

Gaza Initial Rapid Assessment

FINAL REPORT



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1 Introduction

This report compiles the preliminary findings of the Multi-Agency Initial Rapid Assessment of Gaza Conducted November 24 – 26. The Principal source of information and figures was key informant interviews conducted with local government officials in the affected areas. While these informants provided responses covering approximately 90 % of the population of the Gaza Strip, the accuracy of these responses were dependent on the how well – informed the individual interviewees were. Unless otherwise noted, these responses represent a ‘first look’ at potential and real humanitarian impacts and as additional and more extensive assessments are completed, the precision and accuracy of key figures related to the humanitarian impact of the hostilities will improve. Humanitarian needs assessments in emergencies can be seen as a ‘rolling process’ (see figure 3.1) and as the results of these more detailed and quantitative assessments become available (see appendix ‘B’ for the current listing) **those figures will supplant the earlier accounts found here.**

2 Executive Summary

2.1 Hostilities in Gaza

On 14 November the Israeli Air Force (IAF) launched an airstrike that targeted and killed the acting chief of Hamas’ armed wing Ahmed Al Jabari, marking the start of the Israeli military offensive (“Operation Defensive Pillar”) which lasted for eight days. This event followed several weeks of intermittent escalations in violence in Gaza and southern Israel.

This latest escalation was characterized by IAF airstrikes and firing from Israeli naval vessels and tanks into Gaza and Palestinian rocket fire into Israel. The

targeting by the Israeli military of residential properties in Gaza resulted in a high number of civilian casualties. Initial accounts indicate that 103 and 1,399 Palestinians were also injured. Six Israelis (four civilians and two soldiers) were killed and 224 were injured. In Gaza, approximately 450 housing units were destroyed or sustained major damage, while another 8,000 houses sustained minor damage. At the height of the escalation some 15,000 estimated to be displaced at the time of conducting the IRA. Approximately 12,000 individuals in Gaza City and Northern Gaza governorate fled their homes and sought refuge in emergency shelters set up in 14 UNRWA and two government schools.

According to Israeli military, Operation “Pillar of Defense” targeted 1,500 sites in Gaza (compared to 500 during "Operation Cast Lead" in 2008-2009). The subsequent Explosive Remnants of War that are spread all over Gaza need to be dealt with rapidly to mitigate the risk of injury when removing rubble and to allow access to agricultural land.

Following sustained diplomatic efforts, an Egyptian-brokered ceasefire between Israel and Hamas entered into force on 21 November which continues to hold. Following the declaration of a ceasefire on 22 November, most displaced families returned home. However, there are still families 3000 people unsafely living in homes damaged in air-strikes or housed with relatives in precarious conditions.

The escalation was detrimental to an already fragile humanitarian situation in Gaza where some 80 per cent of households are in need of assistance. The vulnerability of the civilian population in the Gaza Strip has been exacerbated by the intensification of the land, air and sea blockade imposed by Israel following the Hamas takeover of Gaza in June 2007. Israeli restrictions linked

to the blockade, between 15 June 2007 and 26 November 2012, 35% of Gaza's farmland and 85% of its fishing waters were totally or partially inaccessible.

2.2 Humanitarian Impact

2.2.1 Displacement

The operation led to an estimated internal displacement of 14,920 people from all Gaza governorates. Estimates from local government officials reported the highest incidents of displacement in the Gaza governorate, in which 1.4% of the population sites were been internally displaced, followed by Khan Yunis, North Gaza and the Middle area. Initial reports from communities within these governorates indicated displacement as high as 100% (see figure 4.2 for detailed numbers of IDP). At the time of compiling this report, approximately 3,000 people remain displaced from their homes.

2.2.2 Explosive remnants of war (ERW)

Widespread ERW require a more rapid and prioritized response specifically in Johor Al-Dik, Gaza city and Al-Mughraqa in the Gaza Governorate, as well Al-Qarara, Al Badawiya (Maslakh) and Bait Hanun in North Gaza Governorate, as they have served as a deterrent in allowing the displaced population to return to their homes, schools and places of work. These areas have also received minimal municipal response in comparison to other areas of Gaza.

2.2.3 Psychosocial Impact

Psychosocial impact and stress caused by the intensity of the hostilities was reported in all meetings. North Gaza and the Middle area have reported the highest counts of psychosocial incidents among both adults and children ranging from fear, anxiety to PTSD, while children additionally suffered insomnia, hyperactivity, nocturnal enuresis (bedwetting). The results

emphasize the need for psychosocial support and intervention for both children and adults alike.

2.2.4 WASH

Damages and/or interruptions to the supply/network of water services/storage and sanitation were reported in all municipalities. Some governorates such as Khan Yunis have higher counts but specific communities and even governorates require an equally vital immediate response. The most recurring need, occurring in all governorates, in terms of sanitation is the provision of garbage containers followed by destruction to waste collection vehicles. Moreover, in addition to the evidence of damages or interruptions to WASH facilities, certain communities and/or governorates have been rendered disproportionately vulnerable by pre-existing conditions such as limited access to water, the presence of solid waste close to shelters (20 m) and unprotected hazard areas close to water supplies; such is the case in in the governorates of North Gaza, Khan Yunis and Gaza.

2.2.5 Health

The most pressing health issues across all governorates include access to PHC drugs, medical disposable materials, medical equipment, support for the creation of fully equipped day cares & emergency centers, emergency health units and the provision of ambulances.

2.2.6 Livelihoods

Damage to farm lands was reported affecting farmers and vulnerable population in Khan Yunis, North Gaza and Deir El Balah. Family income depends on crops and small industries. Agricultural destruction of this magnitude has serious implications on the livelihood of famers in these areas.

2.3 Immediate Priorities:

1. Provision of psychosocial support to children, clearance of explosive remnants of war, legal remedies;
2. Supply of essential drugs and disposables out of stock;
3. Shelter and NFIs: Addressing the basic humanitarian needs of approx. 3,000 people still displaced due to the loss of, or damage, sustained to their homes.
4. Emergency support to damaged residences, basic social infrastructure including schools and water and sanitation networks.

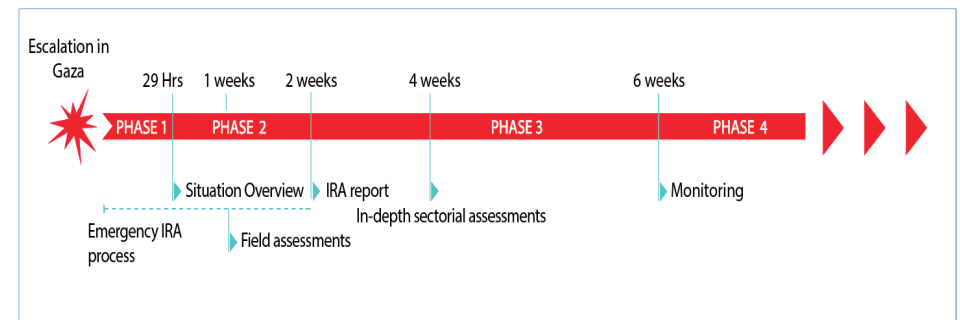


Figure A: Humanitarian needs assessment timeline

3 The Initial Rapid Needs Assessment

3.1 Context

On 21 November, the Inter-Cluster mechanism in Gaza agreed on launching a rapid needs assessment to determine the scope of the immediate

humanitarian impact on the ground after eight days of hostilities using a joint methodology and questionnaire (IRA) that was part of the Inter-Agency Contingency Plan for Gaza to ensure a uniform humanitarian response approach. The Humanitarian Coordinator and the HCT endorsed the approach on 22 November as part of an extraordinary HCT. The assessment was designed to gain an overall picture of any changes in the humanitarian situation since the most recent hostilities, guide immediate humanitarian response and where appropriate the results will be used to guide further in-depth assessments. Prior to the assessment OCHA circulated a matrix to the clusters containing the most updated information on basic socio-economic indicators.

3.2 Methodology

The GAZA IRA methodology utilised three strategies: key informant interviews, secondary data review, and focus group discussions.

From Saturday, 24 November until Monday, 26 November the assessment teams led by OCHA visited the 21 most affected municipalities in Gaza where they conducted key informant interviews with the local government officials. The field teams were composed of approximately 40 humanitarian workers from UN agencies and NGOs representing all the humanitarian clusters and sectors active in the oPt, including cluster leads based in Jerusalem who came to support the work of the Gaza team.

The Municipal level in Gaza had not previously compiled most of the information that was required by the IRA questionnaire, with the exception of the WASH information resulting from the work of the CMWU. Desegregated data (women, children, elderly, handicap, female headed households) was also not available at the local level. In order to cover for these information gaps, secondary data was gathered from relevant line ministries based on

official assessments carried out at the central level in Gaza. The results of this secondary data review were integrated with the findings from the field and as a result quantitative estimates in this report represent a survey of the entire Gaza Strip.

The focus groups strategy provided some community based samples to illustrate needs at the community level, particularly regarding special needs of vulnerable groups with particular emphasis on gender. Preliminary results of these focus groups highlighted the following needs among the interviewed women population: the need for psychosocial attention and training on coping mechanisms for women in particular; quick house repair/rehabilitation programmes in order to end displacement; placing schools in safer areas and quick rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure; and addressing chronic vulnerabilities such as continuous lack of electricity, security, water networks and sewage problems. While the findings of this exercise are integrated throughout the report, Annex A contains a more detailed report.

