

GAZA RESPONSE PLAN – Update #5



Distribution of baby diapers & dignity kits in Al-Quds Open University Camp, August 2025 ©WeWorld

OPENING STATEMENT

Since the onset of the war in October 2023, Gaza's inhabitants have been victims of the most devastating bombing campaign in history. **Grave violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, amounting to atrocity crimes, have been reported daily.** Civilian infrastructures - hospitals, schools, shelters for displaced people, and residential homes - have been repeatedly targeted, **forcibly displacing hundreds of thousands of people** from their homes. Despite the ceasefire agreed on 10 October, which was hoped would mark a turning point towards a lasting and definitive ceasefire, Israeli attacks have continued, killing several Palestinians, and access to humanitarian aid is still largely impeded.

This document provides an overview of **WeWorld's emergency response** efforts in Gaza starting as of the ceasefire agreement on 10 October, outlining the strategies and the operation framework we intend to use for future response, based on evolving scenarios and prioritized needs.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Following the entry into force of the ceasefire on 10 October, the situation in Gaza remains extremely fragile and volatile. Despite the ceasefire, hostilities and different forms of violence continue, along with massive population movements.

Over the past two years, at least 68,234 people (including nearly 20,000 children) were killed and 170,373 were injured (OCHA, 23 Oct 2025). It is feared that an estimated 10,000 bodies are buried under the rubble. Nearly 42,000 Palestinians have suffered life-changing injuries in Gaza, of whom one in four are children and more than 5,000 amputations have been registered, according to the WHO.

It is reported that almost one hundred Palestinian have been killed since the ceasefire came into effect, while access of humanitarian aid and personnel is still restricted.

Population movement

Most displaced families are living in makeshift or damaged shelters, with limited access to water, sanitation, and electricity. It is estimated that 96% of households have been displaced at least once since October 2023, and the average family has moved six times.

Large-scale population movements have been observed across Gaza as families attempt to return home after months of displacement, many attempting to return north to areas that remain largely uninhabitable. According to OCHA, more than 611,600 movements of people were observed since 10 October to 27 October, mainly from southern to northern Gaza. This represents a notable shift from previous months of continuous southward displacement.

Humanitarian needs

Humanitarian needs across Gaza remain critical and largely unmet. Fuel and aid deliveries must be significantly scaled up to meet urgent needs. Access to northern areas is still extremely limited, leaving thousands without consistent aid or essential services. Malnutrition levels are alarmingly high, particularly among children, and the health system continues to operate under severe strain.

While some assistance is entering, and some markets have reopened, prices of key goods remain several times higher than some month ago. Availability of food, fuel, and hygiene items is still severely constrained, with certain categories such as infant supplies almost entirely unavailable. 55% of households ran out of food for their children in the past week, and child malnutrition and food insecurity are deepening, with 18% of families reporting that children went an entire day without food (UNICEF). According to OCHA, 463 malnutrition-related deaths, including 157 children, were documented since October 2023.

Long-awaited supplies are entering the Strip, but in limited and insufficient quantities. Physical and bureaucratic impediments prevent from providing life-saving assistance at scale in the Gaza Strip. Uncertainty about its durability, combined with unresolved access and coordination barriers, continues to increase instability and hinder the scale-up of life-saving assistance.

Basic services have collapsed, leaving most people without access to essential services. According to OCHA, 89% of the WASH sector assets have been either destroyed or damaged, and 49% of people in Gaza access less than the minimum emergency standard of 6 litres of drinking water per day, for drinking and cooking. Nearly 91.8% of schools (518 out of 564) will require full reconstruction or major rehabilitation to be functional again, while 658,000 school-aged children and 87,000 tertiary students are left without access to formal learning spaces.

Recent estimation from UNEP based on satellite imagery collected on 8 July 2025, show that widespread destruction across the Gaza Strip has generated more than 61 million tons of debris, which is equivalent to about 169 kilogrammes of debris for every square metre. Final validation on these estimates is essential to inform the development of a comprehensive debris management plan for the Gaza Strip. Moreover, the widespread presence of explosive ordnance continues to pose life-threatening risks to people across Gaza

WEWORLD IN GAZA

WeWorld has been present in the West Bank since 1992 and in the Gaza Strip since 1997 with a dual development and humanitarian mandate. Over the past two decades, WeWorld has provided humanitarian assistance to Gaza, especially to the most vulnerable communities, in the fields of WASH, Protection, Education, Economic Development, and Health.

