



State of Palestine

Humanitarian Situation Report

unicef 

Highlights

- **Tensions are still high in the State of Palestine.** A number of assaults were reported on both Palestinians and Israelis in the West Bank and Israel, with noted increase in settler violence, incidents involving youth, and the violent death of Cabinet Member Mr. Ziad Abu Ein during a confrontation with IDF in a peaceful ceremony on Human Rights Day. A number of incidents were reported in Gaza including UXO explosions and fire opened on fishermen.
- **The toll of victims from UXOs explosions keep rising in the Gaza Strip.** In two separate incidents, a pregnant woman and four children aged 1, 4, 13 and 17 were injured due to UXO blasting.
- The **number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** in UNRWA Collective Centers stands at **18,893**.
- Since the beginning of 2014, **95,004 children were reached through ERW risk awareness education** in schools.
- UNICEF e-voucher programme continues in cooperation with WFP and Oxfam. Since its start, **4,866 children were able to redeem their school uniforms through the e-voucher system**. The programme aims at reaching 14,780 children. The hygiene component of the e-voucher programme targeted 5,000 households at risk of winter flooding.
- **UNICEF with the support of NGO partners, has reached at least 85,357 children, mostly adolescents (51% females) through activities such as recreation, life skills, and stress relief activities** to help them build their resilience and cope with the recurrent crises.

Situation Overview

- **Tensions are still high in the State of Palestine.** A number of incidents were reported against both Palestinians and Israelis in the West Bank and Israel. On 10 December, PA Cabinet Member and head of PLO's Commission against the Separation Wall and Settlements, Mr. Ziad Abu Ein, was killed during confrontations with IDF during the celebration of Human Rights Day, near Ramallah. Since then, security incidents and confrontations have been reported in the Refugee Camps across the West Bank and a youth aged 12 was severely injured with a live bullet in his head. Settler violence has reportedly increased. A number of incidents were also reported in Gaza. On 5 December, two Palestinian adolescents, aged 19 and 25, were shot and injured by IDF in Jabalya, on 6 December, Israeli Naval Forces opened fire towards Palestinian fishing boats.
- **The toll of victims from UXO explosion keeps rising in the Gaza Strip:** in one incident on 4 December, three children aged 1, 4 and 13 and a pregnant woman were injured when an UXO exploded inside a house, which had been

4 December - 18 December 2014

539 children killed

(Protection Cluster, 4 December 2014)

2,257 total deaths

(Protection Cluster, 4 December 2014)

54,000 children homeless

(OCHA, 4 September 2014)

2,956 children injured

(Protection Cluster, 4 December 2014)

1,500 children orphaned

(Protection Cluster, 1 September 2014)

89 entire families killed

(OCHA, 25 August 2014) (put source)

UNICEF Funding Need

\$39.9 million

UNICEF Funding Gap

\$29.7 million

reportedly targeted during the July-August 2014 hostilities; in another incident, a 17-year-old boy was injured west of Rafah when an UXO detonated while he was tampering with it. The presence of UXOs continues to pose a high risk to civilians, particularly children. Since the ceasefire of 26 August, four Palestinians have been killed in UXO incidents, including a 4-year-old child, and 15 others injured including eight children.

- **1,760 tons of cement were shipped to Gaza:** as part of the UN Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM), the largest quantity of cement for Gaza reconstruction was shipped on 7 December via the Kerem Shalom crossing. 44 trucks loaded with 1,760 tons of cement entered the Gaza Strip on Sunday, this was the largest quantity shipped in one day in years. Since last October 2014, 147 trucks carrying 5,878 tons of cement have entered the coastal enclave.
- **Public services are affected by the post-war crisis:** the Union of Civil Servants in the Gaza Strip is on strike as of 11 December. Moreover, some public hospitals, included the Shifa Hospital in Gaza City, are facing serious problems due to a protracted strike of the cleaning staff. Ministry of Health (MoH) closed the Maternity Department of al-Hazarin, in Shejaya, East Gaza, due to the crisis.
- An **Improvised Explosive Device (IED) exploded** outside the French Cultural Centre in Gaza City on the evening of 12 December. No casualties were reported.
- The number of **Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)** in 19 UNRWA Collective Centers (CCs) has reduced to 18,893.
- **Rafah crossing was closed** following attacks in the northern Egyptian City of Al Arish, reportedly carried out by radical groups based in the Sinai Peninsula and claiming the lives of 30 Egyptian military personnel. This is the longest period of closure of the Rafah crossing recorded since mid-2008.
- **At least 539 Palestinian children were reported killed as a result of the hostilities in Gaza** between 8 July and 26 August. The child fatalities include 339 boys and 200 girls. 81% of them, or 440 children, were killed during the period of the IDF ground incursion, in the course of 20 days between 17 July and 5 August, this translates to 22 children killed on average per day. At least 2,956 Palestinian children were reported injured or maimed between 8 July and 26 August 2014. In total, a reported 11,100 Palestinians have been injured or maimed, of which children make up 26 per cent. The children injured include 1,938 boys (66%) and 1,018 girls (34%), aged between two days and 17 years. In the course of the 50 days of conflict, on average more than 59 Palestinian children were injured in Gaza every day. During the period of the IDF ground incursion, at least 2,062 children were injured, equal to 69 % of the child injuries. This comes to an average of 103 children per day. Between 8 July and 26 August, one four-year-old Israeli boy was reported killed by mortar shelling from Gaza and during the same period, at least six Israeli children were reportedly gravely injured due to rocket fire from Gaza, including three boys and three girls aged between 3 months and 17 years old.



