



# State of Palestine

## Humanitarian Situation Report

unicef 

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**31 July 2014**

**225,500 children displaced**

445,000 total displaced  
(OCHA estimate, 31 July 2014)

**249 children killed**

(Protection Cluster, 30 July 2014)

**1,949 children injured**

Palestinian Health Ministry, 31 July 2014)

**1,364 total deaths**

(Palestinian Health Ministry, 31 July 2014)

## Highlights

- 16 people, including 4 children were killed on 30 July when an UNRWA school was shelled - the sixth incident in which an UNRWA collective shelter was hit.
- An estimated 445,000 people are displaced with 245,000 seeking refuge in UNRWA schools and other public buildings. 127,500 are estimated to be children.
- Humanitarian access remains almost impossible in many areas due to on-going fighting. There is little or no trust in humanitarian pauses after 17 people were killed when a crowded market was targeted during a pause.
- Gaza's power plant has been destroyed after shelling on 29 July. The reduction in electricity supply is having an immediate impact on the public health situation, water and sanitation services.

## Situation Overview

- **On Day 23 of the Gaza emergency**, the Palestinian death toll has exceeded 1,360 and over 25% of the Gaza population is thought to be displaced. 245,000 IDPs are seeking refuge in 86 UNRWA collective shelters (mainly schools) and other public buildings (including schools); 200,000 are thought to be sheltering with neighbours and family.
- The WASH and health situation is dire. Water and sanitation services in Gaza cannot function without power and Gaza's only power plant was shelled on 29 July. WASH services are currently operating at 20% capacity. The lack of water for both drinking and personal hygiene will result in widespread outbreaks of diarrhea if services do not resume.
- Collective shelters are particularly at risk with up to 5000 people living in very close quarters. An average of 2,400 IDPs are taking refuge in each of the UNRWA schools, which normally have the capacity to accommodate only 500 people. These locations are a hotbed for the spread of disease.
- Attacks against UNRWA schools hosting thousands of IDPs, hospitals and crowded public markets continue. There is a growing feeling among the population that nowhere in Gaza is immune from attack.
- Of particular concern is the alarming number of incidents since the onset of the emergency in which multiple members of the same family have been killed. Up until the 29 July, at least 68 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 360 fatalities; 140 men, 73 women and 147 children. On 20 July, 25 members of a family were killed in a single airstrike on their home; 18 of those killed were children, aged 4 months to 14 years.
- In the West Bank and East Jerusalem, protests and clashes have intensified with almost daily demonstrations and clashes between youths and police.

### Humanitarian Priorities

- Protection of civilians must be ensured. Civilian infrastructure must be protected. IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack must be respected.
- Humanitarian space and access must improve for vital life-saving humanitarian interventions particularly medical evacuation, health, urgent WASH repairs and water provision.
- The humanitarian response needs to scale up to meet the needs of the population, 25% of which are displaced with urgent needs.

## Summary Analysis of Programme response

UNICEF's emergency response in Gaza is focusing on supporting conflict-affected populations inside collective shelters and in host communities. In East Jerusalem and the West Bank, UNICEF's support will expand with a focus on families affected by recent violence and hostilities with hospital visits to patients arriving from Gaza and psychosocial support.

### WASH

- In partnership with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, UNICEF distributed 1500 adult **hygiene kits**, 1000 baby hygiene kits and 470 **jerry cans**. Procurement of additional supplies is focusing on 42 non-UNRWA collective shelters.
- UNICEF is facilitating the work of the Coastal Municipal Water Utility (CMWU) with office space, coordination, repairs to water tankers and \$100,000 for **critical repairs to infrastructure** across Gaza. Limited repairs could be carried out due to on-going fighting and lack of humanitarian access; six municipal workers were killed while on duty.
- Three UNICEF **communal water points** (bladders) have been installed and 10 more are awaiting approval by Israeli authorities.
- **Vouchers for water, hygiene products** and food were distributed to 2,300 vulnerable families whose homes have been destroyed through a joint WFP-UNICEF programme, building on WFP's existing food voucher system. The aim is to support up to 10,000 families, based on availability of funds.



