



PERSISTENT URGENT NEEDS DESPITE HUMANITARIAN PAUSE



Despite the implementation of a humanitarian pause started on Friday, 24 November, at 7 am, the dire situation in Gaza persists. Hunger and desperation remain prevalent, highlighting the insufficient relief efforts to date. The situation calls for more impactful assistance to meet these urgent needs. Every effort is vital in addressing this fragility and mitigating its drastic effects on the food security and livelihood of the Gazan people.

North Gaza - Gaza

- **315,377 people are displaced in the northern area;** approximately 51% of are taking refuge in UNRWA shelters, while the remaining 49% are in various public shelters. It is estimated that around 600,000 people remain in the North. Partners have reported a critical food shortage, with adults resorting to negative coping mechanisms such as skipping meals, highlighting the sacrifices made for their children's survival.
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- The destruction of residences and civil infrastructure significantly undermines the capacity to fulfil basic needs essential for sustaining life
- Lack of reliable information is hindering the effective assessment of food requirements. This information gap poses challenges in accurately targeting and reaching those in need.
- Partners reported difficulties in operating. Insufficient information on the security situation risks their safety in the delivery of food assistance. A comprehensive understanding of the environment is essential to ensure their protection.

Middle Area – Khan Younis - Rafah

- Around **1.5 million are displaced in the southern area.** Of those, nearly **63% are sheltering in 99 UNRWA facilities** in the Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.
- Lines at a fuel station in Khan Younis have purportedly stretched over 2 kilometres, with individuals waiting overnight. Concurrently, there are reports of people resorting to burning doors and window frames for cooking purposes
- **Bread has become a critical source of nutrition for many.** Fluctuating operations of bakeries pose a significant challenge, limiting access to this essential food. The inconsistency in services is a growing concern, as it hampers the ability of individuals and families to fulfil their basic dietary and caloric needs, raising the risk of malnutrition and affecting the population's overall health.
- Partners have highlighted difficulties in obtaining fresh vegetables, attributed to damages and limited availability of agricultural inputs. This scarcity is forcing a shift towards reliance on canned or processed food, which strains resources and reduces the nutritional diversity of the food available to the affected communities.

PARTNERS RESPONSE - ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- **UNRWA** distributed flour to 23,384 families in southern governorates. Flour continued to be prioritised 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
- **UN agencies** and the **Palestine Red Crescent Society** provided ready-to-eat food, including 7.6 metric tons of high-energy biscuits distributed by **WFP**, covering the minimal daily food intake for 23,616 people at UNRWA shelters in **Jabalia**.
- **WFP** reached 121,000 people in shelters and host communities with bread, food parcels, and e-vouchers since the humanitarian pause, totalling 759,082 people reached since the crisis began. On the first day of the pause in hostilities, around 90,000 IDPs in UN shelters received fresh bread sourced from the only currently operational WFP-run bakery operating on an ad-hoc basis. WFP is partnering with **Global Communities** to distribute food parcels to displaced in host communities. WFP also started distributing hot meals in coordination with local partners, reaching around 6,000 people over two days.
- **Secure Islamique France** distributed baskets to 3,000 individuals in Khan Younis, with 1,000 food parcels anticipated soon. They secured a 500,000 Euro fund, splitting it equally between UNRWA and local partners/NGOs.
- **Anera** continues to buy fresh meat and fish from poor farmers, cooking and distributing hot meals (meat and rice or fish and rice), targeting 460,000 people
- **PUI** distributed food baskets to 3000 individuals in Khan Younis and the Middle area for IDPs in public shelters and cancer patients in Al Salam Hospital and their families. 500 vegetable baskets were distributed with **PARC** to IDPs in host communities in Khan Younis and the Middle Area.
- **IHH** is distributing 5000 daily cooked meals and 500 daily bread bundles and plans to distribute RTEs for 30,000 families in UN and non-UN shelters in different locations.
- **ACTED** will distribute RTE rations to 600 households in blanket distribution in non-UN shelters by the end of this week. Within the next two months, they will distribute 4,008 RTE rations, support 350 households with E-vouchers once markets are operational, and distribute hot meals through a partner
- **Oxfam, in partnership with ESDC**, is distributing fresh vegetable parcels and food (the parcels include tomatoes, eggplant, and cucumbers, which could be changed according to the availability of vegetables).
- **UPA**, in partnership with **PARC**, continues distributing fresh vegetable baskets, targeting around 5,000 people.
- **PARC** will distribute 251 E-Vouchers through FSS's emergency response and 231 E-Vouchers.
- **Middle East Children's Alliance** targets host families in the Khan Younis area by providing food parcels to 20,000 people.



GAZA

Update #7

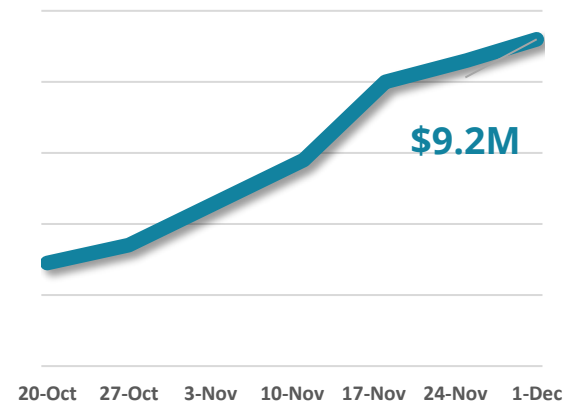
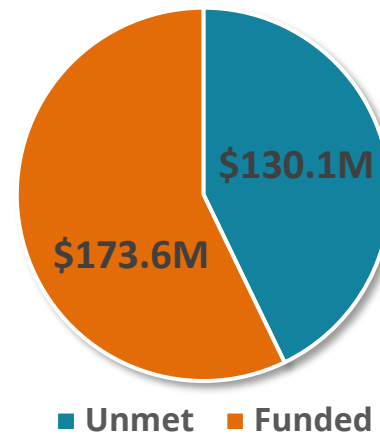
1 DECEMBER 2023

