

Dear Ashraf
Could you include the PWA logo here

Gaza Emergency WASH cluster weekly situation report

Number 1

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Situation overview

100 000 people have gotten access to water during this week. However, more that 400 000 people still remain without water throughout Gaza. There are severe problems with sewage according to CMWU, who is reporting that waste water from the treatment plant in the Netzarim area is flooding up to one kilometer from the plant and that waste water in the Beit Lahia lagoon is increasing to the point of risking a collapse of the lagoon. There is also a shortage of water tankers getting in to Gaza, leading to problems with water supply.

Conducted assessments

A damage assessment made by the CMWU estimates the damages to water and waste water facilities needing emergency repair from CMWU to USD\$ 3,688,390. It is estimated that these damages will take between 7 and 60 days to repair. Among other damages, four water wells (in Beit Hanoun, Gaza and Jabalia) have been totally destroyed and there are damages to several water carries (e.g. Nusairat, Gaza main water wells and Khanyuonis). The waste water networks in Gaza, Beit Hanoun, Jabalia and Beit Lahia have also received serious damages. Along with the assessment CMWU has conducted emergency repairs, for example sewage carriers, wells and electrical repairs. CMWU currently has a list of prioritized items, such as pipes, generators and pumps, which are waiting to get clearance for entry into Gaza. The WASH cluster is raising this issue with UNCMT.



Water well damages, picture provided by CMWU



Waste water facilities damages, picture provided by CMWU

In a telephone survey conducted by CARE, 71% of the respondents said they had problems with the quality or access of water. 32% reported that that water was their most urgent need. Almost half were without garbage collection, with two thirds throwing garbage on the street.

PHG has conducted a rapid assessment telephone survey throughout Gaza. Most of the areas are reported to experience at least some level of difficulty to secure water, and in many locations the water is expected to be too expensive for many people. The table below summarizes the main findings. For the complete report, please contact Subha Ghannan (subha@phg.org).

Location	Access to drinking water	Access to domestic water	Sewage problems	Major problems
Jabalya Camp/Jabalya	No major problems	No major problems	None noted	
Ash Sheikh Radwan/Gaza	3 times a week by tanks	3 times a week by network	Information missing	Water costs 80 NIS/m ³ and has strange taste due to seepage of waste water
Tel Al Sultan/Rafah	By water distribution tanks or household filtered	2 times a week by network	None noted	Water costs 50 NIS/m ³
Khuza'a/Khan Younis	3 times a week by network	3 times a week by network	None noted	40% of the rooftop tanks are destroyed
Barazil Neighborhood/Rafah	By water tanks	3 times a week by network	None noted	Water costs 50 NIS/m ³
Al Remal/Gaza	By water tanks	2 times a week	None noted	Water costs 100 NIS/m ³ and takes 1 day to secure
Al Zouhour Neighborhood/Rafah	By water networks	3 times a week by network	None noted	Water costs 100 NIS/m ³
Al Tuffah/Gaza	By water tanks	By water tankers	Large quantities of waste water	Water costs 175 NIS/m ³ and takes 90 min to secure
Al Qarara/Khan Younis	No serious problems	No serious problems	Large quantities of waste water	
Al Amal Neighborhood/Khan Younis City/ Khan Younis	By water tanks twice a week	No access	None noted	Water costs 133 NIS/m ³
Al Zeitoun/Gaza	By saline groundwater well	3 times a week by network	Solid waste in the streets	

WASH cluster activities

The WASH Cluster is meeting regularly every Thursday at 11h00 in PWA Building in Ramallah under the e-WASH platform. The E-WASH group in Gaza also met for the first time last Thursday since the end of the conflict. A Special Appeal for Gaza is being prepared and will be submitted to OCHA on Tuesday 27th. WASH Cluster partners need to send their WASH projects to WCC by Sunday (tforster@unicef.org). The WCC briefed a donors meeting held at ECHO on Friday, about the current WASH situation in Gaza. WASH partners have been requested to send information about activities to the Cluster.

WASH Cluster Partners

ACF has so far distributed 1051 m³ of water and 38000 liters of fuel. Oxfam has distributed approximately 250 000 liters of water on a daily average during January 17th to 19th, together with CMWU, OCHA, UNRWA and local communities in northern Gaza and in Gaza City with surroundings. ICRC is supplying CMWU with material for emergency repairs of water and plumbing, as well as repairing main pipes in Gaza City. CARE has started distributing 1000 hygiene kits and plastic sheets, starting with 200 in east Gaza. Unicef has supplied 500 family water kits and has started distributing 4300 hygiene kits, approximately 1400 of these are already distributed. CMWU has been supported with 50 000 dollars by Unicef for emergency repairs. PHG has distributed 15 water tanks with 2 m³ water each, reaching 9000 beneficiaries as well as establishing 3 public water filling points in Tel al Hawa.

Highlights for next week

- Multi-sector Rapid Needs Assessment led by OCHA
- Submission of Gaza Special Appeal
- All WASH organizations should submit their priority needs for entering material into Gaza to Tim Forster by Wednesday
- Coordination between WASH and Shelter clusters concerning needs assessment processes
- Mapping emergency WASH activities in Gaza

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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