UNICEF has declared 2014 a devastating year for millions of children.

“Children have been killed while studying in the classroom and while sleeping in their beds; they have been orphaned, kidnapped, tortured, recruited, raped and even sold as slaves. Never in recent memory have so many children been subjected to such unspeakable brutality”, says UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake.

20-year old Safa sits with her first child, adorable one-month old baby girl Asil, in a bedroom of her home in Shejiaya, one of the most damaged residential areas in Gaza after the July-August conflict. “I wish my daughter would study medicine but above all, I wish she would spend her life in peace.”

Since this summer’s war in Gaza, UNICEF has supported postnatal home visits for more than 3,000 mothers and newborns in conflict-afflicted areas

#gaza4children

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Education and Adolescents

- UNICEF in collaboration with WFP and Oxfam, is providing school uniforms and shoes to children most affected by the conflict through an e-voucher programme. **4,866 children have redeemed their school uniforms through e-vouchers thus far in the ongoing programme.** The programme aims to reach 14,780 children.
- **School furniture was provided** to 5 schools in Gaza, including 2,745 tables and 4,900 chairs for students and teachers, 24 cupboards and 195 chairs for science and computer labs.
- **UNICEF with the support of NGO partners, has reached at least 85,357 children, mostly adolescents (51% females) through recreational, life skills, and stress relief activities** to help them build their resilience and cope with the recurrent crises. The activities were conducted in 124 government schools, 22 community-based **organizations**, 17 kindergartens and 19 government shelters located in different Gaza districts. During the reporting period, 3,719 children participated in recreational activities.
- Since early December, 15,658 adolescents have been provided with continuous non-cognitive skills development training including creative and critical thinking, communication, problem solving, and team work. This was achieved with the support of UNICEF's partners, TAMER, MAAN, Al Nayzak, Save Youth Future Society and Injaz. **The skills development program enables adolescents to conduct initiatives in their communities and act as agents of positive change and has reached so far 16,607 youths.**
- The second phase of training organized by MOEHE and UNICEF on non-violence in school, classroom management and interactive learning has started. The first phase of the training, which started on 12 November, targeted 64 supervisors and headmasters from the seven directorates in Gaza. The 20 hour training has been carried out by senior MOEHE officers at three training centres of East and West Gaza and Khan Younis Directorates. During the second phase, the training has reached 1,600 teachers from all the 395 governmental schools in the seven Directorates of the Gaza Strip

Jamallah, his wife Eman and two sons hold the e-voucher they have been given to purchase school uniforms. The family lost their home during this summer's war and struggles to pay the rent of the temporary home they share with another family.

The UNICEF-WFP joint emergency e-voucher assistance is providing 300,000 vulnerable people in #Gaza with hygiene items, school uniforms, warm clothes, shoes and food. Nearly 4,000 children have already redeemed their school uniforms.



Child Protection

- UNICEF and the Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution (PCDCR) reached **5,041 Children with psychosocial support** during the reporting period. **In total is 24,534 (12,060 girls and 12,474 boys) have received psychosocial support since 15 September.**
- 23 Family Centres provide core child protection services, psychosocial assessment, ERW risk education and outreach to vulnerable children and families. As of 17 December, the centers have provided child protection services to 990 children in addition, 834 caregivers and 212 children received counselling.
- The recently established monitoring document for the Mental Health Psychosocial Working Group tracking psycho-social interventions shows that **54 implementing partners have reached 737,386 children with**

Psychological First Aid and 67,960 children have been reached through structured group and individual counselling activities since the commencement of the hostilities in July. (There is likely to be significant double counting of interventions due to an overlap of data in the CPWG tracking system and this one, which will be resolved over the coming weeks).

- In addition, 47,626 adults received Psychological First Aid and 4,151 adults were reached with structured group and individual counselling activities.
- The UNICEF-led Child Protection Working Group has documented programme implementation by **57 partners reaching 308,483 children with awareness raising, capacity building, case management, and open days**, as at 26 November 2014. (These numbers are smaller than previously reported as psychosocial interventions have been moved under the recently established data tracking system for psychosocial interventions).
- In the past two weeks the UNICEF-led CPWG focused on strengthening the child protection emergency response capacity. On 9 December 2014, a workshop on the foundations of child protection was conducted for 15 child protection officers from three partner organizations. A pilot roll out of the new package of case management forms has commenced. On 16 December 2014, the CPWG and the GBV sub-working-group in Gaza have undertaken a joint initiative to strengthen case management, referrals and coordination between the two sectors.
- The UNICEF-led Working Group on Grave Violations against Children reviewed the Ministry of Health list of injuries for quality control purposes. The updated number of **children injured from 8 July to 26 August is 2,956 (1,938 boys and 1,018 girls)**. This data was included in the submission to the UN Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict.
- The UNICEF Children and Armed Conflict Database officer provided technical support to EAPPI on information management to establish a data collection and management system to analyze and sharing data concerning violations documented by EAPPI field workers as part of an OCHA-ERF-funded project.
- From 10 to 14 December 2014, the UNICEF-led MHPSS conducted a four day training course for 26 social workers and life skills facilitators of CP partners' organizations (Ma'an and Tamer) on psychological first aid, case detection and referral. The training was implemented by UNICEF partner Gaza Community Mental Health Program (GCMHP).
- During the hostilities in the Gaza Strip, radio spots were broadcasted on popular radio stations to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war (ERWs) reaching up to 1 million people. **Since the beginning of 2014, 95,004 children were reached through ERW risk awareness education** in schools. InterNews also broadcasted the ERW radio spots on Sunday 7 December, reaching over 550,000 with ERW awareness raising messages for children and caregivers.