WeWorld participates to several national and regional UN-led sectorial clusters and is a member of the national WASH Cluster Strategic Advisory Board. Moreover, it serves as the co-lead of the Hygiene Technical Working Group and is an active member of the Sanitation and IPC/Health Working Groups, coordinating all activities with relevant partners and adhering to cluster guidelines.

Operational Capacity in Gaza



Team based in Gaza:

+140 individuals – including employees, contracted staff, and volunteers



2 Warehouses

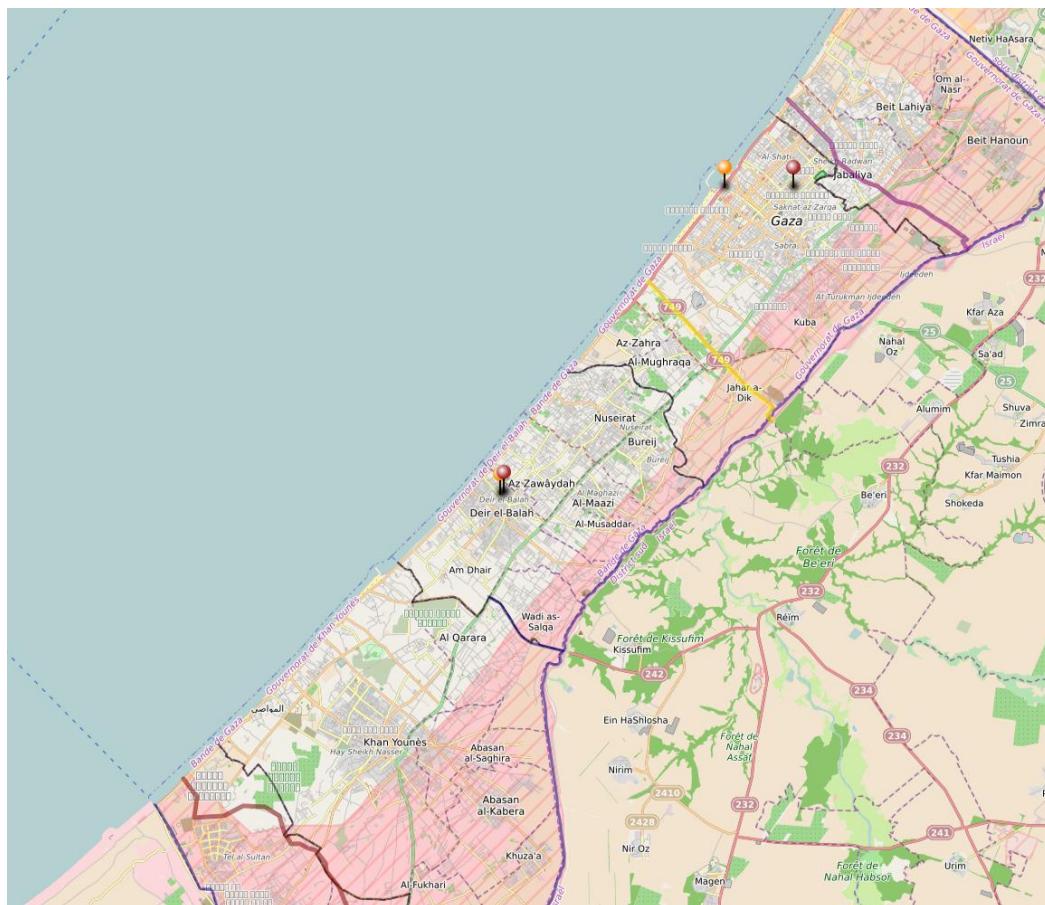
2 Main Offices

Located in Deir el-Balah and Gaza City



+9 million Euros

Current yearly funding



● WeWorld's offices

● WeWorld's warehouses

WeWorld's Emergency Response in Numbers

Thanks to the support of UNICEF, UN-OCHA, EU, ChildFund Alliance Members and others, WeWorld has been responding to the urgent needs of the population since the beginning of the war **through comprehensive interventions in WASH, Education in Emergency, Food Security, and Shelter-NFI**. Over the past two years, it is estimated that the response has reached at least 500,000 people, considered as unique beneficiaries, by providing prompt relief support to displaced and affected population.

