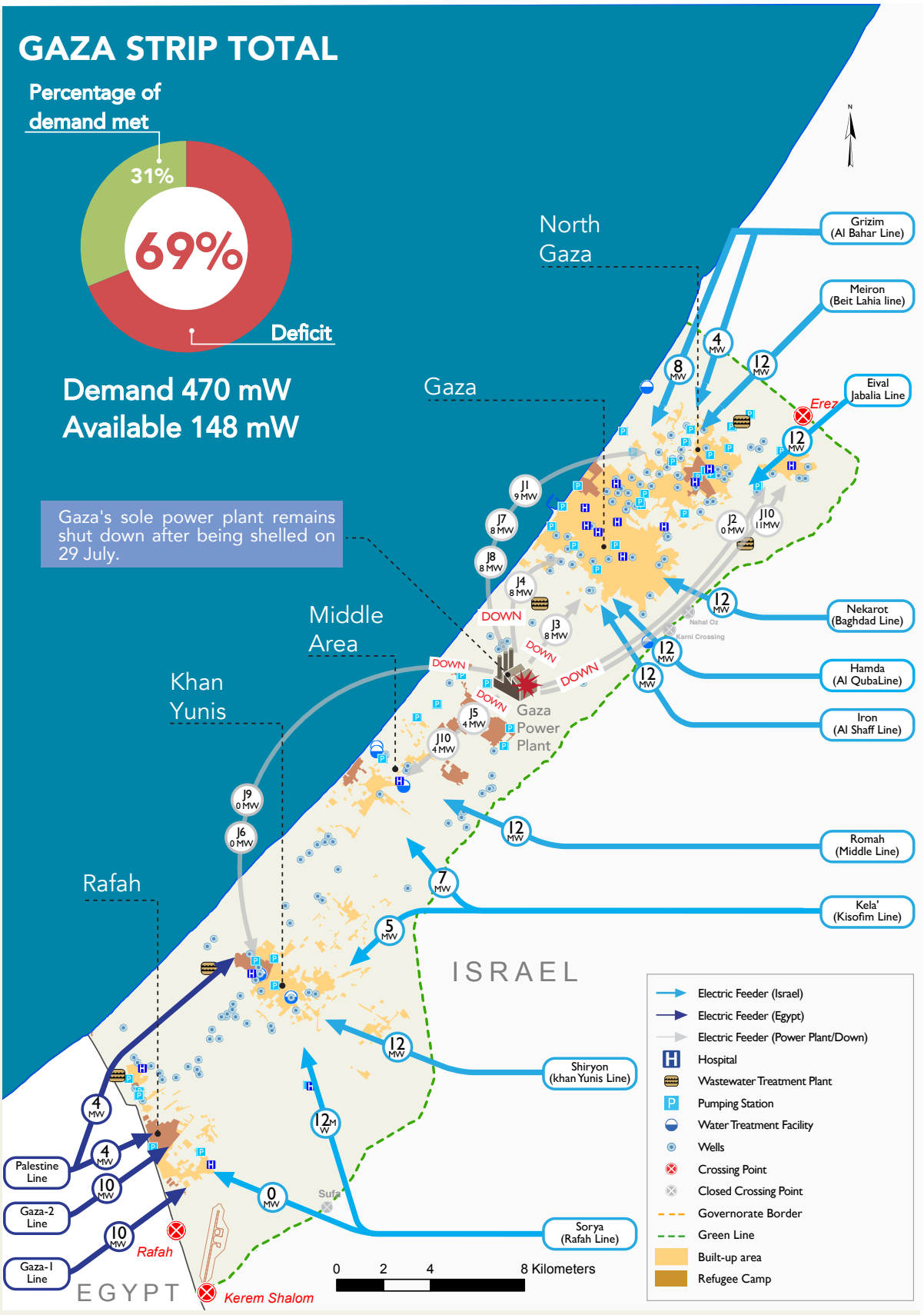
Gaza's energy crisis and crumbling public services were put under extreme strain during the conflict. Water and electricity networks were damaged and Gaza's only power plant was hit several times by Israeli artillery, resulting in its eventual shut-down. Necessary repairs and maintenance could not take place due to the security situation and in several instances the direct targeting of personnel.

The quality of life of people in Gaza, and IDPs in particular, was compromised due to the unavailability of basic services such as electricity, water and sanitation and the inability to purchase basic goods, such as fresh food.

The majority of Gaza's population is facing problems in accessing basic services. Not only the IDPs, but also the non-displaced lost part of their productive and non-productive assets, severely undermining their sources of livelihood. Many municipal workers did not receive their salaries for the past four months.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Gaza emergency
Power Deficit (as of 21 August 2014)

OCHA



Explosive Remnants of War

Thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, including homes, gardens, roads and streets, fields, agricultural lands, abandoned shelters, destroyed homes, schools and other public and government infrastructures; UN premises have also been contaminated. ERW constitute a major threat, especially to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home.

While ERWs have been seen in all governorates, the following localities seem to be particularly affected: Beit Lahiya, Johr ad-Deek, Deir al-Balah, Abasan al-Kabira, Al-Fukhari, Al-Qarara and Ash-Shouqa. In Deir al-Balah, many ERW seem to have been destroyed, but further work is required to identify and remove invisible ERW. Diverse types of ERW have been identified, such as non-exploded tank shells, missiles, aircraft bombs, rockets, bullets, shrapnel, fuses, gas canisters and flechettes.

The precise level of ERW contamination cannot be currently established. However, the scope of damage to buildings and estimates of a failure rate of about ten per cent suggest that the contamination level is higher than following the "Cast Lead" offensive in 2008-9. UNMAS anticipates that at least 5,000 explosive items need to be secured or destroyed. This excludes any abandoned ammunition, improvised devices or unexploded ordnance from the Palestinian armed groups.

HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

Health

Prior to the conflict, Gaza's health system suffered from chronic shortages in medicines, medical supplies and equipment and there have been limited training opportunities for staff. The energy crisis and the lack of financial means for the Ministry of Health (MoH) had an impact on the continuity and quality of services.

Health facilities suffered extensive damage during the hostilities. At least 17 of 32 hospitals reported light to extensive damages and six closed during the conflict. Three hospitals remain closed while another three re-opened with reduced capacity. Al-Wafa hospital, the only rehabilitation hospital in Gaza, which was completely destroyed, re-opened rehabilitation services in an alternative location to ensure the continuity of treatment for some patients. Beit Hanoun hospital, which was extensively damaged, partially re-opened to accept emergency patients, as it is the only Ministry of Health hospital serving northern Gaza.

Eight out of 97 primary health centers (PHCs) were completely destroyed, and another 42 sustained damage. As of 28 August, 30 PHCs remain closed due to damage and/or security concerns. People in the catchment area of those PHCs have been re-directed to farther PHCs, or to hospitals' emergency rooms.

The reduction in the number of operational hospitals and PHCs throughout the conflict exacerbated the pressure on the functioning facilities, especially when receiving large numbers of casualties. Consequently, patients had to be discharged prematurely or were deprived of appropriate care for their condition, with potential long-term negative consequences. This is likely to be reflected in the caseload of rehabilitation institutions dealing with complex injuries, complications and disabilities. As during the conflict surgical capacity within Gaza's main hospitals was almost fully allocated to the treatment of injuries, the health service providers have to manage now a considerable backlog of elective surgical procedures.

The overwhelming number of injuries and limited resources resulted in an increase in the number of patients referred for treatment outside of Gaza, including cases of multiple trauma and increased risk of complications, such as renal failure, amputations, infected wounds and permanent nerve damage and disability. Complicated referral procedures led to a backlog of patient referral, with 500 patients being processed and waiting as of 28 August. On the other hand, the number of chronically ill patients receiving treatment outside Gaza decreased significantly during July and August.

UNWRA and the MoH established medical posts and an early warning system in shelters, to ensure basic primary health care services as well as disease surveillance to monitor and prevent the outbreak of 13 communicable diseases. The analysis of disease notifications from this system shows a minor increase in cases of diarrhea and skin infections, as well as viral meningitis, which at this stage do not raise a public health concern. Existing protective factors, which contribute in preventing an outbreak of diseases, include effective vaccination coverage and improved health and hygiene knowledge among the affected communities. However, complaints of water and hygienic kits shortages have been reported by key informants from different health facilities, particularly medical points at shelters. Consequently, the severe damage to water and sanitation facilities will continue to pose a considerable threat to the health and wellbeing of the affected population.

