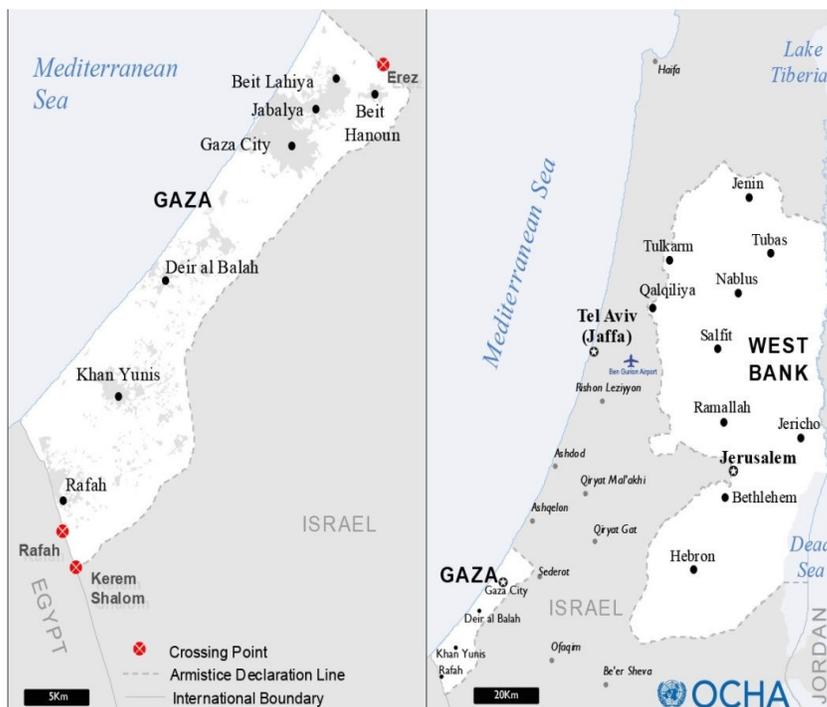




This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 9 July (1500 hrs) to 10 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 11 July.

Highlights

- 58 Palestinian civilians, including 11 women and 21 children, have been killed in Gaza, since the start of the Gaza emergency on 7 July.
- The targeting and destruction of residential buildings in Gaza continues to be the main cause of civilian casualties.
- Some 70 homes have been targeted and totally destroyed. Overall, since the start of the operation, 342 housing units have been destroyed or severely damaged by Israeli airstrikes, displacing about 2,000 people who are being hosted by relatives.
- Five health facilities have suffered damage after air strikes in their vicinities. 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 centres, but has resulted in no serious casualties so far.



Situation Overview

Overview

The Israeli military operation in the Gaza Strip, codenamed “Protective Edge”, entered its third day. Since the start on the night of 7 July 2014, Israeli forces have carried out hundreds of intense aerial and navy bombardment operations throughout the Gaza Strip, targeting military installations, rocket launching sites and the residences of alleged members of armed groups. Palestinian armed groups, including Hamas’ military wing, have fired hundreds of rockets at Israeli urban centres, including the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem metropolitan areas. The vast majority of these rockets have fallen in open areas, or have been intercepted by the Iron Dome system. A number of Israelis have suffered light injuries or being treated for shock, with limited damage to property reported.

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

Since the start of the operation, at least 80 Palestinians, of whom at least 58 are believed to be civilians, including 21 children, have been killed by Israeli bombardment. Approximately 570 others, including 120 children and 160 women, have been injured, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.

Some 70 homes have been targeted and totally destroyed according to the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR). Overall, since the start of the operation, 342 housing units destroyed or severely damaged by Israeli airstrikes, displacing about 2,000 people. One such attack overnight resulted in the killing of nine Palestinian males, including two children, while they were reportedly watching the World Cup in a beach cafeteria near Khan Younis. Another attack killed eight members of the Al Hai family, including two children, in Khan Younis refugee camp; the intended target is not known in either case. . In most cases, prior to the attacks, residents have been warned to leave the targeted building, either via phone calls by the Israel military or by the firing of warning missiles.

The uninterrupted waves of airstrikes and rocket fire have triggered widespread fear among the civilian population in the Gaza Strip and southern Israel, particularly among children, with dozens having to be treated for shock. Today (10 July), Gaza residents in peripheral areas of the north, centre and south of the territory received warnings via telephone by Israel forces that they should evacuate these areas and move to adjoin urban areas, raising concerns that at a ground offensive and significant displacement may be imminent.

The streets of Gaza are mostly empty and almost all shops are closed. Due to a general strike and the hostilities, 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 opened exceptionally today for the exit of injured Palestinians. 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. Access to the sea is prohibited and all fishing activity has stopped: 3,000 fishermen are currently unable to continue their livelihoods. Farming areas have been targeted and destruction of agricultural livelihood has been reported.

