



WFP PALESTINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Situation Report 16

25 March 2024

Members of community-led kitchens preparing hot meals for displaced families. WFP/Alī Jadallah

HIGHLIGHTS

- The latest Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report findings show that the entire population of Gaza is facing high levels of food insecurity, and half the population – 1.1 million people – are experiencing catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5). Famine is imminent in northern Gaza.
- WFP welcomes the Security Council's adoption of a resolution. A stop to the fighting with access across the strip to deliver food at scale is the single most important step to halt a famine. WFP continues to request the use of Ashdod port and additional routes and entry points to northern Gaza.
- In March, WFP delivered four food convoys and three airdrops of 9 mt of fortified biscuits and canned food to northern Gaza, enough to feed some 95,000 people. This falls short of the volumes needed to prevent a famine.
- As needs are soaring, WFP requires around **USD 760 million*** to sustain its emergency response for up to 1.1 million affected people until the end of the year. **Pending finalization of budget revision.*



- The famine threshold for household food consumption has been significantly surpassed. Experts observed a steeply increasing trend in acute malnutrition, and it is highly probable that the famine threshold for acute malnutrition has also been exceeded.

WFP Operations

General Food Assistance (GFA)

- In March so far, WFP reached an estimated **948,000* vulnerable people** in Gaza and the West Bank. In Gaza alone, WFP reached approximately **810,000 people**.
 - In Gaza, WFP has distributed around **120,000 food parcels** that last for 10 days for internally displaced persons (IDPs) in UN-designated shelters, informal camps and within host communities, reaching approximately **736,000 people**.
 - WFP provided **4.9 million hot meals** through six partners managing a network of over **70 community-kitchens**.
 - WFP delivered 2,000 mt of wheat flour and other resources to 11 bakeries in Rafah and Deir El Balah. Over **550,000 bread parcels** were produced during the reporting period. Monitoring shows nearly all

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

Situation Update

- The latest IPC report findings show that famine is imminent and projected to occur anytime between now and May 2024 in the northern governorates of Gaza and North Gaza.
- The entire population in the Gaza Strip is facing high levels of acute food insecurity classified in IPC Phases 3 (Crisis), 4 (Emergency) or 5 (Catastrophe/Famine). This includes half of the population (about 1.1 million) experiencing catastrophic food insecurity (IPC Phase 5, Catastrophe), the highest level of food-insecurity.

WFP beneficiaries have access to bread from this assistance.

- **11,900 mothers and children under 5** in UN shelters received complementary feeding assistance (Lipid-based nutritional supplement [LNS]) to meet their increased nutritional needs.
- So far this month, WFP has delivered **four convoys of food** aid for around 74,000 people in Gaza City and **airdropped 9 mt** of fortified biscuits and canned food rations through air for around 20,000 people. A new coordinated route is being used to deliver assistance to northern Gaza more efficiently.
- Following coordinated approvals, **WFP deployed seven armoured vehicles** into Gaza to facilitate and expand operational activities.
- In the West Bank, WFP expanded its assistance to an additional 100,000 vulnerable people with cash-based transfers, thus reaching a total of 161,000 people. In March so far, 138,000 food-insecure people redeemed their electronic voucher entitlement.



Supply Chain

- Since the crisis began, WFP **delivered around 3,330 trucks carrying over 56,600 mt of food** into Gaza. This month, WFP delivered 542 trucks, carrying almost 10,550 mt of food.
- As of 19 March, there are 12,000 mt of food on 694 trucks awaiting inspection and entry into Gaza, with an additional 23,600 mt in Port Said. Cargo entering Gaza faces significant delays due to multi-layered vetting process, custom clearance challenges, and security concerns.
- WFP has coordinated the delivery **of 17 inter-agency convoys from Jordan to Gaza**, with a total of 387 trucks carrying food and non-food items.

Clusters and Common Services



Logistics Cluster

- As of 21 March 2024, the Logistics Cluster has received 8,257 m3 of cargo from 19 organizations in Gaza, which is being stored in four warehouses. The Logistics Cluster has also supported 25 organizations with cargo notification services at the Rafah transshipment point and transported cargo from the Rafah transshipment point to the warehouses.
- In the Jordan corridor, the Logistics Cluster provides humanitarian organizations with cargo consolidation services in Amman and transportation services towards Gaza via the Amman-King Hussein Bridge-Gaza route. From 15 March to 21 March, facilitated the transport of 48 trucks carrying 1,210.5 mt of food, shelter, and gender-based violence (GBV) items on behalf of three partners. All the convoy information is available in the [interactive dashboard](#).

- On 14 March, the Logistics Cluster, in collaboration with the Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), airlifted an additional 12 Mobile Storage Units (MSUs) (320 m2 each) from Dubai to Al Arish. This will expand the Egyptian Red Crescent (ERC) storage capacity to 3,840 m2.



Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC)

- The ETC is collaborating with OCHA to obtain approval to facilitate the quick release of the 30 approved digital VHF handheld radios and is engaging with UNDS in Jerusalem to coordinate the arrival, configuration, and assignment for the radios.
- There is an urgent requirement for a continuous 24/7 power supply at the VHF radio repeater sites in Khan Yunis and Deir al Balah in anticipation of the humanitarian response expanding further north. The ETC is also seeking approval to bring additional solar power solutions into Gaza.



Food Security Sector (FSS)

- The FSS is working with partners, including UNRWA, World Central Kitchen and other non-governmental organizations (NGO) partners to coordinate food delivery to northern areas of Gaza. The FSS is also coordinating food distributions across Gaza, ensuring division of area coverage among food security partners.
- FSS is supporting the set-up for a two-way referral system with nutrition partners and continues to advocate for the entry of food production inputs (seeds, fertilizers, etc.) into the Gaza Strip.



Funding

- WFP urgently requires at least USD 760 million in funding to provide support for up to 1.1 million people until the end of 2024.
- **As of now, WFP has USD 284 million confirmed contributions from** government donors and the private sector including Share the Meal and Individual Giving campaigns.



Accountability to Affected Populations

- WFP and UNRWA are working on establishing a common system to ensure no one is left unassisted. Several tools are being utilized to capture and consolidate missing data, including a pilot self-registration project.
- WFP continues to operate the free inter-agency hotline with 30 operators. Discussions are underway to identify safe referral methods and establish necessary channels for gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse complaints.