There have been an estimated 4,800 births during the crisis, mostly attended by skilled health professionals. However, transportation difficulties due to the security situation have been reported, particularly in East Khan Yunis and Johr Ad-Deek. Although there are no reports to indicate an increase in miscarriages during crisis compared to the preceding period, the full picture on the repercussions of the conflict on reproductive health remain to be assessed.[2]

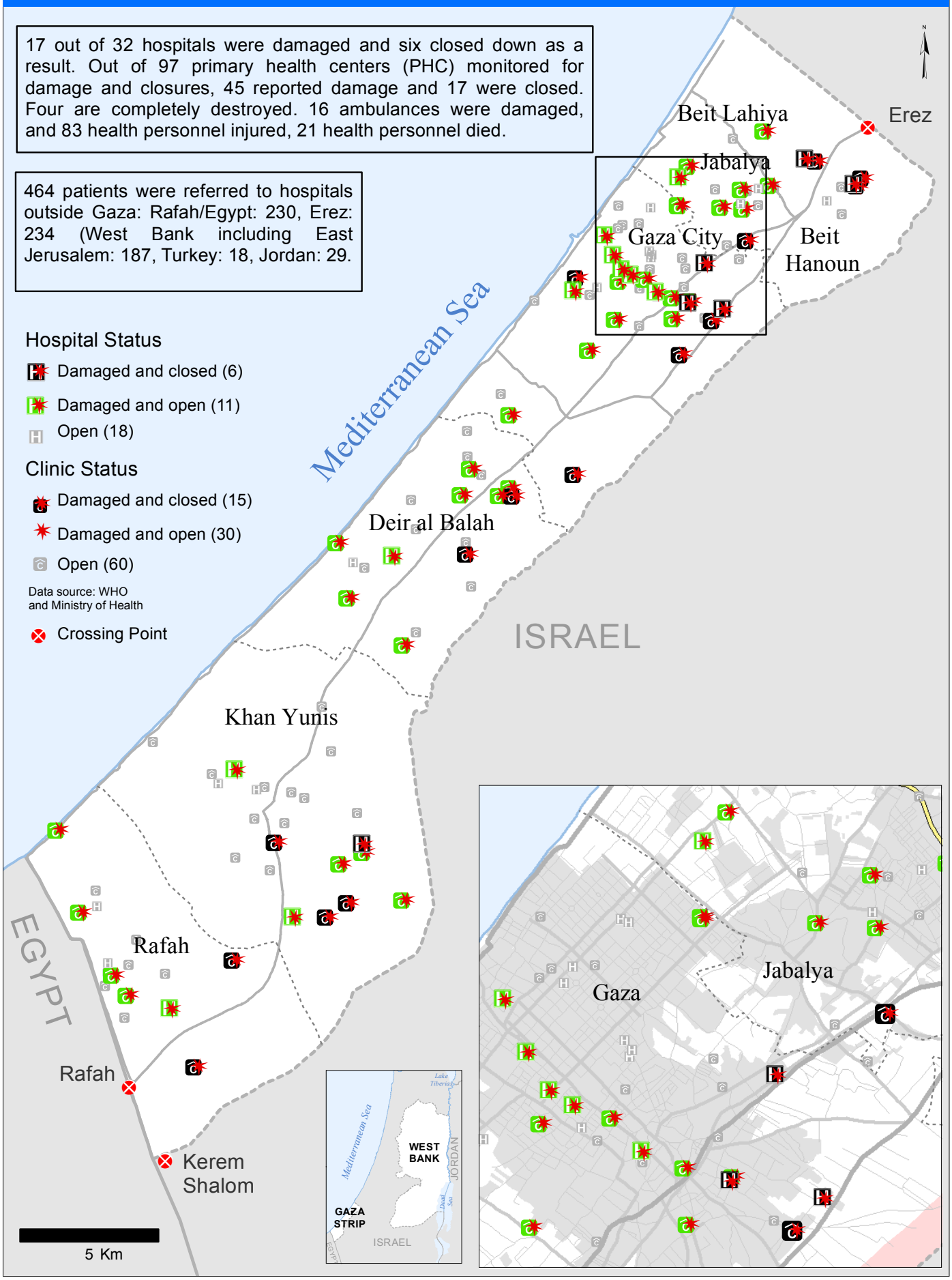
According to the key informants of the MIRA assessment, a considerable number of children arrived at health facilities with acute stress related diseases, such as bed wetting, eating and sleeping disorders, fear and violent behavior. An increase in such cases is likely as psychological problems often only appear months after exposure to trauma.

Gaza Strip: Damaged Clinics as of 5 Sept. 2014

OCHA

17 out of 32 hospitals were damaged and six closed down as a result. Out of 97 primary health centers (PHC) monitored for damage and closures, 45 reported damage and 17 were closed. Four are completely destroyed. 16 ambulances were damaged, and 83 health personnel injured, 21 health personnel died.

464 patients were referred to hospitals outside Gaza: Rafah/Egypt: 230, Erez: 234 (West Bank including East Jerusalem: 187, Turkey: 18, Jordan: 29.



Education

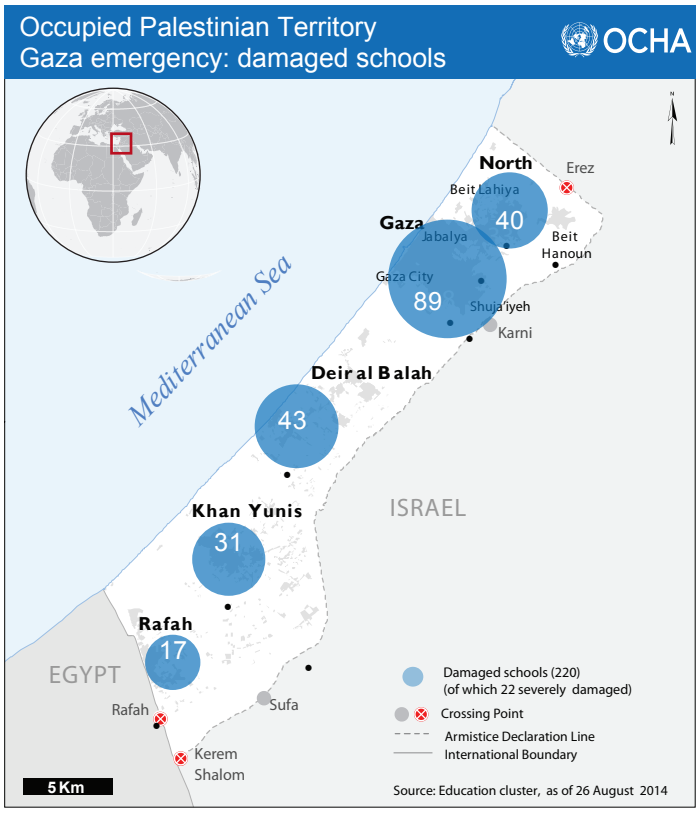
All 474,000 children enrolled in government, UNRWA or private primary and secondary schools, and 55,003 children enrolled in kindergartens, as well as 30,002 university-aged youths, have been affected by the conflict. The new school year, scheduled to start on 24 August, was postponed to 14 September, depriving children and youths of their right to education. Hundreds of thousands of children are anticipated to be in need of psychosocial support (PSS), adding to the burden on teachers and educational staff (many of whom have also experienced acute trauma).

Schools that sustained damage or were used as emergency shelters for IDPs will need rehabilitation. According a Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) assessment, 26 schools have been completely destroyed and 122 have been damaged. UNRWA has reported at least 75 damaged school buildings. At least 11 higher education facilities, including the Islamic University in Gaza, have been affected. The Gaza governorate, especially the eastern part, is the most affected area, with nine schools completely destroyed and 39 damaged. Similarly, thousands of students and their families in Eastern Gaza and elsewhere have been displaced and will need to be re-located to alternate schools, increasing class sizes and the number of schools operating on double shifts. Children who were not displaced but in the past attended schools that were destroyed or damaged will need to travel longer distances and bear higher transportation costs to reach alternate schools.

The education sector was already at a crisis point prior to this escalation, suffering from a shortage of almost 200 schools, with classes running in double shifts.

Food Security

According to the last food security survey carried out for 2013, 57 per cent of the households in the Gaza Strip suffered from food insecurity and another 15 per cent were vulnerable to food insecurity. Various indicators suggest that this figure had already increased prior to the conflict, due to the general decline in the economic activity, and even more during the conflict, due to the high level of displacement, the inability to access livelihoods, especially agriculture, and the lack of economic access to food. Most municipalities reported that farmers, herders and fishers were heavily affected by the war because of the loss of livelihood assets.



Key informants in nine municipalities indicated that agricultural inputs, such as seeds, seedlings, pesticides and fertilizers were not available on the market, impeding their ability to recover. Others (in three municipalities) noted that the price of these inputs made them unaffordable for most people. Key informants in two-thirds of the municipalities reported that water for irrigation was also largely unavailable or inaccessible, due to the destruction of water wells and ponds, water carriers and networks, or due to electricity cuts.

Some 71 per cent of communities which assessed their food and nutrition situation found it required urgent intervention, with the most severe situation identified in Khan Yunis (six municipalities), Northern Gaza (four), Rafah (three) and Deir al-Balah (two) governorates. None of the Gaza Governorate communities classified themselves as being severely affected by the food and nutrition crisis, possibly because unlike others, these communities are peri-urban and less dependent on agricultural livelihoods. The Ministry of Agriculture has estimated agricultural asset losses at US$ 550 million.

The most frequently identified concerns regarding food security and nutrition included: loss of the source of income and livelihood due to the damage sustained by

agricultural lands, death/loss of animals, inability to access agricultural lands, and the loss of employment. This, combined with the lack of disposable income, has constrained the households' ability to purchase food and re-engage in food production for subsistence and income. In several communities, dietary diversity was highlighted as an issue of concern, particularly for children and pregnant and lactating women, due to the content of food assistance packages and the high prices of fresh food.

The shortage of cooking gas, fuel and cooking utensils, as well as the limited access to water were also highlighted as constraints to households' ability to consume cooked food. In six of the 25 municipalities, food utilization and nutritional status are likely to deteriorate if urgent repairs of the water systems (and of damaged housing units) are not undertaken. The main areas of concern included, food, particularly for children under five, food diversity and availability of fresh food, veterinary services, access to banks, access to fodder, lack of access to markets or high risk in accessing them, lack of electricity (refrigeration facilities/water pumps), the prices of vegetables/fruits, and supply chain problems.

