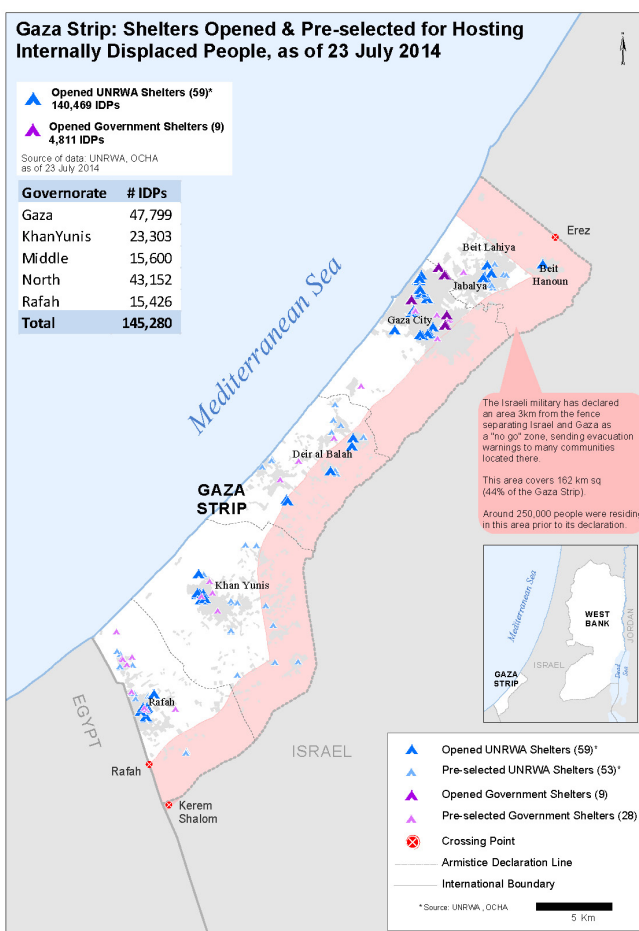




This report is produced by OCHA oPt in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It covers the period from 23 July (1500 hrs) to 24 July (1500 hrs). The next report will be issued on 25 July.

## Highlights

- An UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun sheltering IDPs was struck by several projectiles today. According to initial information, at least 16 Palestinians have been killed and 200 injured.
- These fatalities are in addition to 92 Palestinians, including 17 children and 8 women, reported to have been killed or their bodies recovered in the last 24 hours.
- Since 7 July, at least 42 Gaza families have had three or more members killed in the same incident for a total of 253 fatalities.
- Mass displacement continues: approximately 149,000 IDPs are now seeking shelter in 84 UNRWA schools and additional tens of thousands sheltering in Ministry of Education-run schools and with relatives and friends.
- Latest developments: The Gaza Power Plant was shelled for the third time tonight, causing shut-down of the plant.



789

Palestinians killed, including at least 578 civilians, of whom 185 are children and 93 are women<sup>1</sup>

37

Israelis killed, including two civilians and 35 soldiers.

42

Gaza families have lost at least three or more members in the same incident, totaling 253 fatalities.

149,000

Displaced hosted in 84 UNRWA schools

44%

Of Gaza within a three kilometer wide strip declared as a 'No-go zone'<sup>1</sup>

## Situation Overview

The Israeli ground offensive into Gaza continues for the seventh consecutive day, resulting in a continuing rise in civilian casualties, the widespread destruction of buildings and infrastructure and a steep rise in internally displaced persons (IDPs).

<sup>1</sup> These figures do not include many reported cases that could not yet be verified, including the Beit Hanoun school. Data on fatalities and destruction of property is consolidated by the Protection and Shelter clusters based on preliminary information, and is subject to change based on further verifications.

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

Hostilities have been most intense in the villages to the east of Khan Yunis, to the east of Gaza city, and in northern Gaza. A three kilometer-wide strip, encompassing 44 per cent of Gaza's territory has been declared a "no-go zone" by the Israeli military. The expanded "no-go zone" and unremitting hostilities are restricting the movement and security of civilians and the ability of humanitarian actors to carry out even the most basic life-saving activities, adding to the growing despair and frustration among Palestinians in Gaza.

