

SITREP number 8
WFP
occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)
Operation: PRRO 10387.1

Date of the report: **11 January 2009**
Planned caseload: **665,000 beneficiaries (265,000 in Gaza strip)**



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

1) Security:

As of 11 January am, the death toll since the Israeli attacks began has reached about 810 with more than 3,330 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 more than 17 home made and Grad-type rockets and several mortar shells towards Israeli targets.

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

Following the official regret from the Israeli MoD about increasing hostile actions against its premises and personnel, UNRWA resumed its movements inside Gaza.

2) WFP's operations & Logistics

Since the airstrikes started, WFP has been able to deliver about 2,652 mt of food into Gaza. WFP warehouses are currently storing about 3,860 mt of food commodities which represents around 60 percent of their full storage capacity. However, because of security conditions, WFP has only access to 60 percent of existing stocks.

Due to the security situation, WFP has been unable to operate to its full capacity, but has succeeded in reaching more than 80,000 beneficiaries since 27 December. An additional 15,000 Palestinians are being reached through the emergency bread distribution in Beit Hanoun (northern Gaza) and 6,000 patients in 13 hospitals are receiving 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, special ready to eat food will need to bring into Gaza until fuel and cooking gas shortage is being resolved.

WFP is also taking into consideration the possibility of distributing 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.

On 9 January, WFP distributed 43.97 mt of food to about 770 families in Khan Younis in collaboration with CHF. On 9 January, 1,750 kg of bread were distributed in Beit Hanoun and 2,450 kg in Beit Lahiya.

Yesterday, WFP could not deliver any cargos as all the crossing points are normally closed on Saturday. WFP distributed 35 mt in Rafah area to 609 families, 579 of which received a full basket, and 53 mt in Gaza City to 437 families, all receiving a full ration. The distribution in Rafah took place in the morning while the one in Gaza City was held during the cease-fire; they were both conducted in collaboration with CHF.

Today, WFP could enter Gaza with about 450 mt (15 trucks). WFP distributed bread in Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya but, at the moment of writing, distributions figures are not available yet.

Bakeries in Gaza are about to finish their flour stocks and there are extremely long queues (six hours and more) to get a small parcel of bread. To allow bakeries to continue providing bread to the population, WFP loaned 300 mt of wheat flour to the MoSA which will make sure that a minimum quantity of bread will be produced for the next six days.

A total of 100 truck loads (3,000 mt) are ready for delivery from Israel to Gaza Strip. Current estimated stocks in Gaza are a total 3,860 mt.

MT Delivered		MT Distributed		Beneficiaries	
From 5 to 10 January 09	Since 27 Dec 08	From 5 to 10 January 09	Since 27 Dec 08	From 5 to 10 January 09	Since 27 Dec 08
962	2,652	612	1,879	40,332	101,000

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 is mobile phones.

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.

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 April .

WFP also calls on donors to fund its ongoing PRRO for oPt for a shortfall of US\$ 86 million for 2009, including an additional operational requirement of US\$20 million and US\$ 305,000 to facilitate inter-agency logistics coordination.

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