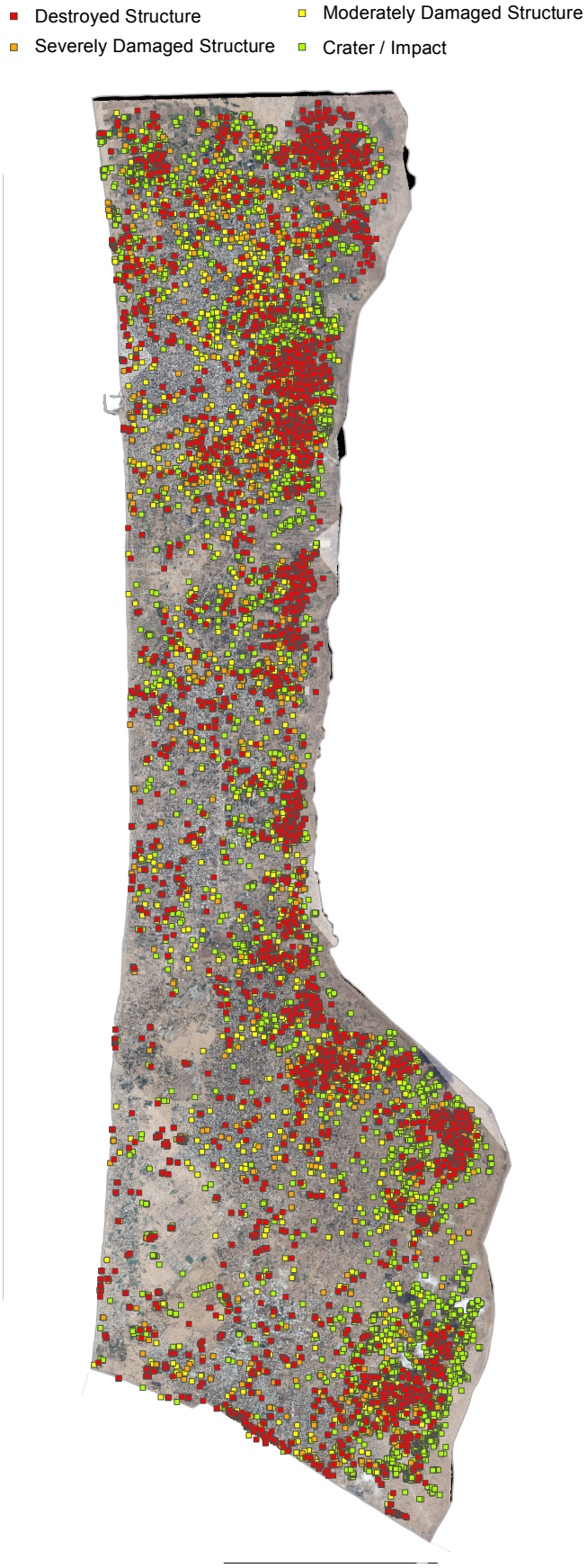
The comprehensive Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Gaza showed a 3.14 per cent increment in July 2014 compared to June, while the CPI for food and soft drinks increased by 7.3 per cent, led by vegetable price increases of about 50 per cent, due to the lack of access to crops supplying the local market.[3] The price increase of certain food commodities, such as eggs or vegetables, combined with reduced access to the markets due to security issues, have made it impossible for people to buy those items, impacting their dietary intake. However, staple food prices remained stable during the conflict, presumably because of the large influx of humanitarian food assistance.

Shelter

The scale of damage and subsequent displacement due to the conflict is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip, with approximately 13 per cent of the housing stock affected. Five per cent of the housing stock has become uninhabitable (severely damaged or destroyed). This is in addition to the pre-crisis housing deficit of 71,000 housing units. The highest number of completely destroyed homes is found in northern Gaza, followed by Khan Yunis, while most homes with severe damage are found in Rafah.

Overall, the lack of access to affected areas to retrieve essential household items during the hostilities was the

Satellite damage analysis
Date: 14 August 2014, Source: UNOSAT



main concern for people in most municipalities, whereas rubble removal from the destroyed/damaged buildings debris clearance of household points was the second priority. Key informants at both governorate and municipality levels had concerns about the lack of access to repair and building materials. ERW contamination was identified as a major concern for return and reconstruction. Concern was also raised about the destruction of commercial sites and damages to industrial facilities, with at least 419 businesses and workshops damaged, of which 128 completely destroyed. Some 68 per cent of the damaged industries were in Gaza City. According to the Palestinian Federation of Industries, the construction industry suffered the biggest losses, making up 28 per cent of the damaged industries.

Although people in the shelters received basic non-food items (NFIs), needs remain, particularly among host families and the homeless. There were concerns about items not being distributed equally across shelters and among IDPs. Thousands of displaced households remain without essential household items and hygiene kits, and those that have received hygiene kits will continue to need support with the related consumable items. During ceasefires, many households were able to leave shelters to procure the necessary materials, but during hostilities they required in-kind assistance. One immediate point of concern is the poor economic access to essential items, requiring the continuation of in-kind distributions. The majority of households have poor access to electricity and fuel, affecting the ability to cook. The imminent arrival of the colder seasons will increase the need for energy at the household level despite the limited fuel supply.

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Gaza already faced a challenging situation in regards to water and wastewater prior to the escalation, due to continued over-pumping and contamination of the coastal aquifer, delays and constraints in the construction and renovation of seawater desalination plants and wastewater treatment plants, and continual electricity and fuel shortages. Water and wastewater services were further hampered during the war, due to aggravations of electricity and fuel shortages and the inaccessibility of many wells, pumping stations, and other facilities located within the Israeli declared buffer zone. Despite the improved access to these areas following the cessation of hostilities, services remain affected due to the damage sustained by some facilities, including the Gaza Power Plant (GPP).

MIRA key informants pointed out that agricultural and standby wells, typically with lower water quality and no chlorination, have been used by many municipalities to supplement water supplies and replace damaged, inoperable wells. An initial Damage Assessment Report (DAR) undertaken by the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) indicates that 12 per cent of wells have been destroyed or damaged, particularly in Gaza City, Beit Hanoun, and Deir Al Balah municipalities.

The DAR further identified over 33,000 meters of damaged water and wastewater networks, with the majority located in Khan Yunis (17,800 meters), particularly Bani Suheila, Abassan al-Jaddida, Khuza'a, Al-Fukhari, and Al-Qarara, followed by Gaza Municipality, where an estimated 6,300 meters of networks are damaged, the majority in Ash-Shuja'iyeh. This figure is expected to increase significantly, as it currently does not include Northern Gaza, which was either inaccessible or covered with rubble at the time of the report. The DAR also indicates that 5 per cent of main lines, 3 per cent of distribution lines, and 12 per cent of household connections have been damaged. In the eastern areas and in Beit Hanoun, bulldozer damage had exacerbated the impact of bombing and artillery fire.

There have been complaints about water quality in Rafah and Gaza municipalities, with particular concerns of sewage entering water pipes due to damages. Pools of stagnant wastewater resulting from damaged wastewater networks have been found in Deir al-Balah and Ash-Shuja'iyeh, among other areas. Wastewater treatment plants in Beit Lahiya and Gaza City are not fully functional due to damage to the plants themselves or to pressure lines. Consequently, raw sewage is being discharged directly to sea or infiltrating into sand dunes.

CMWU has been repairing damages and has addressed 80 per cent of the priority repairs to infrastructure serving the greatest number of people. Despite this, current estimates are that 20 to 30 per cent of households, or 450,000 people, remain unable to access municipal water due to damage and/or low pressure. Additionally, many of these repairs are temporary and will require longer-term repair after emergency works are completed.

The reduction in network pressure due to damage and power cuts is also reducing the availability of water to households. As a result, the number of pumping hours reported by municipalities does not always correspond to the hours households receive water. Additionally, households without electricity and/or supplemental pumps cannot fill rooftop storage tanks when water is available. IDP shelter locations are consistently highlighted as needing more water.

Gaza Strip: WASH damage and estimated number of people with no access to clean water (5 Sept. 2014)

OCHA

- Around 370,000 persons directly affected by damage of water installations alone.

- The average water consumption per capita per day in Gaza before the war was 70 litre per person per day, compared to the WHO standard of 100 l/c/d.

- After the Gaza power plant was damaged by an Israeli air strike, only WASH facilities with generators and sufficient fuel can operate.

- For several weeks during the war, water supply to the entire population of Gaza was cut off or severely restricted.

-The destruction of sewage plants, the lack of clean water, and the severely overcrowded shelters combined, have raised fears of a public health crisis.

-The Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) and Coastal Municipal Water Utility (CMWU) estimate the cost of repairs to be around 34 Million USD.

