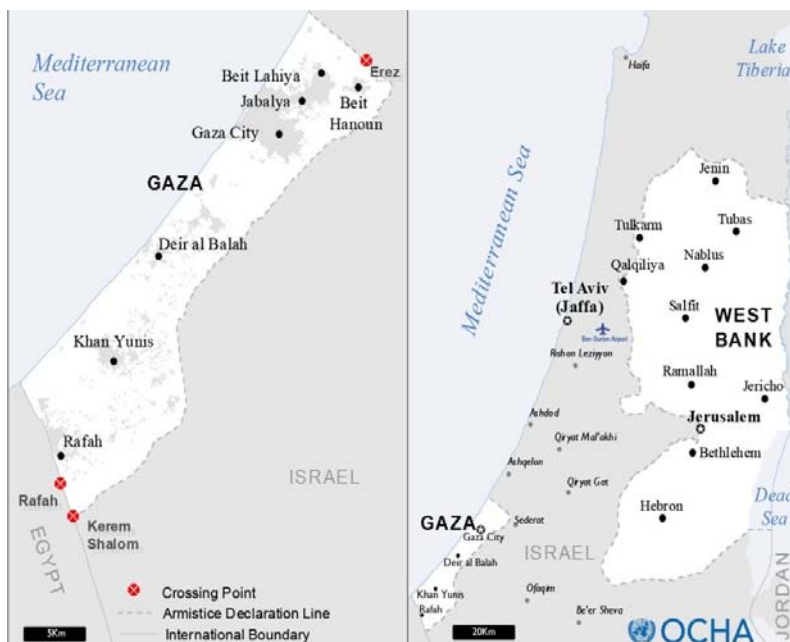




This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 10 July (1500 hrs) to 11 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 12 July.

Highlights

- 114 Palestinians have been killed since the beginning of the Gaza emergency, of whom 88 (77%) are civilians.
- Some Israeli attacks have raised concerns about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects, including the destruction of homes of alleged members of armed groups.
- Indiscriminate rocket firing by armed groups from Gaza has targeted main Israeli population centres, and resulted in at least three civilian injuries.
- Fears of an imminent Israeli ground operation in Gaza have been on the rise; some 300,000 people in areas close to the border have been warned to leave their homes.
- Water and sewage infrastructure in eight locations have sustained damage so far, affecting more than 350,000 people.



114

Palestinians killed, including at least 88 civilians

680

Palestinians injured, of whom two thirds are children and women

512

Homes destroyed or severely damaged in Gaza

3,250

Palestinians displaced

350,000

People affected by damage to water infrastructure

Situation Overview

The emergency in Gaza entered its fourth day. The past 24 hours have been characterized by an escalation in Israeli aerial and navy bombardments throughout the Gaza Strip, alongside an intensification of Palestinian rocket firing into Israel. Fears of an imminent ground operation in Gaza have been on the rise, as multiple communities in peripheral areas of the north, centre and south of the territory were contacted yesterday over the phone in recorded messages by the Israeli army, warning residents to evacuate their houses and move to nearby urban areas. While these calls have not so far triggered noticeable displacement, some 300,000 people could be affected.

Since the start of the military operation on 7 July, the Israeli military has carried out over 700 air raids, fired more than 1,100 missiles and 100 tank shells, and conducted some 330 naval shellings. These have resulted in the killing of 114 Palestinians, of whom more than two thirds (88 people) are civilians, including 30 children and 17 women, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. Additionally, 680 Palestinians were injured, nearly two thirds of whom are children (221) and women (225), according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH).

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

Some of the attacks have raised concerns about the targeting of civilians and civilian objects, in violation of the principle of distinction under International Humanitarian Law (IHL). One such concern is related to the destruction of the homes of alleged members of armed groups: estimates by Palestinian human rights organizations range from 75 to 83 homes destroyed in these circumstances. 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.

It is estimated that since the start of the operation a total of 282 homes have been totally destroyed and another 260 were severely damaged by Israeli attacks, according to the Shelter Cluster. This has resulted in the displacement of 3,250 people, who are hosted by relatives and neighbors. Another 360 people living in areas heavily targeted have sought shelter in various schools across Gaza.

In another incident of concern today (11 July), at around midday, an Israeli warplane targeted a vehicle belonging to Al Bureij municipality, while it was on duty, killing two employees and injuring three bystanders, including a 9 year old child, who died several hours later of the wounds sustained. On the night of 10 July, Al-Wafa hospital in eastern Gaza city was hit directly during an Israeli attack, causing damage to the staircase.

