



War on Gaza: +15,000
children killed

Water Distribution by WeWorld's team,
July 2024.

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Kareem, a 39-year-old mother of five girls, was displaced with her family several times until they settled in the Abdul Karim Al-Aklouk School in Deir al Balah. She faced challenges in providing water and hygiene materials, especially for her two daughters who are of puberty age. After attending WeWorld's health awareness sessions and local hygiene committees' meetings that focused on personal hygiene for women and girls during emergencies, Kareem shared: *"I greatly benefited from the advice given during these awareness workshops. We learned how to find alternative ways to maintain cleanliness despite limited resources. The period of menstruation for my daughters was a time of great fear and anxiety due to the lack of privacy, safety, and necessary materials. The awareness team provided direct advice and guidance to my daughters, distributing awareness posters on the subject and sanitary pads".* Inspired by the sessions, Kareem has started implementing the guidelines and advising her sister and other women in another displacement camp in Deir al Balah.

SITUATION UPDATE

After more than 300 days of war, over 15,000 children have been reported killed. Nowhere is safe in Gaza. Ground incursions and heavy fighting persist with 86% of Gaza's areas under forced evacuation. The humanitarian "safe zone" is under repeated attacks and evacuations, severely limiting humanitarian operations and forcing food distribution points and kitchens to close and evacuate. **Almost 40,000 Palestinians have been reported killed, up to 70% being women and children, and over 91,000 have been reported injured.** Additionally, it is estimated that more than 10,000 people are missing under the rubble. Over 6% of the entire population of the Strip has been either killed, injured or is missing. The indiscriminate bombing of hospitals, schools, UN and INGO facilities, and residential buildings have caused massive destruction. **More than 60% of residential buildings** and 80% of commercial facilities **have been damaged or destroyed**, including 57% of cropland, limiting the functionality of the food system. 88% of all schools sustained damages and 650,000 students are impeded to attend classes. Out of 36 hospitals, only 16 are partially functioning, of which 11 are partially accessible due to insecurity or physical barriers, such as damage to entrances and surrounding roads. Very heavy restrictions on humanitarian access, lack of adequate medical care and prevention measures have entailed the spread of diseases, including Hepatitis A, especially among children in overcrowded shelters. Polio has been detected in water in some areas of Gaza, which raises fears of an outbreak.



Humanitarian Access

Israel allowed less than 1,000 aid trucks to enter Gaza in July, compared to the pre-war average of 500 truckloads per day, including fuel. This situation exacerbates the breakdown of law and order, which continues to pose challenges for aid delivery in Gaza. Rafah crossing remains closed by the Israeli forces.

West Bank

Security in the West Bank is sharply deteriorating, with hundreds of Palestinian deaths, thousands of arrests, and severe mobility restrictions impacting daily life. Since October 7th, at least 605 fatalities were registered among **Palestinians, including 144 children**. Nearly 3,600 Palestinians, including over 1,600 children, have been displaced, due to settler violence and intimidation, home demolitions, and destruction of residences during militarized law enforcement operations.

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 is delivering **comprehensive WASH interventions**, including hygiene promotion activities and the distribution of non-food items. In the past week the teams **reached 77 locations with water trucking services**. More than 2,700 m³ of domestic and drinking water were provided. Considering that IDPs have extensively used schools for shelter, exceeding normal hosting capacity, frequent damage to WASH infrastructures has been reported. WeWorld is currently addressing these issues **with urgent WASH on-spot repairs at 5 IDP shelter schools** in the Deir al Balah area, benefiting at least 40,000 IDPs. Additionally, emergency cleaning services, including waste collection and disposal, are ongoing in 7 schools. WeWorld, as **co-lead of the WASH Cluster Hygiene Working Group**, is at the forefront of promoting hygiene awareness and has established **12 Local Hygiene Committees** in the humanitarian zone. Awareness sessions are conducted daily with customized IEC (information, education and communication) materials produced by WeWorld covering topics such as safe water in emergencies, water tank disinfection, water saving, handwashing, vector control, and skin disease prevention. Additionally, to enhance personal safety and hygiene, last week we **completed the distribution of key WASH items, including 12,450 water jerrycans and 100 bags of diapers in Khan Younis and Deir Al Balah areas**. A food distribution campaign is planned to start in the next week targeting 7,000 families.

WeWorld activated its contingency and business continuity plan to maintain operations and deliver humanitarian aid in Gaza. Our team includes 25 staff members, 60 daily workers, 1 warehouse for emergency items, and 2 offices/guesthouses. The Gaza Emergency Team in Amman and the Humanitarian Aid Unit are coordinating and supporting the response efforts. 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.

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