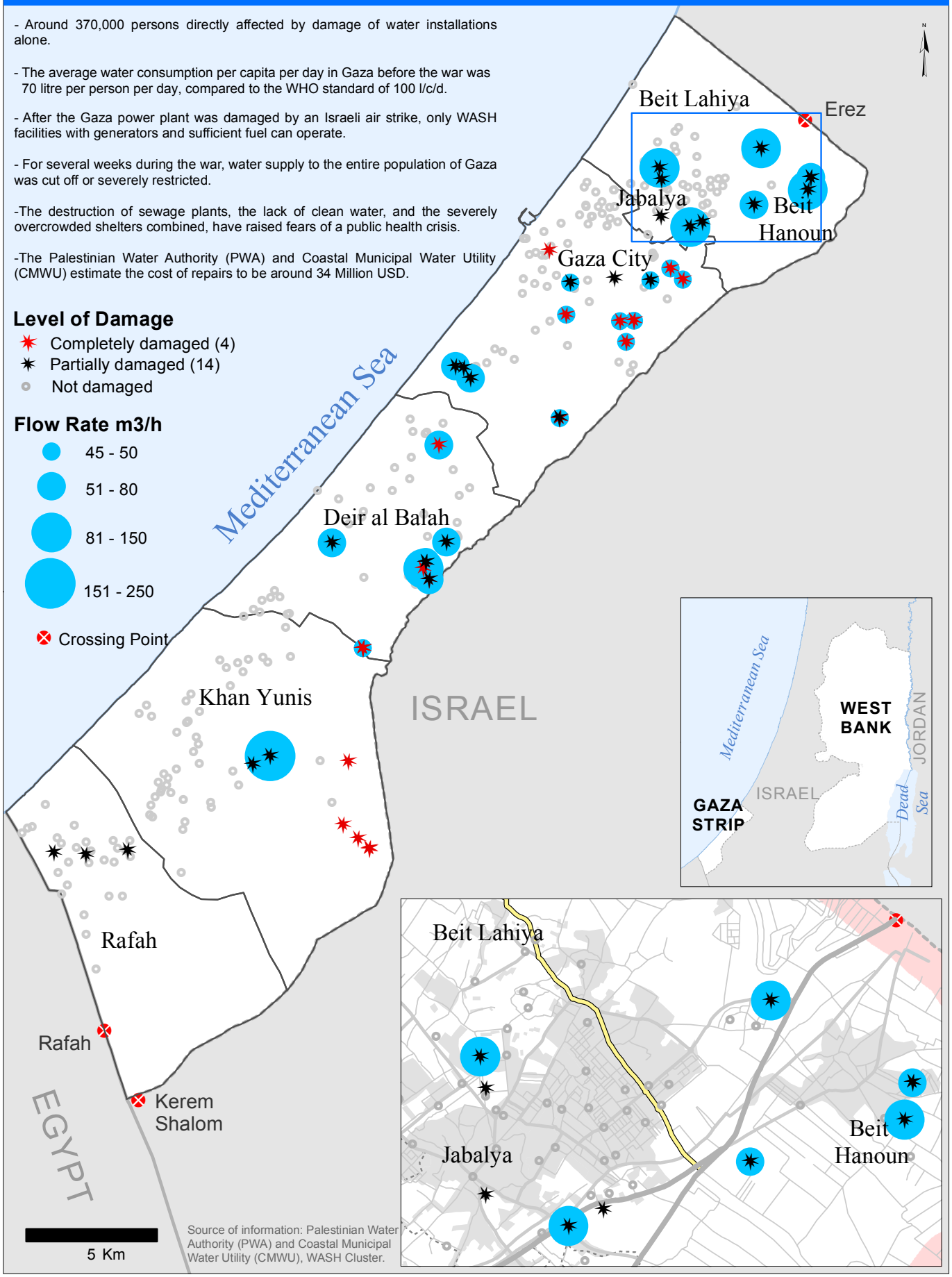
Level of Damage

- Completely damaged (4)
- Partially damaged (14)
- Not damaged

Flow Rate m3/h

- 45 - 50
- 51 - 80
- 81 - 150
- 151 - 250

Crossing Point



Source of information: Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) and Coastal Municipal Water Utility (CMWU), WASH Cluster.

Although municipalities and CMWU are making efforts to truck domestic water to neighborhoods which remain unconnected, they face a shortage of available trucks. CMWU and municipalities are urgently in need of electricity or fuel to continue operations of water and sewage pumps, generators, tankers, and trucks for solid waste.

Households buy potable desalinated water from private vendors and tankers, whose systems were also disrupted by the war. Many desalination plants were unable to operate, due to electricity/fuel shortages, but have resumed operation following the ceasefire, while the number of damaged plants is still unknown. Those in operation are expected to have increased operational costs, due to greater reliance on generators and the cost of scarce fuel supplies. Demand also increased for desalinated water, due to shortages in municipal supplies and use of desalinated water for domestic uses. Some areas have reported increases in prices of tankered water up to double previous prices; other areas report that prices have increased only marginally. The price change decreases economic access of already vulnerable families, exacerbating the problems of access to drinking water. Stabilizing desalinated water prices and increasing families' ability to purchase this water is critical.

Non-ceasefire times have seen a reduction in private sector water trucking to many areas, particularly in Rafah and the areas east of Salah ad-Din road, which were unsafe. Desperation for water during ceasefire times led to attacks on tankers, which further impeded deliveries. Community participation in placing and monitoring water points continues to be vital to successful water trucking operations. Villages that received potable water from Israel's national water company (Mekorot) via the network or through small municipal desalination plants, such as Khuza'a, Abassan al-Jaddida, Abassan al-Kabira and Johr ad-Deek, were particularly affected, as they had no established relationships with private tankers to reach them and their networks were badly damaged. The fact that the Gaza drinking water is reliant on the private sector makes the collection of information challenging. Municipalities have limited information on agricultural wells, WASH Cluster partners trucking efforts, or the operationality and capacity of private sector desalination plants.

Household water storage in each governorate is a critical factor. Households in some areas, such as Beit Hanoun, Wadi as-Salqa, Shokat as-Sufi, Khu'zaa, Johr ad-Deek, and Az-Zahra lost 70 – 95 per cent of their previous storage capacity. Even host families with undamaged facilities are struggling, as storage tanks are not large enough to cater for the increased household size and reduced hours of operation on municipal networks. Household storage tanks of 250 liters and larger are not widely available within Gaza, as the factories which produce these were damaged or without raw materials. Restarting the production of plastic tanks and pipes within Gaza is essential to meet these needs.

Damage to the water and sewage treatment infrastructure and the inability to repair them, as well as the inadequate hygiene facilities in the shelters for IDPs, have resulted in reduced opportunities for washing, using toilets, and basic hygiene. Reduced access to water, limited privacy, and cramped living conditions have led to increased cases of diarrhea, lice, and skin rashes, most acutely in temporary school shelters. This has negatively impacted the privacy and dignity of women and girls at IDP and host families in particular. The majority of communities report that people do not have sufficient hygiene items. Additional items requested include lice treatment shampoo, cleaning supplies for shelters and households, and underwear for women and girls.

Solid waste was being collected in most areas, but less frequently than usual and was not transported to landfills. Instead, waste was being gathered to temporary sites within communities. Areas with significant numbers of IDPs, such as Gaza City or Jabaliya, faced a further strain on their capacity. As pointed out by Gaza municipality, the trucks are operating, but only cover 50 per cent of the need due to large population increases. At the time of the assessment, the landfill in the Middle Area continued to burn, releasing strong odors and raising health concerns among residents of Al-Musaddar. Municipal workers, who perform these tasks, as well as supporting water and wastewater staff, are still unpaid. This was raised as a significant concern and constraint in many interviews.

PROTECTION CONCERNS

1. Protection of civilians

Throughout the conflict there was a real fear among the population that no place or person was safe or immune from attack, a fear generated and fuelled by repeated incidents of attacks hitting hospitals, schools used as shelters and entire residential buildings. Municipal workers, health workers and members of search and rescue teams have been injured and killed. Key informant interviews also indicate that people came under attack as they fled their homes to safer places. Many key informants indicated that children could not be protected from witnessing the same levels of violence as adults.

Psychosocial distress levels were already high across the population in Gaza, but worsened significantly during the conflict.[4] Increase in adult stress related symptoms affecting women and men was identified in all governorates and municipalities, including excessive nervousness, difficulty to concentrate, violent behaviour, sleep disturbances, eating problems, fear, withdrawal from social and other activities, and difficulty with day to day parenting. Women reported an urgent need for psychosocial assistance for themselves and their children.

2. Main pre-existing protection concerns identified

A number of pre-existing protection concerns have been identified during key informant interviews, such as gender-based violence (GBV), sexual abuse of women and children, child labour, honour killings, and malnutrition among women and children.[5] The prevalence of several of these has increased during the conflict, such as excessive disciplinary measures by parents/teachers against children, manifestations of GBV, increased stress and domestic violence among the affected population. The emergency exacerbated pre-existing[6] child protection issues and undermined protective factors.

Past experience indicates that displacement often results in psychosocial distress and negative coping mechanisms, which may include child labour and early marriage of girls, and contributes to rising unemployment and poverty. Furthermore, research provides evidence that military violence and domestic violence against women and children are linked. A 2009 study by UNIFEM involving 1,100 women confirmed an increase in the violence against women and children in the aftermath of the "Cast Lead" Israeli offensive in Gaza, in December 2008 through January 2009. Similarly, following military confrontations, men and women reported reverting to risk-taking behaviour, including domestic violence against women and children as well as drug abuse. Communities that have experienced displacement reported a higher incidence of those behaviours.[7]

3. Main protection concerns

The following are the main protection concerns identified by key informants during the assessment's interviews:

- Continued attacks and bombings in 24 of 25 municipalities
- Psychosocial distress among boys, girls, men, and women in 24 of 25 municipalities
- Displacement in 23 of 25 municipalities
- Presence of ERW in 19 of 25 municipalities (suspected in all)
- Violence against children in 16 of 25 municipalities
- Activity of armed groups in 16 of 25 municipalities
- Gender-based violence8 in 14 of 25 municipalities
- Separation of children from their families or abandonment of children in 10 of 25 municipalities

4. Vulnerable groups: access to services/assistance and specific needs

Respondents across most municipalities have identified elderly people, persons with disabilities, the chronically ill, pregnant women and female headed households, and children as particularly affected in their access to services and assistance:

- **Persons with disabilities:** shelters were generally described as being inadequate for persons with disabilities. Females with disability were identified to be more vulnerable than males. Although UNRWA shelters had accessible toilets and entrance (e.g. at first floor level), persons with disabilities and their families could not always be accommodated on ground floors. Specific NFIs such as tailored toilet seats and mobility and assistive devices were generally absent, particularly in northern Gaza. However, some ad hoc support for persons with disabilities was in place.
- **Elderly persons and the chronically ill:** lacked access to adequate medical treatment and medication. Reference was also made to the lack of access to adult diapers and attention to special dietary needs. In addition, persons with

disabilities and elderly persons reported facing challenges to evacuate their homes due to a lack of transportation.