#### *Hostilities and casualties*

Since the last situation update, 92 persons, many of whose status still needs to be verified, have reportedly been killed, including at least 17 children and eight women. This number includes some killed during the bombardment of ash Shuja'iyyeh on 19 and 20 July and of Khuza'a on 23 July, where bodies are still being retrieved. A proper count and evacuation of casualties has not yet taken place from Khuza'a, as ambulances have not been granted safe access to the area.

The cumulative fatality toll among Palestinians is at least 789 as of 14.00 today, according to preliminary data collected by the Protection Cluster from various sources. This includes at least 578 civilians (73 per cent of total fatalities), of whom 185 are children and 93 women; 119 members of armed groups; and 92 persons whose status is still unknown. According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health, 5118 Palestinians, including 1,516 children and 1,012 women, had been injured as of 08.00 a.m. on 24 July. Thousands of explosive remnants of war are scattered in civilian areas, causing a threat to children, especially boys who are usually the first victims of these devices.

At around 15.00 today, an UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun which served as a shelter for IDPs, was struck by several missiles. According to very initial information, at least 16 Palestinians have been killed and 150 injured. These casualties are not included in the above casualty figures.

Since the launch of the Israeli military operation, hundreds of homes have reportedly been directly targeted by Israeli airstrikes, and it is estimated that at least 615 residential properties (including multi-storey buildings) have been totally destroyed or severely damaged, causing hundreds of civilian casualties and displacing the survivors. To date, at least 42 families have lost three or more family members in the same incident, for a total of 253 fatalities, since the onset of the emergency. This represents an important loss of social fabric in Gaza.

At approximately 00:30 24 July, an Israeli airstrike hit a number of Palestinian civilians who were in a shed near their house close to Bani Suheila intersection, east of Khan Yunis. When a number of civilians attempted to offer help to the victims, further Israeli missiles struck the area. As a result, five members of the Al-Astal family were killed, including a boy, and two others wounded.

*"Civilian homes are not legitimate targets unless they are being used for, or contribute to, military purposes at the time in question... Even where a home is identified as being used for military purposes, any attack must be proportionate, offer a definite military advantage in the prevailing circumstances at the time, and precautions must be taken.... A number of incidents, along with the high number of civilian deaths, belies the claim that all necessary precautions are being taken to protect civilian lives."*

**UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay at the Human Rights Council 21st Special Session, 23 July 2014.**

Despite a decrease since the start of the ground offensive, indiscriminate firing by Palestinian armed groups in Gaza into southern and central Israel continued, with most falling in open areas or intercepted by the Iron Dome system. Since 8 July, three civilians in Israel have been killed, including one foreign national, and at least 17, and possibly up to 32, directly injured by rockets or shrapnel. There have been 35 military fatalities since the beginning of the ground offensive, including one missing in action and presumed dead.

#### *Displacement*

As a result of ongoing hostilities, thousands of Palestinians have continued to flee their homes in search of a safe haven. As of this afternoon, UNRWA was hosting about 149,000 IDPs in 84 schools operated as emergency shelters and safe spaces throughout the Gaza Strip, up from 140,000 yesterday. That is about six per cent of the Gazan population. Last night 6,500 people were residing in nine government schools, a mosque and Gaza city's Greek Orthodox church. This is in addition to the approximately 20,000 individuals who have been displaced, and are now hosted by friends or relatives as destruction or damage to their homes has rendered them uninhabitable.

Intense overcrowding, compounded by the limited access of humanitarian staff to several areas, is increasingly undermining the living conditions at many shelters and raising protection concerns. Water supply has been particularly challenging, with IDPs in some shelters being supplied with as little as three liters per capita per day, to be used for all purposes including drinking and hygiene.

#### *Public infrastructure and services*

Public infrastructure and services continued to be affected by hostilities. The attack on the UNRWA school in Beit Hanoun brings to approximately 120 the number of educational facilities which have suffered damage since 7 July. Since the current emergency started, 85 UNRWA installations have sustained damage. This includes mainly schools and health centres, in addition to a water pump, the Rehabilitation Centre for the Visually Impaired and warehouses containing vital stocks for UNRWA operations. Three UNRWA staff were killed today, including a teacher while returning home after supervising a shelter, bringing to six the number of teachers known to have been killed to date.

