



Humanitarian assistance reaching Jabalya during Phase One of the ceasefire, 3 February 2025. Photo by OCHA/Olga Cherevko

# Report: Humanitarian response by the UN and humanitarian partners during phase one of the ceasefire

17 Mar 2025

## Highlights

- Phase One of the Gaza ceasefire, from 19 January to 1 March 2025, allowed the humanitarian community to rapidly implement a prepared scale-up of its response. It enabled the daily entry of a large volume of humanitarian supplies and a steady stream of fuel. Additionally, it significantly improved the overall security environment and humanitarian access within Gaza.
- Humanitarian partners secured assistance to nearly everyone in Gaza. Humanitarian support included food parcels, tents, multi-purpose cash and psycho-social interventions, among others. Aid workers significantly increased people's access to essential services like water and health care.
- However, restrictions on the entry of critical humanitarian items continued and access to some areas was still restricted. This limited the progress that could have been achieved in the rehabilitation, restoration or resumption of water networks, solid waste management, health services, and even small-scale agricultural production.
- Given the scale of destruction and devastation alongside cumulative food, water, health, shelter, education and livelihood needs after 15 months of incessant hostilities, repeated forced displacements and humanitarian access challenges, advancements in living conditions made during the ceasefire will quickly be eroded without sustained access and movement, and a sufficient volume of entry of goods and fuel.
- The Israeli-imposed closure of all crossings for the entry of cargo starting 2 March is already increasing needs and disrupting services.

## Situation Overview

On 19 January, a ceasefire agreement came into effect in Gaza, through mediation by Egypt, Qatar and the United States. Phase One of the agreement lasted 42 days, concluding at midnight on 1 March.

During that timeframe, a total of 25 Israeli and five Thai hostages, the bodies of eight Israeli hostages, including two children, and 1,777 Palestinians were released. Another 59 Israelis and foreign nationals are estimated to remain captive in Gaza, including hostages who have been declared dead.

Based on information received from the guarantors of the ceasefire, 42,000 trucks of goods entered Gaza during Phase One. This included goods coordinated by the UN as well as goods donated bilaterally.

## Improved humanitarian access

During active hostilities in Gaza, humanitarian organizations notify or coordinate their movements to pass through or reach people in areas under the direct control of Israeli forces. With some exceptions, this was no longer required during the ceasefire, as active hostilities largely stopped and Israeli forces withdrew to a declared "buffer zone" along the borders. This enabled humanitarian partners



unimpeded access to most locations in Gaza. Movements in a two-kilometer-wide strip within Gaza, along the Israeli perimeter fence, continued to require coordination with Israeli authorities.

The cessation of major hostilities allowed humanitarian partners to ease security protocols and move more freely, including in previously hard-to-reach areas. Violent, armed looting of humanitarian cargo, which had previously paralyzed the response, almost disappeared; this is attributed to the entry of cargo in large quantities, from multiple land routes simultaneously, and the deployment of Palestinian Police across Gaza.

On 1 February, medical evacuations to Egypt through the Rafah Crossing resumed, after being halted on 7 May 2024.

## Resumption of movement to and from North Gaza

On the morning of 27 January, Israeli forces withdrew from parts of the “Netzarim Corridor,” allowing the resumption – after 15 months – of people’s movement from southern to northern Gaza – on foot via Al Rasheed Coastal Road and by vehicle, subject to prior inspection, through Salah ad-Din Road. An international consortium of private security companies was deployed at the Salah ad-Din checkpoint to conduct vehicular inspections.

The UN and partners observed more than 586,000 people crossing from southern to northern Gaza and, between 30 January and 6 February, over 56,000 people moving north to south along Al Rasheed Coastal Road.

With the reopening of the “Netzarim Corridor,” UN and partners’ efforts focused on rapidly scaling up critical humanitarian assistance in the Gaza and North Gaza governorates to meet the needs of hundreds of thousands of returnee households, as well as those remaining all along – particularly in Jabalya, Beit Hanoun and Beit Lahia – in North Gaza that had been largely cut off from assistance for more than three months. The opening also allowed fuel and cooking gas to begin being delivered consistently and at volumes.

## Overwhelming humanitarian needs remain

Fifteen months of heightened hostilities resulted in damage to or the destruction of [89 per cent](#) of water and sanitation sector assets, [92 per cent](#) of homes, [62 per cent](#) of roads, [94 per cent](#) of health facilities, and [88 per cent](#) of school buildings. More than [42 million tons](#) of debris were generated. An electricity cut-off imposed by Israeli authorities, damage to electricity infrastructure, coupled with stringent limitations on the import of fuel and gas, further worsened Gaza’s major energy crisis. Sewage, wastewater and solid waste management mechanisms were heavily affected and virtually collapsed as many were also damaged, made inaccessible and lacked essential operating resources. Moreover, up to [82 per cent](#) of croplands, [78 per cent](#) of greenhouses and nearly [68 per cent](#) of agricultural wells were damaged, cattle losses reached [95 per cent](#), only one per cent of the poultry remains alive, and [72 per cent](#) of the fishing fleet was destroyed. Overall, the heightened hostilities, with their unprecedented intensity and the resulting devastation of infrastructure, productive assets and service delivery, is [assessed](#) to have set back development in Gaza as many as 69 years.