OPERATING PARTNERS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ACF | NRC |
| ACTED | OXFAM Novib |
| ANERA | PARC |
| Beit Lahia Development- | PUI |
| DCA | Save the Children |
| FAO | Secure Islamique France |
| Islamic Relief Palestine | Taawon |
| Middle East Children's Alliance | UNRWA |
| IHH | UPA |
| Mercy Corps | WFP |

FUNDING MOBILIZED

Through Flash Appeal Outside Flash Appeal



FOOD PRODUCTION OUTLOOK

- **Daily Agricultural Losses*:** approximately \$1.6 million in daily losses in agricultural production due to a cessation in activity. Total losses double when agricultural assets, property, and level areas are destroyed.
- **Total Agricultural Losses*:** Estimated overall agricultural losses may exceed \$180 million, resulting from destroying thousands of trees and bulldozing numerous agricultural areas and properties.
- **Impact on Vegetable Production:** Vegetable production, which constitutes 53% of total agricultural areas, faces significant disruption. North Gaza (34%) and Khan Yunis (30%) are the most affected regions*. The early potato season, starting during the second week of December, is crucial for the area and requires fertiliser to enhance productivity and mitigate deficits.
- **Disruption of Critical Inputs*:** Lack of water for irrigation and electricity supplies constitutes a critical issue for production, considering that those are fulfilling 27% of the total plant production requirements
- **Damaged Solar Panels (Khan Younis):** New reports indicate damaged solar panels used for agriculture in Khan Younis, exemplified by Atef al-Ibrahim's farm in al Sareej, occurring before the hudna (truce).
- **Poultry Sector Challenges:** critical shortage in poultry feed, impacting productivity. Local egg production has ceased, and dependence on imports from Israel is likely. The last batch of laying hens will be produced by December 6/12, leading to a shortage of broiler chickens
- **Small ruminants and Cattle sector under threat:** the sector is on the brink of collapse due to a severe fodder shortage, endangering the livelihoods of **all herders** and the **availability of essential protein sources for the Gazan population.**
- **Fishery Sector faces destruction.** Fish farms in the North are destroyed, and most fishermen are now displaced in Khan Younis. Fuel shortages plague farms between Khan Younis and Rafah, hampering operations. Boats, including those at Rafah port, face widespread destruction.
- **FAO has mobilized resources** to distribute fodder, aiming to safeguard 30,000 small ruminants owned by 2,000 herders. An initial delivery of 1,500 tons of barley is pending entry approval and logistical arrangements. This effort is vital for preserving herders' livelihoods, promoting protein-rich food production, and mitigating health risks linked to informal animal slaughtering.

MARKET OUTLOOK

- **Inflationary Pressures:** Reports indicate a surge in inflation attributed to a scarcity of essential items, particularly in the food sector.
- **Souring Prices of Poultry:** The price of chicken has sharply increased to 17 shekels per kg, greatly affecting its availability. Prices for turkey are even steeper, with turkey breast at 35 shekels per kilo and turkey hip at 25 shekels, reflecting significant economic strain on consumers.
- **Persistent High Prices for Staples:** Potato prices remain notably high at 8 shekels per kg, especially in challenging-to-reach areas like Beit Lahia and in regions affected by the ongoing conflict
- **Surging Vegetable Prices:** The cost of vegetables has escalated, with cucumbers at 6 shekels per kilo and tomatoes around 3 shekels per kilo. Cauliflower and cabbage, typically grown in the mud-laden areas east of the Strip, are facing decreased availability due to destruction and lack of irrigation.
- **Olive Press Operations** in Rafah: Olive presses in Rafah reportedly continue to operate. Farmers are required to supply their fuel, which costs 35 NIS per liter. This situation exemplifies the resilience and economic hurdles faced by agricultural producers in the region

* PCBS press release - 28 November 2023, available [here](#)

HUMANITARIAN AID OUTLOOK



Under normal circumstances since 7 October, approximately 16,200 trucks should have entered Gaza by now.



2,479 aid trucks have entered since 7 October



Food Trucks amount to less than 50% of those entered aiming to address the basic needs of its **2.2 million people**.

This underscores the importance of considering the humanitarian community's capacity to adeptly address the comprehensive requirements of the entire population, underscoring the revitalisation of the commercial sector and reinstating the resilience of the food value chain.

KEY MESSAGE:

Limited Food Assistance in the North:

- Very limited food assistance has reached people north of the Gaza Strip for the first time since 21 October.

Cooking Gas Shortages and Desperate Measures:

- Limited quantities of cooking gas were allowed, but additional quantities are needed.
- Anecdotal accounts suggest that people burn available items, including furniture and books, for cooking.

Fuel Constraints Impacting Humanitarian Operations:

- The capped amount of fuel allowed (approximately 60,000 litres daily) limits humanitarian partners' capacity to deliver aid.
- Each organisation requires fuel to operate its humanitarian activities, including running bakeries and milling wheat.

Insufficient Impact of Temporary Pause:

- A seven-day pause is deemed inadequate to have a meaningful impact.
- Humanitarian operations on the ground require uninterrupted and regular supplies of adequate food and essential commodities in Gaza.



UNRWA/Khalil Adwan



WFP/Amira Moussa



AP Photo/Hassan Eslaih



Photo/Anera