



Situation Report #1 on the situation in Ein El Hilweh, Lebanon

2 August 2023, 19:00 hrs

Ein El Hilweh camp information

- UNRWA provides services to 55,000 registered Palestine Refugees in Ein El Hilweh camp.
- Eight UNRWA schools serve around 6,079 students
- Two UNRWA health centres provide primary health care including reproductive health, infant and child care, immunizations, screening and medical check-ups and treatment

Overview

On the 30th of July armed conflict between Palestinian militants erupted in the Ein El Hilweh Camp. According to reports, 12 people, including 1 civilian, have been killed, over 50 have been injured and several hundreds of people were forced to flee their homes. Commercial and private life in the adjacent Saida city came to a standstill as shelling and artillery fire spilled outside the camp boundaries. UNRWA opened two of its schools in Saida to temporarily host the displaced from the camp without any place to go. Many of these are Palestine refugees from Syria, Syrian refugees, Lebanese and stateless persons without places to stay. As of the 2nd of August, 570 individuals have sought temporary shelter in the UNRWA Nablus (74 families) and Askalan (53 families) schools, including 322 children, 17 persons with disability and 27 older persons. Displaced individuals arrived at the collective shelters on the day the armed conflict started as their houses were located in areas where fighting was taking place or due to fear for their safety and security. As these school buildings were not constructed with the intention of hosting displaced, additional infrastructure upgrades were rapidly undertaken (lighting, sanitary facilities, privacy). Many partners have arrived to support with food and non-food relief items. Mosques in Saida have also served as temporary shelters. The only hospital operating in the camp was supplied by partners with medical supplies and UNRWA secured its fuel supply during a period of calm. This hospital has benefitted from earlier investments during the Covid pandemic and was able to cater for many of the wounded, as did the hospital of the Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) located outside the camp.

While a comprehensive damage assessment of destroyed infrastructure inside the camp has yet to be conducted, there is anecdotal and video evidence that infrastructure has been severely damaged within the camp and in the adjacent areas. A large UNRWA school complex for 3,200 children located in between the conflicting parties' quarters was used for the fighting.

The ceasefire struck in the evening of 1 August seems to provide reason for cautious optimism that it will hold after three failed attempts. However, there remain significant risks of injury and death due to Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) from the fighting in the camp. UNRWA is coordinating with LEBMAC, the Lebanese Mine Action Centre to obtain permits from the Lebanese Armed Forces for entry to the camp by partners who may support the clearance of the camp. LEBMAC will also train UNRWA staff and possibly partners on the identification and response to Unexploded Ordnances (UXOs).

Humanitarian response

There has been a coordinated response between UNRWA and partners to ensure, as far as possible, the safety, security and wellbeing of those currently residing in the temporary shelters at UNRWA schools

- **Al Maaoun** have provided daily ready meals
- **Al Mouwassat** have provided 100 hygiene kits and essential clothing for children
- **Al Riya (Islamic relief)** have provided daily ready meals and 50 mattresses
- **Lebanese Food Bank** have provided 792 bottles of water and 132 blankets
- **Nabaa** have provided daily ready meals and activities for children
- **NRC** have provided 160 hygiene kits, 230 mattresses, 50 bottles of lice shampoo and 50 women's kits (including sanitary provision)
- **Premiere Urgence** have provided portable lights
- **UNRWA** is working on ensuring there is sufficient lighting at night in the classrooms, bathrooms, corridors and outside areas of the schools where people are sheltering and will be coordinating with NRC on procurement.
- **UNRWA** social workers and school counsellors have been distributed among the centers to provide Psycho-social support for displaced families.
- **Vision Engineering** have provided daily ready meals
- **49** displaced patients have been treated in **Mia Mia health UNRWA clinic, 90** in **UNRWA Saida polyclinic** and **12** in **Iqlim El kharroub UNRWA health center**

Needs

- Conducting retrofitting building works: maintenance of electrical fixtures, installing ceiling fans, creating partitioned areas, conducting maintenance works for doors and windows, installation/maintenance of PV lightings, installation of plastic curtains under zinc shed as preparedness measure for accommodation of additional families, replacement of damaged light bulbs.
- Provision of basic NFIs: garbage bins, clothing, bedding material and basic hygiene items.
- Provision of fuel and maintenance for generators: 20,000 liters of gas oil are immediately needed to operate the electric generators in the schools.
- Tetaglobulin and blood bags in Hamshary and Al Nidaa' hospitals
- In case the situation deteriorates, there may be further need for food assistance in the temporary shelters after 10 days
- Potential need for additional supply of bottled water in temporary shelters if situation deteriorates
- Provision of one-off, emergency cash assistance aimed to support families' recovery process, including rehabilitation works to their houses partially or entirely damaged by the fighting, as they return to the camp.
- Rubble removal in UNRWA installations, facilities and key roads
- Identification and mitigation of risks posed by unexploded ordinance (UXO), in cooperation with technical experts in the field



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