



Family shares date bars from WFP food parcel. WFP/Alī Jadallah

20 January 2024

# WFP PALESTINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

## Situation Report 13

### HIGHLIGHTS

- As the Gaza Strip slides towards famine and the risk of disease mounts, WFP, along with other humanitarian agencies, is [calling for](#) the lifting of barriers and restrictions on aid delivery to and within Gaza, and for commercial traffic to resume. WFP also reiterates our call for a humanitarian ceasefire.
- According to IPC data [analysis](#), the entire population of Gaza is food insecure. At least one in four households, more than half a million people, is facing catastrophic food insecurity conditions.
- In addition to distributions of food assistance to displaced families, WFP has been pivoting to new ways of operating, such as channelling wheat flour into bakeries so that they can resume production, and distributing special food supplements to help children fight off malnutrition. Yet, the vast majority of areas in Gaza – where needs are the largest – remain regularly inaccessible due to conflict and bureaucratic inspection delays.
- For the first time since the humanitarian pause, WFP delivered two convoys of food trucks to displaced people in Gaza City during the period of 10 – 13 January.
- In the West Bank, WFP scaled up its assistance to an additional 100,000 vulnerable people and provided around 3,000 Gazan laborers and patients with a one-time cash entitlement to support their food and other needs.
- 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. The response is currently 59 percent funded. Needs are being revised upwards to reflect greater requirements.

### IN NUMBERS



**721,557 people**

Assisted in January with general food assistance across Gaza and the West Bank.



**1,300 WFP Trucks**

crossed into Gaza through Rafah border with 22,000 mt of life-saving food supplies since 21 October.



**USD 314 million**

needed to support WFP's emergency response until April 2024.



**1.1 million**

affected people targeted by WFP emergency assistance in January

prevent a deadly combination of hunger, malnutrition, and disease. The shortage of food, clean water, and medical assistance is particularly severe in the northern areas.

### WFP Operations



#### General Food Assistance (GFA)

- In January so far, WFP reached an estimated **721,557\*** **vulnerable people** with in-kind and cash-based general food assistance across Gaza and the West Bank.
  - In Gaza, around **484,000 internally displaced people (IDPs) residing in informal camps and host communities** received food parcels or wheat flour to meet their food needs for ten days. Distributions take place across six partner distribution points, nine WFP-contracted shops, and 14 informal camps in Rafah and Deir El Balah.
  - 57,513 IDPs** in designated UN shelters received canned meat and wheat flour.

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

### Situation Update

- More than three months into the conflict, the humanitarian conditions for people in Gaza continue to worsen. Humanitarian partners have so far managed to deliver limited humanitarian assistance in Gaza, despite extraordinarily difficult conditions, but the quantities fall far short of what is needed to

- WFP is supporting **community-kitchens to provide hot meals to IDPs**. Around 69,000 people from 46 locations across the five governorates of the Gaza Strip received hot meals.
- WFP delivered over 900 mt of wheat flour and other inputs to eight bakeries in Rafah and Deir El Balah so they can start producing bread at a subsidized price to people in communities. Around **250,000 people** were able to buy bread through this initiative.
- For the first time in six weeks, since the humanitarian pause, WFP was able to deliver 200 mt of food supplies for around 15,000 people in Gaza City. All areas north of Wadi Gaza have been extremely difficult to reach because of the restricted access to the area.
- In the West Bank, WFP expanded its assistance to an additional 100,000 vulnerable people with cash-based transfers and provided 2,900 Gazan laborers and patients in the West Bank with a one-time cash assistance. In January so far, **70,000** redeemed their cash entitlements, and 1,600 people in Bedouin communities received in-kind food assistance.



## Supply Chain

- Since the onset of the crisis, WFP has **delivered 1,300 trucks carrying over 22,000 mt of food** into Gaza. In January, there has been a slight increase in the average number of WFP trucks able to cross into Gaza daily – but at the current rate, WFP will only be able to meet 40 percent of the needs.
- There is currently 6,870 mt of food on 334 trucks ready for inspection and entry into Gaza, and around 13,000 mt in Port Said. Cargo entering Gaza faces significant delays due to multi-layered vetting process and challenges for custom clearances.
- WFP has coordinated the delivery of **five inter-agency convoys from Jordan to Gaza**, with a total of 142 trucks carrying food and non-food items. Discussions are on-going for scaling up of the corridor with relevant authorities to allow more frequent convoys.

## Clusters and Common Services



### Logistics Cluster

- The Logistics Cluster facilitated access to an additional warehouse in Rafah (400 m<sup>2</sup>), with total space available for partners' storage in Rafah up to 1,470 m<sup>2</sup> across three warehouses.

- The Logistics Cluster is engaging with partners in Amman, Jordan to scale up delivery through the Jordan Corridor. Advocacy efforts are ongoing with relevant authorities and partners for a more efficient process for the Corridor to increase the number of convoys per week.
- The Palestine Logistics Cluster updated its Standard Operation Procedures for the common services that now includes convoy coordination through Jordan corridor.



### Emergency Telecommunications Cluster(ETC)

- Since the evening of 19 January, mobile phone communication – which had been down since 12 January – has been restored to most of Gaza, with the exception of some services in the north. However, internet remains down across the whole of Gaza. This is the seventh time that communications have stopped working since the onset of conflict.
- WFP, in collaboration with the ETC and the Logistics Cluster are in Al Arish (Egypt) to assess the Information Communication Technology (ICT) status and the need to provide internet connectivity and voice services to ensure the location is prepared for humanitarians working for the Gaza response.



### Funding

- WFP urgently requires at least USD 314 million in funding to provide support for up to 1.1 million people until April 2024. WFP is currently revising its funding needs upwards to reflect greater requirements.
- **As of now, WFP has USD 184.6 million confirmed contributions: USD 165.9 million from government donors and USD 18.7 million from the private sector** including Share The Meal and Individual Giving campaigns.



### Accountability to Affected Populations

- WFP received around 200,000 calls through the Inter-Agency community feedback mechanism (CFM) helpline. WFP has increased the number of calls operators and is working with partners on referral mechanisms for inter-agency requests. Last week, around 70 percent of calls from Gaza were requesting food assistance.