

Water tanks Distribution – Gaza Strip
1st January 2009



For over than 19 months of the Israeli blockade imposed on the Gaza Strip, the water system in the Gaza Strip has been severely affected as a result. After three weeks of t he Israeli war on the Gaza Strip, hundred of houses have been totally destroyed, other thousands were partially destroyed as well, more than 100,000 people are now left homeless as they lost almost everything. According to CMWU more than 400,000 people in the Gaza Strip have no running water in their tapes due to the shortage in the spare parts, fuel, and electricity.

During the war on Gaza, the CMWU (Oxfam's GB) partner, warehouse, has been targeted many water spare parts and equipments have been damaged; slightly damages happened at Oxfam GB 88 water tanks out of 115, which were stored in CMWU warehouse for emergency response. Oxfam GB has fixed the slightly damaged tanks and distributed the 115 water tanks to the targeted areas and vulnerable families.



Hussni Tafesh 53 years old, he has seven family members, from Al Zayoutn neighbourhood, east of the Gaza Strip. He is unemployed and he lives in two-floor building.

'In the time of the war, more than five different families including my sons' family came and stayed in my home. At the time, water access was poor as well as the electricity. My son and his five family members are still staying with me.'

'All water tanks in my top roof got destroyed and this water tank provide me with drinking water and making tea.'

'This water tank is 220 litre capacity and it would be enough for us for about 10 days... This water tank what I need to send every day suffering to get drinking water. In the past we used to fill the 20 litre jerry cans.'



Authman Ezat Farajallah 43 years old, from Jouhr El Deek, middle of Gaza Strip. Authman is a father for 7 children but he is unemployed since over than 4 years.

'My home got destroyed totally, not only mine but also other three brothers of me their homes totally destroyed. We live 1.5 kilo meter a way from the border line with Israel, and this is not the first time that the Israeli attack this area, but this time is the hardest.' He said

'Dozens of homes in the area got destroyed as a result of the latest war on Gaza, water network and electricity lines got damaged as well, which means we lost everything and we need everything.'

'I built a tent next to my destroyed home and I live on it with my children with no water, food, electricity, money... nothing.'

'We used to face too much difficulties in finding the water to drink, clean or to shower. My children and I go to look for water to bring from far a way. This water tank provided by Oxfam GB would help me to store water to drink, clean, and shower. This 220 litre capacity water tank need to filled every week once instead everyday as we used to do.'



Sabri Abu Daher 46 years old, he has Nine family members. He lives in Jouhr El Deek area, middle of Gaza Strip. His two-floor home was partially destroyed as a result.

'My home was partially destroyed, though its not for living any more, because it might collapse any minutes, but we still living on it. I reconstructed a room by using the rubbles, which is very cold in the night.'

'I am jobless and I have no income so I can rent an apartment, we are poor farmers and we lost the land and the house.'

'This water tank would help me too much to provide my children with clean drinking water, tea, and cleaning. Thanks to Oxfam for their help because we are in too much need for it.'