3.2.1 Assessment Locations

The survey sample encompassed all 5 governorates in the Gaza Strip and the communities of each governorate (with sample locations and sizes shown in the map and graph below);

- Beit Lahiya, Beit Hanun, Al Qaraya, Al-BadawiyaBadawiyaBadawiya – Maslakh and Jabalya in the North Gaza governorate;
- Juhor Al-Dik, Gaza City and Al- qqMugharaqa in the Gaza Governorate;
- Al Bureij, Nuseirat, Maghazi, Wadi Salqa, Az Zawayda and Deir El-Balah in Deir El-Balah - Middle Area Governorate;
- Abasan Al-Kabira, Abasan Al- Jadida, Al Qarara, Khuza'a, Khan Yunis and Bani Suheila in the Khan Yunis Governorate;
- Rafah in the Rafah Governorate.

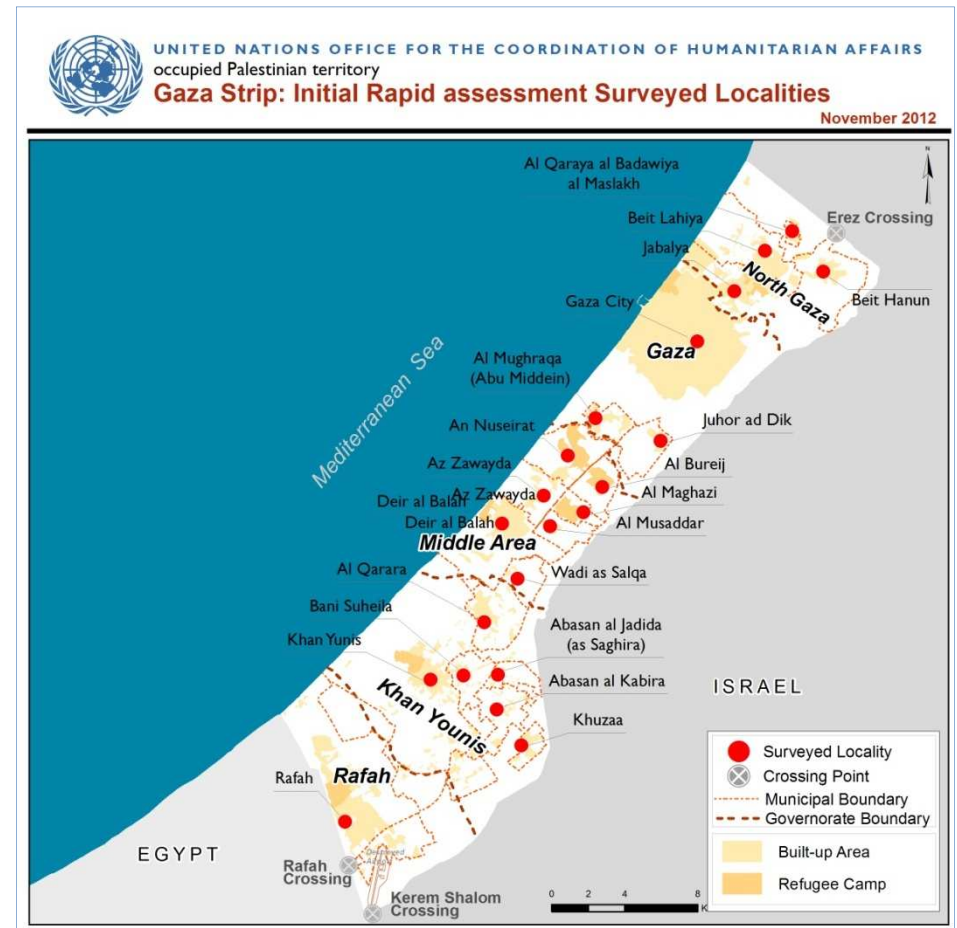


Figure B: Locations of key informant interviews

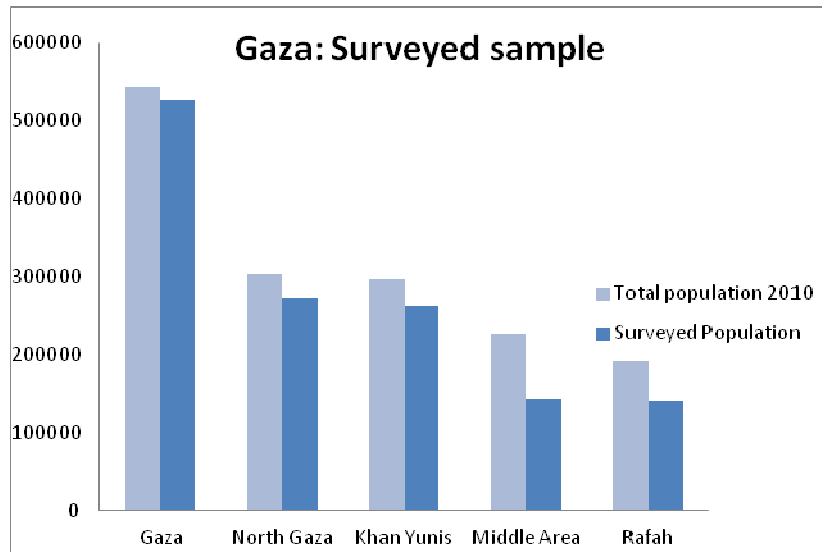


Figure C: Relationship between total community populations at the sites of key informant interviews and the total populations of the governorates

3.2.2 Further Information

For access to the raw IRA data, the IRA Questionnaire, secondary and baseline data, please refer to Annex 'B' of this report.

4 Main Findings

4.1 Displacement

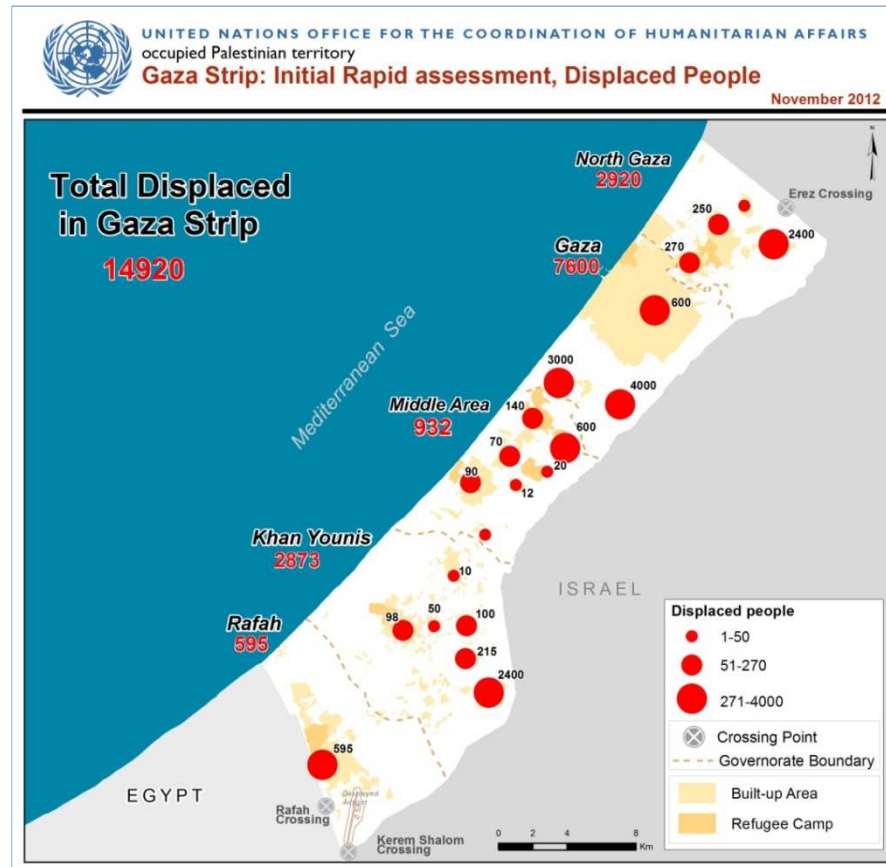


Figure D: Relative distribution and numbers of Internally Displaced Persons, Gaza Strip

The highest incidents of displacement occurred in the Gaza governorate with an estimated 1.4% of the surveyed population, followed by Khan Yunis and

North Gaza (see figure 4.2 below). The displaced populations within in these three governorates ranged from 23% upwards to 100% (in a single community).

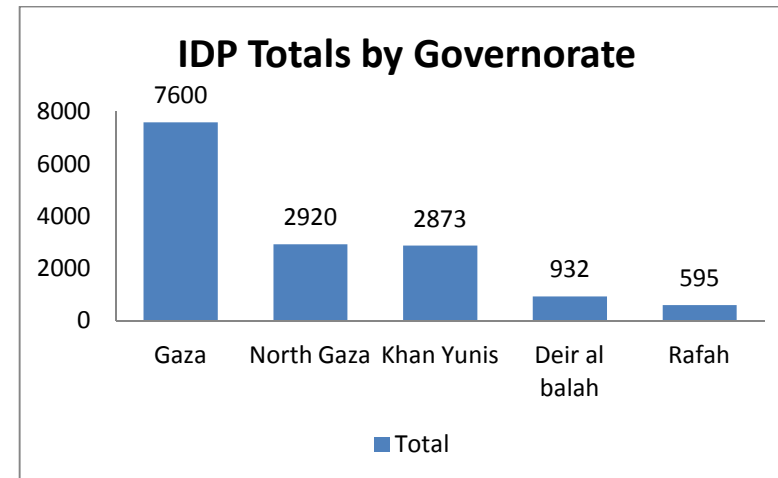


Figure E: Total number of Internally Displaced Persons, per governorate

As seen in figure 4.3 below, the highest rates of displacement at the community level were seen in the Gaza governorate, in which the entire local community in Juhor Al Dik and 40% of Al-Mughraqa had been displaced. Many had later returned in the former but this was not the case in the latter. Relative distributions of displaced populations can be seen in the map in Figure 4.1.

