

Flash Update #02

May 13th 2023



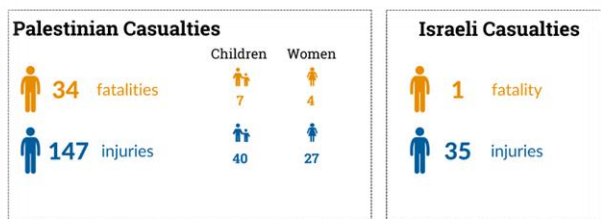
Ongoing Hostilities in the Gaza Strip

The lack of further fuel supplies will lead to the disruption of basic services in 48 hours

THE SITUATION IN THE STRIP

Following our [Flash Update #1](#), on the fifth consecutive day, armed hostilities have not stopped between Israeli forces and Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip, resulting in further casualties and damage.

According to the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), in Gaza the total death toll has risen to 34, mostly civilians, including 7 children and 4 women, and 147 were injured, among which 40 are children. In Israel, the death of 1 woman has been registered and 35 people received medical treatment for physical injuries.



Sources: OCHA, MoH
Updated at 12 p.m. of May 13th

In Gaza, 450 houses have been damaged, 30 of which completely destroyed, and the rest heavily or partially affected, leaving thousands of people homeless.

BASIC SERVICES COMPROMISED

As borders are closed, industrial fuel cannot enter Gaza, leaving the main power plant with an autonomy for only another 48 hours. This will lead to the disruption of all basic services: mainly water access, wastewater treatment, sanitation facilities and access to health treatments, threatening public and environmental health.

EDUCATION

All institutions have remained closed since last Tuesday, affecting the right to education to over 600.000 girls and boys, already traumatized by the ongoing hostilities and violence.

HEALTH

The Palestinian MoH has declared the status of emergency: the public health system is currently overstretched by the critical shortages of drugs, medical disposables and laboratory supplies, and strained by the blockade.

There is an urgent need for support to manage the anticipated surge of injured and to sustain life-saving health care, including mental health and psycho-social support to the population of the Gaza Strip, especially to the most vulnerable patients.

The fuel shortage will lead to the disruption of life-saving equipment and of all the WASH in Health services, fundamental for the prevention of infections and control within health facilities.

142 referred hospital patients are denied exit to access critical treatment unavailable in the Gaza Strip, 5 of which are in need of immediate life-saving interventions.

ECONOMY

The already fragile economy of the Strip is under attack: for the 5th day, about 3500 fishermen are not able to work due to the ongoing offensive. Furthermore, about 600 tons of agricultural products are on hold, waiting to be exported. This attack on local economy constitutes a risk for the only source of social security.

WEWORLD IN GAZA

WeWorld is currently active in the Gaza Strip, with projects in the WASH, Health, Protection and Livelihood sectors. In these hours, WeWorld is collecting funds from existing and new donors to respond to the urgent needs of the population most affected by the indiscriminated attacks, once the hostilities will end.

If you want to receive information about the work of WeWorld in the Gaza Strip and in Palestine, please contact andrea.sparro@weworld.it.

A DECISIONAL IMPASSE

After 5 days, there is still no answer from the Israeli Authority regarding the possibility for residents in Israel or the West Bank, including West Jerusalem, to return to their homes. Moreover, no information is provided concerning the possibility to evacuate more than 140 expatriates, West Bank and Jerusalem IDs, 5 of which are WeWorld staff, who are in enforced detention in the Strip.

WeWorld denounces the repeated violation of International Humanitarian Law and human rights of the people of the Gaza Strip and calls on the U.N. Security Council and the entire international community to negotiate for an immediate cessation of violence and the opening of crossing points to allow the movement of people as well as essential and medical goods.