*I am appalled by the news of an attack on an UNRWA school in Northern Gaza where hundreds of people had taken refuge. Many have been killed – including women and children, as well as UN staff. I once again stress to all sides that they must abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law to respect the sanctity of civilian life, the inviolability of UN premises and to honour their obligations to humanitarian workers.*

**Secretary-General's Statement on Beit Hanoun Gaza, 24 July.**

The electricity supply has further deteriorated after two Israeli missiles landed in the vicinity of the Gaza Power Plant (GPP) on 23 July. Electricity is being provided on a rolling basis and homes are left without power for approximately 20 hours per day. The damaged generator needs to be totally replaced. GPP engineers are seeking guarantees from the Israeli authorities that they will not be targeted while conducting repairs. At approximately 00:30 on 24 July, an Israeli airstrike hit a repair crew from the Gaza Electricity Distribution Company in the centre of Khan Yunis, reportedly injuring four.

#### *Key humanitarian priorities*

**Protection of civilians:** ensuring respect for the IHL principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution in attack.

**Humanitarian space:** Increased access for humanitarian workers and their partners to carry out life-saving and emergency assistance is urgently needed, for example through a regular and meaningful humanitarian pause or coordination requests that are respected. This is needed among other reasons, to complete search and rescue operations in several areas of Gaza, such as Ash Shuja'iyeh and Khuza'a; reach IDPs and families in northern Gaza; and repair critical water and electricity infrastructure; but also to provide a predictable basic level of broader humanitarian assistance to a population in need. The inability of actors to provide humanitarian assistance will undermine the credibility of the operations and could increase the security risks of humanitarian workers.

**Scale up response to IDPs:** additional shelters are needed to reduce overcrowding and accommodate new IDPs, alongside the replenishment of food, water, and NFI stocks. Assistance for IDPs living with host families also needs to be increased, particularly the provision of NFIs and water.

#### **Update on Gaza Crossings:**

**Erez:** Open during specific hours for pre-coordinated movement of UN, ICRC, INGOs, journalists and medical evacuations. Coordination challenges for movement through Erez are disrupting transit. Opening hours are now being reassessed daily and can therefore vary

**Beit Hanoun (Arba-Arba):** Closed until further notice.

**Kerem Shalom:** Open today from 10:00. Yesterday 106 trucks of food items, mattresses hygiene kits and medicine, including 37 for UNRWA, one for WFP and two for ICRC, entered in addition to approximately 720,000 litres of fuel and 110 tons of cooking gas.

**Rafah:** Open today from 9:00-15:00. No goods entered yesterday for the third consecutive day. A small amount of goods entered today

## Humanitarian needs and response



### Needs

- At least 148,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support (PSS) on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home over the past thirteen days.
- Child protection and psychosocial support is urgently required to address issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence inside shelters and refuges.

**148,000**

Children in need of psychosocial support

- Thousands of explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

### Response

- UNRWA is providing basic unexploded ordnance (UXO) awareness in shelters.
- Protection Cluster members continue monitoring and investigating incidents to identify possible violations of international law, as well as consolidating information on civilian fatalities.
- Since 7 July, emergency PSS teams and PRCS teams have been able to provide initial psychosocial support to 1,351 children across the Gaza Strip.
- Sawa Child Protection Helpline continues to operate providing guidance to caregivers via phone calls. Since 13 July the Helpline has been operating 24/7 with capacity to take 30 calls simultaneously.
- World Vision is providing PSS to children in hospitals and UNRWA shelters.
- As of 21 July, Save the Children began distributing child protection kits to twelve community based organizations, aiming to reach 1,440 children in host communities.
- Tamer Association has been conducting support activities for children in seven of their 22 libraries. They are able to reach between 15 and 20 children daily in each of the functioning libraries since 18 July.
- Radio spots continue to alert children and their families to the dangers posed by explosive remnants of war, reaching up to one million people in Gaza. In addition, partners are preparing for the provision of UXO risk education, as soon as the situation allows.

### Gaps and Constraints

- Ongoing hostilities continue to impede movement of child protection staff and emergency PSS teams.
- Increased hostilities and major electricity outages since 18 July hamper communication with PSS staff.
- Sawa Child Protection Help Line needs additional trained counsellors who can answer phone calls.
- Displaced children hosted with relatives remain largely unreached by child protection interventions.
- Due to the precarious security environment and ongoing military operations, verification of information, in particular in regards to casualties, is difficult.



### Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

#### Needs

- 3,333 families (approximately 20,000 individuals) whose shelters were totally destroyed or sustained major damage require emergency NFI kits including mattresses, blankets, hygiene kits, and kitchen sets. In the medium term, they will need cash assistance to cover rental fees and basic household items.
- NFI emergency shelter repair interventions such as nylon and tarpaulin are needed for about 3,380 families (23,300 individuals) whose homes sustained damage but are still inhabitable. Another 126,000 individuals living in homes which sustained minor damage (broken windows and/or damaged doors) need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets.
- About 130,700 individuals are living in slightly affected houses with broken windows and damaged doors, and need NFI assistance such as nylon and plastic sheets. However shelter partners considered this as second priority that will be dealt with at later stages after ceasefire and damage assessment conducted.

174,000

People in need of shelter-related assistance

#### Response

- Approximately 149,000 people are being provided with shelter in 84 UNRWA schools across the Gaza Strip and several thousands are sheltered in eleven government schools, by host families and in informal centres.
- 10,557 individuals whose homes were destroyed or sustained damage have been provided with NFIs by shelter cluster members.
- Eleven government schools in Gaza city and northern Gaza have been identified to serve as temporary shelters for IDPs from eastern and northern Gaza and currently host approximately 5,000 IDPs.

- ICRC, PRCS and other shelter members provided NFIs and hygiene kits to 525 families (4,000 individuals) hosted in five schools used as shelters in Gaza city.

### Gaps and Constraints

- Cash assistance of over US\$ 16 million is needed to allow 3,340 families to cover rental fees and urgent expenses.
- Emergency shelter kits, including blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and hygiene sets, are required for 2,324 families.
- Additional shelters for IDPs are required to reduce overcrowding at UNRWA schools.
- UNRWA's NFI stock is at zero.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

### Needs

- IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools, with host families or in open spaces, as well as communities disconnected from the municipal water supply need water for drinking and domestic use.
- An estimated 1.2 million people have no or very limited access to water or sanitation services due to damage to the electricity system or lack of fuel to run generators to power WASH facilities.
- 15 wells and six sewage pumping stations are not operating. Less than half of the required amount of water is being pumped, according to the Municipality of Gaza.
- WASH facilities east of Salah ad Din road and in north Gaza (both areas in the new three km “no-go zone”) have not been accessible for repairs, and are also likely to be inaccessible to water trucking due to the unsafe security situation.
- Urgent need of fuel, particularly in Nusseirat and Al Bureij camps, to run the water wells as water is pumped to the network only when there is electricity.
- Deir al Balah Desalination Plant cannot produce enough water to serve people in the Middle Area due to shortage of fuel and electricity outage (3hrs/day).
- There is urgent need for 10,000 litre of fuel for two municipal wells in Az Zawayda, as a high tension transformer feeding the wells has been destroyed, and the other two wells are operating through generators.
- Several areas are experiencing sewage flooding, in particular in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya, posing public health hazards.

**+140,000**

IDPs in need of water for drinking and domestic use

### Response

- UNRWA is providing water tankering to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- Technicians continued to do limited repairs of damaged water and waste water facilities under ICRC protective escort and in coordination with Israeli Coordination and Liaison Administration (CLA) for Gaza.

### Gaps and constraints

- The situation in the eastern area of Al Maghazi is too dangerous and there has been no accessibility to the municipality wells since the Israeli ground incursion. Residents still lack drinking water.
- The lack of protection during damage repair, operation and assessment remains the biggest constraint, impeding the immediate repair of water and waste water pipelines.
- UNRWA's sanitation staff could not reach Al Maghazi, Bureij and Deir al Baleh camps due to heavy fighting and access restrictions.



## Health and Nutrition

### Needs

- The health needs, including mental health needs for displaced families sheltering in UNRWA schools and other emergency shelters, need to be immediately addressed.
- Psycho-tropic drugs for patients with mental illness, trauma and anxiety are in critically short supply.

**18**

Health facilities damaged or destroyed

- Shifa hospital urgently needs neurosurgeons, anesthesiologists, plastic and general surgeons, and orthopedic specialists, as well as 20 ICU beds, a digital C-ARM machine for orthopedic surgeries, three operation tables and a lighting system for the five operation rooms.

