



UNRWA Situation Report #41 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem

Information is valid as of 27 November 2023 at 22:30 (local time)

Day 51 of Hostilities

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Palestinians displaced from north Gaza toward the south, as ambulances head toward northern Gaza, 27 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

1. Key points

The Gaza Strip

- One UNRWA colleague who had been seriously injured due to strikes in Bureij refugee camp, in the Middle Area, has succumbed to his wounds. 109 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since 7 October.
- The humanitarian pause which entered into force on the morning of 24 November was maintained for a fourth consecutive day on 27 November. On the evening of 27 November, it was extended for another two days.
- On 27 November, several UNRWA and Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) aid trucks reached areas north of Wadi Gaza. The humanitarian assistance included medical supplies, ready-to-eat food, wheat flour, bottled water, tents and blankets, which were delivered to **four UNRWA shelters and three main UNRWA warehouses for subsequent distribution.**
- The aid also included small amounts of fuel delivered to water production facilities, to support their reactivation following the completion of repairs.

- Over the past three days, small amounts of cooking gas have entered Gaza for the first time since the start of the conflict. The amounts fall well short of the needs.
- **During the humanitarian pause, UNRWA was able to conduct assessments in several installations in Khan Younis area. According to** the assessments, six schools in east Khan Younis have been damaged either directly or collaterally due to strikes.
- 104 incidents impacting UNRWA premises have been reported since the beginning of the war.
- Around 1.8 million people (or over 80 per cent of the population) have been displaced across the Gaza Strip since 7 October.
- As of 27 November, nearly 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) were sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip, including in the North area.
- **Nearly 946,000 IDPs were sheltering in 99 facilities in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.**

The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- Israeli Security Forces (ISF) conducted a number of operations in refugee camps in the northern West Bank, resulting in the detention of six Palestinians. An exchange of fire took place during the search operation in Balata refugee camp.
- The ISF conducted six search and arrest operations in central West Bank areas, during which 15 Palestinians were reportedly detained. ISF reportedly opened fire during two of these search and arrest operations, in Jalazone refugee camp and Aqbat Jabr refugee camp.

2. Overall situation

The Gaza Strip

- 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, including** about 6,000 children and 4,000 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, 222 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.**



Palestinians moving within the Gaza Strip during the temporary humanitarian pause, 27 November 2023. © 2023 UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

The Gaza Strip

- As of 27 November, **109 UNRWA colleagues have been killed since the beginning of the war.**
- **As of 27 November, UNRWA was able to verify that 104 incidents have occurred at 82 UNRWA premises since the beginning of the war. Thirty (30) installations were directly hit and 52 sustained collateral damage. In addition, UNRWA has received reports of military use of its facilities on at least five occasions.**
- 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 27 November, at least 12,000 additional IDPs sought refuge in UNRWA shelters in the Middle and South areas.
- **In total, almost 1.1 million displaced people are now sheltering in 156 UNRWA installations.**
- **The average number of IDPs in UNRWA shelters is 9,558 which is more than four times their capacity.**

Health

- Since the beginning of the war, **UNRWA staff in Gaza have treated over 600,000 patients.**
- On average there are 10,700 medical consultations in UNRWA health centres per day.
- On 27 November, nine (out of 22) UNRWA health centres were still operational in the Middle and South areas, recording **9,385 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 427 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 27 November. In addition, post-natal care continued in the shelters, with 1,081 cases attended to since 7 October.**
- On 27 November, 869 **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 **351 cases** at seven health centres.
- **UNRWA continued to provide health care to IDPs at shelters through 126 medical teams on 27 November. 283 health workers attended to a total of 9,766 patients. Each team is composed of 1-2 doctors and a nurse.**

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, 71,636 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 254,551 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 303,364 children.
- Counselors have extended psychosocial support to 1,275 UNRWA colleagues, using different communication channels like phone calls, text messages and other available media. During the humanitarian pause, focal points are actively facilitating group support sessions for counselors.

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, 76,317 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 277,883 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 **352,934 children**.
- Counselors have extended **psychosocial support to 1,555 UNRWA colleagues**, using different communication channels like phone calls, text messages and other available media. During the humanitarian pause, focal points are actively facilitating group support sessions for counselors.

Food security

- **UNRWA distribution of flour outside of shelters continued on 27 November in the southern governorates. A total of 23,384 families have been reached so far.**
- Flour continued 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 eight water wells to provide potable and domestic water supply.** Potable water trucking operations to the shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis areas continue.
- Solid waste collection from the camps, emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas. About 50 loadings were transferred to temporary dumping sites on 27 November. UNRWA colleagues in Gaza have highlighted there is an urgent need for sanitation trucks and vehicles.
- UNRWA teams continued to handle maintenance works at dozens of shelters.

Funding

- UNRWA has updated its appeal for the emergency response in the occupied Palestinian territory. The Agency requires US\$ 481 million for the period October – 31 December 2023. So far, confirmed funding – comprising received funds and confirmed pledges – stand at US\$ 226.5 million, representing about half (or 47 per cent) of total requirements. Out of this, UNRWA has already received US\$ 138.5 million.

Quote from Thomas White, Director of UNRWA Affairs in Gaza

"We have got some very brave UNRWA staff members here, who have stayed in Jabalia, working for their community, keeping their health clinic open and servicing shelters."

ENDs –



UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

IDPs in UNRWA installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October



sheltering in

1,100,000
IDPs*



156
UNRWA
installations



The average number of IDPs in UNRWA shelters is 9,558, more than four times their capacity.

UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations



109 UNRWA colleagues killed



104
incidents



82
UNRWA installations
damaged

UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



76,317 people (60 per cent women) were provided with psychosocial support and social work services since 7 October.

352,934 children in shelters UNRWA participated in recreational activities.

UNRWA response – Health



9,766 IDPs in shelters received healthcare through 126 mobile medical points on 27 November.

10,700 medical consultations in UNRWA health centres on average per day.

427 post-natal and high-risk pregnancy cases were attended to at health centres on 27 November.

600,000+ patients treated by UNRWA staff since 7 October.

UNRWA response – Food assistance



23,284 families outside of shelters have received flour in southern governorates since 21 November.

Humanitarian access



Aid trucks with medical supplies, ready-to-eat food, flour, water, tents and blankets, were delivered to four UNRWA shelters and three main UNRWA warehouses on 27 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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