Sector	Programmatic Priorities	Prioritized Activities	Targets Achieved
WASH 	Access to Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of water through trucks • Distribution of bottled water • Repairs of critical water networks 	+ 400,000 people including +240,000 children
	Access to Sanitation Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of dry latrines • Construction of family latrines • Rehabilitation of sanitation facilities 	+ 57,000 people including +36,000 children
	Hygiene Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of hygiene promotion sessions and kits • Environmental cleaning • Solid waste collection • Set up of Hygiene Committees 	+241,000 people including +139,000 children
EDUCATION 	Education in Emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of remedial classes, psychosocial support and recreational activities • Conduction of summer camps • Rehabilitation of temporary learning centres 	+3,300 children
FOOD SECURITY 	Emergency Food Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of food parcels 	+49,000 people including +29,400 children and +10,290 women
NFI 	Non-food items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of core relief items 	+78,000 people including +47,000 children



Educational and recreational activities carried out by WeWorld team during summer, 2025 ©WeWorld

FUTURE RESPONSE

Sustained donor support remains essential to prevent further deterioration of the humanitarian crisis and to lay the groundwork for recovery once conditions allow. WeWorld is actively mobilizing funds to consolidate current operations and to scale-up future response. WeWorld was able to secure funds mainly from UNICEF, UNOCHA, Akelius Foundation, ChildFund Alliance, private funds, and others.

The funding appeal and the contributions (either committed or already mobilized) for the response from the announcement of the ceasefire on October 10th are shown below.



Locations
Khan Younis
Deir el-Balah (Middle Area)
Gaza City

Sectors of intervention
WASH
Education
Food Security

10,000,000

USD
is the Funding Appeal
launched by WeWorld

3,600,000

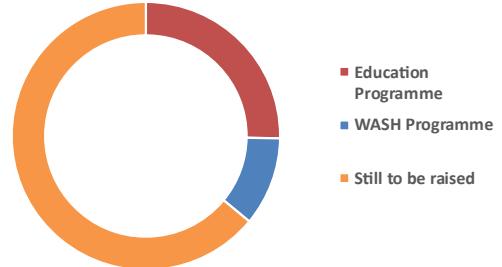
USD Raised
36% of the Appeal
6,400,000 USD still to be raised



100,000

People in need to be served
including at least 60,000 children

APPEAL and CONTRIBUTIONS



Despite the highly volatile and dynamic environment, WeWorld is responding to the crisis, **consolidating current operations, and planning to scale-up. It is maintaining flexible, multisectoral interventions**, particularly in Water, Hygiene and Sanitation, as well as Education, but also Protection, Food Security and Shelter-NFI, to meet critical needs while preparing for a still highly uncertain future.

Our **WASH** programme is drawn on decade-long experience in community-based protection approaches in the occupied Palestinian territory. Since October 2023, WeWorld has been implementing an emergency WASH response in Gaza. Additionally, starting in January 2024, WeWorld has supported the establishment of community-based local health and hygiene committees (LHCs) in several informal IDP camps and shelters. These efforts aim to enhance community participation, resilience, and emergency preparedness while strengthening their response capacity.

The methodology proposed is the result of WeWorld's ten years' experience in the community protection approach implemented in both West Bank and Gaza Strip and has been designed to engage communities affected by humanitarian crises and their most vulnerable groups and individuals, tailoring it to the ongoing extremely complex challenges in the Gaza Strip. This community-driven participatory approach aims at actively and dynamically involving communities and its members in the design and implementation of WASH, hygiene

promotion and IPC (infection, prevention and control) interventions leading to more effective, inclusive and dignified programming, with the final objective to enhance local capacity to mitigate risks related to WASH and IPC, thereby improving overall public health, enabling them to support rapid IPC responses within their communities.

