



State of Palestine

Humanitarian Situation Report

unicef 

Highlights

- *The ceasefire continues to hold, however a number of security incidents were reported.*
- *The Palestinian unity government has launched its National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza in preparation of the Cairo Conference on Palestine—Reconstructing Gaza to be held in Cairo, Egypt, 12 October*
- *Hamas and Fatah reached an agreement on 25 September that the Palestinian unity government will take over control of the Gaza Strip and oversee reconstruction efforts.*
- *A brief meeting between Israel and Palestinian factions took place in Cairo last week to set the agenda for long-term ceasefire talks mediated by Egypt.*
- *The number of IDPs in collective shelters currently stands at **59,858** in 19 shelters (18 UNRWA school buildings and 1 governmental school building).*
- *The UNICEF-led Gaza Child Protection Working Group is leading an inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment (CPRA) to identify the most urgent child protection needs and priority responses.*
- *The winter season is approaching in Gaza, and with it increased hardship for children. Winter preparations are urgent.*

Situation Overview

- The ceasefire still holds over a month after it came into effect. However, the **situation is tense and the people of Gaza remain insecure**. An IDF incursion east of Khan Younis was reported as well as IDF warning fire at Palestinians approaching border fence on two occasions, with reports of a Palestinian injury. IDF also fired at Al Qarara, north east of Khan Yunis and west of Beit Lahia. IDF Navy shot warning shots at Palestinian boats.
- The National Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan for Gaza has been released by the Palestinian Government in preparation of the Cairo Conference on Palestine—Reconstructing Gaza which will be held in Cairo, Egypt, on 12 October. The plan outlines a prioritized and comprehensive response across all social, infrastructure, economic and governance sectors. The estimated cost of the recovery and reconstruction efforts is 4 billion USD.
- Hamas and Fatah have agreed on the Palestinian unity government taking over control of the Gaza Strip in line with the stipulations of the ceasefire agreement reached with Israel in August. The Palestinian unity government will

2 October 2014

506 children killed

(Protection Cluster, 24 September 2014)

2,157 total deaths

(Protection Cluster, 24 September 2014)

54,000 children homeless

(OCHA, 4 September 2014)

3,106 children injured

(Protection Cluster, 1 September 2014)

1,500 children orphaned

(Protection Cluster, 1 September 2014)

89 entire families killed

(OCHA, 25 August 2014)

After a month of ceasefire

While the ceasefire that began on August 27 is holding, the suffering of the civilian population is not over. Gaza's basic infrastructure has been severely damaged or destroyed, leaving hundreds of thousands of people without adequate services including electricity, clean water and quality healthcare. In addition, the proliferation of unexploded weapons across the territory poses life-threatening risks to the population – and to children in particular.

have responsibility for relief and reconstruction efforts in Gaza. The implementation of the agreement between the two factions will be supervised by a joint committee.

- Palestinian factions met with Israel in Cairo last week to set the agenda for long-term ceasefire negotiations. However, according to media reports, it appears that significant talks will only commence after the Cairo Conference
- The number of Internally Displaced Persons continues to fluctuate, decreasing from last week to 59,858 in 19 collective shelters (18 UNRWA school buildings and 1 governmental school building).
- The UNICEF-led Gaza Child Protection Working Group is leading an inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment (CPRA) which will produce an overview of the key child protection risks and vulnerabilities as well as community capacities at this stage of the emergency response. The aim of the assessment is to identify the most urgent child protection needs and priority responses.
- As winter approaches in Gaza, it is urgent to prepare for its impact on children. Numerous families are very vulnerable due to the fuel shortage and large-scale destruction of homes. It is estimated that the number of IDPs in shelters will increase significantly with colder weather.
- With about 43% of the population in Gaza under the age of 15, the conflict can only be described as a children's crisis. It is a stunning fact that a six-year-old Gazan child has already lived through three separate wars with Israel, in 2008, 2012 and again this year. The ever-present threat to life and liberty has a devastating impact on the psychosocial well-being of children, adolescents and their families. Individual and community coping mechanisms and resilience have been eroded.