### Response

- On 24 July, eleven patients were referred to medical treatment in Egypt and six to hospitals in East Jerusalem.
- US \$1 million worth of drugs, primarily fluids and surgical kits funded by Switzerland is under procurement by WHO while the Islamic Development Bank is procuring US \$ 6 million worth of medical supplies from within Gaza to resupply health facilities.
- Médecins Sans Frontières is operating an outpatient clinic for patients discharged from hospitals requiring medical follow up.
- ANERA delivered drugs and supplies on 24 July.

### Gaps and constraints

- Only two of six Community Mental Health Centers are functioning (in Rafah and Zwaydeh).
- Shortage of medical equipment, skilled medical teams and drugs and disposables means that complex surgeries for vascular, neurological and spine cord injuries are being referred outside of Gaza. However, access through Rafah and Erez crossings is constrained.
- Lack of adequate protection of health facilities and personnel, impeding emergency assistance to sick and injured.
- The military incursion restricts access to healthcare for wounded and for patients with acute and chronic illness.



### Food Security

#### Needs

- More than 167,000 IDPs hosted at UNRWA shelters, public schools and other facilities, with host families or in open spaces are in need of emergency food assistance. A few thousand who are being sheltered in informal centres, including a mosque and a church, are urgently in need of food assistance, NFIs and other assistance. IDPs in the southern part of Gaza taking refuge in private shelters are in particular need of food assistance.
- Farmers, breeders and fishermen's livelihoods are heavily compromised. Although a comprehensive picture is not yet available, animal feed for 3,000 herders is needed to avoid further loss of livestock and erosion of livelihoods.
- Continuation of regular food distribution programmes by UNRWA, WFP and their partners to over 1,150,000 people should be maintained.
- Humanitarian access to allow for provision of food and other emergency assistance to the civilian population is urgently needed and should be guaranteed throughout the conflict.

**+167,000**

Palestinians displaced  
and in need of food  
assistance

#### Response

- In total, food security partners have reached approximately 150,000 IDPs with food assistance since the beginning of the current crisis.
- WFP, in cooperation with UNRWA, continues to provide daily emergency food rations to IDPs in UNRWA shelters.
- As of 23 July, WFP has been providing daily emergency food rations to 1,600 IDPs in government schools.
- FSS partners are delivering complementary food distribution to IDPs at UNRWA and government schools. Other partners are reaching displaced persons at private shelters and hosting families.

#### Gaps and Constraints

- Bakeries, mills and dairy production plants have reduced their operational capacity due to lack of security and damage to facilities caused by military attacks.
- IDPs residing in public schools and private shelters require food and other assistance.
- The military ground incursion is both limiting access to food warehouses and making the regular emergency food distribution to over one million people extremely difficult.

- Immediate emergency funding to address the food needs of the increasing IDP population and for fodder provision for 3,000 herders.

## Education

### Needs

- In the last 24 hours, three UNRWA schools and one government school have been affected by shelling, bringing up the total number of damaged schools to approximately 120 since the start of the emergency. 42 government schools and 78 UNRWA schools are in need of repairs.

120

Schools damaged  
by shelling

### Response

NTR

### Gaps & Constraints

- Access restrictions impede the ability to assess impact of hostilities and carry out repairs to damaged school infrastructure.

## General Coordination

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues its daily meetings, focusing primarily on the coordination of the IDP response and challenges related to humanitarian space. Some EOC members also carried out monitoring visits to government school shelters in the reporting period. In light of the damage sustained to the Gaza Power Plant during last night's escalations, contingency plans were made for the delivery of fuel. Additionally, the EOC facilitated a meeting between two Gaza based ministers and their Ramallah-based colleagues. Response coordination continues to take place with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) and the Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) on IDP issues.

## Funding

A number of bilateral contributions have already been received from donors who have provided funding for urgent needs in the most critical sectors. Based on latest cluster/sector analysis, it is estimated that US \$69 million is now needed for immediate assistance in Gaza, excluding UNRWA's requirements. Some clusters have also made a latest estimate so far of up to US \$220 million that is needed for medium term interventions once the security situation permits. The Humanitarian Country Team has today begun development of a dedicated Gaza Crisis Appeal which will be finalized by 1 August to address urgent humanitarian needs resulting from the conflict. The appeal once finalized will supersede earlier HCT estimates.

UNRWA has issued its own emergency flash appeal which was revised up to US \$115 million this week. The amount requested will help UNRWA respond to the urgent needs of the currently, 148,000 IDPs taking shelter in its facilities, while replenishing emergency supplies and preparing for vital interventions necessary after a cessation of military activities.