Palestinian rocket firing at Israel during the past 24 hours has been the heaviest since the start of the escalation. Some 340 rockets targeted multiple localities across Israel, including the main population centers, such as Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and, for the first time, Haifa, in northern Israel. While most rockets were intercepted or landed in open areas, a few hit homes, cars and a fuel tanker near a gas station in the city of Ashdod. The latter attack resulted in the injury of three civilians. Since 7 July, Palestinian armed groups reportedly fired approximately 1,150 rockets and 80 mortars towards Israel.

The streets of Gaza remain mostly empty and almost all shops are closed, as well as most government institutions, except for medical facilities. While primary health care facilities remain open, the number of consultations has dropped as people remain fearful to leave their homes. Hospitals are providing only emergency services, while shortage of medical supplies and electricity continue.

The Erez passengers crossing and the Kerem Shalom commercial crossing continued functioning partially, as has been the case in previous days. The Rafah border crossing with Egypt was exceptionally opened yesterday and today to allow the evacuation of a limited number of wounded Palestinians. Access to the sea is prohibited and all fishing activity has stopped: 3,600 fishermen are currently unable to maintain their livelihoods. Farming areas have been targeted and destruction of agricultural livelihood has been reported.

Humanitarian needs and response



Needs

- Emergency psychosocial teams have assessed thus far that 1,500 children are directly impacted by the killing and injuring of relatives and the destruction of their homes and require specialised support services.
- Unexploded ordinances and explosive remnants of war present a major hazard to the population, and particularly to children, especially when they leave their place of shelter to search for their belongings among the rubble of their destroyed houses. The United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has identified six unexploded ordinances (UXOs).

30

Palestinian children
killed since the start of
hostilities

Response

- On 10 July, emergency psychosocial teams conducted 42 visits to injured children in 6 hospitals and 20 houses that were shelled. Since the start of the crisis, psychosocial teams have reached 133 children.
- The Office for the High Commissioner of Human Rights (OHCHR) and partners continue to crosscheck and consolidate information about civilian casualties.

Gaps and constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede the movement of child protection staff and emergency psychosocial teams.
- Emergency psychosocial teams are working at half capacity with only part time counsellors, due to funding constraints.



Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

Needs

- 542 displaced families (3,250 individuals), whose homes were totally destroyed or severely damaged, are in need of emergency NFI kits, including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kit, kitchen sets etc.
- In the medium term, they will also require cash assistance to cover rental fees and furnishing of new accommodation, currently estimated at US\$ 2.7 million.
- About 1,000 families (6,000 individuals), whose homes sustained damage but are still habitable require basic NFIs, such as plastic sheets and tarpaulin.

3,250
People
in need of NFI

Response

- Approximately 360 people in highly affected areas have taken shelter at various schools, including 180 who spent the night at UNRWA schools in Gaza City and Khan Younis.
- UNRWA is prepared to shelter up to 50,000 displaced individuals in its schools in the case of a ground operation.
- The Shelter cluster continues to collect, verify and consolidate information on the destruction and damage of homes from key actors, based on field visits and estimations.

Gaps and constraints

- Movement restrictions caused by ongoing military operations are the main constraints for the delivery of the most urgent shelter/NFI items.
- UNRWA only holds NFI stocks for fewer than 35,000 people, out of 50,000 who could potentially seek shelter in its schools.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs

- Water supply to at least 800 people was cut due to additional damage to pipelines in Jabalya, during airstrikes.
- Rafah Municipality has requested support for maintaining eight mobile water tankers to be used in the event of service interruptions.

US\$ 1.5 m
Of damage to WASH
infrastructure

Response

- The Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) and individual municipalities have begun to assess damage and carry out limited repairs to infrastructure damaged since the start of the operation.
- The Municipality of Gaza in coordination with CMWU has started repairing damages to the main water line supplying the Beach Refugee Camp, with protective escort by the ICRC.
- UNRWA will be providing fuel for critical WASH facilities intended to cover needs until the end of the year. First delivery expected to start tomorrow should the security situation allow.
- The first consignment of emergency chlorine through ERF funding has been delivered to CMWU.

Gaps and constraints

- Emergency repairs to the main water supply line in Beach Camp are undermined by a shortage of spare parts, coupled with movement risks due to ongoing military operations.
- The security situation is impeding assessment and repair of damage and the movement of drinking water vendors.



Education

Needs

- 19 government schools and 15 UNRWA schools located in close proximity to targeted sites have sustained damage since the beginning of the escalation and require repairs.
- An agriculture training school is unreachable, and the animals housed at the school are in dire need of food and water.

