



Preliminary Human and Economic losses



Prepared by
Ministry of Planning



War on Gaza

Preliminary Estimates of

Humanitarian & Economic Losses



**Ministry of
Planning**

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War on Gaza
(Dec. 27, 2008 – Jan. 17, 2009):
**Preliminary Estimates of
Humanitarian and Economic
Losses**

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INTRODUCTION

During the twenty two days of barbaric campaign on Gaza strip, the Israeli war machine did not spare any of the life basic aspects (people, plants and animals). The civilian population paid the largest tribute during the savage military attack, for several thousands were killed, crippled, maimed for life, wounded, orphaned and widowed. The dead and buried were also targeted. Furthermore vast amount of destruction was inflicted on both public and private properties, worship places, schools, hospitals and infrastructure facilities.

It is important to stress that the Palestinian Government did not sojourn to act on all levels to mitigate the suffering of our people as a result of Israel savage campaign. Directly after the adoption of the cease-fire, all technical crews of all the ministries embarked on a critical two dimensional mission; on one hand assessing damages and losses in both human lives and economy; and on the other, develop emergency plans to mitigate the impact of the catastrophe.

METHODOLOGY

Due to the complexity of the situation and the vastness and large diversity of the aspects that need to be addressed, the Emergency Committee the Ministry of Planning has devised a three-stage methodology. The methodology has been devised in such a way to provide the government, and the international community with an objective and comprehensive assessment, thus avoiding any of the problems identified by the neutral entities of over estimation and duplication. The execution of this methodology indulged/implied the participation of all ministries, with specific role for each. Accordingly, this report is the result of the collective work of every one/entity involved. The methodology stages are as follows:

First stage: Data Gathering

This stage aims at identifying all and every place that was damaged and/or destroyed, and defining objectively the level of damage. In this stage:

- The main entities involved in this stage and their roles are as follows:
 - Ministry of Health to assess the number of Martyrs and wounded.
 - Ministry of Waqf to assess the damages in the worship places (Mosques)
 - Ministry of education for the damages in schools and education facilities.
 - Ministry of National Economy for damages in Industrial and commerce facilities.
 - Ministry of Agriculture for the damages in the agricultural and fishing sector
 - Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MOPWH) responsible for verifying the damage in non specialized public and private buildings/constructions.

- In case of special use buildings/constructions (Schools, hospitals, worship places, factories, etc) a specialized joint committee from the related ministry with MPOWH
- Several specialized committees were established to assess damages and losses in all sectors. Actual work of these committees started on 18 January 2009 (the first day of the cease fire)
- Approximately 300 engineers and professionals were organized in 100 taskforces that covered all sectors in the five governorates of Gaza strip.

Second stage: Cost assessment

This stage aims at assessing the cost of identified damages. In this stage:

- The findings of the field teams are accumulated in each related ministry. The data is revised and the damage cost is assessed.
- The Emergency Committee in the Ministry of Planning has agreed with the other ministries on the bases for the losses costs assessment to assure the integrity and consistency.

As follows:

- The cost of damage is set to be the cost prior to the war, i.e. cost prior to 22 December 2009.
- The damages are classified according to type, i.e. buildings, inventory, machines, etc.
- Since there are various sub categories under each type, industrial facility, educational facility, etc.
- Cross cutting issues are registered in the reports of the parties involved with clear identification of the type and sub category.

Third stage: Losses Reports Development

This stage aims at developing objective assessment of the damages inflicted by the Israeli war machine. This stage was fully conducted by the Emergency Committee in the Ministry of Planning. In this stage:

- A 12 man/women group of multi disciplinary professionals headed by the chairman of the committee were dedicated day and night to conduct the work detailed below.
- The values and primary data are then referred to the committee to develop the report.
- The development of comprehensive and final assessment of the losses would take very long time, due to the vastness of the destruction and shortage of manpower. Since there is urgency in presenting the international community with damages assessment, it has been decided to develop primary losses Assessment reports at three stages as follows:
 - First primary assessment, after concluding approximately 50% identification of damages
 - Secondary revised assessment, after completing 80% Identification of damages. And
 - The Final assessment would be released after, completing 100% assessment.
- The losses would be calculated in quadrant aspect:
 - Direct damage, which is the cost of the destroyed facility, equipment, etc.
 - Indirect losses, which is the cost of removal and disposal of derbies and fragments, and the cost of removal of non-exploded Israeli ammunition and rockets.
 - Cost of Lost opportunity, which is the losses in the anticipated investment and production by the private

sector, until the full recovery from the Israeli aggression.

- Emergency Relief, Which is the cost of cash emergency assistance and relief provided to the civilian population to survive until rebuilding starts.
- Losses in GDP, which are the reduction in the GDP due to the damage/destruction, and would cover the period between the date of the war start and the estimated time for the damaged facility to return to full operation. The calculation approach has been as follows:
 - During the 22 days of the war the GDP losses was 100%
 - During the 30 days following the economy was % operational.
 - During the period after would be on actual data of the economic institutions not operating. At this stage the percentage would decrease as institutions are rebuilt and/or rehabilitated.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Due to the large diversity and vastness of damages, it has been devised that the :

1) The losses in human life:

The Israeli war of Gaza strip, which lasted from 27 December 2008 till 21 January 2009, has left tremendous amount of losses in civilians. The overall size of losses in the



civilian population until 25 February 2009 has reached the level of more than 1,443 martyrs¹, 5,316 wounded and 115 kidnapped. Of which approximately 45% are Women and Children. For further details about the martyrs and wounded see tables in annex 1

¹ Tens of the wounded died after the war.

