

UNRWA Situation Report #39 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Information is valid as of 25 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 49 of Hostilities

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UNRWA distributes flour to displaced Palestinian families, 21 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- A humanitarian pause entered into force in the morning of 24 November and has held on 25 November.
- On 25 November, UNRWA received 187 trucks of humanitarian aid at its reception point in Gaza.
- For the second consecutive day, 129,000 litres of fuel entered Gaza from Egypt. UNRWA distributed fuel to support food distribution, the operations of generators at hospitals, water and sanitation facilities, shelters and other critical services south of Wadi Gaza.
- As of 25 November, Israeli Authorities have not allowed fuel to reach the areas north of Wadi Gaza.
- Over 1.7 million people (or nearly 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 24 November, more than 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltering in 156
 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the north.
- Nearly 927,000 IDPs were sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

 Nearly 160,000 IDPs were sheltering in 57 UNRWA schools in the north and Gaza areas as of 12 October 2023, before evacuation orders were issued by Israeli Authorities. UNRWA is not able to access these shelters to assist or protect IDPs and does not have information on their needs and conditions.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- No new fatality figures have been issued in the past 48 hours. According to the Government Media
 Office (GMO), as of 18:00 on 23 November, over 14,800 people have been killed in the Gaza Strip
 since 7 October; 73 per cent of them are reportedly children and women.
- Overall, around 1,200 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to Israeli Authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

 According to OCHA, since 7 October, 215 Palestinians, including 55 children, have been killed by the ISF in the West Bank. In addition, eight people, including one child, have been killed by Israeli settlers.

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 25 November, 108 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.
- As of 25 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 99 incidents have occurred at 77 UNRWA installations since the beginning of the war.
- Among the installations impacted, 27 have sustained direct hits and 50 have sustained collateral damage.
- Since the beginning of the conflict, at least 218 internally displaced people sheltering in UNRWA schools have reportedly been killed and at least 894 have been injured.

4. UNRWA response

The Gaza Strip

UNRWA Shelters

- The number of displaced people continues to increase. On 25 November, at least 7,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in middle and southern areas.
- In total, more than 1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over half a million patients.
- On 25 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the Middle and Southern areas, recording **10,802 patient visits,** including Palestine Refugees and non-refugees.

- Midwives are providing care for post-natal and high-risk pregnant women at the nine operational
 health centres. There are an estimated 50,000 pregnant women in Gaza, with more than 180 giving
 birth every day. A total of 304 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health
 centres on 25 November. In addition, post-natal care continued to be provided in the shelters
 and as of 25 November, 1,068 cases have been attended to since the beginning of October.
- On 25 November, **1,205 children were vaccinated** at seven health centres according to the national vaccination programme, bringing the total number to 11,622 since 4 November.
- On the same day, emergency dental services (bleeding, swellings, trauma and extraction) were provided to **336 cases** at seven health centres.
- UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 125 medical teams on 25
 November. 282 health workers attended to a total of 10,531 patients. Each team is composed of
 one to two doctors and a nurse.
- Mental health and psychosocial support initiatives resumed in the Middle and Khan Younis areas
 (south) with a team of two psychiatrists and 16 counsellors and supervisors to assist special cases
 referred from health centres and shelters. On 25 November, the team responded to 776 cases
 through individual consultations, awareness sessions and support to gender-based violence
 cases.
- UNRWA received essential medicines through the humanitarian convoys coming via Egypt; however, there is still a shortage of both specialised and essential medicines, including for non-communicable diseases.
- Since 14 October, an UNRWA doctor has been working to provide medical services (which include outpatient services, non-communicable disease services and maternal services) at Jabalia health centres in the North area.

Psychosocial support (PSS)

- UNRWA teams, including 196 social workers in the shelters, provided psychosocial first aid and other specialized protection services to IDPs. Since 7 October, 64,356 people (over 60 per cent of whom are females) have been reached.
- 115 school counsellors and 154 assistant counsellors continue to provide psychosocial support. They
 have reached 250,565 IDPs in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and Southern governorates through
 individual consultations and awareness sessions since the beginning of the war.
- UNRWA organized recreational activities in its shelters reaching 222,482 children.
- Several NGOs, including Humanity Inclusion, Sharek, Tamer, Mind-Body, and the Red Crescent, are working with UNRWA staff to recreational activities in UNRWA shelters

Food security

- UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 25 November in the southern governorates. The Agency is currently reconciling the data for the distribution that took place on 25 November.
- Flour will continue to be prioritized for distribution in the North and in Gaza City as part of the humanitarian convoys reaching the North of Wadi Gaza during the ongoing humanitarian pause.

Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

- UNRWA continues to operate water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply. Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas also continue.
- Solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at tens of shelters.

Quote from Hussein Owda, UNRWA staff member in Gaza

"There is no space to grieve. Very few signs show we are alive. We breathe, but other than that we have lost all other signs of life."

ENDs -



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



sheltering in



1,080,000 IDPs*





At least 218 IDPs sheltering in UNRWA premises have been killed and 894 injured since 7 October.

On average, ~220 people sheltering in UNRWA schools share a single toilet.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

108 UNRWA colleagues killed





99 incidents

77 UNRWA installations damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



64,006 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.

205,025 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities.

UNRWA response - Health



17,975 IDPs in shelters received health care through 125 mobile medical points on 23-24 November.

9,116 patients received healthcare in nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres still operational in the Middle and South areas on 23 November.

304 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 23 November.

UNRWA response - Food security



15,234 families benefitted from flour distribution since 7 October.

Humanitarian access



137 trucks of humanitarian aid were received by UNRWA at its reception point in Gaza on 24 November.



197,000 litres of fuel were received by UNRWA on 23-24 November.

^{*} IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza City has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

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