



**Ahli Arab Hospital
Gaza Emergency Response Situation Report # 3
15 August 2014**

General Update

The 72-hour ceasefire, which expired at midnight on Wednesday, has been extended for an additional 120 hours until midnight, 18 August. The ceasefire is holding despite incidents recorded on either side of the boarder, while negotiations continue in Cairo between the parties towards reaching a permanent ceasefire.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) estimates that at least 100 people may have been buried under rubble of destroyed buildings, but ambulances could not evacuate them during the continuous violence. Three ambulance workers were killed evacuating patients in Rafah. Several hospitals reported damages, forcing one hospital to close, and are facing shortages of services, staff, fuel, water and food due to difficult access and supply lines being cut. One-third of hospitals and one-half of primary health clinics are closed due to damage or due to being in an insecure location for staff and patients.

An unexploded bomb left over from the recent military operations in Gaza detonated in Beit Lahiya on Wednesday morning, killing six people, including three members of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) police, an Italian journalist and his interpreter. Six persons were injured, including members of the EOD police. The incident underlines the threat which thousands of explosive remnants of war (ERW) dispersed throughout civilian areas pose to children, farmers, humanitarian workers and IDPs returning home. UN premises have also been contaminated by ERW. The UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has so far cleared 27 UNRWA installations, and provided risk education for 26,000 people and 123 humanitarian workers. A lasting ceasefire, however, is required to undertake unexploded ordnance clearance, damage assessments and repair work to damaged educational facilities, as well as preparation for the new school year

2. Humanitarian Situation Update

- 1.8 million Palestinians affected in the Gaza Strip by the current humanitarian crisis.
- 1.8 million Palestinians have reduced or no access to clean water and sanitation services.
- 80% of Palestinians receive electricity 2 hours a day (on average, some receive less and some do not have access at all).
- 1000's of explosive remnants of war dispersed throughout civilians areas
- Over 1,973 Palestinians killed, including at least 1,416 civilians, of whom 459 are children and 238 are women
- 10,193 Palestinians injured, including 3,084 children, 1,970 females (18-60) and 368 and 368 elderly
- 67 Israelis killed, including 64 soldiers, 3 civilians in addition to one foreign national.
- 32 Hospitals, clinics and medical centers hit and damaged by shelling



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- 137 schools damaged
- 350,000 people hosted at UNRWA, government shelters and with host families.



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- The numbers of killed, injured, displaced are always on the rise as there are still people under the rubble, or cannot be reached due to the Israeli military operation on the ground, or still not located yet.
- The homes of 16,800 families were totally destroyed or severely damaged.

Child Protection

- At least 373,000 children require direct and specialized psychosocial support on the basis of families who have experienced death, injury or loss of home.
- Explosive remnants of war are left in civilian areas affected by conflict, causing a major threat to children.

3. Health Situation

3.1 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

While WASH partners have been able to increase water supply to IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons), the fluctuating number of IDPs and the increase since the resumption in hostilities may also increase water needs and hamper distribution. An estimated 182,000 displaced people moving between shelters and home have restricted access to water. Provision of fuel is needed to operate critical WASH facilities until repairs of the electricity grid will lead to the resumption of the former power supply level. Damaged electricity feeder lines, water and waste water lines need urgent repairs. Movement and access restrictions remain the inhibiting factors for WASH partners' ability to carry out assessments and repairs, and hinder solid waste removal and management.

The constant movement of IDPs between their homes and designated shelters during ceasefires poses challenges in prioritizing responses undertaken by water and sanitation service providers.



The damage sustained to the GPP (the Gaza Power Plant) on 29 July has had a devastating effect on all WASH facilities in Gaza. Lack of energy to operate facilities and limitations on access hinder the critical operations of WASH facilities, including operations of water service providers, as well as maintenance and repairs, with potential devastating consequences for the entire population of the Gaza Strip.

3.2 Health facilities:

Shortages of drugs and medical supplies continue to be of concern. During the last month, health services in Gaza consumed what they would normally consume in a three-month period. The drugs and disposables which are most urgently needed are those related to Emergency, Operation Theatres and ICUs.