2) Direct losses to the economy:

The direct losses to the economy sectors are estimated to be 1.704 Billion Dollars, distributed as follows:

- a. Buildings and facilities: 876.1 (Eight Hundred and seventy six) million dollars, equaling approximately 51.4%,
- b. Industry: 240 (two hundred and forty) million dollars, equaling approximately 14.1%,
- c. Agriculture: 218 (two hundred and eighteen) million dollars, equaling approximately 12.8%,
- d. Roads and harbors: 173 (One hundred and seventy three) Million, equaling approximately 10.2%, and
- e. The remainders of the losses are in the other sectors.



For Detailed information of the losses please see annex # 2.

3) Indirect losses to the economy:

The indirect economic losses are estimated to be approximately 214 (Two Hundred and fourteen) Million Dollars. For details please see Annex # 2.

4) Lost opportunities losses:

The Lost Opportunity Losses are estimated to be approximately 287 (Two hundred and eighty seven) million USD. For details please see Annex # 2.

5) Losses in the GDP

The losses in the GDP is estimated to have reach approximately 129 (One hundred and twenty nine) Million USD. The value of losses in the GDP is anticipated to increase over time since the economic sectors are not anticipated to recover rapidly due the current situation with the crossing point.

Accordingly, the sum off economic damages and losses inflicted on the Palestinian economy by the Israeli army are estimated to be approximately 2.734 Billion Dollars

The Palestinian National Authority

Ministry of Finance

Annexes

Annex # 1 Detailed Human Losses

Annex # 2 Detailed Economic Losses

Annex # 1 Details of Human Losses

Table 1.1 Martyrs Distributed by Governorate

Governorate	Number	%
Northern Gaza	446	30.9
Gaza	684	47.4
Middle Area	179	12.4
Khan Younis	84	5.8
Rafah	50	3.5

Table 1.2 Martyrs distributed by Category

Category	Number	%
Children	405	28.1
Women	112	7.8
Elderly (both genders above 60 Years old)	83	5.8
Rescuers	15	1
Others	828	57.4

Table 1.3 Wounded categorized by governorate

Governorate	Number	%
Northern Gaza	1712	32.2
Gaza	2114	39.8
Middle Area	517	9.7
Khan Younis	455	8.6
Rafah	818	9.7

Table 1.4 Wounded distributed by Category

Category	Number	%
Children	1828	34.4
Women	787	14.8
Elderly (both genders above 60 Years old)	251	4.7
Rescuers	22	0.4
Others	2428	45.7

Annex # 2 Losses**Table 2.1 Direct Losses Distributed by Sector**

Sector	Losses (in Million USD)	%
Industry	٢٤٠	14.1
Commerce	٥٠	2.9
Agriculture	٢١٨,٢	12.8
Tourism	٦,٧	0.4
Energy	٢٣,٤	1.4
Water	٦,٥	٠,٤
Construction	٨٧٦,١	51.4
Roads and Harbors	١٧٣	10.2
Media	٥,٤	0.3
Communication	٣,٩	٠,٢
Environment	١٠٠,٥	5.9

Table 2.2 Emergency Relief Losses

Program	Duration (Months)	Total Cost (Million USD)
Cash Relief Program	١	٥٢
Emergency Food support Program	١٢	٥١,٦
Cash Assistance for Unemployed and Homeless Families	١٢	٢٥٧,٤
Emergency Sheltering Program	١٢	١٥١
Strategic Food Depository Program	١	١٧,٣

Table 2.3 Detailed GDP Losses

Economic Sector	GDP Losses 27/12/2008 till 27/1/2009 (Million USD)	GDP Losses 28/1/2009 till 28/2/2009 (Million USD)
Agriculture	٩,٠٣	٢,٩٣
Industry	١٧,٣٧	٧,٨٢
Construction	٢,١٩	١,٠٤
Commerce	١٥,١٥	٠,٣٨
Transportation and Telecommunication	١٢,٣٧	٠,٣١
Financial	٥,٥٢	٠,١٤
Services	٣٣,١٧	٢,٤٩
General Government and Security	١٨,٤٨	٠,٤٦

Table 2.4 Detailed Lost Opportunity Losses

Economic Sector	Indirect Losses (Million USD)	Losses in Lost Opportunity (In Million USD)
Industry	٥٤,٨	59.2
Commerce	١٥,٥	16.7
Agriculture	٥٠	178.6
Tourism	٠,٨	1.7
Public Sector	١٧	0
Energy	*	*
Water	١,٨٥	0
Construction (Public and Private)	٥٠	*
Roads and harbors	*	3.99
Communication	٠	9
Environment	٠,٠٣٤	0.01
Health	٣,٣	0
Education	١,٨	0
Culture	٠,٠٤	0.047
Ministry of Interior	18.5	*
Ministry of Justice	0.066	0.011
Ministry of Finance	0.175	18
Total	٢١٣,٨	287.3

* To be calculated



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