The community engagement methodology has the purpose to increase participation and dialogue, improving the understanding of crucial water-, sanitation- and hygiene-related issues and communities' ownership, decision-making and control over the impact of the interventions, minimizing public health risks associated to communicable diseases in the ongoing emergency and strengthening positive coping mechanisms. Enhancing preparedness and capacities to respond to the surging emergency is a key objective.

By bringing together the capacities and perspectives of communities and its members, the approach is based on a rigorous analysis of WASH protection-crosscutting concerns to plan for a prompt integrated humanitarian response to the most urgent needs, capitalizing on the availability of dynamic and multi-purpose community-based organization (the LHCs) for multi-sector services delivery and activities.



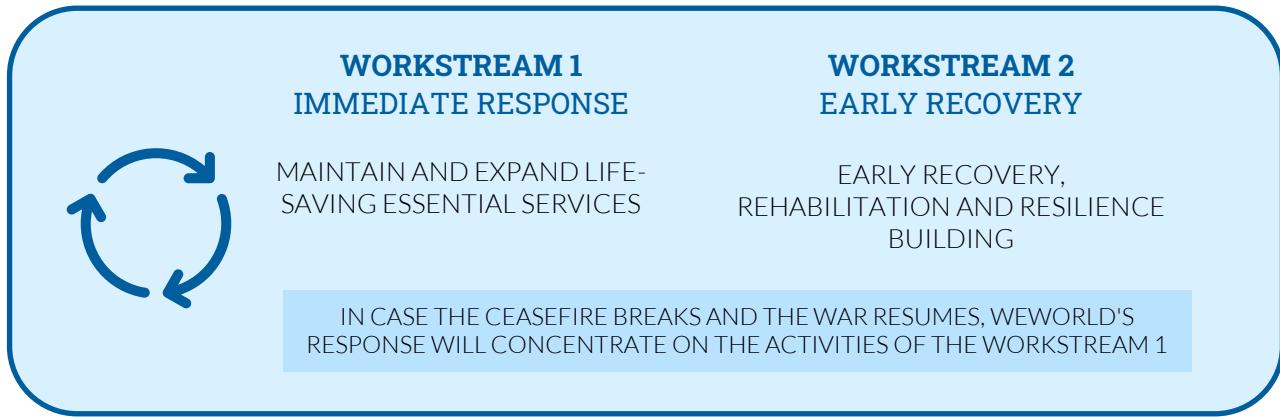
Distribution of safe water through trucks by WeWorld team in Gaza, 2024-2025 ©WeWorld

Our Education in Emergencies programme adopts a multi-sectoral and flexible approach to ensure that children can continue learning despite the destruction, repeated displacement, and extreme distress caused by the conflict. The focus is on the most vulnerable displaced children, those with disabilities, and those experiencing trauma and psychosocial distress, to help restore a sense of normality and hope. The programme combines remedial education in Arabic, English, and mathematics to recover learning losses from prolonged school closures with social and emotional learning (SEL) interventions that support children's psychological well-being and strengthen resilience and interpersonal skills. Learning activities are delivered in temporary learning spaces, community shelters, or other safe environments identified with local partners. Recreational and psychosocial support activities form an essential part of our EiE response. Through play-based sessions, theatre, storytelling, songs, and interactive games, WeWorld integrates key lifesaving and hygiene messages, promoting essential practices such as handwashing and disease prevention. These sessions are adapted to children's age, gender, and displacement context, offering moments of joy and emotional relief while reinforcing positive behaviours and a sense of belonging. SEL is a central pillar of our approach. It enables children to develop healthy coping mechanisms, manage emotions, rebuild trust, and make responsible decisions in an environment marked by uncertainty and loss. To ensure consistent and sensitive delivery, teachers, facilitators, and community volunteers receive Training of Trainers on SEL approaches, self-care, and peer support. They are also equipped to identify and refer children and peers showing signs of severe distress or post-traumatic stress, in coordination with specialized mental health service providers. Through this integrated response, WeWorld aims not only to restore learning opportunities but also to contribute to children's overall recovery, resilience, and protection in the face of one of the most challenging crises in the world.

