



KEY DATA

ISSUE # 5 - 24 January 2024

CRISIS IN PALESTINE

UNFPA Palestine Situation Report

25,850
Fatalities*
25,490 in Gaza, 70%
children and women
360 in West Bank, 26%
being children

67,702
Injuries*
63,354 in Gaza
4,348 in West Bank

~1.7M
Internally displaced*
1.7M in Gaza (75% of
Gaza)
2,540 in West Bank

1.34M
Women of reproductive age*
541,567 in Gaza
797,097 in West Bank

13,649
Expected deliveries in the
next month**
5,522 in Gaza
8,127 in West Bank

15 out of 36
Hospitals in the Gaza Strip are
partially functional and provide
limited services.

*OCHA Flash Update #100 - 23 Jan 2024
**MISP calculation

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

15th January marked the 100th day of continuous war in Gaza and the crisis intensifies each day. Of Gaza's 2.2 million people, more than 1.7 million have been displaced, including many who have been forcibly displaced multiple times. According to MoH Gaza, as of 23 January, there have been 25,490 deaths, and 63,354 injuries in addition to the thousands of persons who remain missing. 70% of deaths are women and children.

With hospitals overwhelmed by casualties and lacking essential fuel, medicines and basic supplies, many people will be cut off from safe delivery services. Furthermore, UNFPA and humanitarian actors have been denied humanitarian access to deliver pharmaceuticals, supplies, medical equipment and to deliver services particularly in the north. OCHA indicated that only 7/29 planned missions north of Wadi Gaza reached their destination in the first weeks of January while the other 22 were denied access by the Israeli authorities.

According to the World Health Organization, as of 15 January, only 15 out of Gaza's 36 hospitals are even partially functional - nine in the south and six in the north. Among the estimated 180 women give birth each day in Gaza, 15% are expected to experience pregnancy- or birth-related complications. Limited access to appropriate services and denied delivery of humanitarian supplies will directly impact the 840 pregnant women expected to experience an obstetric complication in the next month which can increase rates of maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality.

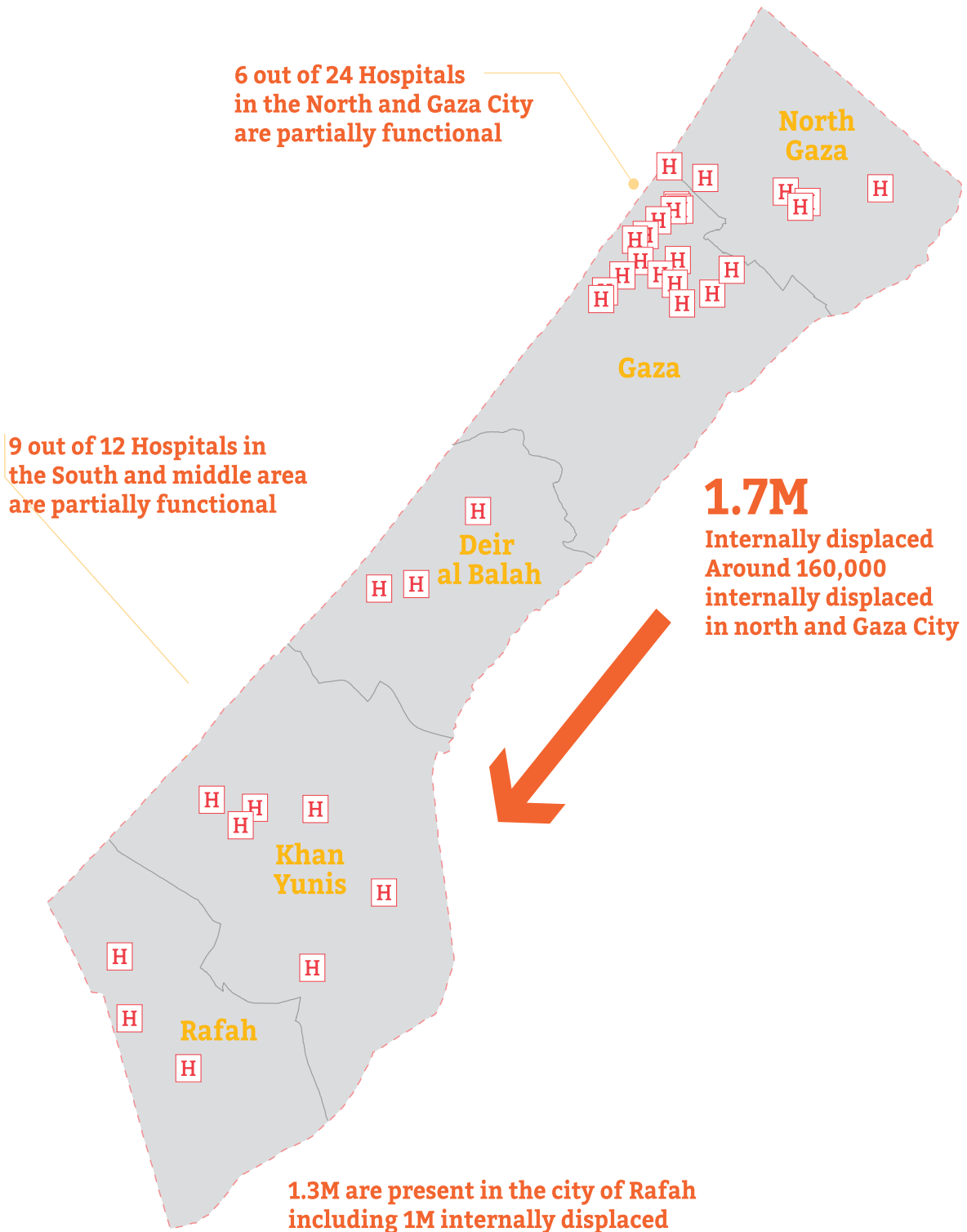
UNFPA has scaled up its presence through deployments of the UNFPA Representative, GBV and SRH technical specialists and a security advisor who joined the UNFPA national staff in Gaza. On 5th January, UNFPA and WHO conducted a high-risk mission to Nasser Hospital and the UNRWA field hospital, delivering much-needed reproductive health (RH) supplies to ensure safe births.

