Flash Update #22
August 19th, 2024



War on Gaza: humanitarian catastrophe

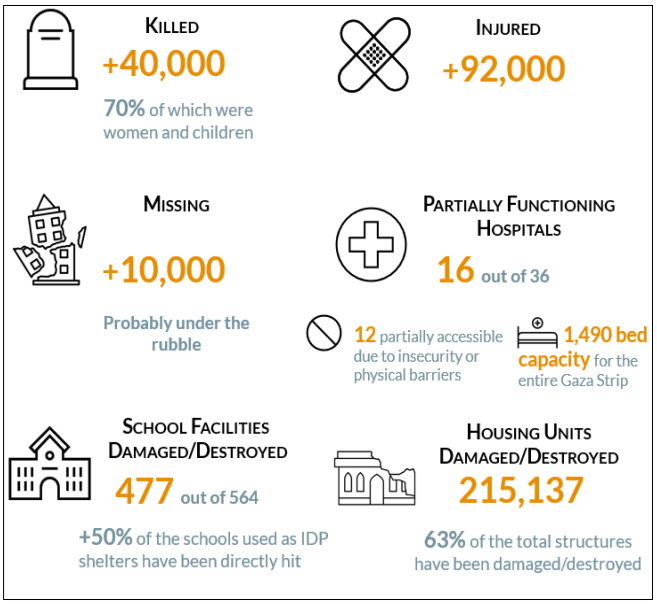
Environmental cleaning with waste collection and disposal by WeWorld's team, July 2024.

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Ahmed Mohamed Wafi, a 38-year-old father of seven, shared his struggle to find a decent water container. Desperate for a solution, he would scour the streets for empty oil bottles, cleaning and repurposing them just to store water. He owned a 20-liter jug meant for water, but the jug's poor quality plagued him. Made of weak plastic, it had cracked from frequent use and exposure to the harsh sun as he waited in long lines to fill it. Over time, the inside of the jug turned green with algae, making it even less reliable. When he finally received proper water containers, it felt like a lifeline, rescuing him from a dire situation. Ahmed added that he hoped WeWorld would continue its support for the camps amidst the harsh realities of war and displacement.

SITUATION UPDATE

Israeli bombardment from the air, land, and sea continues resulting in further civilian casualties, displacement, and destruction of houses and other civilian infrastructure. **Israel has killed about 1.8% of Gaza's population** since October 7, official figures show. The risk of infectious disease outbreak in Gaza is high. The Health Cluster is preparing for a potential polio outbreak given the detection of the first case.



Humanitarian Access

The closure of Rafah Crossing, the security situation around Karem Shalom, and the break in law and order inside Gaza Strip have led to an estimated **decrease of 56% in humanitarian aid cargo compared to April 2024**. The cumulative impact of access constraints is perpetuating a continued cycle of deprivation and distress among affected people. Since 1 August, about a third of aid missions within Gaza were denied access by Israeli authorities (OCHA).

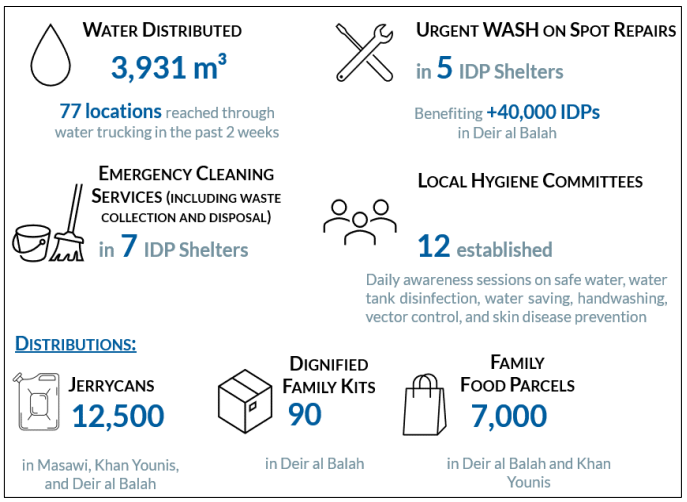


West Bank

According to OCHA, since October 7, **594 Palestinians were killed** in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. These include 577 killed by Israeli forces, ten by Israeli settlers, and seven where it remains unknown whether the perpetrators were Israeli forces or settlers. The number of Palestinian children killed by Israeli force's live ammunition has almost tripled (115 compared to 39) since October 7, compared with the previous 10 months.

OUR INTERVENTION IN GAZA

Despite increasing attacks, military operations, evacuation orders and movement restrictions in humanitarian safe zones, **WeWorld continues his emergency response program**. In all Gaza areas, overcrowded IDP shelters and camps, along with inadequate water and sanitation facilities, have created unsanitary conditions that heighten infection risks. **WeWorld in the last 2 weeks delivered comprehensive emergency interventions, with the following activities**:



WeWorld activated its contingency and business continuity plan to maintain operations and deliver humanitarian aid in Gaza. The operational team is composed by:

COORDINATION:
Gaza Emergency Team
+ Humanitarian Aid Unit

25 Staff Members
60 Daily Workers

1 Warehouse for emergency items in Gaza
2 Offices/Guesthouses in Gaza

WeWorld has been present in Palestine since 1992, to seek solutions to a long-standing crisis, funded mainly by the European Commission, AICS, the UN, cooperation agencies of different countries, and ChildFund Alliance.

APPEAL AND ADVOCACY WORK

WeWorld developed a Gaza Response Plan to share and coordinate the response within the ChildFund Alliance and with other partners, including a detailed response and an appeal. ChildFund Alliance and WeWorld are among the promoters of the international appeal and petition #CeasefireNow. On its social networks, WeWorld launched the campaign to invite individuals to sign the petition, donate and share.

CONTACT POINTS

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