# **Situation Report** | WASH Cluster State of Palestine | WASH | 10 08 2014



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UNIRWA team in Salah Ed Deen Prep boys school A in Gaza City

## **Key messages**

- Water service providers continue repairs to water and sanitation networks and WASH facilities. Damage assessment report to be finalized and shared by the end of the week.
- Two water technicians on duty in Beit Hanoun were injured during an Israeli military bombardment.
- Damage reported to Ash Sheikh Radwan ponds as a result of an airstrike on 9 August.
- The number of IDPs hosted in UNRWA shelters stands at 236,897 in 91 shelters.

WASH Cluster groups affected population into three broad caseloads:

- A. Population not displaced but facing problems with access to water supply
- B. Displaced population in IDP shelters (UNRWA, governmental and informal)
- C. Displaced population moving between home and shelters.
- Category A: addressed so far mainly through repairs and infrastructure related activities.

  According to service providers 50% of the network is under control and receive water every 5 days.
- Category B: mainly covered by UNRWA, supported by OGB with planned support from ICRC and potentially other actors. Water supply according to SHERE standards
- Category C: communities and neighbourhoods east of Salah Ed Deen road: WASH Cluster held an emergency water trucking meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> of August in order to assign these areas to implementing WASH agencies.

## **WASH Humanitarian Needs and Emergency Response Framework**

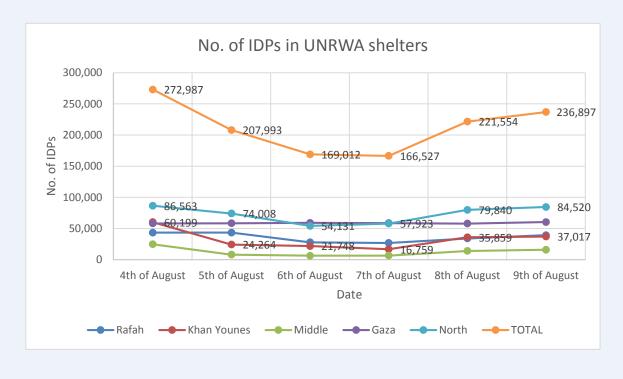
The WASH Cluster's tracking of needs and provision of response is now being structured within the Emergency Response Framework which has been designed to distinguish between interventions/support to service providers and support to shelters, communities and neighborhoods.

#### A. Support to service providers

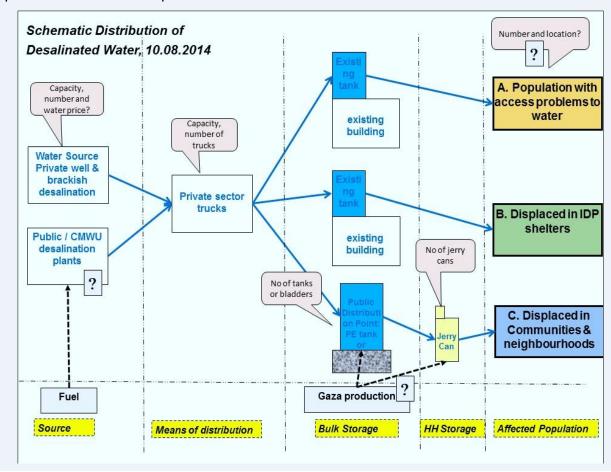
To the extent possible, service providers in Gaza have continued to repair critical damages sustained to the system noting that the lack of access remains to be a challenge impeding repairs. On this level, WASH Cluster coordinates with PWA, CMWU and ICRC on a daily basis. Support channeled through partners in these regards is used to address gaps that the service providers are not able to fill due to a number of issues.

#### B. Support to shelters, communities and neighborhoods

After a slight decrease in the number of IDPs in shelters, the count went on the rise again following renewed attacks. Families move in between IDP shelters and communities east of Salah Ed Deen road particularly in Khan Yunis and Rafah. The situation remains volatile at the moment and continued support to shelters will have to continue.



Various NGOs try to follow with water trucking including provision of storage in bulk and on household level. See below schematic for distribution of desalinated water. The Emergency Water Tankering Working Group, led by the Palestinian Water Authority has drafted a "Quality Standards for Drinking Water in Emergencies" tip sheet. This will help regulate the distribution process and control the prices.



## **Humanitarian response**

- During the humanitarian pause, CMWU immediately started to provide for all possible repairs and refurbishment of repairable facilities such as water and wastewater networks, water wells and desalination units. CMWU reported 11 major repairs, in particular to wells and damaged water pipelines.
- Municipality of Gaza continues to collect solid wastes off the streets of the City, condensed in the temporary disposal site at the transfer station. MoG also managed to distribute 5,000 liters of chlorine to a number of groundwater wells in the City in addition to maintaining critical operation and maintenance works.
- Delivery of fuel ongoing from UNRWA; WASH Cluster requests increase of fuel delivery until repair of the electricity system leads to resuming former power supply.
- Trucking of potable water in North Gaza, Gaza City, Khan Yunis, and Rafah continues.
   ACF has mapped out storage capacity and water distribution in Khan Yunis Governorate.
- UNRWA has rolled out the hygiene/health/water conservation training where the aim is to engage IDPs into participating actively in the cleanliness of the shelters.
- UNICEF plans to distribute 6,000 adult and 4,000 baby hygiene kits. The distribution of 3,000 adult and 2,000 baby kits is in process.

### Advocacy

- EWASH ATF has prepared an infographic "Gaza Water Disaster", found under this link http://bit.ly/1udGRLD.
- EWASH ATF has completed two movies on the water situation in Gaza, two more are to come this week.
  - The first movie is filmed at Bahrain Preparatory Boys school where a woman is interviewed about the difficulties with water and sanitation in the shelter. To watch please follow this link: http://bit.ly/1sl7era
  - The second movie is an interview with Head of CMWU Monther Shoblak. For watching please follow this link: http://bit.ly/1sttfrK

## **Gaps and constraints**

Movement and accessibility remain restricting factors.

#### Coordination

The WASH Cluster upholds communication and coordination with CMWU and Municipalities. Key WASH stakeholders including the Area Focal Points (AFP) are doing their best to provide daily updates to the WASH Cluster. Lack of electricity and internet connections create bottlenecks in communication.

The WASH Cluster is meeting with OCHA and other Clusters in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Gaza on a daily basis.

WASH Cluster held an Emergency Water Tracking Task Force meeting on 9th of August.

The Cluster continues to deliver messages to diplomatic missions and donors on the humanitarian situation and needs.

It is planned to conduct interagency field assessments as soon as a minimum 72 ceasefire window opens.