- **Pregnant and lactating women:** lacked special dietary support and access to vitamin supplements.
- **Female headed families:** particularly those staying in shelters, were reported to be more exposed to protection risks. Women and girls in several municipalities reported more difficulties in access to services, and specific hygiene items for women were not always available. Female headed families which have lost their source of livelihood require micro-finance support to rebuild their lives and support their children.
- **Children:** parents focused on survival were not able to take adequate care of their children. As a result, many children could not access the support and treatment they needed, for example when sick.

5. Legal support needs

All but one municipality identified the need for legal assistance in relation to death, injuries, property loss or damage related to the military operations. In particular, the following needs for legal support were identified:

- To claim compensation through the Israeli justice system for the destruction of homes by Israeli forces
- To pursue accountability for the death, injuries and destruction of property as a result of the military operation
- In relation to Palestinians arrested during the military operation (to ensure fair trial in the Israeli justice system and release)
- Due to the loss of personal identification papers, property and family law related documentation

6. Child Protection

Children were affected by the conflict and traumatic events that took place all around them. While children who witness trauma are more likely to experience distress and will need careful follow-up, their natural coping mechanism and the positive impact of creating a stable and normalizing environment for children should not be underestimated.

Family separation

Separation of children from their families as a result of displacement was identified as a key protection concern by 40 per cent of municipality level respondents. However, 20 per cent of municipality respondents said that it is uncertain how many children were affected. Estimates varied: while almost no children were believed to be separated in Wadi as-Salqa, in Abassan al-Kabira it could have been be as high as 5,000 children at some point. Further clarification and secondary data sources suggest that when separation occurs, it is usually during movement from one place to another, and families are quickly reunited. In cases where parents have died, children are generally taken care of by the extended family, as is customary. However, some focus group discussions and anecdotal information suggest that there are cases of child headed families, where both parents passed away. Difficulties in ascertaining the exact number and whereabouts of children who have been separated from both caregivers remain. A system to accurately identify, document, trace and reunify children with their families is urgently needed.

Children exposed to abuse, GBV, domestic violence and family disputes

In a third of the municipalities, respondents identified child abuse/violence against children as a concern, while 20 per cent of responders pointed out domestic violence. Thirty six (36) per cent of responders said that these issues were impacting mostly boys, 20 per cent said mostly girls, and 44 per cent said that boys and girls were equally impacted. Boys and girls are also affected by GBV and family disputes.

Community and family violence greatly impacts the children who witness and live with it, consequently with a negative effect on development. Children are at higher risk of being abused when they live in a household where domestic violence is present. Children who are exposed to violence in the home are 15 times more likely to be physically and/or sexually assaulted.[9]

Increase in stress related symptoms

The uninterrupted shelling and sound of drones was a main source of fear, particularly among children. Almost all children had seen or heard the bombing of houses, including their own or their neighbours', and were further exposed by seeing images on the news. Many children had witnessed their parents and family being killed and had seen parts of dead bodies. Compounded by the distress associated with displacement and the tense and volatile situation in shelters, children were showing signs of acute fearfulness, distress and a tendency to resort to violence to resolve conflicts.

Almost all respondents reported an increase in stress-related symptoms among children, including bedwetting, excessive clinging to parents and difficulties settling in. At times of heightened stress and fear, children need the

protection, care, love, support and attention of their immediate caregivers. However, when immediate caregivers are themselves overwhelmed, they are less likely to be able to attend to these additional needs.

Children's access to support

Respondents said that children would seek support and information from their mother, father, friends/peers, counsellors, teachers, social workers, religious leaders, and trusted people in the shelters. Some respondents said that children would normally first seek assistance from their mother; some said that children do not tend to seek assistance; and several respondents emphasized the importance of grandparents. Children over 14 tend to speak more openly with their peers. Therefore, peer-to-peer adolescent support groups could be envisaged.

7. Gender based violence, domestic violence, child abuse/violence against children and family disputes

In almost all municipalities, respondents identified incidents of GBV, domestic violence, child abuse/violence against children or family disputes as a significant concern. Also, in most of the municipalities respondents acknowledged that these forms of violence had increased since the conflict began.

- GBV: In 36 per cent of the municipalities respondents identified incidents of GBV, in particular representatives from northern Gaza, Khan Yunis and Deir al-Balah. All governorates and respondents in 14 out of 25 municipalities (52 per cent) identified GBV as a concern. Sexual harassment was reported in Shifa hospital, as female IDPs appear to have been harassed by people who visited the hospital. Women spoke of physical and verbal abuse. Women who lost their spouses during the recent crisis were identified by civil society organizations as the most vulnerable. Women reported an urgent need for psychosocial assistance for themselves and their children, and were concerned about "having no space to express their pain" as well as "talking about their own loss at a place where everyone else suffered loss." Reverting to negative coping mechanisms was also identified by the women interviewed in the meeting/focus group discussion undertaken by UNWOMEN.
- Child abuse/violence against children: Key respondents in 32 per cent of the municipalities in northern Gaza and Khan Yunis identified child abuse/violence against children as a concern.
- Domestic violence: In 20 per cent of the municipalities, in northern Gaza in particular, domestic violence was identified as a concern.
- Family disputes were reported in all governorates and in 44 per cent of the municipalities, and it was noted that this phenomenon has increased since the beginning of the crisis.

HUMANITARIAN SPACE AND ACCESS

8. Access

Safe and adequate access: Major roads and infrastructure have been severely damaged during the hostilities, impacting humanitarian response efforts. Efforts should be made to identify key roads and infrastructure that have been affected by hostilities and ensure these areas are secured. Efforts led by UNMAS should be scaled up to ensure that the ERW threats in Gaza are eliminated, so that vehicles transporting aid items and humanitarian personnel no longer face this threat.

Consistent pipeline operations: While Kerem Shalom Crossing for goods has operated fairly consistently, security threats close to the crossing jeopardized its functioning. Bottlenecks have already been experienced at checkpoints from the West Bank into Israel, which have limited capacity and limited facilities to scan exiting trucks. The Rafah Crossing from Egypt into Gaza has been functioning below capacity. The reopening of previously functioning commercial crossings into Gaza should be considered as the recovery begins, as well as rigorous prioritization of humanitarian aid items and personnel to enter Gaza. The removal or easing of restrictions on the entry of items classified by Israel as "dual use" is essential not only to allow the start of reconstruction, but also to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance in the short term.

9. Humanitarian space

Movement was restricted for all actors due to security concerns, the unpredictable nature of the conflict and challenging coordination with Israeli forces. These factors significantly impeded the ability of humanitarian organizations to conduct their work, field visits, and monitoring in a safe manner. Primary security concerns included collateral damage to UN and NGOs facilities, vehicles, and aid workers. There have also been incidents of discontent among the local population towards the international community, particularly an incident where an ICRC office in Khan Yunis was reportedly set on fire.

The evacuation of the dead and injured was particularly problematic in active combat areas, especially in Khuza'a and eastern Khan Yunis, Ash-Shuja'iyeh, east of Rafah and in Beit Hanoun, even following prior security coordination. As a result, many people could not be evacuated for days and, in some cases, weeks. Insufficient humanitarian pauses further hampered response and monitoring capacity.

Though not always successful, coordination with the Israeli forces through CLA Erez occurred regularly for areas considered as high risk.[10] There were concerns about a breakdown in law and order due to insufficient numbers of active police forces in Gaza. Gaza based civil defence and fire brigades' capacity needs reinforcement to manage the needs on the ground.

The UN Access Coordination Unit (ACU) has engaged with military actors to facilitate humanitarian access to Gaza, including: negotiating to keep checkpoints and crossings open; obtaining access for humanitarian aid workers into Gaza; overseeing the evacuation of over 1,200 dual-nationals and foreign residents from Gaza to Jordan; ensuring pipelines remain open for the entry of humanitarian aid items; facilitating the expedited entry of critical materials into Gaza; and providing coordinates of civilian installations such as non-UNRWA IDP shelters to COGAT/CLA Erez. Some international organisations experienced challenges in the entry of critical national and international staff into Gaza.

RESPONSE CAPACITY

Response capacities of the national authorities have been severely constrained by long-standing movement and access restrictions imposed by the Israeli authorities and more recently by the Egyptian authorities, as well as internal Palestinian divisions. The rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation since July 2013 had depleted people's coping mechanisms and weakened authorities' preparedness to respond to emergencies. Humanitarian actors also noted gaps in preparedness and stock shortages, mainly due to a lack of funding in certain critical sectors, as well as entry challenges for so-called dual use items.

Generally adequate human resource capacity and skills, and high awareness among communities prevented disease outbreaks and other associated challenges. Certain coping mechanisms further mitigated the impact of the crisis, such as strong community solidarity, individual initiatives to provide shelter and food, or informal credit between households. But chronic shortages and crumbling infrastructure across sectors, combined with a conflict of unprecedented scale, left actors struggling to respond. Service providers were unable to reach communities and carry out repairs and maintenance due to the hostilities. Local municipalities were facing great challenges to continue providing essential services. The Palestinian Civil Defence's preparedness for search and rescue operations was inadequate due to the shortage of cars and equipment, a lack of training, and general insecurity. The private sector, already weakened by the long-standing restrictions and economic crisis, sustained significant damages as a result of the hostilities. Nevertheless, the private sector played an important role in meeting certain needs, for example the need for emergency drinking water.

