



مركز العمل التنموي / معاً

MA'AN Development Center

# HUMANITARIAN AID REPORT

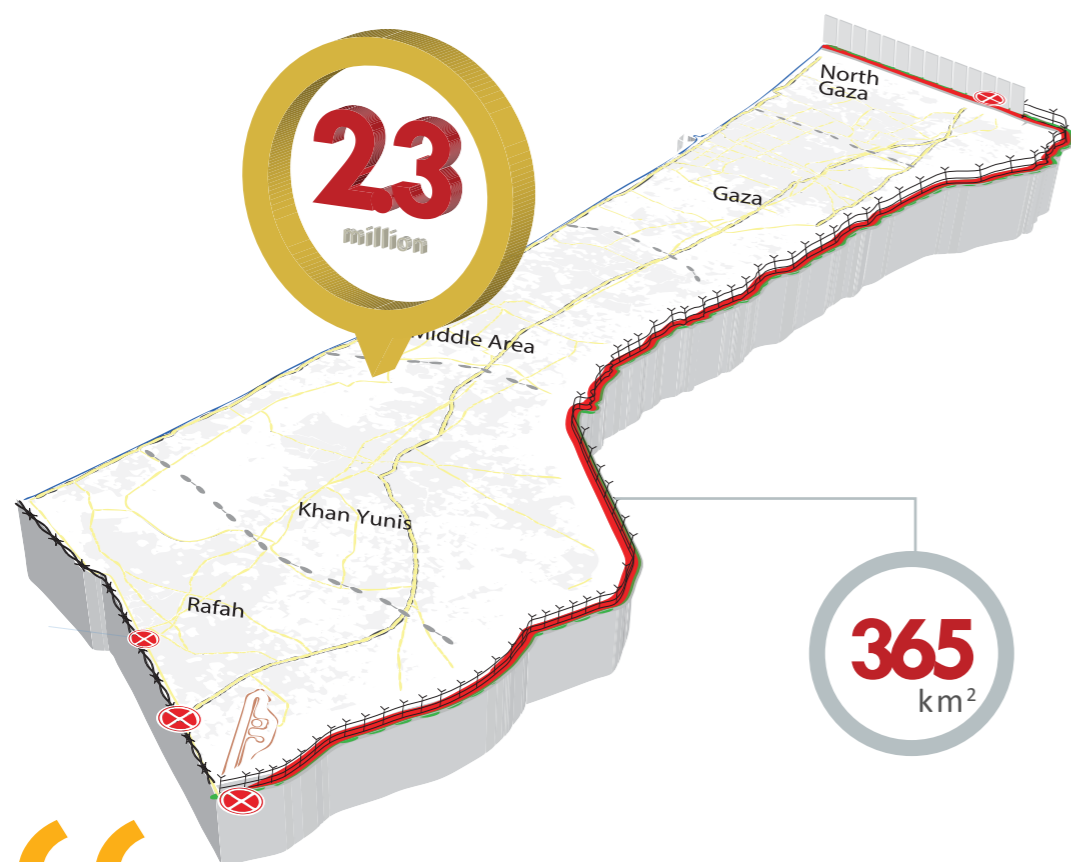


MA'AN's Emergency Response Intervention in the Gaza Strip.

2024

# Context

The Numbers have been updated as of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024.



“

The Gaza Strip, often referred to as the largest open-air prison in the world, holds 2.3 million Palestinians that are imprisoned within an area of 365 square kilometers. For 16 agonizing years, since July 2007, Palestinians in Gaza have endured the relentless weight of an Israeli-enforced land, air, and sea blockade, economic instability characterized by crippling unemployment and poverty rates. More recently, these adversities have reached an all-time high due to the ongoing aggravated humanitarian crisis that started fifteen weeks ago, on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

”