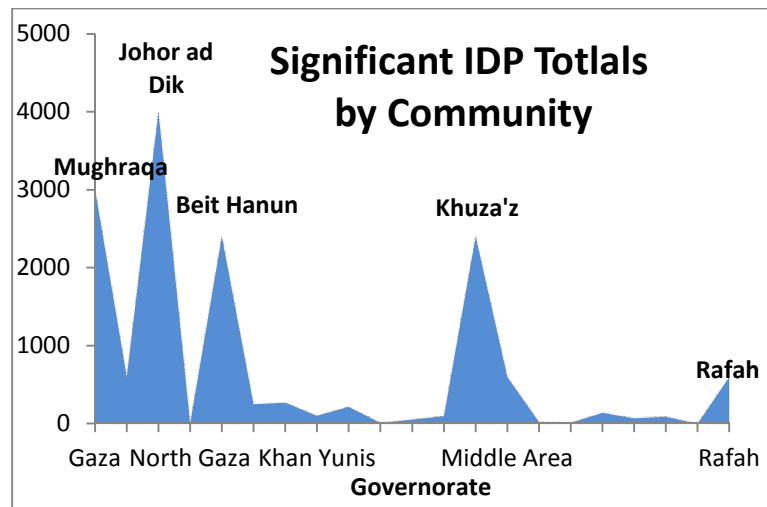


Figure F: Area chart showing peak IDP populations per governorate, by community

4.2 Destroyed/Damaged Housing Units

All the municipalities in the IRA faced varying levels of house destruction (rendering the homes uninhabitable) or damage (which includes minor to severe damages). Based on local government estimates North Gaza experienced the highest rate of destruction of all governorates with a total of 93 completely destroyed homes and Rafah with the highest number of damaged homes, 1,300 homes. Tables 3.5 to 3.7 below highlight the level of destruction and damage in each governorate.

Partial or complete destruction of houses served as an additional stress factor for the affected women and families interviewed during the follow-on focus group discussions. Financially, it strained family budgets, particularly for those dependent on daily incomes in addition to marked price increases in local markets. Some families took loans while others utilised the small amounts of

savings available. Women emphasized the importance of rebuilding and repairing damaged homes as a priority.

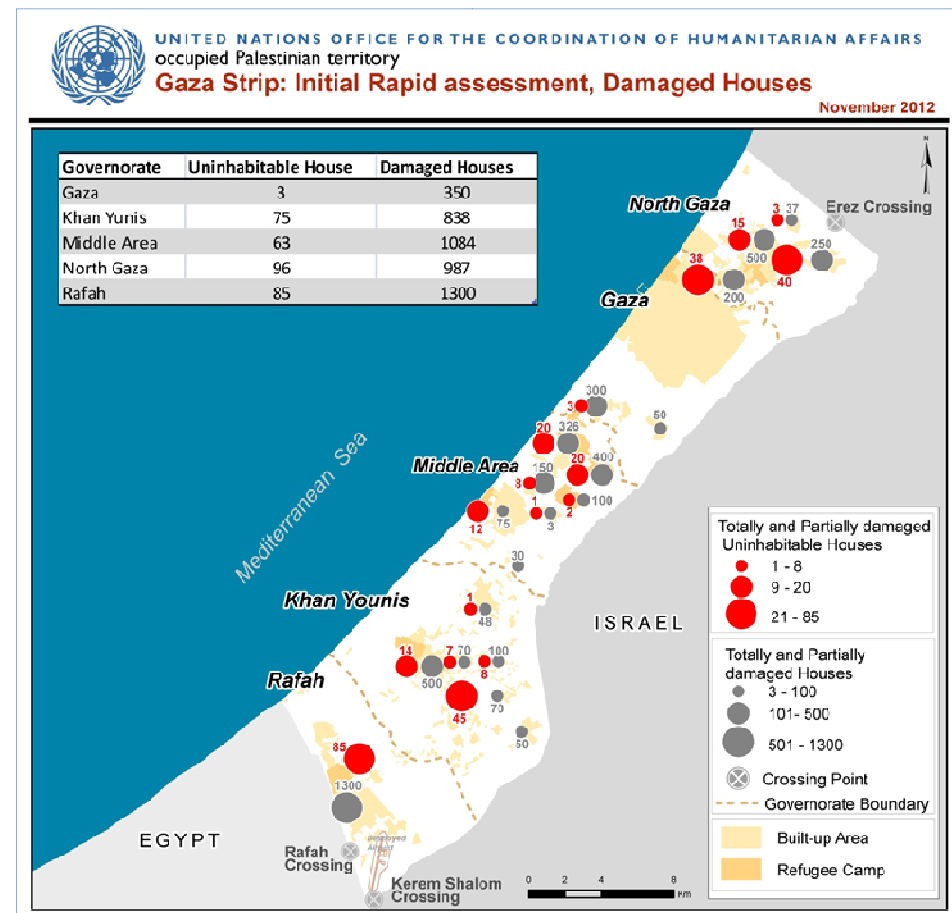


Figure G: Relative distribution and numbers of damaged in destroyed homes, Gaza Strip

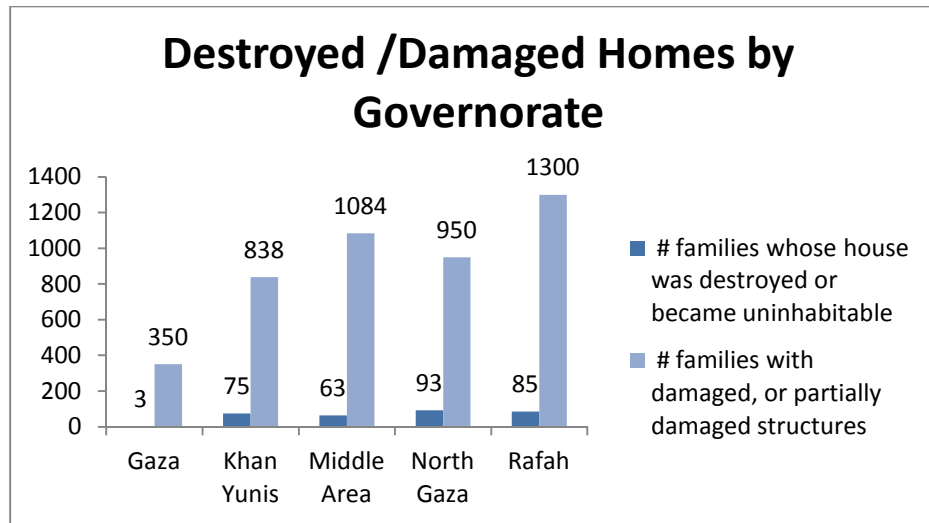


Figure H: Damaged vs. destroyed homes, totals by governorate

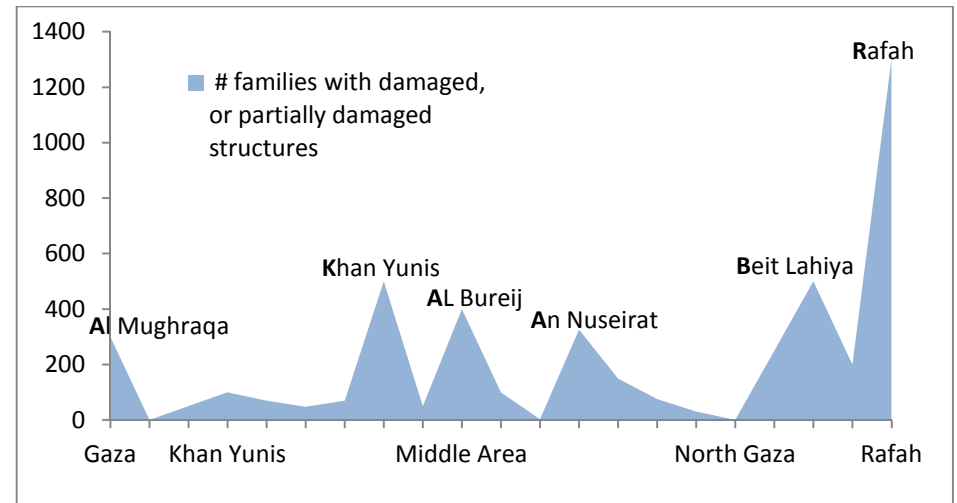


Figure J: Area chart showing peak numbers of destroyed homes per governorate, by community

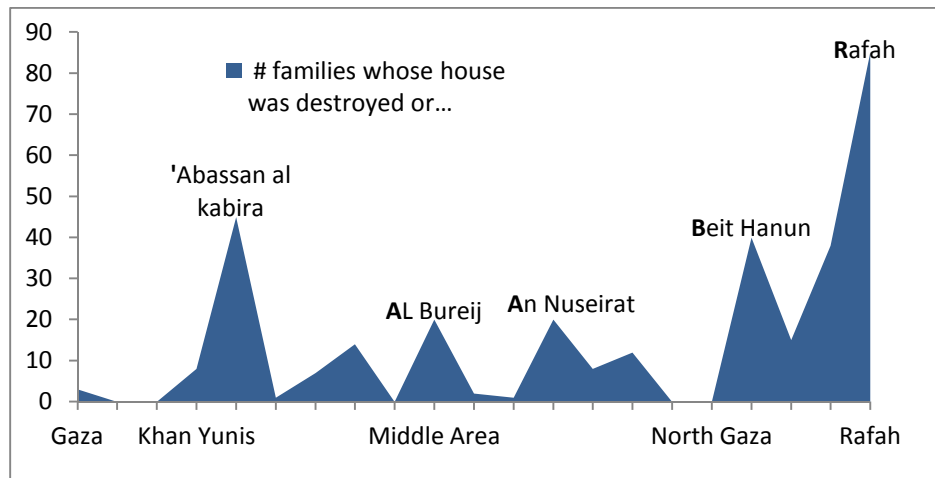


Figure I: Area chart showing peak numbers of destroyed homes per governorate, by community

4.3 Explosive Remnants of war (ERW)

Explosive remnants of war (ERW) are evident in most governorates of the Gaza Strip with 15 out of the 21 communities in all Gaza governorates reporting incidences. The reported governorate count per community are as follows (in descending order), Gaza governorate 3 reported incidents in the 3 visited communities; Rafah (1/1); Deir Al-Balah (5/7); Khan Yunis (4/6) and North Gaza (2/4).