A government Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was established in Ramallah with connection to Gaza. In Gaza relevant line ministries responded to the best of their capacity, but many faced staffing, salary and running cost issues. Coordination of interventions and financial support remained inconsistent across sectors, as well as response and financial monitoring.

An inter-agency Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was also established on the first day of emergency, including representatives from UN agencies, international and national NGOs, ICRC, PRCS and line ministries to coordinate and plan responses and assessments and identify needs, gaps and priorities.

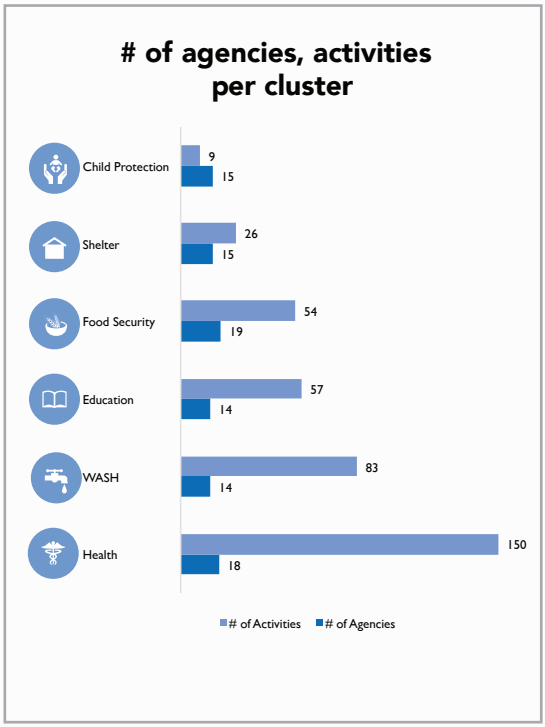
UN and NGO humanitarian actors present in Gaza continued to respond throughout the crisis with existing and increased resources, but were hampered by access limitations. National and local NGOs and CBOs were able, to some extent, to reach out to affected communities in areas where others did not have access due to the security situation, and numerous partnerships exist or were developed to equip these NGOs and CBOs with resources to enhance their capacity.

Overall, it was assessed that most of the affected population received some form of support, although some affected people could not be reached due to access and security constraints. Additionally, many received minimal assistance, sometimes delivered on a one-off basis whereas continuous intervention was required. IDP movement at the end of the hostilities and the identification of their immediate, medium-term and longer term needs will pose a major challenge.

Gaza Strip: Who does What (as of 24 August 2014)

On 7 July 2014, a humanitarian emergency began in the Gaza Strip, following a severe escalation in hostilities involving intense Israeli aerial and navy bombardment and Palestinian rocket firing. The humanitarian impact of these hostilities occurred against a backdrop of heightened vulnerability and instability in Gaza. The scope of damage and destruction incurred during the recent escalation is unprecedented in the Gaza Strip. Humanitarian partners, through the cluster system, have been scaling up their responses to reach people in need and carrying out rapid needs assessment to better understand and respond to the full scope of needs. This 'Who does What and Where' snapshot illustrates the different activities undertaken by humanitarian actors per cluster.

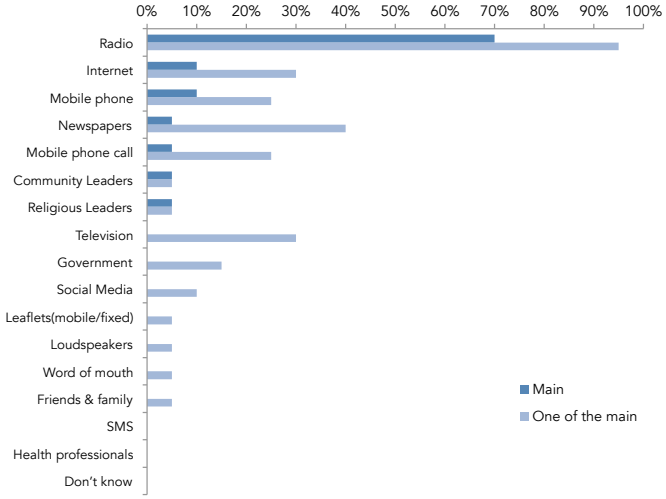
47 Agencies	14	19	18	15	14
ACF		●			●
ANERA		●	●	●	●
ArdElInsan			●		
CatholicReliefServices	●			●	
COOPI	●				
DanChurchAid(DCA)		●			●
EducAid	●				
GlobalCommunities(CHF)		●		●	●
GVC					●
HandicapInternational			●		
HelpAge				●	
IOCC		●			
IslamicReliefPalestine		●	●	●	●
MA'ANDevelopmentCenter	●	●		●	●
MDMFrance			●		
MedicalAidforPalestinians(MAP)			●	●	
MedicoInternational			●		
MédicosdelMundo(MDMSpain)			●		
MercyCorps		●		●	●
MoSA				●	
MSF/France			●		
NearEastCouncilofChurches(NECC)/Gaza			●		
NorwegianChurchAid	●				
NRC	●				
OxfamGB					●
OxfamItalia&UAWC		●			
OxfamNovib					●
PalestinianMedicalReliefSociety(PMRS)			●		
PARC		●			●
PRCS				●	
PU-AMI		●		●	●
QatarCharity		●			
ReliefInternational	●				
SavetheChildren	●	●	●	●	●
SecoursIslamiqueFrance(SIF)		●	●	●	
TommohAssociationforSkillsDevelopment	●				
UNDP	●				
UNESCO	●				
UNFPA			●		
UNICEF	●		●	●	●
UnitedPalestinianAppeal(UPA)			●		
UNRWA		●		●	
WelfareAssociation	●	●	●		
WFP		●			
WFP&OxfamGB		●			
WorldHealthOrganisation			●		
WorldVision	●	●			



COMMUNICATIONS WITH AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

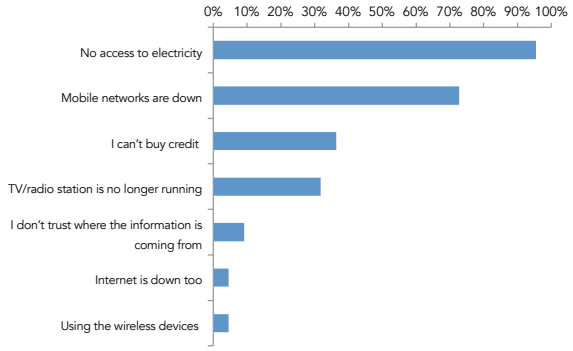
10. Main channels of communication available to the community

Radio is the main channel of communication available to communities, rated by 95 per cent of the groups as one of the main communication channels, including 70 per cent who rated it as the number-one channel. Only 10 per cent or less rated other channels as their number-one means of communications. Many rated newspapers (40 per cent), TV (30 per cent), Internet (30 per cent), mobile phones (25 per cent) or the government (15 per cent) as one of the three main communication channels.[11]



11. Factors preventing people from getting information they need

Lack of access to electricity is the main factor preventing people from getting information, with only one focus group out of 22 – from Abassan al-Jaddida (Khan Yunis) – not mentioning this as a relevant factor. Most groups (73 per cent) also mentioned mobile networks being down as an impediment to obtaining information. In this context, seven of the groups, or about a third, also reported on damaged or lost communication devices.

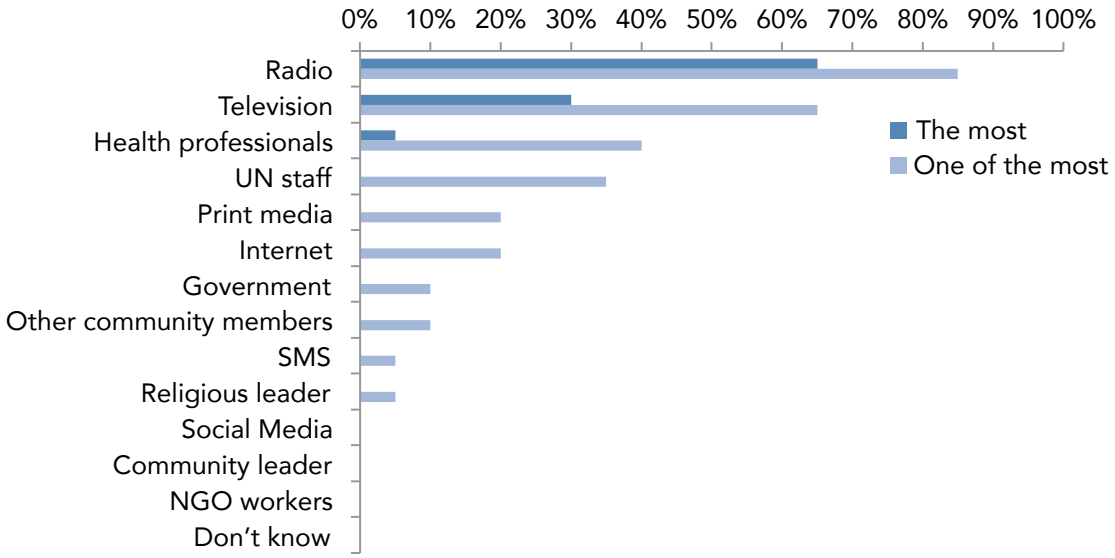


12. Information needs

All groups mentioned that they need information on the security situation. The vast majority of people also want information on how to access services, including health, food, financial assistance and psychosocial support. Many people also want information on possible return to their place of origin, shelter/accommodation information or shelter materials. Others wanted to know "what is happening" (59 per cent), get information on how to replace personal documentation or on the status of crossings (55 per cent each).