The citizens of Gaza, many of whom are children (more than 55% of the population), women, and the elderly, are experiencing immense suffering. They are grappling with a chronic shortage of necessities as fundamental as clean water, food, and medical supplies, which has left the population in an extremely precarious situation, with limited access to essential services. It is also important to note that, the 16-year siege and past aggressions have already caused psychological trauma to the people of Gaza, yet their mental health and well-being situation is rapidly deteriorating as this aggression is the deadliest in the occupation's history. The aggression has also caused the destruction of civilian infrastructure, including at least 30 hospitals, 334 educational facilities, 478 mosques are destroyed, and 4 Churches; one of these churches was the Greek Orthodox church in Gaza City which served as shelter for displaced, where at least 18 Palestinians were killed.

30



334



478



4

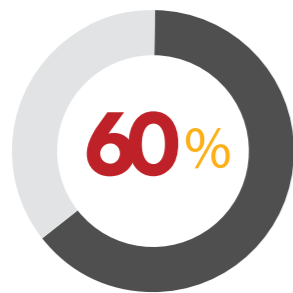


Since the start of the escalations on the Gaza Strip on October 7th, 2023; the toll on human lives has been staggering. At least 35,096 Palestinians were killed by continuous Israeli bombardment and aggression (60% of them are children, women, and elderly) while at least 67,240 were injured according to the Palestinian Ministry of Health. Since October 7<sup>th</sup>, 13,642 Palestinian children; some only days old, lost their precious innocent lives, on an average of 115 children per day. More than 1,000 have had one or both of their legs amputated without anesthesia. Without an end to the violence and full humanitarian access, the cost in children's lives could grow exponentially.



**35,096**

Palestinians people killed



**60%**



children, women, and elderly

**13,642**

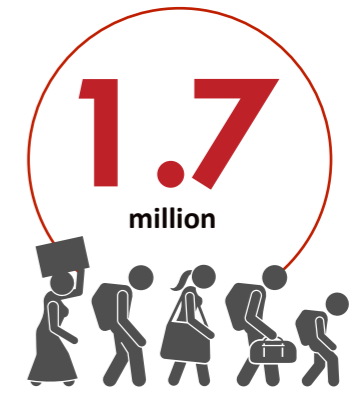
Palestinian children



infants



According to [UN OCHA's latest flash update \(115\)](#) **1.7 million** Palestinians were displaced from their homes, with **nearly 1.4 million** of them seeking shelter in **155** UNRWA emergency shelters across Gaza, the Number of IDPs in the South of the Gaza Strip continues to increase with **nearly 1.2 million** people sheltering in **99** UNRWA facilities. Thousands of IDPs, who have arrived in Rafah (in the south) since 3 December, continued facing extreme overcrowded and dire conditions both inside and outside shelters. They are forced to wait for hours in large crowds around aid distribution centers, in the absence of an adequate number of latrines, open-air defecation is widespread, increasing concerns of the spread of disease particularly during rains and related flooding. On December 21<sup>st</sup>, the Director General of the World Health Organization reiterated his concern about the high risk of infectious diseases spreading in IDP shelters due to the severe overcrowding and the disruption of health, water, and sanitation systems. Malnutrition increases the risk of children dying from illnesses like diarrhea, pneumonia, and measles, especially in a setting where they lack access to life-saving health services. More than **180,000** cases of acute respiratory infections, over **100,000** cases of diarrhea in children under five years old and more than **24,000** cases of meningitis, skin rashes, scabies, lice, and chickenpox have been recorded since October 7<sup>th</sup>, as well as cases of hepatitis C. While a healthy body can more easily fight off these diseases, a wasted and weakened body will struggle. Hunger weakens the body's defenses and opens the door to disease. Even if the child survives, this can have life-long impacts as it stunts growth and impairs cognitive development.