Humanitarian needs and response



- At least 80 Palestinians, of whom at least 58 were civilians, including 11 women and 21 children, have been killed by Israeli bombardment. Approximately 570 others, including 120 children and 160 women, have been injured, according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza.
- Overall, since the start of the operation, 342 housing units have been destroyed or severely damaged by Israeli airstrikes, causing the majority of civilian casualties and displacing about 2,000 people. Although advance warnings of destruction of homes was delivered by Israeli forces, initial information on some cases of multiple casualties raises concerns that no effective prior warning was provided to the affected families.
- An urgent need for the deployment of psychosocial support (PSS) teams in Gaza, particularly targeting affected children, has been identified by Protection Cluster members. Emergency PSS teams have assessed that 675 children require specialized support services to cope with the situation to date.
- UNICEF and the Child Protection Working Group are mobilizing resources to support partners to scale up the response at the local and national levels, including to assist children and caregivers in coping with the distress of the armed conflict and extend the working hours of the Child Protection Help Line.
- 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 indiscriminate or disproportionate attacks.

342

Housing units destroyed or severely damaged in Gaza



Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

- Some 105 buildings have been totally destroyed, 182 housing units totally destroyed and 160 severely damaged by Israeli airstrikes.
- An estimated 342 families, comprising about 2,050 individuals, have been displaced and most of them are being hosted by relatives, friends or neighbours. The majority are in need of Non-food item (NFI) kits, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, kitchen sets etc. They will also require cash assistance to cover rental fees and furnishing of new accommodation.
- An additional 2,500 housing units are estimated to have sustained minor damage, according to estimates by the Ministry of Housing and Public Works (MoHPW) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) in Gaza. NFI interventions are estimated to be needed for about 15,000 individuals who have suffered minor damage to their homes.

2,050
People

displaced due to the
loss of their homes



Health

- Five health facilities have sustained damage after Israeli air strikes in their immediate vicinity. These included the Gaza European Hospital, where a nurse was injured and its Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and the paediatrics ward had to be evacuated; the Foukhairy clinic in Rafah, which was forced to close; the Palestinian Red Crescent Society's (PCRS) Emergency Medical Service centre in Jabalia refugee camp; and the Jamila Aisha Primary Health Care (PHC Clinic) in Gaza city, which had windows and doors damaged.
- Fifteen EMS workers were slightly injured in the Jabalia PRCS centre and three paramedics were injured in Deir al Balah when their ambulance passed by a house as it was struck in an air attack.
- 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. Currently hospitals have fuel reserves for seven days, and cope by rationalizing power within the hospital and cutting non-vital services, and by ad hoc fuel donations. UNRWA will begin distributing 135,000 litres of fuel to the health sector on July 12, through donations provided by the Islamic Development Bank.
- Clinics remain functioning except for seven primary PHCs located near the fence with Israel or front line areas which were closed as preventative measures. The MoH is redeploying staff who cannot travel to facilities near their residences. UNRWA's 21 PHCs, including six Level 4 PHCs, are operating normally.
- Fifty patients and companions were able to travel to referral hospitals in East Jerusalem, other parts of the West Bank and Israel on July 10, after receiving permits for access. However, 25 other patients were not able to reach Erez checkpoint due to the air attacks.
- The MoH and WHO issued an appeal to the international community on 10 July for US\$ 80 million for the Ministry of Health to ensure sufficient supplies of medicine, medical supplies and referral care for Palestinian patients, and particularly for the growing needs in Gaza, already beset by shortages and working under emergency circumstances. UNRWA has appealed for US\$ 400,000 to replenish its own medical stocks.

28%

Of essential drug
items

out of stock in Gaza's
Central Drug Store



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Israeli airstrikes and shelling have inflicted an estimated US\$ 1.5 million damage to a number of WASH facilities disrupting the provision of water and sanitation including tap water, wastewater and storm water lines in Beit Hanoun.
- 25,000m³ of raw sewage continues to be discharged into the sea as a result of the partial damage of the Sewage Pumping Station at Al Muntada, which serves over half of the Gaza City area.
- Concerns continue about the destruction of the main water carrier line to the Beach Refugee Camp, serving 70,000 people, due to the lack of spare parts. Residents are being supplied by an alternative source and are now receiving almost half of what they did prior to the attack.
- There are also concerns related to movement restrictions of water vendors especially in Access Restricted Areas (ARAs), along Gaza's perimeter fence, and within neighbourhoods close to potential targets. Service providers have flagged security risks in operating WASH services and have suggested protection measures such as escorts to be able to safely access facilities.
- Service providers including the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) and individual municipalities have been responding to critical needs on the ground to ensure minimum service provision. However, concerns on their ability to continue providing emergency repairs remain especially due to the lack of necessary spare parts/equipment and movement risks.
- UNRWA will be providing fuel for critical WASH facilities with funding from Islamic Development Bank (IDB) intended to cover needs until the end of the year. First delivery expected to start Saturday should the security situation allow. Islamic Relief is planning to provide emergency chlorine supply to CMWU through ERF funding.