The fourteen MoH hospitals and fifteen NGO hospitals rely on back-up electric generators for power to run their facilities. With the prolonged electricity outages across Gaza, fuel needs for these generators have increased. Currently, the available fuel reserve in these hospitals is sufficient to operate them for a period of three to ten days only. Medical equipment and spare parts are needed. Specialized medical teams in reconstructive, orthopedic, neurovascular, plastic and pediatric surgeries are required. Provision of preventive health services to IDPs in shelters is required to prevent the outbreak of communicable diseases. Fifteen damaged hospitals and



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sixteen public health clinics (PHCs) need reconstruction to return to their former functionality.

So far, 370 patients have been referred to facilities outside Gaza for specialized medical care due to the nature of their injuries; 340 are waiting to be referred; and 147 applications are in the process of being referred. Ongoing hostilities impede the

ability to carry out repairs of damaged health facilities. Seven out of twenty-one UNRWA primary health clinics remain closed. Public health clinics are struggling to serve up to an additional ten IDP sites per clinic, in addition to their normal caseload.

4. Situation at Ahli Arab Hospital (AAH)

- Since the beginning of the crisis, AAH staff has maintained an around-the-clock presence at the hospital, receiving wounded people and providing them with the critical medical care that they need.
- Last Sunday, Al-Ahli mourned one of its nurses, Ms. Nivine Attar, who was killed while she was at her home, after finishing her night duty at Al-Ahli. There was a bombardment at her home and she was protecting her two daughters (aged 2½ years and 6 months), who are now the only family survivors.



A Nurse at AlAhli who was killed in her home by bombardment

5. Response of Ahli Arab Hospital (AAH)¹

- AAH has received since the beginning of the Gaza Emergency 3,300 cases, of which more than 35% suffer from physical casualties.
- AAH is currently treating 30 in-patients suffering from severe injuries.
- AAH receives on average per day 55 burn cases as a result of the war; of which 50% are children.
- AAH receives on average per day 15 new cases suffering from wounds.
- AAH receives on average per day 150 new cases (mostly children) affected by inadequate hygiene (partly because of large amounts of refuse not collected), lack of water, and food shortages. As a result, children suffer chest infections, diarrhea, rashes and scabies.

6. Needs of Ahli Arab Hospital

- Due to the huge number of children and women who are in need of psychosocial care, Al-Ahli needs to increase intensively the psychosocial services which they are providing.
- There is a great need to increase free medical missions at Al-Ahli.
- Fuel to produce electricity in order to run the surgery theaters and keep running essential equipment that keeps patients in critical conditions alive.
- Medical supplies, medicine and antibiotics.
- Orthopedic supplies for the high number of cases of broken limbs and other wounds.



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- Food and non food items for patients and their families that have sought refuge at the hospital.
- Linens, hospital beds, mattresses and pillows.
- Procurement of new equipment that is needed for post-war treatment and rehabilitation of injured patients.
- Hiring of new staff to stand up to the need of responding to and supporting patients and their families.

7. Funding Needs of Ahli Arab Hospital

| Item | Cost in USD |
|---|--------------------|
| Treatment of injured people who need surgical interventions | 60,000 |
| Treatment of burned children (approx. 500 children averaging 7 visits at \$20 each) | 70,000 |
| Free medical missions | 40,000 |
| A Car for staff transportation (for conducting medical missions) | 35,000 |
| Fuel | 80,000 |
| Medical supplies for 300 injured and treatment of 5000 women and children victims affected by the ongoing offensive | 95,000 |
| Orthopedic supplies (plates, screws, etc.) | 30,000 |
| Psychosocial support for women and children (approximately 4000) | 200,000 |
| Food parcels for the poor | 85,000 |
| Hiring additional staff to meet the new challenges for 4 months | 30,000 |
| Post war treatment | 60,000 |
| Repair of the ventilation system, broken glasses of the windows as well as doors | 10,000 |
| New developing x-ray machine | 18,000 |
| Medical equipment/tools for post injury rehabilitation and treatment in the physical therapy department, including: | |
| a) Two Continuous Passing Movement (CPM) at US\$ 2500 each | 5,000 |
| b) Electrical Stimulation | 2,500 |
| c) Vacuum | 2,500 |
| d) Short Wave | 8,000 |
| Linen, beds and pillows | 15,000 |
| Total Budget needed | \$ 846,000 |



8. How you can help

Your financial contribution will help meet these urgent needs and is greatly appreciated. Funds may be contributed directly to the Diocese of Jerusalem or through a local charity in partnership with the Diocese of Jerusalem.

| Donations in US Dollars (\$) | Donations in Euro (€) |
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Information and data of the report is based on reports:

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