Key informant accounts indicate that Gaza governorate requires a prioritized removal of ERW ranking the highest in terms of incident counts. In Al-Mughraqa (Abu Middein), Juhor Al-Dik and in Gaza city, residents fear unexploded bombs and the existence of shrapnel. It has also been reported that the presence of ERW has prevented many residents from returning to

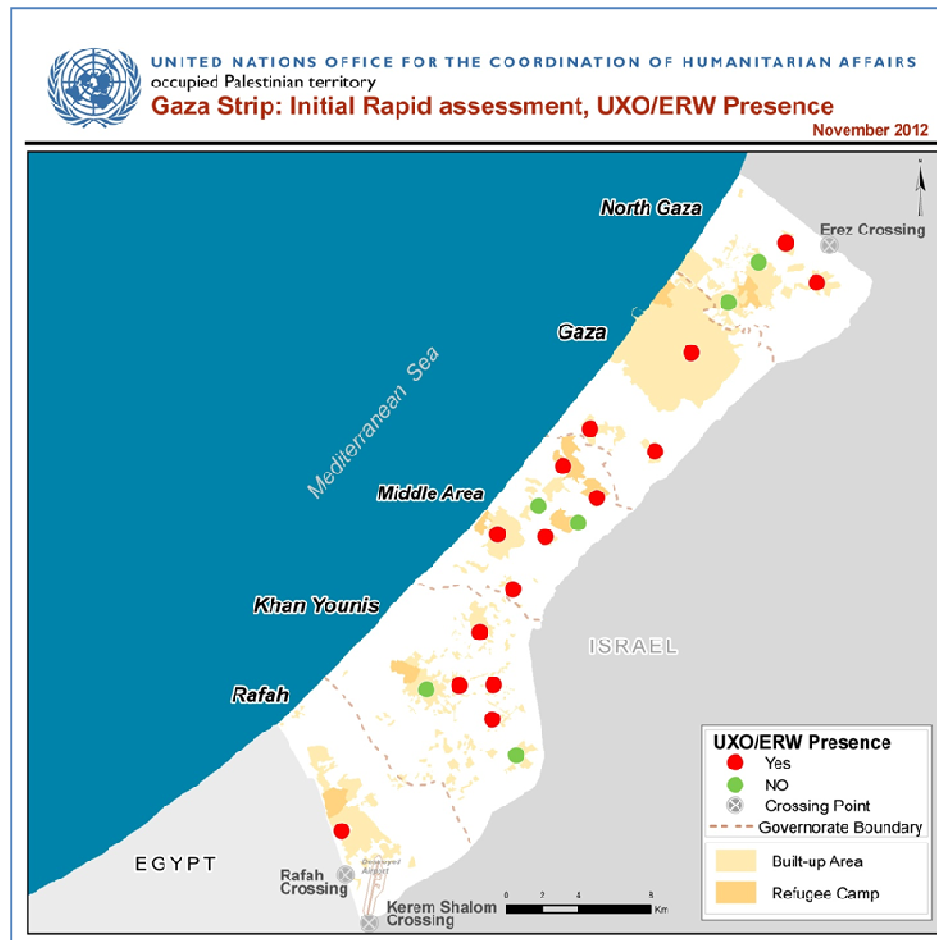


Figure K: Presence/absence of ERW per survey location, Gaza Strip

their homes in Gaza city. As such, **Juhor Al-Dik, Gaza city and Al-Mughraqa** all require an immediate response.

In Deir El-Balah, 5 communities (Breig; Nuseirat; Wadi as Salqa; Al-Musaddar; Deir Balah) out of a total of 7 communities reported the presence of ERW. Whilst there have been no reported incidents in Maghazi, the rural areas are still under scrutiny and thus, no confirmation has yet been reported on the existence of ERW.

North Gaza reported lower numbers of ERW relative to other governorates however considerable fear among residents of unexploded bombs and shrapnel are particularly apparent in the two communities of **Al-Qaryah Al Badaweyeh (Maslakh) and Beit Hanoun**. at the time of the assessment, the presence of ERW was reportedly impeding the return of IDPs to their homes or their agricultural land. Farmers reported the need for a rapid ERW response in order to return to land cultivation. Since a municipal removal response has not been initiated by Gazan police in the North relative to other parts of Gaza, these two communities require an immediate and rapid response.

4.4 Damage to Water and Sanitation Facilities

The IRA highlighted that all Gaza governorates have been equally affected by damages and/or interruptions to supply/network of water services, sanitation and water storage. Those communities with chronic WASH deficiencies are particularly vulnerable to further disruptions in service provision (summarised in section 5). Some governorates such as Khan Yunis have higher counts but specific communities and even governorates require an equally vital response.

Moreover, in addition to the evidence of damages or interruptions to WASH facilities, certain communities/governorates have been rendered disproportionately vulnerable by limited access to water, the presence of solid waste close to shelters (20 m) and unprotected hazard areas close to water supplies have affected the governorates of North Gaza, Khan Yunis and Gaza city.

In terms of access to water, Beit Lahiya and Jabalya (North Gaza governorate) and Khuza'a, Abasan Al Kabira, Al-Qarara, Bani Suheila and Khan Yunis city (Khan Yunis governorate) reported that residents had less than 4 hours of access to water due in part to disruptions in services and damage to storage facilities. Beit Hanun, Beit Lahiya (North Gaza governorate), Abasan Al-Kabira (Khan Yunis governorate) and Gaza City (Gaza Governorate) reported the presence of solid waste close to shelters (20 m) and unprotected hazard areas close to water supplies in part due the disruption of sewer networks and damage to facilities and waste removal equipment (detailed in section 5).

5 Key Findings by Governorate

The following tables provide key findings, specific problems and priorities for interventions identified during IRA key informant interviews, and specific to each of the 5 governorates of the Gaza Strip.

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Initial Rapid Assessment GAZA 2012



GOVERNORATE of Gaza

Basic Facts (PCBS, 2010)				Key Findings		Map
Population (Year end 2010)	543,195	Wastewater Network Connections	4	Highest incidents of displacement occurred in the Gaza governorate, in which 1.4% of the governorate's population has been internally displaced, estimated at 7,600 IDP's. Displacement in the Gaza Governorate was as high as 100% in one single community, (Juhor Ad Dik, 4,000 IDP's) but most have returned; while 40% of Al-Mughraqa (3,000 IDP's) had been displaced and some are unable to return due to demolished houses.		
Average Households per house	1.8	Area of Permanent Cultivated Land (km2)	9.2			
Unemployment (%)	61.2	Total Production of field crops (MT)	861	The most vulnerable groups are mostly non-refugees not receiving assistance, and Bedouins who live in poorly constructed houses, as well as high-rise residents and those living in close proximity to targeted government buildings.		
Average Daily Wage (NIS)	61.2	Rainfed Crops (%)	31.6			
Computer Access (%)	53.3	Irrigated Crops (%)	68.4			
Internet Access (%)	35.5	Total area cultivated (dunum)	6,100	Surveyed Municipalities Juhor Ad Dik, Al Mughraqa and Gaza City Representing 97% of the population		

Cluster		Reported problems	Expressed Priority Needs
	Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gaza governorate requires a prioritized response against ERW, with the highest counts reported. All municipalities visited reported ERW presence. The presence of ERW has prevented many residents from returning to their homes in Gaza city. Similarly, in Juhor Ad Dik existence of shrapnel has been reported. As such, Juhor Al-Dik, Gaza city and Al Mughraqa all require an 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritized response to the removal of ERW in all Gaza communities Provision of legal assistance






		<p>immediate response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All communities in the governorate of Gaza reported the need for legal assistance 	
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to 35 schools reported in Gaza: the highest damage count in all governorates Children who lost their homes require basic necessities such as a school uniform or stationery Behaviour change in children reported in all 3 communities in Gaza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of stationery and school uniforms for students who lost their homes Psychosocial Support for children Provide transportation for students who walk long distances
	Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The highest rate of destroyed houses, relative to other governorates, occurred in Gaza with a total of 93 destroyed homes (rendered uninhabitable) and damage to 950 houses (ranging from light to severe) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative shelters for people who lost their dwellings; including basic necessities like nylon sheets or cash for rent Fuel for cooking and heating required in Al-Mughraqa and Juhor Ad Dik
	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of primary health care drugs and medical disposables Lack of day care and emergency centers Lack of ambulances (in Al Mughraqa/ Juhour Ad Dik/ Gaza) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential PHC drugs and medical disposables required Support needed in order to create fully equipped day care and emergency centers Additional ambulances required to transport emergency cases Support needed for the artificial limbs center in Gaza city
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of food items among displaced people/families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food distribution items needed for people who lost their homes and host families Food kits and milk required
	Wash	<p><i>Sanitation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unprotected hazard areas in Gaza city are reportedly close to water supplies Lack of containers resulting in an interruption to sanitation services due to the municipality's inability to remove garbage (Juhor Ad Dik and Al-Mughraqa) Partial damages to wastewater collection cars (Gaza City) Damage to a 14" inch waste water pipeline near Al Mughraqa Street (Gaza city) 50m damage to a 6" pipeline in Aqsa Street (Gaza City) Damage to a solid waste station and waste collection vehicle as a result of airstrikes in Gaza city <p><i>Water Supply/ Network</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to water supplies due to a motor fault in the main water as a result of electricity fluctuations, consequently affecting the efficiency of 50% of Municipal water services in Al-Mughraqa. 4 pipeline damages in Gaza city (i) Damage to an 8" main waterline on St #8; (ii) Pipeline damage in St. Rashid; (iii) 2" pipeline damage in St. Saef; (iv) 2" pipeline damage in St buirt – Amin Damages to water tanks in Al-Mughraqa <p><i>Access to Drinking Water</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Gaza city, Sahina well (adjacent to Tunis School) has been interrupted due to lack of fuel; Damages to the generator of well #6 due to shelling; Mechanical problems to Safa well #4 due to area airstrikes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solid waste management required Provision of waste/garbage containers Repair of wastewater collection vehicles Wastewater pipeline repairs Rehabilitation of a damaged waste station Rehabilitation of 3 damaged wells that are currently non operational <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water pipeline repairs required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water tank repairs needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water well repairs required