25,000 m³
of raw sewage dumped
to the sea due to
damage to pumping
station



Education

- Since the start of the escalation, 17 public schools and 15 UNRWA schools have been affected by shelling due to their close proximity to targeted sites. There is still no information about schools located in the ARA.
 - The agriculture training school in Beit Hanoun/North was shelled by three missiles and the main gate was severely damaged. The animals housed at the school and used as training resources are currently difficult to reach and in dire need of food and water.
 - Two schools in West Khan Younis have been taken over for non-education purposes: one is currently being used as a Health Clinic and the second by Civil Defence.
- The MoEHE is working to prepare a list of potential schools per governorate in case there is a need for shelters. At present, officially no public schools or UNRWA schools are being used as shelters by IDPs.

32
Schools affected by
shelling



Food Assistance

- About 1,000 people have so far been assisted with food assistance. There are 150 families currently hosted by relatives, who will be in need of food assistance, including the hosting families, if the hostilities continue. Should displacement continue or escalate there are concerns regarding additional demands on food assistance.
- 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.
- UNRWA will have the capacity to open shelters to displaced /affected people and to provide complementary food commodities to hosted families in their shelters.
- ACF is planning to provide 100 displaced families with food parcels.

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 on 9 July 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 is in operation 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.

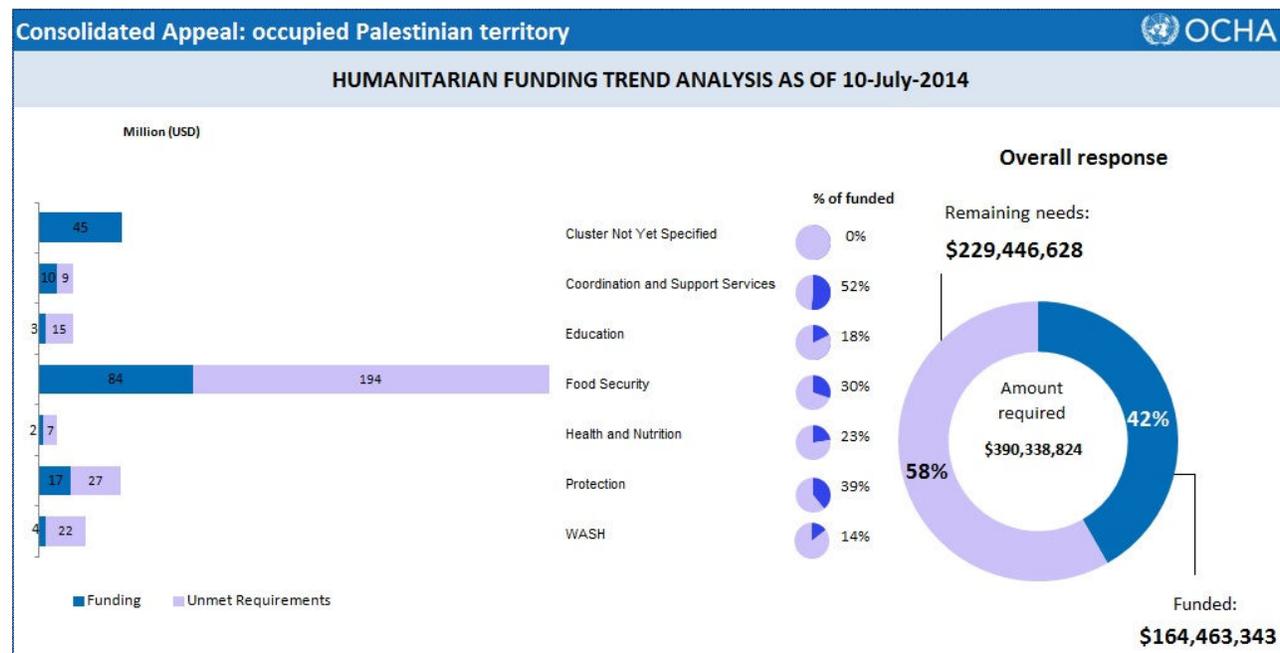
Funding

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 than 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 which are also covering critical sectors that support responses during

the emergency. 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). A number of donors have already started working with clusters and partners to look into providing funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors.



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 to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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