Summary Analysis of Programme response

UNICEF's emergency scaled-up response in Gaza is targeting children who attend public schools, under five-year-old children and mothers, and vulnerable households in the most affected communities. UNICEF is currently focusing on supporting affected children and families in shelters, host families, and the communities that have been most severely hit. **To respond to the urgent needs of the population, UNICEF has brought in significant additional international surge staff for programme response and cluster coordination.**

Education

On 14 September, approximately 230,000 school children returned back to government schools after 3 weeks of delay due to the 50 days of hostilities in the Gaza strip. During the crisis, and after a ceasefire was reached on 26 August, UNICEF worked closely with Education Cluster members including UNRWA, the MoEHE, and partners in preparing for the re-opening of schools.

As part of the Back-To-School initiative, UNICEF:

- Distributed:
 - **126,300 school bags to children in grades 1-9 in MoEHE schools. All children in grades 1-6 have received school bags and 90% of children in grades 7-9.**
 - **139,563 stationary sets for school children in MoEHE schools. All children in grades 1-9 have received a stationary set.**
 - 395 teaching aids to 395 schools to enable teachers to work in a more conducive teaching and learning environment. Each aid includes 35 items, including chalk, markers, rulers, scissors, notebooks and etc.
 - 623 recreational kits to 395 schools to enable schools to implement recreational activities with school children in the first week of the new academic year and on an ongoing basis.
 - 28 early childhood development (ECD) kits to schools that have preschool classes.
- Supported:
 - **The cleaning and disinfection of 27 Government Schools** that were used as collective shelters during the conflict. This was achieved through efforts of various organizations coordinated by MA'AN with UNICEF's support.
 - The orientation of about 12,000 school principals, school counsellors, supervisors, and teachers on psychosocial support, the nonviolence in schools policy, detection of traumatized children and referrals. This was achieved through cascade training. 56 school principals and subject supervisors were trained as trainers on the nonviolence in schools policy and on classroom management. They in turn trained 427 school principals and 10,761 teachers. 400 school counselors had a refresher training on psychosocial support in schools and then oriented the teachers in their schools. In total, 184 subject supervisors, 427 school principals, 400 school counselors and 10,761 teachers received training

before the start of the new school year. **230,000 school children received psychosocial support and recreational activities in their first week of school.**

-Recreational and stress relief activities for 44,131 children in 112 schools all over Gaza strip through MA'AN,TAMER and Al Nayzak in coordination with MoEHE.

- Tankering of safe drinking water to schools (on a daily basis, to serve 76,050 students and 2430 teachers in 124 schools).

In addition, UNICEF is currently organizing:

- Distribution of the remaining 3,700 school bags that are being locally manufactured in Gaza

- Repair of 26 schools that sustained minor damage during the conflict in West Gaza, through ACF. The schools will be rehabilitated by end October.

- Provision of school uniforms and shoes to the most vulnerable children through the joint WFP-UNICEF e-voucher programme. So far, funding has been secured for 15,000 sets of school uniforms and shoes.

Child Protection

- An inter-agency Child Protection Rapid Assessment (CPRA) is being carried out by the Gaza Child Protection Working Group led by UNICEF. The assessment will produce an overview of the key child protection risks and vulnerabilities as well as community capacities at this stage of the emergency response. The aim of the assessment is to **identify the most urgent child protection needs and priority responses**. 8 assessment teams are in the process of completing the data collection, and will interview 174 community leaders at 58 sites across all five Governorates. The communities surveyed include IDPs living in UNRWA shelters, Bedouin communities, IDPs living with host families and members of the community who have either not been displaced or have been able to return home. The assessment scope includes child labour, unaccompanied and separated children, violence against children, dangers in children's physical environment, psychosocial distress, excluded children and access to information, and sexual violence. The assessment findings are expected to be released by 15 October 2014.
- 22,877 adolescents and children benefited from basic **psychosocial support and recreational activities** including stress relief and self-expression activities with the support of UNICEF partners MA'AN, TAMER and Al Nayzak in 19 government shelters, 17 community-based organizations and 7 Libraries reaching more children to help them better cope with their experiences of the conflict.
- Emergency support to children and caregivers was provided through Sawa **Child Protection Helpline reaching 1,254 (740 girls and 514 boys)**
- **Direct psychosocial interventions** were provided through the Palestinian Red Crescent Society to 23,134 children, (11,965 girls and 11,180 boys).
- A **UNICEF-led Task Force on referral and case management** continues to meet to identify potential focal points that should be trained to recognize child protection risks. This will contribute to the strengthening and rebuilding of child and family referral networks and case management systems in Gaza.
- UNICEF has reached an agreement with Internews to broadcast radio spots on Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) to raise awareness on the dangers for children and their families. During the conflict, 1 million people in Gaza were educated on ERW risk through local radio stations.