*Palestinians displaced from their homes*

Yet the Israeli occupation continues to violate the International Humanitarian Law by attacking at least 320 education facilities including at least 44 UNRWA schools and 165 governmental schools deeming them unsafe. In fact, there is no safe space in Gaza as Israeli missiles attacks have been recorded on health facilities damaging 183 health care facilities, 25 hospitals and 62 health centers are now out of service, and 136 ambulances causing more than 337 health worker fatalities including paramedics and at least 370 injuries among healthcare workers. Israel has also abducted at least 99 healthcare workers among other abducted individuals.

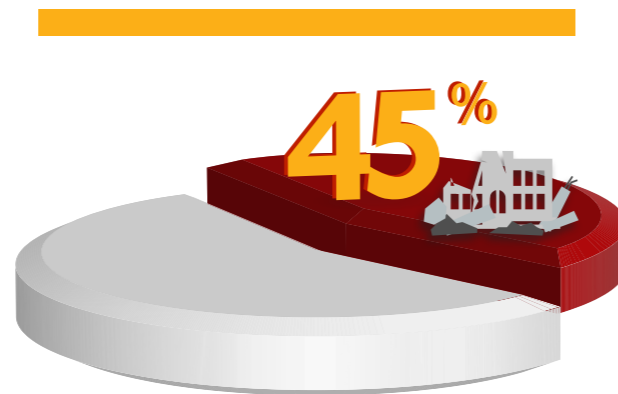


**In 3 days, about 600 Palestinians were killed inside the Indonesian hospital."**

-Director General of the Ministry of Health



According to Gaza Ministry of Public Works and Housing, 45% of the housing units have been destroyed, more than 79,200 were rendered uninhabitable, and at least 240,000 were partially damaged. Entire neighborhoods have been targeted and wiped out. On the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, the head of the Palestinian Civil Defense in northern Gaza stated in the media that, due to lack of fuel, rescuers have been left with just one operational vehicle.



more than **79,200** uninhabitable

The amount of aid entering the Gaza strip is only 5% of what is needed, aid trucks are having a difficult time reaching the northern areas of the strip, meaning Palestinians that are still in the north are barely getting any kind of aid. The FRC considers that the Risk of Famine will increase for each day that the current situation of intense conflict and restricted humanitarian access persists or worsens. Since November 7<sup>th</sup>, due to the lack of fuel, water, flour, in Northern Gaza, **no bakeries** have been operating in the north. Palestinians are resorting to unconventional and unsafe eating methods due to food scarcity. Children are dying out of starvation, thirst, and epidemics if they do not die from the constant bombing.

Israeli missiles have damaged **20** wash facilities located across the Gaza strip that have previously provided water and sanitation services to over **1.1 million** Palestinians. Sewage lines and infrastructure were also damaged causing sewage and solid water to accumulate in the streets. On the evening of October 9<sup>th</sup>, the Israeli Occupation Authorities announced a total halting of food, fuel, electricity, and water into the Gaza Strip, resulting in a shortage in drinkable water and food according to [UN OCHA's latest flash update \(115\)](#).

**L**evel of humanitarian assistance that has been allowed into Gaza up to this point is completely inadequate and not commensurate with the needs of people in Gaza, compounding the humanitarian tragedy.”

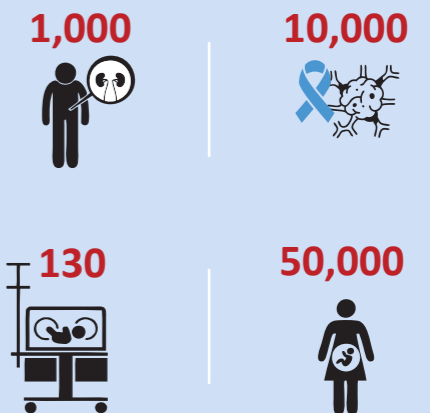
-The UN secretary general Antonio Guterres

The Gaza Power Plant is the only source of power and has officially run out of fuel as of October 11<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm and was forced to stop functioning, triggering an immediate blackout, which continues throughout Gaza.