"Midwives at Nasser Hospital told us that they are tired, they themselves cannot see their own families. The head of hospital said he visits his wife and children for two hours once a week. They are exhausted and demand a ceasefire. The midwives told us that they are currently handling 25 deliveries and 8 c-sections daily, way above their normal capacities. UNFPA will continue to be on the ground to deliver needed supplies and provide our solidarity and support for the heroic midwives and doctors ensuring safe births in Gaza." Dominic Allen, UNFPA Representative, during his mission in Gaza.

According to the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report, the entire population faces risk of famine and are classified in IPC phase 3 or higher. This is the highest share of people facing high levels of acute food insecurity ever classified for any given area or country. An estimated 335,000 children and 155,000 pregnant and lactating women are among the highest at risk of severe malnutrition and preventable death.

Water, shelter, fuel for heating and other basic necessities are unavailable. Concerns have been raised related limited supplies and skyrocketing prices for basic goods; the deplorable conditions and lack of access to basic needs put women and adolescent girls, in particular, at risk of exploitation and abuse. Furthermore, with shelters and host communities severely overcrowded, over 690,000 menstruating women and adolescent girls in Gaza have limited access to menstrual hygiene products in addition to inadequate water, hygiene, and access to toilets and privacy.

In the West Bank, violence is reaching a boiling point. Movement restrictions continue to impede access to health and social services, the movement of ambulances and the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The movement restrictions impede the continuity of SRH services to great concern for the more than 73,000 women who are pregnant and of whom 8,100 are expected to give birth in the next 30 days. Palestinian UN staff themselves without access permits are restricted by the Israeli authorities to reach the UNFPA office in Jerusalem, and there are significant delays related to issuance of visas to Jerusalem for international UNFPA staff.



HUMANITARIAN IMPACT AND NEEDS IN GAZA

- Attacks on health care and denied delivery of humanitarian access impedes access to life-saving SRH services, supplies and equipment for 5,500 pregnant women who will deliver in Gaza in the next month.
- Expanded access to primary healthcare service by increasing the number of medical points and teams in designated shelters is required. With higher daily water and caloric intake requirements, pregnant and postpartum women require access to antenatal and postnatal care and nutritional support.
- Continuity of SRH services, especially for the 8,000 pregnant women in the West Bank who will deliver in the next 30 days and whose movement is restricted.
- For women and girls, gender-based violence (GBV), including physical and sexual violence, is a daily threat, and the combination of threats they face represent distinct and targeted attacks on their rights, identity, and dignity. This loss of dignity is primary to their experience of this crisis.
- Over 690,000 menstruating women and adolescent girls in Gaza have limited access to menstrual hygiene products. Exacerbated risks of exploitation and abuse due to lack of essential items including children's clothing, diapers, sanitary pads in the local markets and soaring prices.
- One hundred percent of school aged children in Gaza have lost access to education which poses serious risks to their learning and development. Across Palestine, youth are at heightened risk to turn to negative coping mechanisms such as violence and drug use due to forced displacement, closure of schools and exposure to violence and trauma. Adolescent girls' particular are often overlooked.
- Mental health care needs especially for persons with disabilities, children, and those with pre-existing complex conditions are exacerbated.
- Delays related to approvals for UNFPA staff visas and continued limitations on access permits for UNFPA staff seeking to access the office in Jerusalem must be addressed urgently.