Response

- Cluster members have been unable to respond due to the ongoing hostilities.

Gaps & Constraints

- Lack of access to affected schools to assess damage.
- No information available on schools located in the Access Restricted Area.

34

Schools damaged
by shelling


Food Assistance

Needs

Nothing to report

Response

- 270 displaced families are receiving WFP emergency vouchers delivered in partnership with Oxfam GB.
- A total of 1,820 people displaced people have been reached with food assistance.
- More than 200 people injured and hospitalized have received food assistance for the second consecutive day; MoH has requested WFP to assist around 3,100 additional inpatients and hospital staff.
- Regular food distributions continue; there are a total of 830,000 refugees dependent on UNRWA for food assistance, along 177,000 non-refugees with WFP's caseload.

Gaps and constraints

- Due to the security situation, monitoring activities have been constrained especially those requiring access to open agricultural land in order to assess damages.

2,000

People received
special food
assistance

General Coordination

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) met today (11 July) in Jerusalem, in video conference with its Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in Gaza, to exchange information and assessments about the current situation and the emerging needs. Subsequently, HCT members briefed key donors and highlighted the most urgent funding needs. Yesterday (10 July), OCHA met with representatives of the Palestinian Red Crescent (PRCS), and discussed gaps in the ongoing emergency operations as well as modalities for strengthening coordination. As of today (11 July), the Palestinian Ministry of Health launched an operations room in Ramallah jointly managed with its branch in Gaza, to coordinate health related responses, including request and management of medical donations. The operations room will publish daily reports and act as the hub for communications, including with donors.

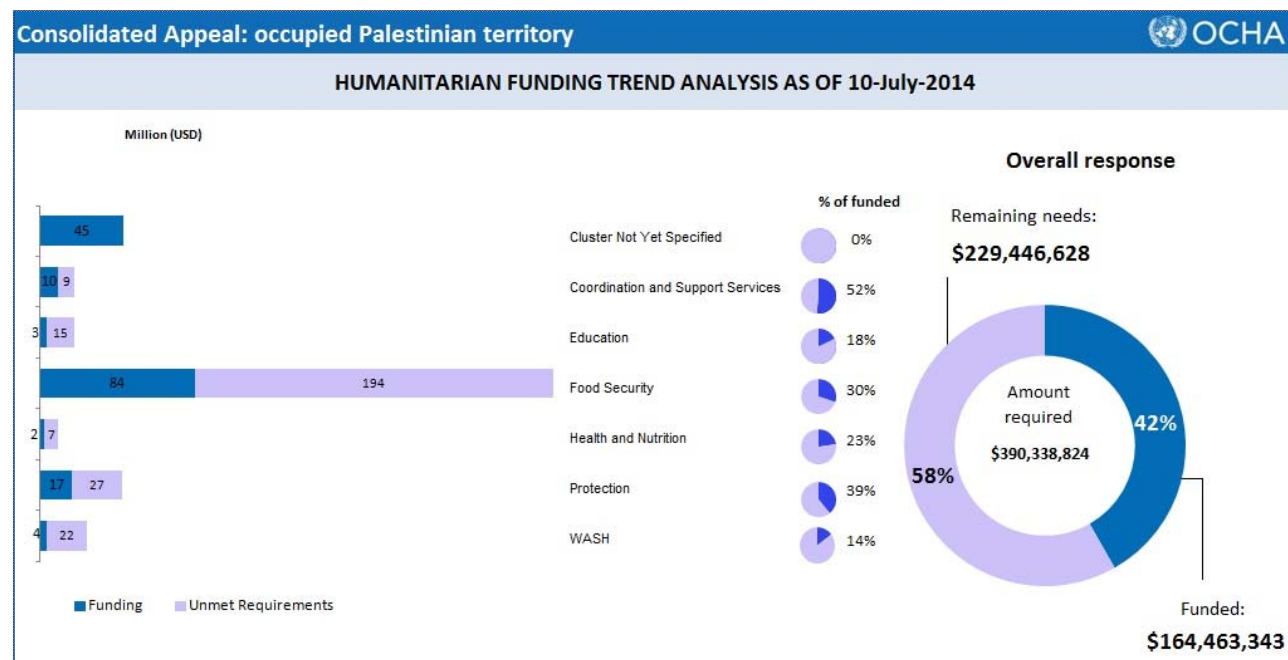
Funding

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 early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and Palestinian 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 an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

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