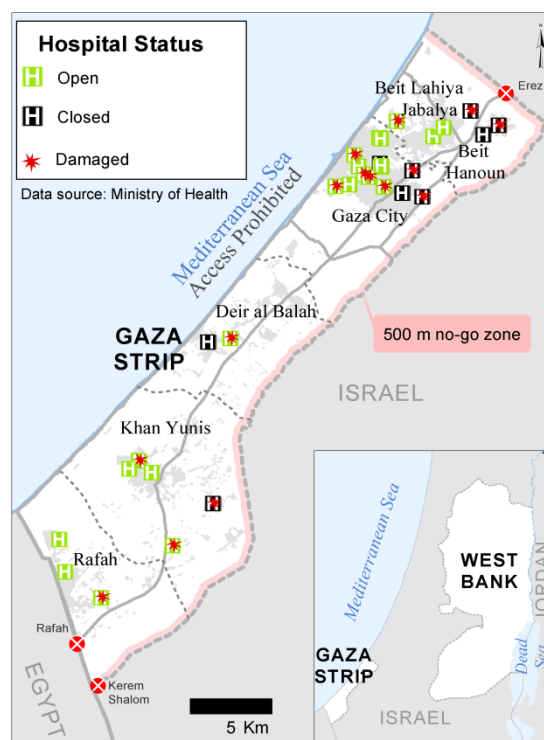




This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. This report covers the period from 6 August (0800 hrs) to 7 August (0800 hrs). The next report will be issued on 8 August.

## 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**

Palestinians killed, including at least 1,380 civilians, of whom 423 are children and 224 are women.<sup>1</sup>

**67**

Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, two civilians and one foreign national.

**373,000**

Children require psycho-social support.

**202,000**

People still displaced in UNRWA and government emergency shelters.

**65,000**

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.

<sup>1</sup> 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



### 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.

373,000

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.
- 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

- 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.

33

hospitals and clinics have been damaged

### 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 housing 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 m<sup>2</sup>.
- On 5 August 2014, the delivery of ten generators was coordinated by the Logistics Cluster 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](http://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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