Water Sanitation and Hygiene

- **Distribution of 2995 adult hygiene kits and 2000 baby hygiene kits** is currently being done by the Ministry of Social Affairs. GVC is distributing 1,000 jerry cans.
- Family hygiene kits were distributed to 1,000 families whose homes had been partially or fully damaged in East Khan Younis.
- **CMWU is continuing urgent repairs of water and sewage pipe systems.** UNICEF is finalizing the procurement of water pipes and fittings for CMWU worth US\$325,000. Approximately 80% of the items required are available locally in Gaza which will enable rapid procurement and delivery.
- PHG and GVC, with UNICEF's support, continue to provide **water tankering for drinking water**. To date, 4,253 cubic meters of water have been provided to 50,000 individuals. PHG and GVC have also distributed 370 communal tanks in the Middle area of Gaza. In partnership with MA'AN, 14 water bladders have been installed: 6 in Gaza City, 5 in Khan Younis and 3 in Beit Hanoun. In total, these **water filling stations** will provide water to 71,000 people.
- Water tankering for domestic use is ongoing. MA'AN delivered 4,504 cubic meters of water to 31,528 beneficiaries in Gaza City.

Child Health & Nutrition

- The Ministry of Health organized 10 workshops on the **Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI)** to strengthen vaccination coverage and prevent outbreaks resulting from the crisis. Three training workshops out of 10 have been completed and 70 health workers trained out of 250.
- 65,429 vials of inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) are due to arrive on 7 October. On 10 September, a **UNICEF shipment of 90 tons of medical supplies**, entered Gaza. This is part of UNICEF's commitment to ensure that hospitals and health facilities are frequently re-stocked with **essential drugs, vaccines and supplies**. Essential drugs supplied by UNICEF in two shipments since the onset of the hostilities are benefitting around 136,120 patients.
- UNICEF is funding Ministry of Health (MoH) **Community Health Workers** to conduct outreach activities in collective centres. Some 1,483 men, 5,648 women and 3,243 children participated in awareness sessions on communicable diseases in collective shelters and with host families.
- **Breastfeeding awareness-raising** was conducted for 8,159 mothers and their children mothers in shelters and in host families, also by UNICEF-funded MoH Community Health Workers.
- MoH teams continued to make home visits to provide **postnatal and neonatal care** and advice to 1,580 mothers and their neonates. This agreement with MoH is a long-standing one that has been scaled-up to respond to current needs.
- UNICEF has entered into a new partnership with the Near East Council of Churches (NECC), currently the only health care provider in Shuja'iyyeh since the MOH clinic in the area was totally destroyed. 18 NECC health workers have been trained for post natal home visits.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

- UNICEF leads the Child Protection Working Group and affiliated groups for mental health and psychosocial services (MHPSS), and for monitoring and reporting of grave violations against children (MRM). These groups have been merged to maximise coordination of child protection responses during the emergency.
- UNICEF continues to lead the WASH cluster and co-lead the Education cluster with Save the Children, both in Gaza and at the national level, with dedicated staff capacity.
- Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) have been established in Gaza and Ramallah.

Funding

Funding requirements (as defined in revised in revised Gaza Crisis humanitarian appeal)

Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds received*	Funding gap	
			\$	%
Education	17,313,401	523,165	16,790,236	97%
WASH	11,876,216	3,161,136	8,715,080	73%
Child Protection	5,093,875	1,600,596	3,493,279	69%
Health & Nutrition	4,729,536	747,343	3,982,193	84%
Cluster Coordination	865,269	97,631	767,638	89%
Total	39,878,297	6,129,871	33,748,426	85%

Note 1: Total cash on hand is \$7,823,909 of which \$6,129,871 is funding received against the appeal for this year, and \$1,694,038 is budget carried forward from prior years and reallocated to the SoP office.

Note 2: The table does not include the Emergency Programme Fund loan of \$4 million received from UNICEF

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