### Health & Nutrition

- UNICEF provided **essential vaccines** (Penta, IPV and MMR), to Gaza. PCV was delayed by Palestinian Regulatory Authority and advocacy is underway to expedite the clearance process.
- **Essential drugs** for children and medical consumables will arrive in the coming days.
- Coordination with and technical advice to UNRWA and WFP on provision of **fortified biscuits** to displaced children aged 6 months to 2 years is on-going in collective shelters.
- Efforts are underway with WHO, MOH and UNRWA to promote **awareness raising on breastfeeding** and need to minimize risks of communicable diseases.

### Child Protection

- **Psychosocial teams** working across the Gaza Strip have provided psychosocial support to 1,533 children.
- **Awareness raising about UXOs** has been airing on radio stations daily to alert children and their families on the dangers posed by UXOs; up to 1 million people in Gaza are being reached on a regular basis.
- Since 20 July, **mass communication** on child protection and psychosocial wellbeing has reached 140,000 families in Gaza. Messages include actions that parents can take to reduce the vulnerability of children to death and injury, to reduce distress and to prevent and respond to child abuse. There is also a free phone number to call for advice and support. Since 13 July, the Sawa Child Protection Helpline has been operating 24/7 and has answered 968 calls from people living in the most affected areas in Gaza, including 375 from children.
- 4,000 **blankets** have been distributed to collective shelters, soon to be followed by **clothing** for girls, boys and women.

### Education & Adolescents

- **Psychosocial activities** in six communal shelters are underway with 1,447 children and adolescents having participated as of 30 July. The distribution of Early Childhood Development Kits and 'School in a Box' for use by facilitators in public school shelters as part of specialized psychosocial support and Education is set to begin on 28 July. The formation of child/adolescent friendly areas in shelters is also in process.

## Humanitarian leadership and coordination

Emergency Operations Centres (EOC) have been established in Gaza and Ramallah. The Gaza EOC meets daily to focus on the IDP response including monitoring visits to collective shelter and conflict affected communities. The EOC also acts as an advocacy platform to raise challenges related to humanitarian access. The EOC Secretariat in Ramallah supports Gaza to provide a coordinated approach to appeals by different Ministries. UNICEF leads the Child Protection Sub-Cluster and affiliated working groups for psychosocial and mental health (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 chair the WASH cluster and co-chair the Education cluster with Save the Children.

## Security

The security situation in Gaza remains critical. Humanitarian access is extremely limited due to on-going airstrikes, shelling and missile fire from Israel. Movement of personnel is extremely limited which means that life-saving services and maintenance to essential infrastructure cannot be provided. 44% of Gaza is currently a no go military operations zone. Some people continue to live there, and much of the essential infrastructure in need of urgent repair (wells and pumping stations) are rendered inaccessible. In the past 24 hours, Israeli Air Forces (IAF) conducted 98 raids and fired 135 missiles. 57 houses were bombarded by Israeli Air and Defence forces on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the operation. IDF positioned at the border fired approximately 1205 tank shells at targets. In total, 85 Palestinians were killed and 359 injured. The intensity of the fighting continues and

## Funding

Funding requirements (as defined in the humanitarian appeal being revised on 31 July for a period of 5 months.

Appeal Sector	Requirements (\$)
Health & Nutrition	3,000,856
WASH	3,421,826
Education	3,949,788
Child Protection	2,253,584
Cluster Coordination	1,090,044
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,716,098</b>

Pledged funds (USD)	
Donor	Funds Committed
UK NatCom	100,000
DFID (RO)	722,765*
Japan NatCom	700,000
Private Qatari donor	50,000
Govt. of Japan	1,000,000
Spain	330,000
ERF	250,000
French NatCom	400,000
HQ Children in Armed Conflict	90,000
Iceland	50,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,692,765</b>

\* Funds already received

EPF loan received from HQ and allocations	
Sector	Allocations (\$)
Health & Nutrition	300,000
WASH	620,000
Education	300,000
Child Protection	400,000
Cluster Coordination	380,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,000,000</b>

**Next SitRep: 4 August 2014**  
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