13. Sources of information considered most reliable

The vast majority of respondents (85 per cent) consider the radio to be the most reliable source of information, with Al-Aqsa station mentioned the highest number of times as a specific reliable source, followed by Al-Quds, and local radio stations. Radio is followed by television as the second- or third-most reliable information source, with Al-Jazeera mentioned the highest number of times as a specific reliable source, followed by Al-Aqsa TV and Ma'an News. Reports by health professionals – namely UNRWA, the Ministry of Health and health-related media reports – were considered to be among the most reliable sources of information by 40 per cent of groups. Other sources of information rated by more than one group as one of the most reliable were UN staff, print media, the Internet, and other community members (10 per cent).[12]



STRATEGIC HUMANITARIAN PRIORITIES

Health

- Support to specialized medical teams and additional specialized surgeons
- Continued lobbying for access to health care and protection of health care workers and facilities
- Improved referral process to hospitals outside of Gaza, including patients with chronic illnesses
- Continued vigilance of health situation among displaced families and sufficient preventive health and hygiene activities
- Health access for people in outlying areas where clinics may be closed
- Repair and rehabilitation of damaged health facilities
- Maintaining supplies of fuel, medicines and medical disposables sufficient for emergency situations
- Implementing psychosocial support programs for affected people, particularly children
- Specialized service provision for most vulnerable groups
- Improvement of IDP shelter conditions to prevent and mitigate communicable disease outbreaks

Education

- Reconstruction of damaged and destroyed schools
- ERW threat management and rubble clearance
- Replacement of destroyed furniture, textbooks and learning materials
- Psychosocial support and recreational activities for children

Food Security

- Food assistance to all IDPs, as well as continued regular food assistance at the current level, ensuring that basic food needs are met, assistance is predictable and diversity is improved
- Food assistance for population without economic access, including complementary food assistance and temporary employment and/or in-kind assistance for repairs and rebuilding of agricultural and community assets as well as cash support. Focus will be on those who have lost their livelihood and need time before re-establishing their productive capacity, in particular for those who are not assisted by other, already established mechanisms
- Overall priority will be given to households who have lost their primary breadwinner and other vulnerable categories, like elderly, female headed households, disabled persons
- Emergency support to revitalize the food production sector
- Rebuilding market systems and establishing mechanisms for market monitoring, setting and enforcement of price ceilings for basic food commodities
- Restoring damaged agricultural assets, including but not limited to greenhouses, orchards, irrigation wells, pumps and networks, poultry and other animal farms, fences, olive and citrus groves
- Interventions that aim at re-establishing productions linked to seasonality and protect animal production, including support to access fodder
- Cash, assets and technical assistance to households who relied (in part) on sustenance food production
- Immediate support to fishermen to compensate for the lack of income, as well as replacement of destroyed and/or damaged assets and equipment

Shelter and non-food items

- Transition and return solutions for IDPs, including:
  - Longer term collective centre management with improved living conditions for IDPs, particularly for their hygiene and water situation, food, NFIs and to mitigate protection concerns
  - Continued stay with host families, with support for host families and IDPs in terms of food assistance, NFIs, water and hygiene and energy
  - Rental subsidies in existing housing units and in newly created rental units: IDPs will receive standardized rental assistance to live in existing housing units and in addition, actors may consider rehabilitating or converting unfinished and/or damaged buildings in exchange for rent-free temporary housing for affected households
  - In-situ temporary housing: Households with destroyed houses who own land in areas with lower population density, such as agricultural areas, may choose to return to their plot of land and construct a temporary housing. Agencies can support these households with materials and technical advice, but also with pre-fabricated structures, where appropriate, and where the design, materials and layout are consistent with the aspirations of the affected households, cultural practices, and climatic considerations
- Continued provision of NFIs
- Ensuring that minor home repairs are done: shelter partners can provide in-kind or conditional cash assistance to allow vulnerable families to undertake necessary repairs to slightly damaged homes
- Ensuring the entry of construction materials for reconstruction efforts, as well as ensuring documentation and legal support for people whose homes need to be reconstructed
- ERW clearance in residential areas, both in urban and rural locations
- Rubble removal and recycling

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Support to service providers, which is critical for restoration of basic water and sanitation services to the population through:
  - Support to water, wastewater network and facilities repairs, including spare parts, equipment and construction materials
  - Support to electricity network repairs
  - Supplying fuel for generators, facilities, and solid waste collection vehicles
  - Provision of generators, including spare parts, fuel and equipment, as well as other various consumables, including chlorine
- Support to communities, to fill the temporary gaps until service provision is restored, and alleviating the threats to hygiene and dignity due to household economic vulnerability, including:
  - Potable water supply, in form of cash, water voucher, or in-kind trucking support
  - Water tankers for potable water trucking
  - Water for domestic use through trucking or temporary community distribution systems
  - Bulk storage, PE plastic tanks and small storage (jerry cans) including support to Gaza-based production of tanks
  - Sanitary installations for IDPs in long-term collective shelters and rehabilitation of household sanitation, solar heaters
  - Solid waste management trucking
  - Hygiene kits and vouchers for hygiene items
  - Hygiene promotion both at community level and through mass media and campaigns

Protection

- Clearance of ERW and risk awareness campaigns, targeting in particular schools and other places where children access recreational and psychosocial support activities, including via radio and other means
- Addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, the elderly and people who have sustained injuries which may leave them permanently disabled, including assistive and mobility devices
- Monitoring of documentation of cases of violations of international law, including grave violations against children, and legal assistance to pursue accountability for violations
- Legal support to address the loss of identification, property and family law related documentation, inheritance rights of women and children and legal support for vulnerable IDPs to secure interim housing solutions
- Psychosocial support for children and their families, in particular women and survivors of GBV, prioritizing structured 1 on 1 and group counselling and other targeted psychosocial activities over several sessions, with clear referral pathways between the various interventions
- Establishing a child centered system of identification, referral, and case management/ follow up for the most vulnerable children and families
- Establishing a system to accurately identify, document, follow up, and if needed, trace and reunify children with their families; develop and deliver prevention messages
- Supporting the re-establishment of local community-based and formal child protection systems
- Establishing safe spaces for women and children in IDP shelters to access psychosocial support, address gender based violence and identify cases in need of specialized support
- Improving identification, registration and addressing the needs of female headed families including access to humanitarian assistance
- Addressing the needs of pregnant and lactating women and their access to services
- Addressing the needs of GBV survivors in a multi-sectoral approach and establishing a GBV information management system to create a strong referral system for survivor centered support and care.

All sectors and clusters identified the need to conduct further, detailed interventions.

CLUSTER KEY ISSUES

Health

Severity		
High	**25** localities	▪ The spread of infectious diseases inside the shelters. ▪ Waste water treatment stations are not operating due to security situation and shortage of fuel. ▪ Shortage of medical supplies including drugs and disposables. ▪ Lack of hygiene kits/materials to keep clean inside the temporary designated shelters.
Medium		
Low		

Population

25 localities	▪ Around 0.5 million of the Gaza Strip population displaced. ▪ Overcrowding inside the schools and hosted families. ▪ Lack of basic services at IDP's centers as they are designed as schools and not shelters.

Protection

Severity		
High	**25** localities	▪ There is no safe place in Gaza. ▪ Around 500,000 individuals displaced. ▪ Major threat due to the presense of thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) and UXOs.
Medium		
Low		

Shelter

23 localities	▪ Tens of thousands of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged. ▪ Lack of safe and suitable shelters for hosting IDPs. ▪ Lack of essential Non Food Items (NFIs) in temporary designated shelters.
1 localities	▪ Severe Shortage of NFIs. ▪ Overcrowdings in the temporary designated shelters.
1 localities	▪ IDPs at host families are in need of food and NFIs.

Education

Severity		
High	**16** localities	▪ Schooling would be severely disrupted due to destruction of school buildings. ▪ Need for psychosocial support and recreational activities for children and teachers. ▪ Risk of explosive remnants of war (ERWs) infest in educational facilities.
Medium	**6** localities	▪ Lack of information on which schools children of displaced families will attend. ▪ Need to remove road blocks to ensure safe access to education.
Low	**2** localities	▪ Many kindergartens are damaged during the conflict.

Food

18 localities	▪ Damages to agriculture water wells and irrigation systems. ▪ Damages to agricultural produce and assets.
7 localities	▪ Prices of food items became more expensive and many farmers lost their sources of income. ▪ Damage to agricultural areas as most of the agricultural lands located in the east part of the Gaza Strip.

WASH

Severity		
High	**19** localities	▪ Severe shortage of water supply due to destruction of water networks and main municipal water tanks. ▪ Provision of water services is severely disrupted due to energy and fuel crisis.
Medium	**3** localities	▪ Waste water pumping and treatment is severely disrupted due to destruction of networks and shortage of power supply.
Low	**2** localities	▪ Thousands tons of solid waste are accumulated in streets and temporary dump stations due to lack of capacity of municipalities and their access to landfill.