Our **Emergency Food Security** response aims to ensure that families affected by the conflict have access to safe and nutritious food. In coordination with local suppliers, WeWorld has distributed locally sourced food parcels to the most vulnerable households in Khan Younis and Deir el-Balah, supporting local markets while addressing immediate nutritional needs. Each parcel provided essential food staples to sustain families for several weeks, helping to mitigate the impact of displacement and loss of livelihoods. In parallel, awareness sessions on food hygiene and safe food handling were conducted to promote healthier dietary practices and prevent foodborne diseases in overcrowded and resource-limited settings. These interventions benefited people contributing to improved food security and community resilience amid the ongoing crisis.

We mainstream **Protection** across WASH and Education. In Education, we integrate focused PSS within learning activities and in TLS, while education outcomes remain the primary focus. Activities include group-based SEL, structured play, creative expression, and basic PSS sessions led by trained staff. Ensuring referral pathways to specialized Child Protection and MHPSS actors for cases that require a more specialised intervention. In WASH, we design safe access with gender-segregated latrines with locks, lighting, and accessible facilities, and we deliver hygiene promotion with risk-reduction messages.

The new conditions generated by the enforcement of the ceasefire allows WeWorld to respond through two sequential workstreams, related to different scenarios. A first Immediate Response lasting 6 months, followed by an Early Recovery phase of additional 6 months. **Programmatic priorities** and **prioritized activities** are duly detailed below. The planned response aims at assisting vulnerable people, strengthening the organization footprint, and gradually scale up operations also in newly accessible areas. The targets of each phase of the response plan have been estimated considering only unique beneficiaries, to avoid double counting. At the same time, however, the same right holders might be targeted with various sectorial support (e.g. WASH, Education, etc.).



RESPONSE SECTOR

Multisectoral:

WASH | Education | Food Security

TARGET

100,000 Gazan children and their families, women, IDPs, and other people in need

LOCATIONS

Governorates of Khan Younis, Deir el-Balah (Middle Area), Gaza City

TIMEFRAME

12 months - 6 months of immediate response and 6 months of recovery

BUDGET

10,000,000 USD

Programmatic Phase	Programmatic Priorities	Prioritized activities
WORKSTREAM 1: IMMEDIATE RESPONSE		
Maintain and expand life-saving essential services		
<p>A ceasefire has been reached, although it is very fragile, and its advance to further phases is uncertain. Although the ceasefire deal has been violated by Israel, including several casualties, the general situation is definitely calmer and safer, allowing consolidation of ongoing interventions and planning future scale up of operations. Access of humanitarian aid and movement of humanitarian workers has increased, although is still insufficient, and needs of the affected population remain largely unmet. Geographical coverage of humanitarian aid has also been extended, reaching newly accessible areas. Exploratory missions have been launched to prioritize response and target the most vulnerable people.</p>		
<p>Programmatic Priorities Workstream 1</p> <p>Target: 100,000 IDPs, mainly children and their families. Unique beneficiaries.</p> <p>Budget: 5,000,000 USD</p>	<p>WASH</p> <p>Target: 80,000 people including 48,000 children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of free-of-charge trucked water • Construction of latrines and minor rehabilitation of sanitation facilities • Provision and distribution of individual, gender- and child-sensitive family hygiene, other main WASH NFI (soap, diapers, sanitary pads, etc.) and Cleaning Material kits • Environmental cleaning services of IDP sites and shelters and Solid Waste Collection • Urgent on-the-spot repairs of critical WASH facilities • Light flooding mitigation interventions • Support for the construction and rehabilitation of temporary shelters (camp tents) • WASH-in-Health assessment and minor service rehabilitation (Hospitals, Primary Health Clinics, Medical Points) • Rehabilitation of WASH facilities in schools and learning centres (WASH-in-Health) • Community-Based Hygiene Promotion, also through the creation of local hygiene committee and rapid response team trained to detect, report, and respond to public health emergencies
	<p>Education in Emergency</p> <p>Target: 10,000 children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of Temporarily Learning Spaces for the provision of safe, functional, inclusive and gender-sensitive access to services for conflict-affected children • Restoration of quality and inclusive education opportunities for children in crisis-affected communities, through the provision of remedial classes, psychosocial support and recreational activities • Child-friendly hygiene promotion sessions and hygiene kits distribution • Menstrual Hygiene Management sessions and kits distribution • Training on stress management for caregivers
	<p>Emergency Food Security</p> <p>Target:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Food Assistance through the distribution of food parcels and cooked meals • Food assistance through Cash-for-Food • Establishment and support of community kitchens