## Health Care

There are at least **1,000** kidney failure patients and **10,000** cancer patients and more than **130** neonates; that are in desperate need of incubators to survive, in the Gaza strip at high risk of dying due to lack of fuel and electricity, and 50,000 pregnant Palestinian women that are or will be giving birth under constant aggression, having c-section operations without any anesthesia.



According to the ministry of Telecom and Information technology and Paltel; The largest Palestinian telecommunications company, all communications with and within the Gaza Strip has been largely cut off, following the shutdown of landlines, cellular, and internet services due to the depletion of fuel used to run generators by telecommunications providers, most recently Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> of January all telecommunications in the Gaza Strip was cut off again. Thus, further deepening the humanitarian crisis in the Strip due to the inability of citizens to call for rescue and relief services, in addition to cutting off communication between ambulances, civil defense and PRC crews and their centers, who will be unable to direct them to where they are desperately needed after a missile attack.

**WHO** official Michael Ryan has warned of a “recipe for epidemics” in the Palestinian enclave as Gaza displacement figures mount, temperatures drop, and food remains scarce.

# HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

In this harrowing context, and after MA'AN's assessment of the situation and its capacity, MA'AN determined that several types of humanitarian assistance are needed:

- First, cash assistance and vouchers are an indispensable tool for providing immediate relief to those in need. They offer the affected families the flexibility to prioritize their most pressing needs, whether it's purchasing food, medicine, hygiene supplies or paying for urgently required services. Emergency cash assistance is not only a lifeline for these individuals but also a means to restore a degree of dignity and autonomy in their lives during these trying times.
- Second, providing mental health and psychosocial support services (MHPSS) for families and individuals affected by the aggression.
- Third, distribute dignity and hygiene kits for displaced individuals and households.
- Fourth, distribute Non-Food Items for IDPs. This includes family winterized tents, bedding sets (mattresses and blankets), sealing-off kits, winter clothes kits, and wooden timber to support IDPs in establishing self-built shelters.
- Fifth, conduct emergency WASH interventions that would ensure vulnerable people's access to clean drinking water, and sanitation services.
- Sixth, provision of hot meals and food baskets.

MA'AN Development Center has a long-standing commitment to delivering effective and efficient humanitarian aid (including cash/voucher assistance to those in need). We have established systems and protocols in place to ensure that any donations entrusted to us are disbursed and utilized credibly and transparently to the affected families and individuals in Gaza.



## MA'AN's Emergency Response

### Taking Action

MA'AN's Emergency Response to Gaza –As of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024:

#### Cash assistance:

- MA'AN was able to distribute 1,756,360 (NIS) Shekel to 2,311 households, to aid in their ability to access urgent/basic items and services.



