GAZA CRISIS: EARLY WARNING INDICATORS - December 2017

A series of measures implemented by the Palestinian Authority since March 2017, following an escalation in the internal Palestinian divide, have led to a deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the Gaza Strip. Against the backdrop of 10 years of Israel’s land, air and sea blockade, these measures have exacerbated Gaza’s energy crisis, resulting in increasing outages, worsened the salary crisis in the public sector, increased the shortage of essential drugs and delayed the referral of patients for medical treatment outside Gaza. These developments have impacted the availability of essential services and the livelihoods of Gaza’s two million residents. The following indicators were identified by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) to monitor the evolution of the crisis, trigger humanitarian action and prevent further deterioration. Despite an agreement signed in October 2017 between Fatah and Hamas, by the end of 2017 the humanitarian situation remains extremely fragile.

**EMERGENCY FUEL**

To allow for the maintenance of a minimum level of critical services, humanitarian agencies provide emergency fuel to health, water and sanitation, and solid waste collection facilities, to run backup generators and vehicles. The number of facilities benefiting from this support has increased from 189 at the beginning of the crisis in March of this year, to 248 since September.

**WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE**

**POURUTION LEVELS OF WASTEWATER FLOWS INTO THE SEA (IN MG/LITRE OF BOD**)  

**VOLUME OF CLEAN WATER PRODUCED BY WATER DESEALIZATION PLANTS PER MONTH (THOUSAND CUBIC METRES)**

**ACCESS TO PIPED WATER (LITERS PER CAPITA PER DAY)**

**FOOD-SECURITY**

**AVERAGE PRICE OF TOMATO (ILS/KG)**

**AVERAGE PRICE OF POTATO (ILS/KG)**

**AVERAGE PRICE OF EGGPLANT (ILS/KG)**

**HEALTH**

**FINANCIAL APPROVALS OF MEDICAL REFERRALS (# OF PATIENTS)**

**AVERAGE WAITING TIME FOR E.N.T.* ELECTIVE SURGERY AT SHIFA HOSPITAL (IN MONTHS)**

**DIARRHEA CASES AMONG CHILDREN UNDER 3**

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* Financial approvals are granted by the West Bank based Ministry of Health  
* A/DI: Ear, nose and throat  
* Postponement of elective surgeries is a measure adopted by hospitals to cope with the energy shortages  
* The incidence of diarrhea is an indicator of the quality of water, sanitation and hygiene services and habits  
* Gaps have been affected by both funding shortages and logistical constraints.

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