	10,000 people including 6,000 children	
<p>Enabling conditions: access of humanitarian staff and supplies is maintained and protected and improved; freedom of movements of people and humanitarian agencies is granted; liquidity and new financial procedures allow for aid and is sufficient to support payments; accessible areas are cleared/mapped against UXOs (unexploded ordnance) and IEDs (improvised explosive devices).</p>		

WORKSTREAM 2: EARLY RECOVERY

Early recovery, rehabilitation and resilience building

The ceasefire lasts, the movement of populations stabilizes, and the resilience and reconstruction efforts can start with the rehabilitation of residential building. IDPs will leave the temporary shelters (schools, health facilities, campuses) to move into housing units. Overall, market and prices stabilize, the supply chains are strengthened and reliable. Fuel and construction material are regularly and unhinderedly supplied. Liquidity increases, banking system resumes operating and the funding of humanitarian operations remains constant. Risks and insecurity decrease, despite the high risk of UXOs remains high, as well as the structural damage to buildings.

Most of activities listed in Phase 1 are consolidated and expanded. Additional activities are identified and will be identified during the next months to focus on early recovery, rehabilitation and resilience building.

Programmatic Priorities Workstream 2 Target: 100,000 IDPs, mainly children and their families. Unique beneficiaries. Budget: 5,000,000 USD	WASH <u>Target:</u> 80,000 people including 48,000 children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribution of free-of-charge trucked water • Rehabilitation of water wells for domestic use • Construction of improved latrines and rehabilitation of sanitation facilities • Provision and distribution of individual, gender- and child-sensitive family hygiene, other main WASH NFI (soap, diapers, sanitary pads, etc.) and Cleaning Material kits • Environmental cleaning services of IDP sites and shelters and Solid Waste Collection • Critical interventions in WASH facilities in hospitals (WASH-in-Health) and Educational Facilities (WASH-in Education) • Urgent on-the-spot repairs of critical WASH networks and facilities (including water and wastewater networks), including through Cash-for-Work
	Education in Emergency <u>Target:</u> 10,000 children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rehabilitation of school facilities • Restoration of quality and inclusive education opportunities for children in crisis-affected communities, through the provision of remedial classes, psychosocial support and recreational activities • Support children's reintegration into formal education • Child-friendly hygiene promotion sessions and hygiene kits distribution • Menstrual Hygiene Management sessions and kits distribution • Training on stress management for caregivers • Provision of teaching and learning material • Training for teachers

	<p>Emergency Food Security</p> <p><u>Target:</u></p> <p>10,000 people including 6,000 children</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emergency Food Assistance through the distribution of food parcels and cooked meals• Food assistance through Cash-for-Food• Establishment and support of community kitchens• Cash-for-Food and Cash-for-Work for critical infrastructure repairment as source of income• Support to farmers and local producers (provision of agricultural inputs, irrigation systems, tools)• Support to the fishery sector• Support to livestock and poultry sectors• Employability enhancing programmes for youth
<p>Enabling conditions: all enabling conditions from previous phase are maintained and improved; political situation allows for increased support and flexible funding in the Gaza Strip; capacity of local actors and community structures supports localization efforts and population self-reliance processes.</p>		

APPEAL

Total beneficiaries: 100,000 children and their families, women, IDPs, and other people in need

Total resources needed: 10,000,000 USD (of which 3,600,000 USD already fundraised by WeWorld)

Emergency Response in Gaza – Update #5 as of November 2025

WeWorld response will continue to adapt to the evolving situation and people's needs accordingly.