Table 5-1: Key Findings: Gaza






Occupied Palestinian Territory: Initial Rapid Assessment GAZA 2012



GOVERNORATE of Khan Yunis

Basic Facts (PCBS, 2010)				Key Findings		Map
Population (Year end 2010)	296,438	Wastewater Network Connections	2	Khan Yunis governorate reported the third highest rate of displacement among the 5 governorates, with an estimated displaced population of 2,873. It had among the highest displacements in one single community in which 2,400 people in Khuza'a, who make up around 23% of the population, were displaced		
Average Households per house	1.7	Area of Permanent Cultivated Land (km2)	10.2			
Unemployment (%)	62.7	Total Production of field crops (MT)	1,377			
Average Daily Wage (NIS)	62.7	Rainfed Crops (%)	75.2	The most vulnerable groups in Khan Yunis are farmers who have reported damage to farm lands seriously affecting their livelihood		
Computer Access (%)	37.1	Irrigated Crops (%)	24.8	Surveyed Municipalities	Abasan Al-Kabira, Abasan Al-Jadida, Al Qarara, Khuza'a, Khan Yunis and Bani Suheila	
Internet Access (%)	26.9	Total area cultivated (dunum)	6,228	Representing 88% of the population		

Cluster	Reported problems	Expressed Priority Needs
Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All communities in the governorate of Khan Yunis requested legal assistance (with the exception of Khuza'a) Khan Yunis governorate reported the highest number of ERW but do not require an immediate response as it is being dealt with by local police 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of legal assistance

	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 damaged schools reported, the second highest damage count of all governorates Children who lost their homes require basic necessities for school such as school uniforms and stationery 3 out of 6 communities in the Khan Yunis governorate (Abasan Al-Jadida, Al-Qarara and Bani Suheila) reported on behavior change in children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psychosocial support for students and caregivers Distribution of stationery and school uniforms for students who lost their homes Repairing damaged schools Provision of extracurricular activities and remedial classes Provision of friendly and safe environments for children
	Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75 destroyed houses rendered uninhabitable in Khan Yunis and 838 homes damaged (ranging from light to severe) 5 out of 6 communities in Khan Yunis reported shortages in access to clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essentials, plastic sheets, access to hygiene, mats (with the exception of Al-Qarara community), shortage of diapers in Khan Yunis city Some NGO's have provided plastic sheets but no reported response from the Municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of rental fees, shelter, furniture, cooking utensils and clothing. Provision of clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essentials, mats, diapers and access to hygiene All require access to plastic sheets in Khan Yunis
	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shortage of emergency health units in Abasan Al-Jadida, Abasan Al-Kabira, Al-Qarara and Khuza'a) Lack of a general hospital in Bani Suheila Poor health services at Khan Yunis' health centers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency health units required General Hospital needed in Bani Suheila Repairing damage to Shuhada Khan Yunis health center and rehabilitation of its health services Rebuilding Arrahma Al Khayria clinic in Al Mawasi and its health services
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of food items among displaced people/families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food parcels for families who lost their homes and host families Wheat, flour, child/ infants feeding (Khan Yunis) Wheat, flour and veg.oil and pulses (Khuza'a)
	Wash	<p><i>Access to Drinking Water</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 out of 7 communities in Khan Yunis had less than 4 hours of access to water per day, the communities are Abasan Al Kabira, Al Qarara, Bani Suheila, Khan Yunis and Khuza'a In Al-Qarara the community residents could not access drinking water from tankers in the first 5 days of the crisis. <p><i>Water Supply/ Network:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to the water supply network in Abasan al Jadida (as Saghira), in which 1 municipality reservoir of 150 cubic has been out of order since its been struck Damage caused to the water network in two locations in Khan Yunis Damages to a water reservoir (300 m3 capacity) and a water well (100m3/h capacity) which serve 30% of the Khuza'a community <p><i>Sanitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abasan al Jadida (as Saghira) has problems with the sewage network leading to sewage flooding into one of the community's suburbs Solid waste accumulation in Al-Qarara Damage occurred to a solid waste truck with a capacity of 5m3 which serves the Khuza'a community <p><i>Water Storage:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage occurred to water storage facilities in Al-Qarara with 3 damaged water tanks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repairs required for the municipality reservoirs in Abasan Al Jadida (as Saghira) and Khuza'a Water network repairs needed in Khan Yunis Sewage flooding into one of the suburbs of Abasan Al-Jadida Solid waste truck Waste containers needed in Al-Qarara to counter waste accumulation Repairs required for a damaged solid waste truck in Khuza'a Replacement of damaged water tanks in Qarara and Khuza'a

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 water storage tanks in Khuza'a have been damaged	
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Table 5-2: Key Findings: Khan Younis






Occupied Palestinian Territory: Initial Rapid Assessment GAZA 2012



GOVERNORATE of Deir El-Balah

Basic Facts (PCBS, 2010)				Key Findings		Map
Population (Year end 2010)	226,778	Wastewater Network Connections	10	Deir El Balah governorate had an estimated displaced population of 932 persons.		
Average Households per house	1.7	Area of Permanent Cultivated Land (km2)	9.3			
Unemployment (%)	69.2	Total Production of field crops (MT)	577	The most vulnerable groups in Deir El Balah varies, including farmers who have reported damages to farm lands posing serious risks to their livelihood; fishermen, who lost their boats (10 totally destroyed and 70 damaged); residents living in poor infrastructure and housing conditions and people with disabilities and chronic disease		
Average Daily Wage (NIS)	69.2	Rainfed Crops (%)	56.5			
Computer Access (%)	45.5	Irrigated Crops (%)	43.5			
Internet Access (%)	26.7	Total area cultivated (dunum)	1,786	Surveyed Municipalities Al Bureij, Nuseirat, Maghazi, Wadi as Salqa, Az -Zawayda and Deir El-Balah Representing 63% of the population		

Cluster		Reported problems	Expressed Priority Needs
	Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 communities out of 7 (Al Bureij; Nuseirat; Wadi as Salqa; Al-Musaddar; Deir Balah) reported incidents of ERW. The incidences are being dealt with by local police In Deir El Balah residents' fear of ERW and possible radiation have prevented residents from returning to their home areas. There have been no reported incidents in Maghazi, the rural areas are still under scrutiny and thus, no confirmation has yet been reported on the existence of ERW 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of ERW (only in Deir El Balah) Existence of ERW have not been determined in the rural area of Maghazi yet Provision of legal assistance

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All communities in Deir El Balah governorate requested the need for legal assistance with the exception of Al Musaddar 	
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 schools were reportedly damaged in Deir El Balah governorate Deir El-Balah governorate reported the highest counts of psychosocial incidents among children, all communities reported on incidences, including fear, anxiety, crying and Nocturnal Enuresis (bedwetting) (Maghazi, Al-Musaddar, Nuseirat, Az Zawayda); PTSD (Deir Balah, Wadi as Salqa) 4 out of 7 communities reported on behaviour change in children in the communities of Breig, Musaddar, An Nuseirat and Deir El-Balah 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repairing damages to schools, especially windows and doors Rebuilding destroyed kindergartens Psychosocial support for all Distribution of stationery and school uniforms for students who lost their homes or pocket money distribution for all the student Provision of extracurricular activities and midyear winter camps Awareness raising for students and caregivers on ERW Training for school staff in security evacuation Remedial classes using action learning methodologies Training teachers on dealing with children in difficult situations Provision of safety equipment for schools such as, an alarm systems, fire extinguishers, fire buckets, microphones, emergency signs and first aid kits
	Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deir El Balah had a total of 63 destroyed houses that were rendered uninhabitable and the second highest number of damaged homes with 1084 damaged homes (ranging from light to severe) Reported shortages of clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essentials, plastic sheets, access to hygiene, mats and diapers in 6 out of 7 communities with the exceptions of Wadi As Salqa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of rental fees and shelter Access to clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essentials, plastic sheets, access to hygiene, mats and diapers required Fuel for heat and cooking needed in Al Maghazi, Al Musaddar, Nuseirat and Az Zawayda
	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of essential primary health care drugs and disposable needs Lack of day cares and emergency centers Lack of ambulances Lack of medical equipment in Az ZawaydaZawaydaZawayda and Maghazi Lack of specific medical equipment, including orthopedic table for the operation room at Al Aqsa hospital; obstetric surgical instruments; resuscitation pediatric set ; intensive photo therapy machine in Nuseirat and Al BureijBureijBureij Lack of emergency health units in Wadi as Salqa, Deir Balah and Al-Musaddar Shortages in drugs and disposable materials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential PHC drugs and medical disposables Support in order to create a fully equipped day care and emergency center Provision of ambulances for emergency cases Orthopedic table for operation room; obstetric surgical instruments; resuscitation pediatric set and intensive photo therapy machine in Al-Aqsa hospital Emergency units, PHC Center Expansion Drugs and disposable materials, and medical equipment Capacity building for medical staff in Deir El-Balah
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of food items among displaced people/families The need for job creation programs Supporting damage to agricultural lands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food parcels for families who lost their homes and host families Land rehabilitation Infant milk and food distribution programs
	Wash	<p><i>Water Supply/Network</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Al Bureij and Nuseirat experienced damage to the water supply network to a 10" main water line at Sekka Bridge over Wadi Gaza, which has in effect blocked water supply to 20,000 people during hostilities. 150m of a 4" water pipelines and 300m of a 2" water pipelines have been damaged in Deir El-Balah <p><i>Sanitation:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water pipeline repairs required in Al Bureij, Nuseirat and Deir El-Balah Provision of waste containers in Al Bureij Sanitation repairs needed in Al-Musaddar Wastepipe network repairs required in Deir El-Balah Repair/provision of water tanks in Al Bureij, Nuseirat, Al-Musaddar, Wadi As Salqa and Deir El-Balah

