

# WFP PALESTINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## Situation Report 20

16 May 2024

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Despite numerous access challenges, WFP provided support to 1.8 million people in Gaza in April, with food parcels, wheat flour, and hot meals. WFP efforts aim to combat and reverse malnutrition, as well as provide support to bakeries, to revitalize damaged food systems.
- The modest access improvements achieved in recent weeks are now under significant strain due to ground forces advancing into Rafah since May 6 and the issuance of evacuation orders. In addition to the tragic loss of civilian and humanitarian lives, over half a million people have been forcibly displaced from Rafah and are now in search of shelter elsewhere.
- Escalation of hostilities and lack of access to the main WFP warehouse and Kerem Shalom crossing have restrained WFP and partners' operations in southern and central Gaza. Fuel shortages and displacement of humanitarian personnel have led to limited distributions of reduced rations. WFP has prioritized the provision of hot meals to displaced populations in central areas.
- WFP is deeply concerned that further escalation could precipitate an already looming humanitarian catastrophe and bring aid operations to a complete standstill. All parties must ensure regular humanitarian access until a ceasefire is agreed.

### MAY IN NUMBERS



**725,310 people**

assisted with general food assistance across Gaza and the West Bank by 10 May.



**210 WFP Trucks**

delivered carrying 4,100 mt of food into Gaza in May, bringing the total to 5,300 trucks carrying around 95,000 mt since the start of the crisis.



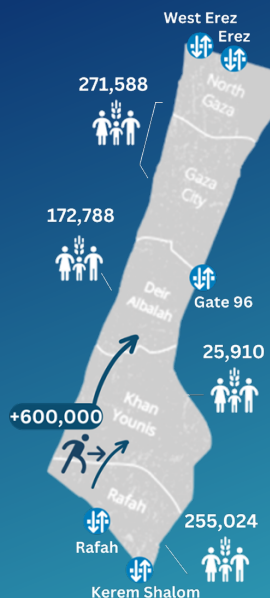
**USD 341 million**

needed to support WFP's emergency response until the end of the year.



**1.1 million**

affected people targeted monthly by WFP emergency assistance in Gaza.



### SINCE THE RAFAH 6 MAY INCURSION

- Over 600,000 people have been displaced from Rafah so far.
- The two largest crossings – Rafah and Kerem Shalom have become inaccessible, with no WFP cargo going through since 6 May.
- WFP continues to distribute limited food aid despite significant challenges, using pre-existing stocks and cargo entering through Erez/West Erez crossings.
- On 12 May, WFP started using West Erez crossing to transport wheat flour into Gaza; Erez became non-functional.



Beneficiaries reached with General Food Assistance 1-10 May

### SITUATION UPDATE

- WFP's main warehouse in Rafah is now inaccessible. Food distribution in Rafah is currently suspended due to insecurity, partners' lack of stock, and displacement of humanitarian personnel. All WFP-contracted bakeries in Rafah have shut down.
- In central areas, WFP prioritized hot meals and supports bakeries, reaching up to 200,000 meals in one day.
- Current supplies of food and fuel in Gaza will only last a few of days, and WFP's operations might come to a standstill.

### WFP OPERATIONS



#### General Food Assistance (GFA)

- Between 1 and 10 May, WFP reached an estimated **725,310\* vulnerable people** with in-kind and cash-based general food assistance across Gaza and the West Bank. In **Gaza Strip alone**, WFP reached **595,245** people.
- In the Gaza Strip, WFP distributed around **90,405 food parcels** enough to last for 10 days, and **69,437 bags of 25kg of wheat flour** for internally displaced

\*The total beneficiaries figure accounts for overlap between people receiving more than one type of assistance.

persons (IDPs) in UN-designated shelters, informal camps and within host communities, to approximately **563,588 people**.

- As of 10 May, WFP provided around **2.1 million hot meals to 161,722 people** through a network of 47 community-kitchens across southern and central Gaza, and areas of Gaza City. In light of the recent incursion, WFP is prioritizing hot meals to be able to reach more people with limited resources.
- As of 10 May, **19,995 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 46,149 children under five** received complementary feeding assistance (Lipid-based nutritional supplement [LNS]) to meet their increased nutritional needs across southern and central Gaza.
- In the **West Bank**, as of 10 May, **124,457 people redeemed their cash entitlements**, while 5,608 people received in-kind assistance. Parallely, WFP supports 272 smallholder farmers, 20 cooperatives and 15 schools with agricultural technologies & training, and provides tailored technical and vocational training, combined with on-the-job learning, for 100 unemployed and vulnerable youth.

## Supply Chain

- Since the onset of the crisis and until 13 May, WFP delivered **5,300 trucks** carrying around **95,000 mt** into Gaza. In **May**, so far, WFP has only been able to deliver **210 trucks** carrying **4,097 mt** of food into Gaza.
- Through its **Egypt corridor**, WFP delivered **2,306 mt** of cargo through **118 trucks** but WFP has not been able to deliver cargo from Egypt since 6 May due to the inaccessibility of Rafah and Kerem Shalom crossings.
- **Through Jordan corridor**, WFP was able to deliver **46 trucks** carrying **751 mt** of ready-to-eat rations, salt and sugar.
- In May so far, WFP has also delivered **46 trucks carrying 1,040 mt** of WFP wheat flour from **Ashdod port** to Gaza directly through **Erez** and newly established **West Erez** crossings. On 12 May, Erez became non-functional due to evacuation orders and escalation of fighting in the area.

## CLUSTERS AND COMMON SERVICES

### Food Security Sector

- The cluster is updating the list of active hot meal kitchens to aid partners and inform those in need, while coordinating with the WASH Cluster to address challenges to access clean water and cooking fuel essential for community kitchens.

- Rafah incursion has further negatively affected already very limited fresh food production in the strip, e.g. in East Rafah, as people fled and left their farms unattended.
- The cooking energy shortage, exacerbated by lack of public power supply in Gaza, remains one of the main concerns shared by the affected communities. It hinders proper food preparation, particularly with dry rations, and following nutrition intake as well as increasing protection risks.

### Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster received **31,337 m<sup>3</sup>** of cargo from **32 organisations** in Gaza for storage across the four common warehouses.
- On 7 May, the Logistics Cluster common storage facility in Rafah was affected by a security incident due to active conflict in the area.
- In May so far, the Logistics Cluster was able to dispatch **49 trucks** carrying **898 mt** through the Jordan corridor on behalf of the humanitarian community (WFP and 18 partners). All the convoy information is available on the [interactive dashboard](#).

### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- Due to the increase in hostilities in Rafah, ETC and humanitarian actors had to dismantle and pack all humanitarian equipment and other accessories to set up a new Joint Humanitarian Operations Centre (JHOC) in Deir Al Balah, to ensure reliable and secure communications platforms.
- **Only a few telecommunications towers are currently operational due to limited fuel allocation.**
- Due to protracted funding challenges, the ETC is currently unable to purchase the equipment to ensure a reliable and secure communications platform for humanitarian actors.

### FUNDING

- WFP's emergency response requires **USD 341 million until the end of the year** to provide support for up to **1.4 million people monthly** (1.1 million in Gaza).

### ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

- WFP's self-registration link to improve data collection and beneficiary management, attracted **113,177 new registrations** in May so far, and 463,000 in total.
- WFP's **inter-agency hotline** available for people requesting and inquiring about humanitarian assistance received **9,834 calls** between 1 and 8 May.