Despite progress made during Phase One of the ceasefire, humanitarian needs across Gaza remain overwhelming: households, particularly in areas of new return, continue to lack access to essential water and sanitation facilities; hundreds of thousands of people are still estimated by the UN and humanitarian partners to be in dire need of tents; critical gaps remain in life-saving health service provision, with [43 per cent](#) of hospitals and [57 per cent](#) of primary health-care centres still not functional as of 1 March; [92 per cent](#) of children aged 6-23 months and pregnant and breastfeeding women are not yet meeting their nutrient requirements; people lack means to restore their livelihoods and resume local food production, with even the short-term food assistance received set to drastically decrease unless the inflow of supplies immediately resume; an estimated one third of all school-aged children continue to lack access to any formal, informal or distance-learning education avenues, and telecommunications and internet services remain severely disrupted.

## Humanitarian response during phase one of the ceasefire

The following information was contributed by the respective clusters and sectors. Unless otherwise mentioned, it covers Phase One, from 19 January to 1 March 2025, and excludes supplies and services managed by actors other than the UN and its partners.

### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

#### Response

- Water production increased by nearly 50 per cent, from a daily average of approximately 90,000 cubic metres in the month prior to the ceasefire to over 135,000 cubic metres in the last weeks of February. Groundwater wells more than doubled production in six weeks due to steady fuel supplies and basic emergency repairs.
- Sustained efforts were made to initiate the rehabilitation of water and sewage networks. Selective spot repairs were prioritized in locations with higher expected impact in terms of service provision, and where repairs were feasible with the materials available. Repairs of and reinstallation of pumped systems on groundwater wells, municipal desalination plants and sewage pump stations were also started. Achievements include the increased functionality of the South Gaza Desalination Plant after repairs to the F11 electricity feeder line from Israel on 2 February; the rehabilitation of three water desalination plants in Khan Younis, servicing 76,000 people cumulatively; the repair of the Saudi water reservoir and two water wells in Rafah, covering the needs of 100,000 people, and the establishment and expansion of water network sections in North Gaza.
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Cluster partners also focused on scaling up access to water through trucking, particularly north of Wadi Gaza with the return of displaced people to those areas. As a result, water collection points increased from approximately 800 before the ceasefire to 1,600 by the end of February.
- To further expand access to water supply, the WASH Cluster launched two new fuel allocation mechanisms to facilitate water production by private sector drinking water suppliers and privately owned domestic water wells.
- Solid waste management, which had nearly collapsed, resumed, with over 260,000 tons of solid waste removed across Gaza in the first four weeks of the ceasefire, benefiting about 624,000 people. As of the third week of February, more than 3,340 cubic metres of waste were being collected daily in the Gaza and North Gaza governorates.

- Following the reopening of the “Netzarim Corridor,” the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU) was able to transport 700 metres of drainage pipes, which had been blocked in southern Gaza for nearly seven months, to Gaza city, allowing critical works to repair the stormwater system from the Sheikh Radwan water reservoir, to prevent sewage overflows in populated areas. As of 1 March, WASH partners had installed 80 per cent of the pipes and were working on the final section to connect the outflow to the sea.
- During Phase One weeks, over 190,000 hygiene kits and more than 66,500 water jerrycans were distributed to families across the Strip, in addition to approximately 105,000 cleaning kits.
- A total of 524 household latrines and 514 communal latrines were constructed by WASH Cluster partners in areas of return. Since the beginning of February, WASH partners also decommissioned more than 1,700 pit latrines in Deir al Balah and Khan Younis, in sites vacated by displaced people, to reduce public health threats.

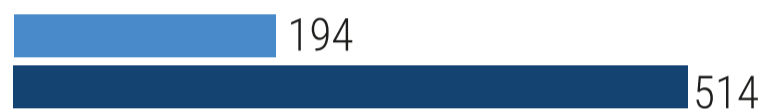
### Water collection points functioning



### Water produced per day (average)



### Communal latrines constructed



\*Comparison period 1-18 January 2025

● Before ceasefire (1 month)      ● During ceasefire (first 42 days)