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of sanitation containers in Al Bureij resulted in the municipality's inability to remove garbage during the war offensive. • Interruptions to the sanitation system in Al-Musaddar with an accumulation of 200 tons of solid waste. • 200m of an 8" sewerage network in Deir El Balah has been damaged <p><i>Water Storage:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported damages to water tanks in Al Bureij and Nuseirat (HH level), 10 damaged tanks in both Al-Musaddar and Wadi As Salqa and 100 tanks damaged in Deir El-Balah. 	
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Table 5-3: Key Findings: Dier El Balah





Occupied Palestinian Territory: Initial Rapid Assessment GAZA 2012



GOVERNORATE of North Gaza

Basic Facts (PCBS, 2010)				Key Findings		Map
Population (Year end 2010)	303,351	Wastewater Network Connections	5	<p>North Gaza had the second highest rate of internally displaced people with a total of 2,920 persons. The highest estimated prevalence of IDP's occurred in Beit Hanoun with a total of 2,400 IDPs, an average of 82% of the total displaced community of North Gaza.</p> <p>The most vulnerable groups in North Gaza are non-refugees and farmers (Bedouins) who have reported damages to farm lands severely affecting their livelihood</p> <p>Surveyed Municipalities Al-Qaraya El Badawiya (Maslakh), Beit Hanoun, Beit Lahiya and Jabalya Representing 90% of the population</p>		
Average Households per house	1.8	Area of Permanent Cultivated Land (km2)	6.4			
Unemployment (%)	71.4	Total Production of field crops (MT)	2,848			
Average Daily Wage (NIS)	71.4	Rainfed Crops (%)	25.7			
Computer Access (%)	44.2	Irrigated Crops (%)	74.3			
Internet Access (%)	26.7	Total area cultivated (dunum)	4,074			

Cluster		Reported problems	Expressed Priority Needs
	Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Al-Qaraya El Badawiya (Maslakh) and Beit Hanoun were targeted by shells and airstrikes. ERW have been seen by residents consequently deterring the displaced population to return to their homes. A municipal removal response has not been initiated yet by Gazan police in the North relative to other parts of Gaza 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of ERW in Al-Qaraya El Badawiya (Maslakh) and Beit Hanoun to enable famers to cultivate their lands.
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 schools were reportedly damaged as well as kindergartens Children who lost their homes require basic necessities for school such as school uniform and stationery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage repair needed for Ard El Tofoula KG in Al-Qaraya El Badawiya Maslakh Psychosocial support for all, especially for students at Hamad Bin Khalifa School in Beit Lahiya where the school guard was killed along with his two children

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Gaza reported the highest counts of psychosocial incidents among children; all 4 communities reported incidences of fear, anxiety, hyperactivity, insomnia, crying and nocturnal enuresis (bedwetting) and PTSD. All 4 communities in the North Gaza governorate reported on behaviour changes in children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness raising on ERW Remedial Classes Training on safe evacuation in emergency situations for schools and kindergartens Rehabilitation of children playgrounds in Beit Hanoun Provision of recreational kits and toys for children Provision of drinking water to Jabalya schools Distribution of stationery and school uniforms for students who lost their homes
	Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Gaza had the highest rate of destroyed houses in comparison to other governorates with a total of 93 homes rendered uninhabitable and the third highest count of damaged houses with 950 damaged houses (ranging from light to severe) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental fees/assistance, shelter and furniture Partially damaged houses in the North of Gaza require plastic sheeting Provision of tents to displaced families, in addition to NFIs like mattresses, blankets and clothing Fuel for heat and cooking needed in Beit Lahiya, Jabalya and Al Qaraya Al-Badawiya Maslakh
	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of essential primary health care drugs and medical disposables in hospitals Limited capacity reported of Kamal Adwan hospital, the main hospital serving the North of Gaza, in dealing with emergency cases, specifically the operating room and the intensive care unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of essential PHC drugs and medical disposables in hospitals Equipped ambulances for rapid referral of urgent cases Emergency drugs Diagnostic medical supplies such as CT Laboratory machine for chemical and blood gases investigation and Increased capacity as Kamal Adwan Hospital portable x-ray machine needed in Beit Hanoun
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of food items among displaced people/families Damage to agricultural lands The municipality underlined the need to coordinate the process of food distribution between NGOs and the municipality in order to avoid possible duplication or gaps in service provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of food items such as flour, pulses, fresh food and milk Distribution of food parcels to people who lost their homes and host families Infant milk for vulnerable families Land Rehabilitation
	Wash	<p><i>Access to Drinking Water:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water tanker destroyed while distributing water in Beit Lahiya Beit Lahiya and Jabalya had less than 4 hours per day of access to water <p><i>Water Supply/Network:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damage to a 10" main water line at Sekka bridge over Wadi Gaza, blocking water supply to 20,000 people during hostilities in Beit Hanoun Two 4" water pipelines damaged in Aslan and Al Twam in Western Beit Lahiya, which resulted in water supply being cut to 2000 inhabitants residing in the area Damages to the water network in 12 different locations halting water provision to 10,000 inhabitants. The municipality temporarily responded by distributing potable water for families in Jabalya <p><i>Sanitation:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partial damage to a 500 m wastewater pipeline, 50 solid waste containers and 3 solid waste vehicles in Beit Hanoun Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya have the presence of solid waste close to shelters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement of water tanker in Beit Lahiya Waterline repair required for a 10" pipe in Beit Hanoun Waterline repair needed for two 4" pipelines in Beit Lahiya Network repair required in Jabalya Repair required for a wastewater pipeline in Beit Hanoun Repair necessary for Aslan's pumping station in Beit Lahiya Repair/replacement of waste collection vehicles in Beit Lahiya Sewer network repair needed in Jabalya

		<p>(20 m) and unprotected hazard areas close to water supplies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sewage flooding in Aslan’s pumping station (western area) of Beit Lahiya and interruption to solid waste collection services due to non-functioning vehicles <p>Damages to the sewer network in Jabalya impacting on 50 HH</p>	
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Table 5-4: Key Findings: North Gaza

Occupied Palestinian Territory: Initial Rapid Assessment GAZA 2012



GOVERNORATE of Rafah

Basic Facts (PCBS, 2010)				Key Findings		Map
Population (Year end 2010)	192,144	Wastewater Network Connections	2	Rafah governorate had the lowest rate of displacement of all Gaza governorates with 595 IDP's.		
Average Households per house	1.8	Area of Permanent Cultivated Land (km2)	5.5			
Unemployment (%)	58.4	Total Production of field crops (MT)	2,220	The most vulnerable groups in Rafah include women and refugees in camps		
Average Daily Wage (NIS)	58.4	Rainfed Crops (%)	40.9	Surveyed Municipalities	Rafah Representing 74% of the population	
Computer Access (%)	47.3	Irrigated Crops (%)	59.1			
Internet Access (%)	28.1	Total area cultivated (dunum)	6,344			

Cluster		Reported problems	Expressed Priority Needs
	Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rafah reported the need for legal assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of legal assistance
	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children who lost their homes require basic for school such as school uniforms and stationery 4 schools reported damaged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School uniform and stationery for pupils Remedial classes Psychosocial support Training school staff on safe evacuation





	Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rafah reported the second highest rate of destroyed houses of all Gaza governorates with a total of 85 homes rendered uninhabitable and ranked highest in terms of damaged housing reported with 950 damaged homes (ranging from light to severe) Shortages in clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essentials, plastic sheets, access to hygiene, mats and diaper supplies Rafah has already been provided with some basic assistance by various governmental bodies or local charities (such as, ICRC/ Al Rahma Society/ Islamic Society/ Ministry of Social Affairs/ Ministry of Public Work). Those who had their houses damaged or had a family member killed received some assistance (incl. 2 blankets/ 2 mattresses per family & food items during the military operation from the Islamic Society and the Ministry of Social Affairs. Ministry of Public Work is expected to offer rental fees to victims as well. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rental fees, shelter, furniture, cooking utensils and clothing Provision of fuel for heat and cooking Supplies of clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essential, plastic sheets, mats and diapers required Access to hygiene required
	Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a
	Food	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of food items for displaced people/families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of food distribution items for people who lost their homes and host families
	Wash	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No reported damages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> n/a

Table 5-5: Key Findings: Rafah

6 Cluster/Sector Priorities

6.1 PROTECTION

Priority Area

**Removal of ERW in the Gaza and North Gaza governorates
Legal assistance should be provided to most communities in the Gaza Strip**

6.1.1 ERW

Explosive remnants of war (ERW) and unexploded ordinances (UXO) are evident in most governorates of the Gaza Strip with 15 out of 21 communities reporting incidences, based on the following distribution counts, Rafah (1/1); Deir El-Balah (5/7); Khan Yunis (4/6) and North Gaza (2/4).

