

# WFP PALESTINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## Situation Report 9

18 November 2023

One of the WFP-contracted shops in Gaza, empty of commodities as markets are depleting. WFP/Alī Jadallah

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Almost six weeks into the conflict, food systems are collapsing in Gaza. Markets are running out of food items, and the final bakery contracted by WFP has ceased operations due to lack of fuel and cooking gas. Since the beginning of the hostilities, only 10 percent of the required food supplies have entered Gaza through Rafah Crossing border. Gaza Strip faces a massive food gap and widespread hunger as nearly the entire population is in desperate need of food assistance.
- To operate at scale, WFP requires 1) additional crossing points to be opened; 2) safe, sustained and unimpeded humanitarian access inside Gaza; 3) fuel for its operations, trucks and bakeries to operate; 4) connectivity to coordinate its operations and for retail shops to act as delivery points of WFP's assistance; 5) ability for staff to safely rotate in and out of Gaza.
- To date, WFP has provided vital food and cash assistance to **over 764,000 people** in shelters and communities across Gaza and the West Bank.
- As needs are soaring, WFP requires a minimum of **USD 314 million** to sustain its emergency response for up to 1.1 million affected people until April 2024.

### IN NUMBERS



**764,000**

Affected people in Gaza and the West Bank received WFP assistance to date.



**73.5 WFP Trucks**

crossed into Gaza through Rafah border with 1,296 mt of life-saving food supplies.



**USD 314M**

WFP emergency response estimated funding needs until April 2024



**1.1 million**

Affected people targeted by WFP emergency assistance until December

- Due to the shortage of fuel, the last WFP-contracted bakery closed on 10 November.
- A WFP-contracted mill, one of the largest and last functioning in Gaza, was hit and damaged on 15 November. This will greatly impact the local production of wheat flour.

## WFP Operations



### General Food Assistance (GFA)

- Since 7 October, WFP reached **764,000 vulnerable people** with in-kind and cash-based general food assistance across Gaza and the West Bank:
  - In **Gaza**, **550,300 internally displaced people (IDPs) in Designated shelters** received daily fresh bread, canned food, or date bars. So far, around **38,659 displaced people** in host communities received food parcels to support their food needs for 15 days.
  - In November, WFP provided electronic vouchers to **580,000 people across Gaza and the West Bank**. However, electronic voucher assistance had higher redemption rates in October while shops still had stock. Now, 75 percent of WFP shops have closed, ran out of food stocks, or have no connectivity to operate the assistance

## Situation Update

- Hunger is spreading in Gaza as people grow increasingly desperate in their search for bread and other essential foods. Cases of dehydration and malnutrition are increasing rapidly. People are resorting to skipping or reducing meals and consuming raw onion and uncooked eggplant.

across Gaza. WFP is increasingly shifting to in-kind while no commercial imports have entered Gaza.

- WFP is piloting **AMAL** (Assistance through Markets Accessible Locally; AMAL means 'Hope' in Arabic), a programme where WFP will use its existing electronic voucher platform to distribute WFP food parcels at shops and partner distribution points, to support both people and local shop owners.



## Supply Chain

- WFP is testing the delivery of aid from Jordan through Rafah with the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) and the Palestinian Red Crescent (PRCS).
- Currently, **65 WFP** trucks loaded with 674 mt of food parcels, date bars, canned fava beans and fortified biscuits are waiting to cross Rafah Border. Family food parcels contain cooking oil, wheat flour, pasta, canned beans and tomato paste. 197 mt of fortified biscuits donated by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) are being airlifted from Sultanate of Oman to Al-Arish Airport.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Logistics Services

- Additional Logistics Coordination Cell team members were deployed to Al Arish, Egypt as part of the inter-agency UN mission to support the coordination efforts with ERC and other humanitarian organisations on the ground.
- 16 November marked one month since the activation of the Palestine Logistics Cluster. The [Palestine – Gaza Response Operation Overview](#) and [One Month Infographic](#) are available at the dedicated [operations webpage](#).
- Two ECHO-funded flights arrived in Al Arish Airport from the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD) hub in Brindisi (Italy) on 11 and 12 November carrying equipment that the Logistics Cluster will provide to ERC to augment its logistics capacity in Al Arish and Ismailia.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- ETC urgently requires an initial USD 250,000 out of the total requested USD 800,000 in the Flash Appeal

to continue ongoing activities in the Gaza response and deploy personnel.

- The ETC continues to work with partners to identify a corridor through which to import telecommunications equipment into Gaza.
- The ETC advocates for securing fuel to the running mobile operator sites to ensure the communication services are maintained.



## Funding

- WFP urgently requires at least USD 314 million in funding to provide support for up to 1.1 million people until April 2024.
- As of now, WFP has approximately USD 53.5 million confirmed contributions: USD 43 million from government donors (EU, France, Luxembourg, Malta, New Zealand, UAE, United States, Slovenia, Sweden, and CERF) and USD 10.5 million from the private sector including Share The Meal and Individual Giving campaigns.



## Gaza Market Monitoring

- Gaza's markets are on the brink of collapse as there is hardly any food left in shops now. Our contracted shops reported that they all have run out of dairy products. Nine out of ten shops have run out of wheat flour. Eight out of ten ran out of canned food and bottled water. Shops have limited stocks of rice, pulses, and vegetable oil but they are effectively useless without the ability to cook. Limited stocks are available at wholesalers, but there is difficulty restocking.



## Accountability to Affected Populations

- WFP received approximately **47,694 calls** through the Inter-Agency community feedback mechanism (CFM) helpline, which provides a direct link between WFP and the affected population. Over **75 percent** of the calls requested food or cash assistance. Some 1,900 asked for shelter support.

## Operational challenges

- WFP is grappling with multifaceted operational challenges in Gaza. The shortage of fuel, lack of safe access, and loss of connectivity are severely hindering WFP's ability to transport food commodities and reach people in need.
- Additionally, destruction of shops, electricity cuts and food scarcity are affecting WFP cash-based transfers.