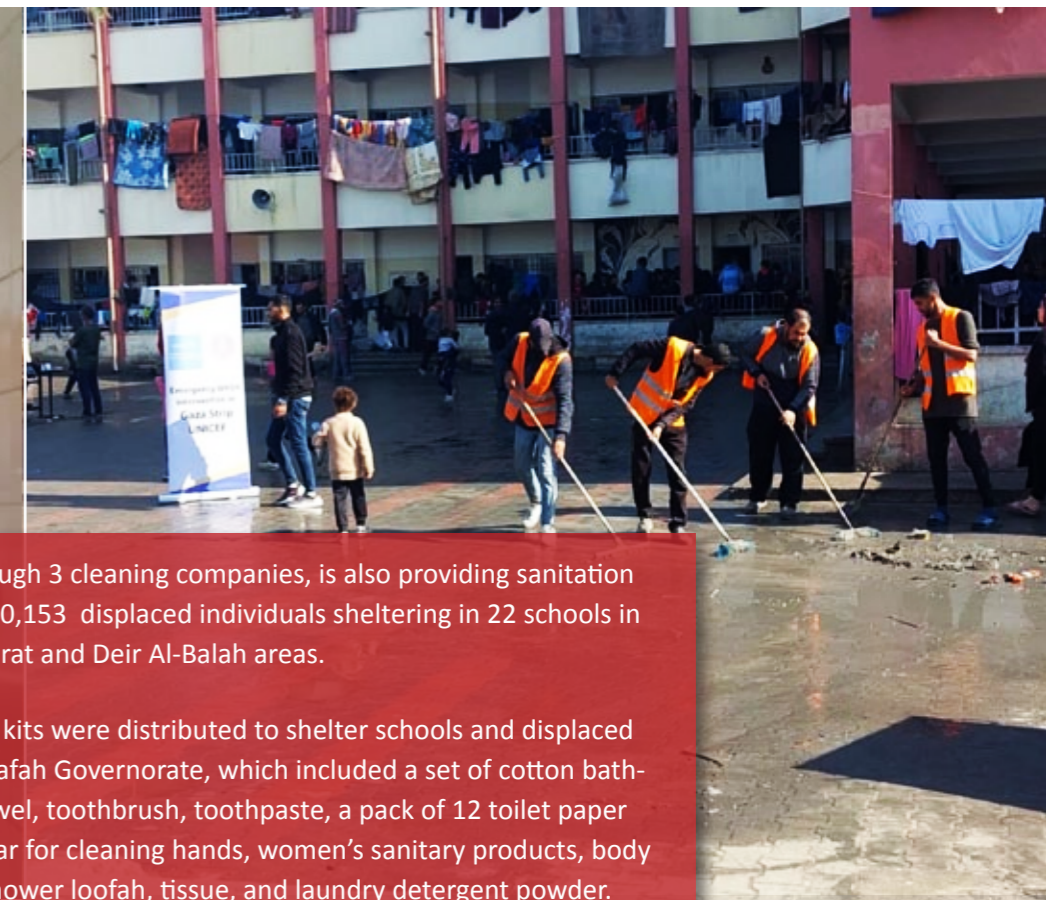
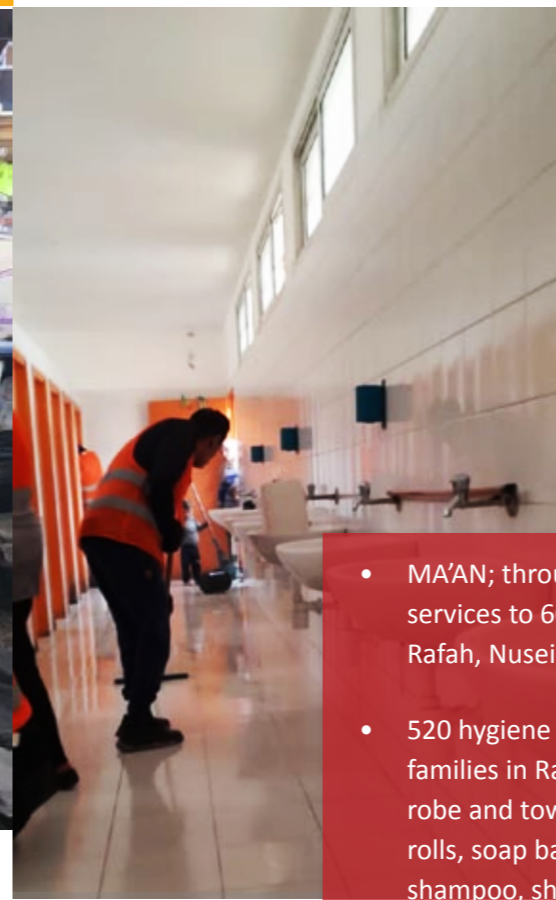
#### Psychosocial support and Psychological First Aid:

- MA'AN was able to provide individual and group counselling services to 9,348 children, of which 4,633 were girls and 4,715 were boys.
- MA'AN was able to reach 278 children with disabilities: 138 girls and 140 boys.
- MA'AN also provided psychosocial support through recreational activities and games to 14,595 children; 7,503 girls and 7,092 boys, and 298 people with disabilities; 129 girls and 169 boys, all located in 17 shelter schools.