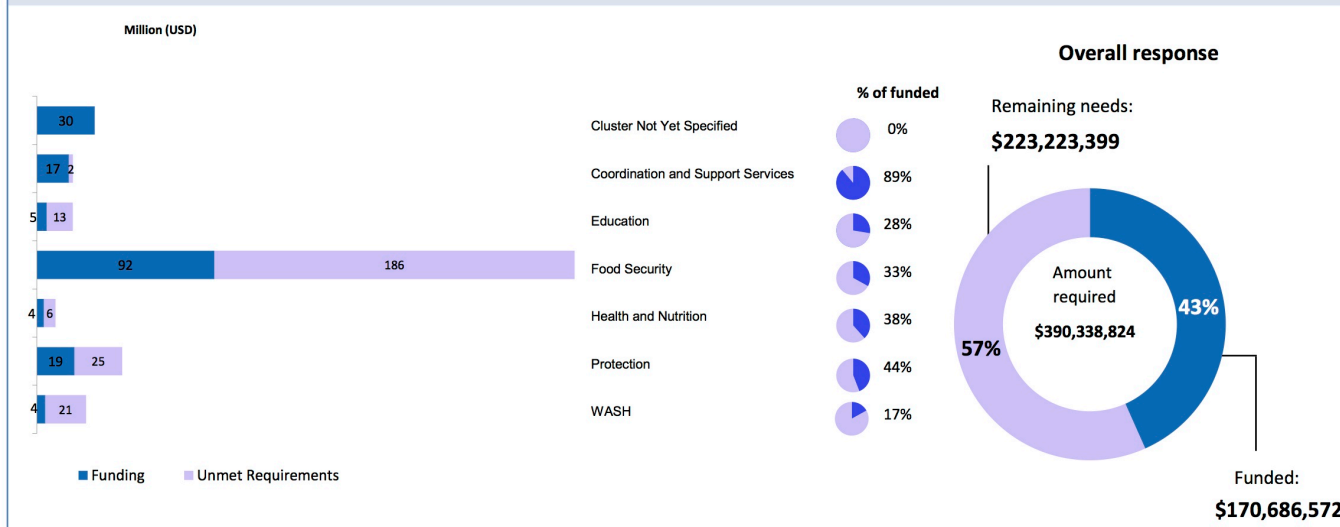
The 2014 Strategic Response Plan (SRP) for the oPt has received US\$ 170 million (43 per cent) out of a total request of US\$ 390 million. Nearly 90 per cent of 1.9 million vulnerable people targeted in the SRP are in Gaza. Gaza-specific projects have received 32% of their requested funding.

The Emergency Response Fund (ERF) is an additional mechanism available to fund interventions in Gaza through rapid and flexible support to affected civilian populations. The ERF has begun processing project applications in regards to the Gaza emergency. Thus far, two ACF project proposals, (totaling US\$ 368,624) to distribute NFI and water storage tanks to 1,475 households in Gaza, are being processed. A number of donors have come forward with expressions of interest or pledges for the ERF including Denmark, Ireland, Sweden, and Switzerland, as well as Italy, which is a new donor set to come on board. Further funding for the ERF is still being sought.

## Consolidated Appeal: occupied Palestinian territory



## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TREND ANALYSIS AS OF 24-July-2014



### Background to 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 in early June, characterized by an intensification of Israeli airstrikes and rockets launched from Gaza at southern Israel. Tensions further increased following the abduction and killing of three Israeli youths in the southern West Bank, on 12 June, which the Israeli government attributed to Hamas. Overall, in the period leading up 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 fire.

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 Israeli blockade in place since June 2007. 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 to an ongoing energy crisis, involving power outages of 12 hours per day.

#### For further information, please contact:

**Katleen Maes**, Head of the humanitarian Emergency Operations Center in Gaza, [maes@un.org](mailto:maes@un.org), +972 59 291 1047  
**Yehezkel Lein**, Head of Analysis, Communications and Protection Unit, OCHA oPt, [lein@un.org](mailto:lein@un.org), +972 54 331 1809

#### For media enquiries, please contact:

**Hayat Abu-Saleh**, Communications and Information Analyst, OCHA oPt, [abusaleh@un.org](mailto:abusaleh@un.org), +972 (0) 54 3311816

For more information, please visit [www.ochaopt.org](http://www.ochaopt.org)