SEVERITY INDEX PER CLUSTER/LOCALITY

Governorate	Locality	Population	Protection	Health	Shelter	WASH	Education	Food
North Gaza	Al Qaraya al Badawiya al Maslakh	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🔴
	Beit Hanun	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Beit Lahiya	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟢	🔴	🔴
	Jabalya	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟡	🔴	🔴
Gaza	Al Mughraqa (Abu Middein)	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Al Zahra'a	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟡	🟡	🟢	🟠
	Gaza City	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🟠
	Juhor ad Dik	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
Deir Al-Balah	Al Musaddar	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟡	🟠
	An Nuseirat Camp	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠
	Az Zawayda	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🔴	🔴
	Deir al Balah	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Al Maghazi Camp	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🟠	🟠
	Al Bureij Camp	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
Khan Yunis	Abasan al Jadida (as Saghira)	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Abasan al Kabira	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Al Fukhkhari	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🟠	🟠
	Al Qarara	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Bani Suheila	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Khan Yunis	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠
	Khuza'a	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
	Wadi as Salqa	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴
Rafah	Rafah	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟡	🔴
	Shokat as Sufi	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🔴
	An Naser	🔴	🔴	🔴	🟠	🔴	🟠	🔴

🔴 Severe situation: urgent intervention required
🟠 Situation of concern: surveillance required
🟡 Lack of/unreliable data: further assessment required
🟢 Relatively normal situation or local population able to cope with crisis, no action required.

ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

On 13, 18 and 19 August, under the coordination of OCHA, a joint Multi-Cluster/Agency Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) was carried out in Gaza at the governorate and the municipality levels, with the aim of gathering baseline information on the humanitarian situation, challenges and needs arising from the conflict in Gaza. The information obtained provides a snapshot of the humanitarian situation based on the information and perceptions of a sample of key interlocutors at the governorate and municipality level.

The assessment aims to provide a strategic overview of the current situation, to reach a shared understanding of the humanitarian situation, its scale and severity, and its likely evolution. The information gathered serves as a baseline to inform both further response decisions and funding appeals. The information of the initial assessment is shared with all actors as appropriate.

Specific assessment objectives included:

- **Better understanding of** the needs of people affected by the crisis
- **Better prioritization** of needs to help the most vulnerable receive appropriate and timely assistance
- Creating a **common operational picture** on which to carry out strategic planning and revise Gaza Appeal
- Facilitating the **sharing of resources** to ensure an even coverage of the affected area

The humanitarian actors, including UN agencies, NGOs and local authorities, who have been working together in the Emergency Operations Centre since 8 July to coordinate responses and collect information, carried out the joint initial assessment. A government liaison person was identified at the Ministry of Public Works and Housing.

A 400-point questionnaire was developed and the assessment teams, some 100 people from the relevant clusters, UN agencies, NGOs, and line ministries visited all five governorates and 25 municipalities in Gaza. The list of more than 250 informants included community leaders, NGOs, CBOs, mayors, teachers, youths, IDPs, health experts, and representatives from the electricity and water utilities. The assessment covered key issues, such as health, shelter, WASH, education, food security and protection, as well as general information. Particular attention was paid to the inclusion of vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, IDPs, persons with disabilities, women and youths into the assessment. The questionnaire was designed to mainly collect qualitative information to get a snapshot of strategic priorities to inform humanitarian response. MIRA is based on purposive sampling data collection.

The assessment consisted of group discussion, individual or smaller group interviews and visual observation, and lasted approximately three hours per location. The information was entered directly into i-Pads that synchronised with a central database managed by OCHA. Data quality control was carried out by OCHA. The data was analysed by experts from each of the thematic areas and supplemented with information from other assessments, group discussions or secondary sources.

The following sheets/datasets were generated:

1. Priorities per cluster (governorate and municipality)
2. Severity Matrix
3. Cluster Key Concerns
4. Data disaggregated by cluster
5. Data at the governorate level disaggregated by cluster
6. Data at the municipality level disaggregated by cluster

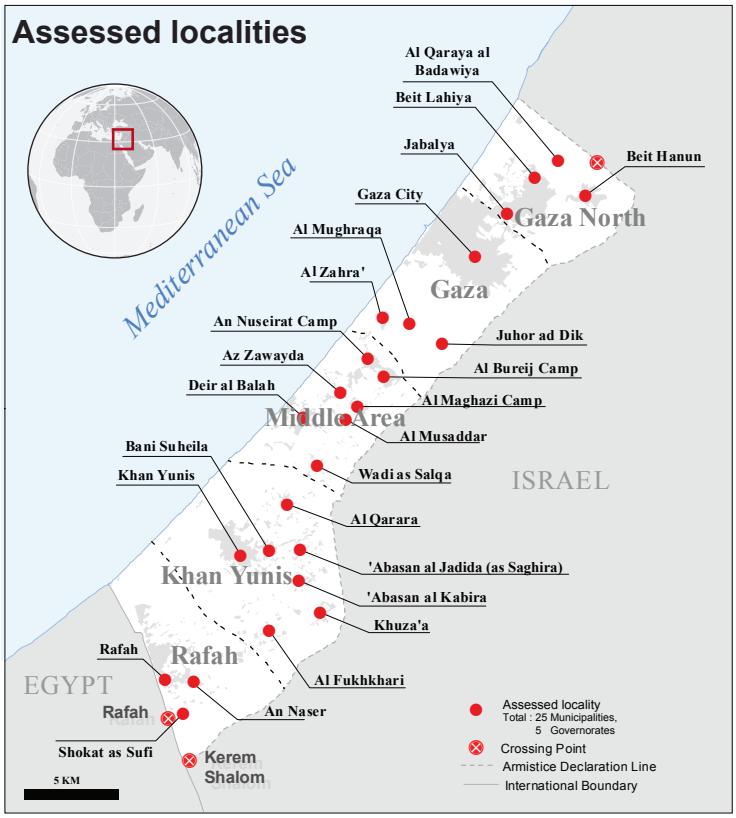
The draft assessment report was shared with all actors involved, as well as with relevant line ministries and others. Further, more detailed sector specific assessments will follow to identify specific interventions required, for example a technical assessment of the shelter situation.

A LIST OF PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

No.	Agency	Agency Name
1	ACF	Action Against Hunger
2	ACAD	Arab Center For Agricultural Development
3	AQD	Association Quality Development
4	CTCCM	Community Training Center and Crisis Management
5	Dan Churchaid	DanChurchAid
6	ESDC	Economic & Social Development Center of Palestine
7	FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
8	CHF	Global Communities
9	Handicap International	Handicap International
10	Help Age	HelpAge International
11	IDCO	Improvement and Development for Communities
12	Islamic Relief	Islamic Relief - Palestine
13	Ma'an Development Center	Ma'an Development Center
14	MAP	Medical Aid for Palestinians
15	MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
16	NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
17	MoH	Ministry of Health
18	MoPWH	Ministry of Public Works and Housing
19	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
20	OGB	OXFAM – GB
21	OIT	OXFAM – Italia
22	PARC	Palestinian Agricultural Development Association
23	PCDCR	Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution
24	PEF	Palestinian Environmental Friends Association
25	PHG	Palestinian Hydrology Group
26	PU-AMI	Première Urgence - Aide Médicale Internationale
27	Save the Children	Save The Children International
28	Save Youth Future	Save Youth Future
29	Tamer Institute	Tamer Institution
30	Tomooh association	Tommoh Association for Skills Development
31	UNICEF	UNICEF
32	UNESCO	United Nation Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
33	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
34	OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
35	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
36	UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
37	War Child Holland	War Child Holland
38	WFP	World Food Programme
39	WHO	World Health Organization
40	World Vision	World Vision
41	YEC	Youth Empowerment Center

A LIST OF KEY INFORMANTS

No.	Key Informants
1	Local Municipalities Mayors
2	Palestinian Center for Democracy and Conflict Resolution (PCDCR)
3	Tamer Institution
4	Youth Empowerment Center
5	UNRWA Area Staff
6	The Culture and Free Thought Association (CFTA)
7	Rural Women Development Association
8	Palestinian Red Crescent Society
9	Popular Refugee Committee
10	Local CBOs
11	Local Municipalities' Senior Staff
12	Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC)
13	UNRWA Area Educational Officers
14	Ministry of Education
15	Ministry of Health
16	Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU)
17	Palestinian Farmers Association
18	Community Leaders, youth, teachers, IDPs, persons with disabilities, local community members, village mukhtars, MoSA, MoPWH, MoA



ENDNOTES

1. This policy has been referred to by the Israeli authorities in various official documents and statements as the "separation policy". For a list of such documents and statements see Gisha, at: http://gisha.org/UserFiles/File/publications/separation_policy_2014.pdf

2. A comprehensive assessment of the reproductive health needs is planned.

3. Eggplant prices increased by 318.56 per cent, squash by 300.76 per cent, green pepper by 111.77 per cent, tomato by 81.29 per cent and cucumber by 60.24 per cent.

4. Many studies have found that a child or an adult who has experienced prolonged exposure to traumatic events is in danger of developing more severe PTSD symptoms or psychological problems (e.g., Kaysen et al., 2003; Yule, 2001; Melhem et al., 2004).

5. See Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Violence Survey in the Palestinian Society 2012.

6. Studies conducted in the Gaza Strip found that children living in war zones are at high risk of suffering from PTSD and depressive disorders (Thabet, Abed & Vostanis, 2004; Qouta et al., 1997).

7. 2014 OCHA, Humanitarian Needs Overview, November 2013.

8. Gender-based violence is a broader umbrella term referring to any harmful act that is perpetrated against a person's will, and that is based on socially ascribed (gender) differences between males and females, which in most settings privilege men. Acts of GBV violate a number of universal human rights protected by international instruments and conventions. Examples of GBV include: domestic violence, sexual violence, forced early marriage etc. See IASC Guidelines on Gender-based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Settings (2005).

9. UNICEF, 2006, Behind Closed Doors: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children.

10. Coordination arrangements were regularly not approved, delayed or not respected.

11. Data in this section is based on twenty groups.

12. Data in this section is based on twenty groups.

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