- MA'AN was also able to provide psychosocial support interventions to 4,500 caregivers: 2,369 females, and 2,131 males.
- 200 toys were delivered by MA'AN to displaced children located in the Middle area, Khan Younis and the Rafah areas, as part of recreational activities.



- MA'AN; through 3 cleaning companies, is also providing sanitation services to 60,153 displaced individuals sheltering in 22 schools in Rafah, Nuseirat and Deir Al-Balah areas.
- 520 hygiene kits were distributed to shelter schools and displaced families in Rafah Governorate, which included a set of cotton bathrobe and towel, toothbrush, toothpaste, a pack of 12 toilet paper rolls, soap bar for cleaning hands, women's sanitary products, body shampoo, shower loofah, tissue, and laundry detergent powder.
- MA'AN installed three mobile WC units each unit has three toilets in informal shelters for the benefit of 270 displaced individuals



**WASH:**

- 5,756,478 Liters of drinking water was distributed to homes, and shelters in the Rafah, Khan Younis, Deir Al-Balah, and the Middle area. The water was distributed in filling points and bottled water.
- MA'AN distributed 7,978 empty gallons of water to the displaced in the Deir al-Balah area and to 3 other shelter schools in the Rafah Governorate, as well as the distribution of 3,400 portable/foldable water galons.

**Hot meals and food parcels**

- MA'AN was able to provide 22,210 hot meals to displaced families since the start of the war in the Middle area and Rafah, Deir Al-Balah, Al-zawaida, Al-Nuseirat, and Khan Younis areas.
- MA'AN also distributed food parcels for 27,692 Households in the Rafah governorate.



**Health:**

- MA'AN provided and distributed medications to 460 displaced individuals, including elderly individuals with health issues, who are being hosted at the Orthodox Church in Gaza.



**Non-Food Items:**

- MA'AN provided 677 dignity kits ranging from infant and children kits that included containing diapers and other necessities, women's dignity kits that included a prayer set and underwear, sanitary napkins, wet wipes and a box of pins, as well as dignity kits to persons with disabilities.
- MA'AN provided winterization kits to help protect the displaced individuals from the cold winter weather. This included over 4,433 blankets, Men's winter training suit and underwear, women's winter training suit, women's slippers, and children's jackets, As well as the distribution of 3,306 sealing off kits



**A Way Forward**

**Heartfelt Thanks to Our Donors**

*We'd like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to all our donors. Hand in hand; we have put an exceptional effort into saving lives in Gaza. The unity, dedication, and participation that you have portrayed and still do, is a mere reflection of the humanitarian imperative; the notion of addressing urgent needs and alleviating the suffering in Gaza. And with your firm stance in advocating for a humanitarian pause, more humanitarian aid is provided.*





## Donate Today!

**We** appeal to all our partners from international organizations, governments, humanitarian agencies, and individuals to stand in solidarity with the people of Gaza and support us in the provision of emergency assistance.

We, at MA'AN Development Center, are committed to ensuring the transparent and credible distribution of funds to those in need. We aspire to act swiftly and jointly with all our partners to be able to mobilize the resources needed for this emergency assistance and to coordinate with all relevant stakeholders to ensure effective and efficient distribution.

Let us demonstrate the compassion and collective will of the international community to assist the affected people and families in Gaza during this crisis. Your contribution can make a significant difference in alleviating the suffering of countless families in Gaza. By providing emergency assistance, you will not only offer immediate relief but also contribute to the resilience and recovery of this besieged community.

**For further information, please contact us at MA'AN Development Center through the following email:**

**[emergencyfund@maan-ctr.org](mailto:emergencyfund@maan-ctr.org)**

**All individual donations will go directly to support the people of Gaza, without the deduction of overhead**

[www.maan-ctr.org](http://www.maan-ctr.org)

FACEBOOK - <https://www.facebook.com/MAANDevelopmentCenter>

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