

# **WFP** Palestine **Emergency Response External Situation Report 5**

24 October 2023

## **(i) HIGHLIGHTS**

- Since the beginning of the escalation, WFP has assisted an estimated 628,500 affected people in shelters and communities with emergency food and cash across Gaza and the West Bank. So far, WFP has delivered four trucks with life-saving food assistance into Gaza.
- WFP welcomes all moves to sustain the opening of the Rafah border crossing for continued relief delivery to those in need in Gaza. 39 WFP trucks are in AL-Arish (Egypt), awaiting entry at the Rafah border to deliver 926 mt of life-saving food to those affected.
- WFP appeals for the protection of vital infrastructure and the safeguarding of civilians so they can access humanitarian aid points and services.
- As needs are soaring, WFP is revising its needs upwards and estimates that it will require at least USD 100 million for the next 90 days to sustain its emergency response to over 1 million affected people at pace and scale.

### SITUATION UPDATE

The situation in Gaza is deteriorating by the day. Following the first convoy of 20 trucks that delivered medical aid, food and water to Gaza, only a limited number of trucks have been able to enter and it's insufficient to cater to the escalating needs. Aid deliveries entering Gaza have not included fuel, which is essential for the operation of hospitals, bakeries and water salination plants.

So far, 1.4 million people have been displaced. More than 500,00 are residing in UN shelters. Humanitarian needs are increasing as essentials such as water, food and medical supplies run scarce coupled with the widespread destruction affecting close to half the housing units in the Gaza Strip.

WFP joined the first humanitarian convoy with three trucks of canned tuna and emergency food parcels, enough for nearly 200,000 affected people in shelters and host communities. A fourth truck carrying canned tuna arrived on 23 October. This is a mere drop compared to the very high needs. For every individual who received WFP food assistance, there are six others who are still in need. More than half of the population of Gaza was food-insecure prior to the escalation.

The conflict has inflicted substantial harm on critical infrastructure and services. Among WFP contracted shops, five were damaged and 19 were forced to shut down. Only 4 out of 23 contracted bakeries to provide fresh bread to people displaced in shelters are currently operational. The stocks in shops are rapidly dwindling, leaving just a 5-day buffer for essentials like wheat flour, dairy, pulses, rice, oil, vegetables, eggs, and mineral water.

#### **IN NUMBERS**



Affected people targeted by WFP emergency assistance in the next 3 months

#### WFP RESPONSE

funding needs for

the next 90 days

\$

Since the start of the escalation. WFP provided emergency food and cash assistance to an estimated 628,500 affected people across Gaza and the West Bank. Out of these beneficiaries, around 475,000 displaced people in UN-designated shelters received canned tuna and fresh bread through WFP four contracted bakeries. Under cash assistance, on average, around 15,000 people are redeeming their electronic vouchers every day in operational shops in Gaza.

WFP received 14,124 calls on the inter-agency hotline it operates on behalf of the humanitarian community. Sixty percent of the calls request food or cash, as well as shelter support.

#### SUPPLY CHAIN

WFP is preparing to establish a logistics presence in Al Arish, Egypt, 58 km away from the border with Gaza to support the delivery of relief into Gaza via Rafah crossing in Egypt. WFP is also augmenting its transportation and storage capacities in Ismailia (258 km from the Rafah border), Port Said and Agaba (Jordan) to ensure an agile supply chain network for aid delivery into Gaza.

WFP has prepositioned 926 mt of emergency food in Egypt including high-energy biscuits, ready-to-eats, date bars and food parcels.

**WFP** Palestine

@WFP MENA For more information: www.wfp.org/countries/Palestine