Gaza governorate requires a prioritized response against ERW ranking highest in terms of per community per governorate count. In *Al-Mughraqa (Abu Middein)* and in *Gaza city*, residents fear unexploded bombs and the existence of shrapnel preventing many from returning to their homes. Shrapnel has also been reported in *Juhor Ad Dik*.

Two communities out of four in the North Gaza governorate reported a particularly high prevalence of ERW during interviews, which were deterring the return of displaced populations in *Al-Qaraya Al-Badawiya Al-Maslakh* and *Beit Hanoun*. A municipal removal response had not been initiated by Gazan police in North Gaza as instigated in Deir El Balah and

Khan Yunis. The IRA highlighted considerable fear among residents of unexploded bombs, F16 shells and shrapnel, especially, in *Al-Qaraya Al-Badawiya Al-Maslakh* where unexploded F16 shells and shrapnel remain seen.

Deir El-Balah (middle area) and Khan Yunis reported the highest number of ERW incidences but do not require a response as local police have gone underway with a removal process. Deir El Balah is the only community in which residents remain fearful of ERW and possible radiation consequently hampering their return to their homes/area. No reported incidents have been recorded in Maghazi; the rural areas however need to be checked.

6.1.2 Legal Assistance

The majority of all communities in the governorates of Gaza, Deir El-Balah (Middle Area), North Gaza, Rafah, Khan Yunis require legal assistance with the exceptions of the following few, *Al-Musaddar* in Deir El-Balah (Middle Area); *Khuza'a* in Khan Yunis and *Al-Qaraya El-Badawiya (Maslakh)* in North Gaza.

6.2 EDUCATION

Priority Area

**Provision of psychosocial support/intervention for children
Provision of basic school items for affected children (such as uniforms and stationery).
Reconstruction and damage repairs for schools and kindergartens**

Gaza governorate witnessed the highest numbers of damaged schools with 35 in total followed by 11 in Khan Yunis, 9 in Deir El-Balah, 7 in North Gaza and 4 in Rafah. *These totals are provisional and based on secondary data reviews of reports available preceding the field assessment. It is expected that these totals will increase as more detailed education assessments are conducted.* All governorates reported on the prioritized need to both equip affected children (those who lost their homes) with basic school items such as school uniforms or stationery and provide psychosocial support and intervention for children.

The following needs were also systematically highlighted in the results, psychosocial support for school staff and caregivers; the need to repair damaged schools and kindergartens, especially school windows and doors; the provision of extracurricular and remedial classes for children; raising awareness of students and school staff on UXO's; training school staff on security evacuation and dealing with children in emergency situations; and the provision of safe learning environment.

The provision of safe learning environments parallels the results of the women focus groups which underlined concerns regarding the time required for school re-constructions, fearing the prospect of overcrowded classrooms as a result of children being transitionally placed in other replacement schools. Women also demanded that schools must be rebuilt in safer areas, specifically distant from potential military targets, such as Police Stations.

6.3 PSYCHOSOCIAL

Priority Area

Provision of psychosocial support and intervention for children and adults

The IRA results indicate that all the governorates in the Gaza Strip reported the need for psychosocial support and intervention for both children and adults alike as a result of accumulative airstrikes, bombings, shelling, casualties (especially the death of loved ones/friends/acquaintances), infrastructural damage, loss of home, displacement, affected livelihood, etc The 8-day military offensive posed repercussions on men and women, in addition to negatively affecting children.

In Gaza and North Gaza governorates all communities, (3/3) and (4/4) respectively, reported changes in children behavior, which may be directly correlated to highest estimated prevalence of internally displaced persons in Gaza, and the second highest rate in North Gaza. Further psychosocial support was additionally requested and highlighted for students at Hamad Bin Khalifa School in which the school guard was killed along with his two children.

In Deir El-Balah governorate, 4 out of 7 communities reported changes to children behavior in the communities of Al Bureij, Al Musaddar, An Nuseirat and Deir El-Balah, while 3/6 communities in the Khan Yunis governorate with reported changes in the communities of Abasan Al-Jadida, Al-Qarara and Bani Suheila.

Deir El-Balah governorate had the highest count of adult psychosocial needs (4), followed by North Gaza (3), Gaza (3) and Beit Hanoun (3). Reports on adult psychosocial incidents include nervousness, fear and

anxiety, irritability, hyperactivity and post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Deir El-Balah and North Gaza reported the highest counts of psychosocial incidents among children (4), followed by Gaza (3). Report psychosocial incidents of children include fear, anxiety, hyperactivity, insomnia, crying and nocturnal enuresis (bedwetting) and PTSD.

The women focus group underscored the psychosocial affects on them as they kept their calm and maintained their role as children caretakers. Fear and insecurity in Gaza was a recurring theme of concern and further emphasised exceptional families who lost their house twice.

Women were particularly concerned by the psychological impact on children including other factors such as lack of appetite and aggressive behavior. Gender violence was also reported on by women. At a psychosocial level, women strongly felt the need to talk about their experience in a structured and facilitated manner. In addition to psychosocial attention for the children, women requested “debriefing sessions” and training on how to cope and support their children during stressful crisis.

6.4 SHELTER

Priority Area

Continued provision of NFI’s to the governorates of Deir El-Balah, Khan Yunis and Rafah.

Provision of alternative shelters or rental fees

Reconstruction and residential damage repairs

The interview results revealed that Deir El-Balah has a greater need for basic necessities followed by Khan Yunis, Rafah and North Gaza. In Deir El-Balah (6 out of the 7 communities), Khan Yunis (5 out of 6 communities) and Rafah are in need of access to clothes, blankets, mattresses, cooking essentials, plastic sheets, access to hygiene, mats (with the exception of Wadi Salqa community). All 6 communities in Deir Balah, Rafah and Khan Yunis (Khan Yunis governorate) require additional supplies of diaper.

Alternative shelters are urgently required for people who lost their homes or the provision of rental fees, shelter and tents. Partially damaged houses are in need of plastic sheeting, tents, and food items in addition to the previously mentioned NFI’s.

All 3 communities in Khan Yunis, Jabalya in North Gaza and Rafah have already been provided with some basic assistance by various governmental bodies or local charities (such as, ICRC/ Al Rahma Society/ Islamic Society/ Ministry of Social Affairs/ Ministry of Public Work)). As such, other underserved communities require a more pressing response.

The women focus groups stressed on the affects of residential destruction on themselves and their families, especially at the financial level. It reportedly strained family budgets, particularly for those dependent on daily income. This financial constraint was further met with marked price increases in the local markets. This in turn left some families seeking financial loans while others utilised the small amounts of savings available. Women emphasized the importance of rebuilding and repairing damaged homes as a marked priority.

6.5 HEALTH

Priority Area

Supplying drugs and medical disposables for the public health system
Provision of day care and emergency centers??
Provision of additional ambulances??

The interviews conveyed a shortage in various medical necessities in all Gaza governorates, such as primary health care (PHC) drugs and medical disposable needs. The respondents also highlighted several issues that are hampering access and availability to medical services in emergency situations, such as the need for fully equipped and established day care and emergency centers in all communities; a shortage of ambulances needed to transport emergency cases; and the need for better emergency unit facilities. The communities in the Gaza Strip highlighted the need to address these recurring priority health needs.

Additional context-sensitive health requirements were also reported at a community level and although specific, are equally vital. Khan Yunis city requires repairing damages caused to Shuhada' Khan Yunis health center, the rebuilding of Arrahma Alkhayria clinic in Al Mawasi and the rehabilitation of both health service centers. Bani Suheila in the Khan Yunis governorate requires the establishment of a General Hospital for the community.

Main hospitals in the Gaza strip required additional support, the North Gaza governorate highlighted the need to increase the capacity of Kamal Adwan hospital to deal with emergency cases, enhance the operation

room and the ICU ward, as it is the main one serving for the whole of the northern Gaza Strip governorate. In the Gaza governorate, support is needed for the artificial limbs center in Gaza city; whilst Al-Aqsa hospital in the Deir El-Balah governorate highlighted the need for an orthopedic table in the operation room, obstetric surgical instruments, resuscitation pediatric set and an intensive photo therapy machine.

6.6 FOOD

Priority Area

Continues supply of food distribution items and food kits/parcels

High levels of food insecurity in Gaza which were widespread before the hostilities have been further exacerbated. The interview results highlighted the prioritized need to provide food distributions items such as flour, vegetable oil, sugar, rice, milk and infancy milk, food kits/parcels for people that lost their homes. The majority of the governorates also requested a need for providing food distribution items to families that hosted displaced people. The need for job creation programs was particularly evident in Deir El-Balah governorate and repairing damage to agricultural lands was emphasized in Deir El-Balah and North Gaza governorates.

The municipalities underlined the need to coordinate the process of food distribution between NGOs and the municipality in order to avoid possible duplication or gaps in service provision.

The women focus group conveyed the inability of families to stockpile prior to the escalation (a period of less than a week), which had been burdened by a marked price increase in local markets as well as the large families that women belong to (an average of 7 to 8 members).

6.7 WASH

Priority Area

Restore damaged water/sanitation pipelines and water tanks
Replacing damaged water tankers and waste collection vehicles
Provision of garbage containers

The IRA has shown that all Gaza governorates have been equally affected by damages and/or interruptions to the supply/network of water services/storage and sanitation. Some governorates such as Khan Yunis have higher overall disruption counts but specific communities/governorates require an equally vital response. It is evident, for example, that Gaza city has reported the highest numbers of destruction to water pipelines and water wells; while damages to the water network in 12 different locations in Jabalya halted the provision of water to 10,000 residents. The water supply had also been cut off to 2,000 inhabitants in Beit Lahiya and damage to a main water pipeline at Sekka Bridge over Wadi Gaza blocked the supply of water to 20,000 people. The most recurring need, manifested in all governorates, in terms of sanitation is the provision of garbage containers followed by destruction to waste collection vehicles.