Stress relief and recreational activities are conducted in schools as part of the Back to School programme to help them build their resilience and cope with the recurrent crisis

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- The latest order of **spare parts for water and sewage networks as well as generator consumables is being utilized** to help around 400,000 people, to have access to water for domestic purposes for an increased number of hours. The beneficiaries are mainly in Khan Younis, Rafah and Middle area.
- 7,000 students benefited from 7,000 bottles of anti-lice shampoos which were distributed to 135 basic schools in Gaza.
- UNICEF is currently supporting CMWU to rehabilitate/ repair water networks to help around 15,000 people in Shuka, Fuhari and Dier Albalah to have access for more hours for domestic purposes.

- To support Shuka and Fukhari communities, UNICEF will install two mobile desalination units each 50 cubic meter per a day to help around 10,000 people in these marginalized areas have access to safe drinking water.
- UNICEF e-voucher programme for the hygiene items continues in cooperation with WFP and Oxfam to support new 5,000 families who could be exposed to the risk of winter flooding.
- As a preparedness for winterization, service contracts for renting heavy machinery have been put in place through CMWU, as well as supply of different mobile wastewater and suction pumps to mitigate the risk of flooding.
- UNICEF is hiring a senior consultant to assist CMWU technically in strategic reconstruction decisions, and to advise on capacity building program, as well as to advise CMWU in coordinating the water/wastewater response task force, other Municipalities, Palestinian Water Authority, donors, and other major sector stakeholders.



Al-Bureij refugee camp: students filling up their water bottles from a safe drinking water filling point installed by UNICEF.

Child Health & Nutrition

- **During the reporting period, breastfeeding awareness-raising sessions were conducted for 2,692 mothers by UNICEF-supported MoH Community Health Workers (CHWs).** In total 16,127 mothers in shelters and with host families have benefitted to date.
- **UNICEF is supporting the MoH CHWs to conduct outreach activities in collective shelters.** In the past two weeks, 2,086 women and 90 children participated in awareness sessions on communicable diseases in collective shelters and with host families. To date 1,710 men, 17,253 women and 3,791 children have participated in the sessions.
- **The MoH and Near East Council of Churches (NECC) provided 407 women with Post Natal care through home visits in the past two weeks.** In total 3,636 women with high risk pregnancies have benefitted from home visits in the conflict affected areas of Shujayeh and Rafah.



Baby weighing as part of the post-natal home visit programme.

- UNICEF delivered to Ministry of Health (MoH) 6.107 tons of drugs and 12.977 tons of syringes and sutures. In total 132 tons of drugs and medical supplies were delivered to MoH since the onset of the crisis, and 166,000 children have benefitted from essential drugs.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

- UNICEF, as part of the UN Country Team, coordinates with the Government of National Consensus to support its role in humanitarian response, early recovery and reconstruction.
- UNICEF is co-leading a new Nutrition Sub Group together with Ministry of Health (MoH) in both West Bank and in Gaza.
- In cooperation with the Government and other UN partners, UNICEF has participated extensively in an on-going Palestinian Detailed Needs Assessment and will continue to support the development of the recovery framework and strategy.
- 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) (Children and armed conflict reporting mechanism). These groups have been merged to maximise coordination of child protection responses during the emergency. UNICEF also leads the UN Theme Group on Social Protection.
- 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. UNICEF also leads the UN Theme Group on Social Protection.

Funding

Funding requirements (as defined in revised humanitarian Gaza Crisis appeal)				
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds received*	Funding gap	
			\$	%
Education	17,313,401	2,249,478	15,063,923	87%
WASH	11,876,216	3,995,123	7,881,093	66%
Child Protection	5,093,875	2,227,321	2,866,554	56%
Health & Nutrition	4,729,536	1,563,793	3,165,743	67%
Cluster Coordination	865,269	99,238	766,031	89%
Total (USD)	39,878,297	10,134,952	29,743,345	75%

Note 1: Total cash on hand is **\$15,084,506** of which **\$10,134,952** is funding received against the appeal for this year, and **\$4,949,554** is budget carried forward from prior years and reallocated to the SoP office.

Note 2: The table does not include the EPF loan of \$4 million.

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