

Gaza Emergency WASH Cluster weekly situation report

Number 3

8th February

Summary overview

- 300,000 people still lack tap water in the Gaza strip
- There are still major issues with getting essential repair materials into Gaza, which puts severe constraints on repairs
- 80% of the Gaza strip receive water through the network at least every third day
- Tankered water is in short supply due to lack of water tankers
- The price of water is 30-40 NIS/m³ in many areas in Beit Lahiya and Gaza City

Conducted assessments

The first draft report from the Palestinian Hydrology Group's damage assessment at household level (referred to in last week's situation report) shows that the price for tankered water is around 30-40 NIS/m³ in many areas in Beit Lahiya and Gaza City, which is too expensive for many people. Although wastewater no longer is visible in the streets, there is solid waste accumulating in most assessed areas, with the exception of Gaza City, where only Az Zaitoun and Ash Ash Sheikh 'Ijleen reports problems with solid waste. The most urgent needs include distribution and repair of roof top tanks, restoration of water network lines and additional trucks for solid waste collection. For further information about the assessment, please contact PHG (subha@phg.org).

Currently, the WASH cluster working group comprising of Care, OXFAM, ACF, UNICEF and PWA is working on setting up a monthly monitoring of key indicators during the time of the Flash appeal. PHG was selected from the assessment working group to coordinate the household monitoring.

WASH cluster humanitarian response *Drinking and domestic water*

Oxfam, ACF and PHG continue their emergency water distribution. Oxfam has distributed 6,173 m³ water between January 17th and February 3rd. Between February 1st and 3rd they distributed approximately 6 litres/person/day, reaching approximately 56,000 beneficiaries daily (30,000 persons in households, 3,000 IDP:s, 13,000 health centre beneficiaries and 10,000 school children).

ACF distributed 3,559 m³ water between January 12th and February 3rd. 25 litres/person/day is being distributed and has during the whole period reached 28,487



Damages in Beit Hanoun, picture supplied by PHG

beneficiaries. There is a general lack of tankers, which makes the water distribution problematic.

PHG distributed 52 m³ of water between February 1st and 5th and has rehabilitated a 1.5 km water line in Khan Younis.

UNICEF delivered 1 collapsible water tank to the Shoka area in Rafah and distributed 104 basic family water kits to Oxfam, for further distribution to families in Gaza between February 2nd and 5th.

Save the Children is installing 100 plastic water tanks (500 litres capacity) and 50 tanks (1,000 litres capacity) in Shokat as Sufi, as well as 250 tanks (1,000 litres capacity) in Beit Lahya. They are also installing 120 household water pumps in Beit Lahya, which will benefit 840 persons, as well as rehabilitating water house connections in Beit Hanoun for 100 houses, or 700 beneficiaries. In Beit Hanoun they are rehabilitating water lines for 4,000 beneficiaries.

Sanitation

Two teams from ACF are working on cleaning Beit Lahya Wastewater Treatment Plant and removing debris from the streets. ACF is also working on cleaning the damaged areas of Gaza City's wastewater treatment plant as well as removing debris's from the streets and assisting the CMWU technical staff in maintaining the water and wastewater networks.

Solid waste

COOPI has gotten funding from the HERF for collection of solid waste in Gaza City and will collect 2,800 tons of waste per week for three months.



Solid waste in Zahra City, picture supplied by PHG

Hygiene and NFIs

Save the Children has started health awareness campaigns in Beit Hanoun, Shokat as Sufi and Beit Lahya with approximately 4,000 beneficiaries.

WASH cluster activities

The WASH Cluster had a joint meeting via video link with Jerusalem and Gaza teams on February 4th and will continue with

joint meetings every Thursday. On February 4th the WASH Cluster submitted a proposal for coordination to DFID. The proposal includes an agency based sub-Cluster Coordinator in Gaza and a locally recruited information manager. PHG will ensure a link with the EWASH platform and play a role of providing capacity for further needs assessments and to set up a Cluster monitoring mechanism in cooperation with other agencies, using tools developed by the Global WASH Cluster.

The WASH contribution for the Infrastructure section of Gaza Early Recovery and Reconstruction Plan (GERRP) currently being prepared by UNDP and Palestinian

National Authorities has been submitted. The document is now being finalised for presentation at a donors conference planned for 2nd March in Cairo.

Constraints

There are still major difficulties with **getting both material and people into Gaza**, which is affecting the response. Although emergency repairs still are ongoing, major repairs can not take place without allowing more materials to get in. It is therefore urgent to get material to enter Gaza. Water tankers are in short supply which makes it difficult to cover all areas in need. The Cluster is currently liaising with the Logistics Cluster around priority items, to ensure pressure is exerted on CoGAT to authorise entry into Gaza.

Highlights for next week

- Finalising lists of priority materials/ equipment for Gaza
- Submission of requests for movement of priority items into Gaza through Logistics Cluster
- Participation in UN Country Management Team meeting. Working on advocacy issues related to WASH Cluster.
- Recruitment of sub-Cluster lead and an Information Manager for Gaza
- Finalising the Comprehensive Assessment Tool (CAT) for use in Gaza

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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