In addition to damages or interruptions to WASH facilities, certain communities and/or governorates have been rendered disproportionately vulnerable by limited access to water, the presence of solid waste close to shelters (20 m) and unprotected hazard areas close to water supplies which has affected the governorates of North Gaza, Khan Yunis and Gaza city. In

Khan Yunis governorate, 5 out of 7 communities (*Abasan Al Kabira; Al Qarara; Bani Suheila; Khan Yunis and Khuza'a*) had less than 4 hours of water access per day, which was also the case in 2 out of 4 *North Gaza governorate* communities (*Beit Lahiya and Jabalya*). The presence of solid waste in *Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahiya* are too close to shelters while, unprotected hazard areas in *Beit Lahiya, Beit Hanoun and Gaza city* are too close to water supplies.

Women raised concerns of the continuous lack of electricity, as well as the problems, that arose before and during the crisis, related to water networks and sewage water. The women acknowledge the municipal response to the water sewage problems, however, indicated the needs for further intervention as it consequently increases domestic burdens on women, in which some have had to deal with sewage problems in their households themselves. Water storage on the other hand, is also an issue for families. The ability to pump water highly depends on already limited electricity availability.

Annex A

RAPID NEEDS ASSESSMENT IN GAZA: A FOLLOW UP ASSESSMENT WITH GENDER PERSPECTIVE

(27-28 November)

Background to the assessment

The Inter-Cluster assessment team realized at the debriefing session held at the UNDP building on Tuesday 26 that the information gathered during three day visits to 21 Municipalities failed short of providing basic information on the needs of communities with a gender perspective. Although the IRA form contained some gender specific questions, local authorities and officials at the meetings did not have desegregated information. NRC, Oxfam GB and UN Women undertook a follow up assessment using a focus group methodology on the basis of the IRA form in Arabic.

This further assessment took place on 27-28 November involving local partners that visited the following locations:

Gaza City by Oxfam GB (Al- Aqsa Street, Tal Al Hawa, beside the Jordanian hospitals; Maqsoosy Tower Neighborhood Land, Street number 8, Own Al-Shawa);

South Gaza, Khan Younis Gaza City (Shijayia Market) , South Gaza Strip (Tal Al Sultan area in Rafah, Maen area in Kahn Younis) by NRC and UN Women that worked with local partner organizations, namely : AISHA,

WEFAQ Society for Women and by Palestinian Centre for Democracy and Conflict Resolution.

Summary of findings and priorities

1. Chronic needs that preceded the hostilities often emerged as issues of concern.

Surveys indicated that the short term effect throughout the 6 sectors (Protection, WASH, Health, Education, Food and Shelter). As an example, the lack of regular income and jobs or the limited access to water or deficiencies in the sewage and garbage collection systems were always outlined in the interviews.

2. Psychosocial attention for women and training on coping mechanisms.

Due to the intensity and frequency of the air strikes during the 8 days of the hostilities all women and groups interviewed reported to be psychologically affected. Women saw themselves and the children in the family most affected by the hostilities. As “caretakers” they tried to keep calm and do not saw their emotions, their fear. Also they indicated their ambiguous feelings about the future and the uncertain security prospects for Gaza. All women interviewed mentioned peace and security as one major need, especially in light of the experience of Cast Lead. One woman (Naima, from Khan Younis), had her house demolished for the second time – first time during Cast Lead; said “...“...“... and again we are back to homelessness...” Women were particularly concern by the psychological impact of on the children. Children’s behaviors during and after the crisis included fear, anxiety, bedwetting, disrupt sleep patterns, lack of appetite and more

aggressive behaviors than usual. Occasional reports on gender violence were also collected. Women strongly felt the need to talk about their experience in a structured and facilitated manner. In addition to psychosocial attention for the children, women asked for themselves “debriefing sessions” as well as training on how to cope and support their children during this type of stressful events

3. Quick house repair/rehabilitation programmes to end displacement.

An additional stressor for the women and families interviewed was displacement due to house partial or total destruction. Both displaced families and host families put their budgets into additional strains during the hostilities, particularly those dependant on daily incomes. The majority of respondents expressed inability of reaching their source of income during the crisis and the loss of some of these sources (i.e. agricultural land that was targeted by air force attacks). Although there was availability of food in the markets, price increased. Families coped thanks to solidarity by neighbors or relatives, in some cases they had to take loans. Generally the little savings that family had to support for instance school or university fees were spent on purchasing basic food. Families did not have the capacity to stockpile, even less than a week and also the majority of women belong to big families (an average of 7 to 8 members and more). Women saw the need to have access to job opportunities as a priority to overcome this situation. Also, they emphasized rapid house repairs and rebuilding as a priority, living with host families could not be considered a long term solution. NFIs taking into account women’s’ needs were considered important, also cash assistance for

temporary rent, but emphasized house repair as the priority. Should emergency responses (basic rehabilitation) include the installation of latrines, women asked for special consideration for their needs (separate units).

4. Placing schools in safer areas and quick rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure.

Women reported concerns over the time for re-constructions fearing that children will be going to other schools making overcrowding in classes which affects children learning schools damages. Also there was a strong call from women to rebuild schools in safer places, further away from potential military targets, such as Police Stations

5. Addressing chronic vulnerabilities.

Women raised with concern the continuous lack of electricity, which clearly preceded the crisis, but increased the feeling of insecurity and disease during the attack and disconnected the family from information. There was also an overall complaint about water networks and sewage water being affected before and during the crisis. Many women stated that the municipality had fixed the water sewage emergent problems but also indicated that it needs further intervention especially that it adds more domestic burdens on them (more than one woman suggested that they had to deal with sewage problems in their households themselves). Water storage is an issue for families since need to be pumped and depend on already limited availability of electricity.

Annex B Links to supporting information and Follow-on Assessment Reports

IRA data and Information

Theme	Category	Link
IRA Questionnaire	PDF	Arabic English
	MS Word	Arabic English
Baseline and 2ry Data (Excel)	By Governorate	Governorate Baseline Data
	By Community (including community profile data)	Community Baseline Data
IRA Data (Excel)	Raw data	Raw Results
	Compiled (tabulated) data	Analysis

Follow-on Assessments

Theme	Title	Link to report	Contact Information	
			name	email
Food Security / Livelihoods	"Rapid food security assessment: Report on the impact of conflict on Gaza Livelihoods"	Link	Laura Turner	laura.turner@wfp.org
			Nadejda Dagash	nadejda.dagash@fao.org
Health	"Initial Health Assessment Report - Gaza Strip"	n/a	Yousef Muhaisen	yumu@who-health.org
Education	"Response to Gaza November Escalation- Summary of Findings and Assessments to Date"	n/a	Constantijn Wouters	cwouters@unicef.org
UNRWA	Pending	n/a	Scott Anderson	s.anderson@unrwa.org

Annex C Intervention Priority Matrix

Cluster/Sector																
District/Municipality	Pop. 2010	Homes Destroyed	Homes Damaged	Lack of Access to NFIs	Need for Fuel (heat and cooking)	Need for Legal Assistance	Displaced Population	Presence of ERW	WASH Facilities Damaged	< 4 hours/day Water	Waste Near Shelter	Hazard Near Water	Health Req. & Support	Farmland Requiring Rehab.	Need for Psychosocial Support	Damaged Schools
GAZA	GAZA	526409	3	350		Yes	7600	Yes							Meduim	35
	Al Mughraqa	7502	3	300		High	3000	Yes	High						Meduim	
	Gaza City	515556				Yes	600	Yes	High			Yes			Meduim	High
	Juhor ad Dik	3351		50		High	4000	Yes	High						Meduim	High
KHAN YUNIS	KHAN YUNIS	261258	75	838	High	High	2873	Yes	High	Yes	yes					11
	Abasan al Jadid	6959	8	100	High		100	Yes	High		yes					
	'Abasan al Kabl	21123	45	70	High		215	Yes		Yes						High
	Al Qarara	22679	1	48			10	Yes	High	Yes						High
	Bani Suheila	36370	7	70	High		50	Yes		Yes						
	Khan Yunis	163634	14	500	High	High	98		High	Yes						
	Khuza'a	10493		50	High		2400		High	Yes						
DEIR AL BALAH	DEIR AL BALAH	143512	63	1084	High	High	932	Yes	High						High	9
	Al Bureij	9830	20	400	High		600	Yes	High						High	
	Al Maghazi	6541	2	100	High	High	20								High	
	Al Musaddar	2176	1	3	High	High	12	Yes	High						Meduim	
	An Nuseirat	36664	20	326	High	High	140	Yes							High	High
	Az Zawayda	19681	8	150	High	High	70		High						High	
	Deir al Balah	63252	12	75	High		90	Yes	High						Meduim	High
	Wadi as Salqa	5368		30			0	Yes							Meduim	
NORTH GAZA	NORTH GAZA	272142	93	950	High	High	2920	Yes	High		yes				High	7
	Al Qaraya al Ba	3351	0	0		Meduim		Yes							High	High
	Beit Hanun	45351	40	250			2400	Yes	High		yes	Yes			Meduim	High
	Beit Lahiya	76831	15	500		High	250	Yes	High	Yes	yes	yes				High
	Jabalya	146609	38	200	High	High	270		High	Yes	yes				Meduim	High
RAFAH	RAFAH	142427	85	1300	High	High	595	Yes								4

Priorities for humanitarian interventions by governorate and municipality, per cluster/sector. Red shading indicates highest prevalence of responses during the key informant interviews, and highest numbers of affected populations for a given theme (e.g. damaged structures) as reported by local officials.