UNFPA OPERATIONS (DURING REPORTING PERIOD)

Gaza Strip

- UNFPA has **distributed RH Kits** to hospitals in Northern Gaza, Deir Albalah and Rafah containing individual clean delivery kits, pharmaceuticals, consumable medical devices and equipment for basic and comprehensive emergency obstetric care in mid-late December.
- On 5th January, UNFPA **delivered RH kits** with pharmaceuticals and medical devices to support normal deliveries including with BeMONC to three hospitals: Al Khair, Al Amal, and Nasser Hospitals in Khan Younis.
- On 11 January, UNFPA **delivered RH kits** including supplies to support normal deliveries to Al Shefaa hospital, Al Sahaba, Alawda and Patient's Friends Hospital in the North of Gaza.
- During the week starting January 14th, UNFPA successfully **delivered and distributed one Kit (6A), six Kits (6B), and twenty kits (5)**. Additionally, **6,480 MHM (Menstrual Hygiene Management) kits** were dispatched through various partners, with 600 of them (400 in the North) already distributed.
- **735 one-off Cash transfers** have been made to vulnerable women including pregnant and lactating women, breast cancer patients, GBV survivors and women and girls at risk of GBV from 10 December to present.
- 415 young volunteers **led humanitarian initiatives** including providing psychological relief activities to 45,989 children and adolescents in shelters, and distributed 400 food baskets.
- Over 6,480 women and adolescent girls will benefit from the **Menstrual Health Management Kits** that entered Gaza on 10 and 16 January and are currently being distributed across Gaza by UNFPA and partners. Each MHM Kit includes sanitary pads (4 month supply), underwear, soap, prayer clothes and other basic items to support women and girls' menstrual health. Additional kits are in the pipeline.
- UNFPA distributed **1,114 adolescent dignity kits** for girls, **70 DKs** for boys, **200 hygiene kits** for families in shelters, and **500 boxes of sanitary pads**.
- UNFPA supported **15 Health Community mobilizers** to reach 4,818 women with awareness on PSS, debriefing, health protection and hygiene in shelters.
- The Palestinian Youth Advisory Panel members have put together an updated statement on the situation - Powerless: 100 days in Gaza without power, for a generation without power. The statement was disseminated to local, regional and global media outlets in addition to international political and development actors.

West Bank

- UNFPA delivered **429 packs of obstetric pharmaceutical supplies** (Cytotic 200MCG Misoprostol Tab) to the MoH in the West Bank.
- **224 Safe Delivery Bags with equipment and supplies** were procured and distributed to MOH (190) and to PMRS Mobile Clinics and PHC centers (34) to widen access to delivery services.
- UNFPA **distributed 350 dignity kits** to women GBV survivors and at risk in Maythaloan, Tulkarm, and Hebron Safe Spaces and to shelters in Masafer Yatta, Jefflek, and Nablus.
- UNFPA handed over **650 Mother's Health Kits** to Augusta Victoria Hospital benefiting patients from Gaza and their companions.
- UNFPA **distributed 90 Adolescent dignity kits** to adolescent girls in the bedouin community in Arab Al-Jahalin and the Old City of Jerusalem.
- UNFPA is supporting **psychosocial support** sessions through youth-led organizations and trained youth volunteers in refugee camps and highly affected localities.

Coordination

- Three meetings of the **SRH Technical Working Group** in Gaza were held in December. The group convenes over 20 partners to focus on mapping services and agreeing on priority actions to address SRH needs in Gaza.
- UNFPA leads the **Mobile Clinic working group** to redirect services to vulnerable locations in the West Bank and to mitigate accessibility challenges.
- UNFPA leads the **GBV Sub-Cluster** at National Level, in Gaza and in the West Bank. Dashboards for GBV service provision are available for Gaza and the West Bank and a guidance note to ensure a holistic response to GBV.
- The **Youth Advocacy Panel (YAP)** launched in 2022 is a group of 18 young Palestinians from across the West Bank, including East Jerusalem and Gaza. YAP is advocating for the needs of youth with officials and policy makers, as well as their leadership in humanitarian response.



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