



## UNRWA Situation Report #16 on the situation in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank (including East Jerusalem)

All information valid as of 26 October 2023 at 18:00 (local time)

Day 20 of hostilities



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### 1. Key points

#### The Gaza Strip

- In the last 24 hours **14 additional UNRWA staff were killed**, bringing **the total to 53 staff killed** since 7 October.
- Almost **640,000 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) are sheltering in 150 UNRWA installations** across the Gaza Strip. Overcrowding conditions and limited availability of assistance are contributing to rising tensions among IDPs, exacerbating protection and health risks.
- UNRWA teams continue to help with the reception, storage and distribution of the extremely limited quantities of aid arriving through the Rafah crossing, in cooperation with other UN agencies.
- Fuel remains one of the most urgent needs as current stocks are running out, forcing vital humanitarian services to a halt.

#### The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- A **17-year-old boy was killed by live ammunition** fired by the Israeli Security Forces during clashes in proximity to an UNRWA school in Jalazone refugee camp, north of Ramallah.

## 2. Overall situation

### The Gaza Strip

- According to the Ministry of Health in Gaza, 7,028 people have been killed since 7 October, including 2,913 children, 1,709 women, and 397 elderly. A further 18,484 have been injured. This is in addition to 1,650 reported missing, presumably under the rubble of destroyed buildings, including 940 children.
- Overall, nearly 1,400 Israelis and foreign nationals have been killed in Israel, according to the Israeli authorities, the vast majority on 7 October (OCHA).
- Nearly **480,000 IDPs are sheltering in 91 shelters** in Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas<sup>1</sup>. This represents an increase of around **11,000 IDPs in the last 24 hours**. As living conditions in shelter continue to deteriorate, tensions are rising among IDPs. Two UNRWA staff were injured during two reported break-ins into UNRWA premises.

### The West Bank, including East Jerusalem

- A child who was seriously injured during an Israeli Security Forces' airstrike in Jenin refugee camp on 25 October died from his injuries, bringing the total number of Palestinian fatalities from that incident to four Palestinians.
- According to OCHA, **103 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank** since 7 October, including 32 children.
- On 26 October settlers attacked a Bedouin community in Area B/C near Taybeh (East of Ramallah), damaging property and stealing items, reportedly including livestock. The increased levels of settler violence have resulted in the **forced displacement of 82 households, comprising 607 people, including 211 children**, since 7 October (OCHA).

## 3. Humanitarian access & protection of civilians

### The Gaza Strip

- In the last 24 hours, 14 additional UNRWA staff have been killed and two have been injured. Among them is a staff member who was severely injured while on duty at an UNRWA school that was impacted by collateral damage in Nuseirat camp. Thirteen other UNRWA staff were killed in their homes with their family members during strikes.
- Since 7 October, **53 UNRWA personnel have been killed and at least 22 injured**.
- A child was killed and another sustained minor injuries due to a strike near an UNRWA school in Rafah. The injured child was treated at the medical point on site. The impacted school is currently hosting 7,500 IDPs.
- Since 7 October, **18 IDPs sheltering at UNRWA schools have been killed and 282 have been injured**.

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<sup>1</sup> The number of UNRWA shelters was incorrectly reported as 93 in the Sit Rep of 26 October. The actual number was 91.

## 4. UNRWA response

### The Gaza Strip

#### UNRWA Shelters

- New IDPs continue to approach UNRWA shelters, but current facilities are operating way beyond their designed capacities. Many IDPs have to sleep in the streets as current infrastructure is overwhelmed.

#### Health

- On 26 October, the eight UNRWA health centres still operational in the South recorded **3,950 patient visits**, including refugees and non-refugees.
- Health-care services were maintained in the UNRWA shelters, with the support of **95 mobile medical units** and medical teams, serving **9,900 cases in shelters**.
- Medicines and fuel stocks are critically decreasing putting at risk the continuity of essential healthcare services.

#### Psychosocial Support

- UNRWA has counsellors and social workers in the shelters, who provide psychological first aid and other specialized protection services. Since the beginning of the crisis, UNRWA social workers provided **10,900 people with psychosocial support and social work services**. These include cases that are referred for medication and other specialized mental health and psychosocial support interventions.

### Water and Sanitation Services (WASH)

#### Education

- Some solid waste collection from the camps and from emergency shelters and transfer to landfills continues in Middle, Khan Younis and Rafah areas with difficulties due to the scarcity of fuel and staff.
- Water wells in Jabalia, Khan Younis and Rafah are functional with about 11,000 m3 being pumped from nine water wells.
- Despite the limited availability of fuel, desalination plants continue to operate in the shelters for the provision of potable water. Water trucking operations in shelters in Rafah and Khan Younis also continue; however, the potable water provided is not enough to meet all needs.

ENDs –

## UNRWA situation and response to the escalation in the Gaza Strip

### IDPs in UNRWA installations



Overcrowding conditions and limited availability of assistance are contributing to rising tensions among IDPs, exacerbating protection and health risks.

### UNRWA fatalities and damage to installations

Confirmed numbers, since 7 October

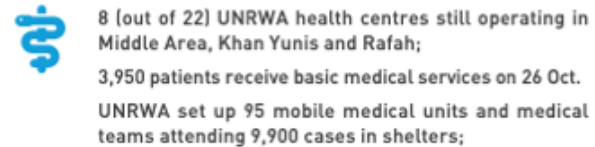


\* IDPs in the North and Gaza areas as of 12 October. UNRWA's ability to provide humanitarian support in the North and Gaza city has since been compromised and access to information including updates on IDPs numbers has since been hindered.

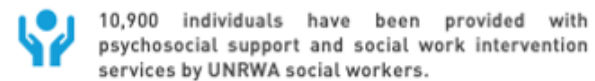
### UNRWA presence



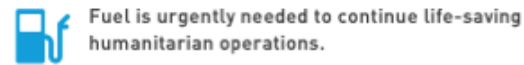
### UNRWA response – Health



### UNRWA response – Psychosocial support



### Humanitarian access



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