

**SITREP number 11**  
**WFP**  
**occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)**  
**Operation: PRRO 10387.1**

Date of the report: **14 January 2009**  
Planned caseload: **665,000 beneficiaries (265,000 in Gaza strip)**



**Country: SITREP**  
**WFP Palestinian Territories**  
**Impact of the air strikes and ground offensive in Gaza on WFP staff and operations**

**1) Security:**

As of 13 January am, the death toll since the Israeli attacks began has reached about 976 Palestinians with 4,418 injured, according to UN estimates. Targets included several homes of Hamas activists, government buildings and ministries, metal workshops, mosques and tunnels along the border with Egypt.

Yesterday, Palestinian factions responded with 11 home made and Grad-type rockets and several mortar shells towards Israeli targets. As a result of IAF air strikes, armed clashes and IDF incursions into the Gaza Strip, 21 Palestinians were killed and more than 84 Palestinians were wounded.

IDF declared a three-hour cease-fire every day to allow humanitarian operations inside the strip. It took place today from 1 to 4 pm.

**2) WFP's operations & Logistics**

Since the airstrikes started, WFP has been able to deliver 3,569 mt of food into Gaza. WFP warehouses are currently storing 4,400 mt of food commodities which represents around 75 percent of their full storage capacity. However, because of security conditions, WFP has only access to 66 percent of existing stocks.

Due to the security situation, since 27 December WFP has been unable to operate to its full capacity, but has succeeded in reaching more than 100,000 beneficiaries from its regular caseload. An additional 15,000 Palestinians have been reached through the emergency bread distribution in Beit Hanoun (northern Gaza) and 6,000 patients in 13 hospitals received an emergency food ration. It is estimated that an additional 300,000 Palestinians (refugees and non-refugees) in Gaza will need UN assistance. Out of this number, WFP is planning to add up to 100,000 people to its regular food distribution programme and take into consideration the possibility of finding a third implementing partner in Gaza, as soon as security conditions will allow to regularly resuming distributions.

In order to respond to the current situation, and to mitigate the effects of late distribution, WFP is planning to provide a full ration to its beneficiaries and increase the current 1,400 kcal ration up to 2,100 Kcal for at least three months. In addition, 5,238 Meal-Ready-to-Eat (MREs) have been moved today from Egypt into Israel through the Nitzana crossing point. This operation was facilitated by the logistic cluster. The MREs should be moved into Gaza as soon as the custom clearance is received; once in Gaza, these MREs will be distributed at hospitals, in collaboration with WHO.

WFP will also distribute UHT milk to about 10,000 children at the shelters in Gaza and children living in Beit Hanoun and Beit Laya, two villages not currently assisted by any agency.

**Yesterday**, WFP moved 5 truckloads (134 mt) into Gaza and distributed 61 mt to about 1,000 families in Gaza city with CHF.

**Today**, WFP did not plan any deliveries and succeeded to distribute 6 mt of High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) in collaboration with UNRWA to 15,514 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) at UNRWA shelters in the North Gaza and 13,770 IDPs at UNRWA shelters in Gaza city. 5,600 kg of bread were distributed today, 1,800 kg in Beit Hanoun and 2,400 in Beit Lahia.

A total of 85 truck loads (2,550 mt) are ready for delivery from Israel to Gaza Strip.

### **3) Staffing**

WFP staff inside Gaza (total 14 staff) is safe, yet living in constant fear and anxiety. The Gaza sub-office has been closed since 27 December. Staff is mainly working from home. The only means of communication with them are mobile phones and land lines.

Two WFP national staff based in Ashdod have also been instructed to work from their homes, where they have safe rooms installed whereas no safe rooms are available at the office.

An international WFP staff has been reassigned to the Gaza sub-office and will move there as soon as security conditions permit.

Five WFP logistic officers were temporarily transferred to oPt to support the Logistic Cluster, while one other WFP officer arrived in Jerusalem to reinforce the current operations.

Today the relocation of the UN Staff members and dependants in Gaza was discussed at the emergency STM meeting and the following recommendations were transmitted to the Regional Director of UNDSS:

- 1) The relocation process from Gaza to the West Bank should be triggered and should be on a voluntarily basis;
- 2) Following factors should contribute to their choice: a) in case of relocation UN cannot guarantee the return of s/m & dependents to Gaza, b) no guarantee of continued UN employment.

### **4) Pipeline and funding**

With the current confirmed contribution, and if we increase our level of activities in Gaza as mentioned above, WFP will face a break in the pipeline in March 2009.

WFP also calls on donors to fund its ongoing PRRO for oPt for a shortfall of US\$ 100 million for 2009, including an additional operational requirement of US\$ 30 million for the Gaza crisis.

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