#### Gaps and needs

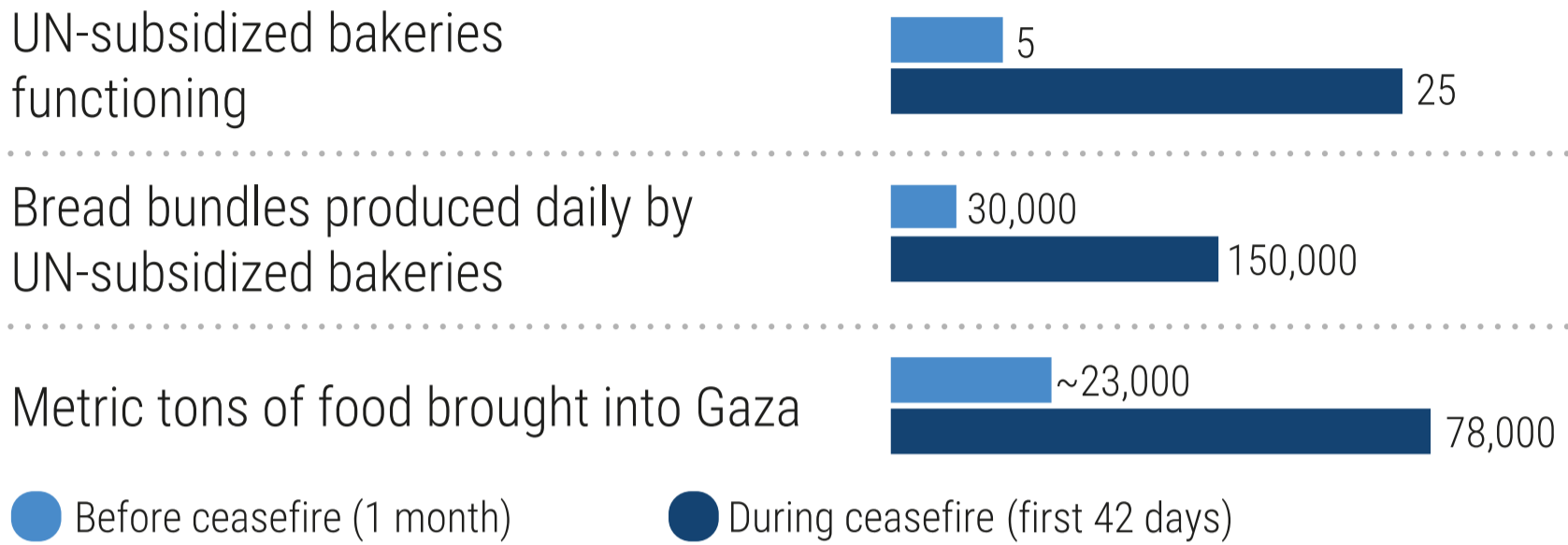
- Although the volume of water produced and distributed across the Strip substantially increased, as of the end of Phase One, it represented only one third of the overall water supply available prior to October 2023. In areas where IDPs have newly returned, there continues to be an immediate need to truck drinking and domestic water, repair water wells, piped networks and sewage pumps and sewage networks, relocate or construct family latrines and reposition solid waste collection services.
- Phase One of the ceasefire had negligible impact on the entry of certain humanitarian items into Gaza, including critical ones, with nearly no electricity generators, generator consumables and spare parts, or any solar-powered solutions received, very limited entry of pipes, fittings, heavy equipment, water treatment tools, and construction-related materials and the absence of cement. These constraints had a severe impact on the WASH response, significantly hindering repair and service delivery efforts.
- Israeli authorities continued to deny access to the Mekerot Bani Sa'id water line from Israel, preventing the repair of a critical drinking water source that could produce 10,000 cubic metres of water per day. This significantly affected water accessibility for residents in Al Bureij, Al Maghazi, Deir al Balah and Khuza'a municipalities.
- In Rafah, approximately 50 per cent of WASH assets in the declared “buffer zone” remained inaccessible, affecting water production, treatment and distribution, as well as sewage pumps and the wastewater treatment plant. The UAE-built drinking water supply line was not repaired, a further loss of another potential 10,000 cubic metres of water per day.
- While enhanced access enabled an increase in primary waste collection and transfer to temporary dump sites, approximately half of these sites are already full. The continued denial of access to two major landfills – Sofa and Juhor ad Dik – remains a critical impediment. The shortage of vehicles and tools to transfer waste from temporary dump sites to landfills - with 80 per cent of vehicles and containers required to run solid waste collection services either damaged or lost and spare parts unavailable to repair remaining vehicles - also posed additional constraints.

## Food security

#### Response

- The Food Security Sector (FSS) and its partners brought over 78,000 metric tons of food assistance into Gaza, compared with approximately 23,000 tons in the month prior to the ceasefire, allowing an immediate scale-up of food aid distributions (these quantities exclude other sources). While since August, over one million people had not received a full monthly food ration due to supply shortages, in only six weeks, FSS partners were able to reach over two million people with large household-size food parcels. This is in addition to parallel distributions of wheat flour – with UNRWA alone having reached over 1.28 million people with this essential staple – and of over 860,000 hot meals daily across the Strip.
- To make aid more accessible to returnee families in North Gaza, at least five food parcel distribution points were re-established in Jabalya and two in Beit Lahia, with over 200 food distribution points operational across the Strip. The number of kitchens preparing hot meals increased to approximately 180, with eight new kitchens opened in Gaza city, eight in Rafah and the first two set up in North Gaza.

- FSS and partners expanded bread production; due to the steady entry of flour and access to previously hard-to-reach areas, the number of operational UN-subsidized bakeries rose from only five on 18 January to 25 by 1 March. Operating at full regime, these 25 bakeries produced 150,000 bundles of bread daily, with 30 per cent of all bread donated to selected shelters and community kitchens for onward distribution alongside cooked meals, and the remaining 70 per cent sold at modicum prices at the bakeries, and – to further increase bread coverage – at 24 additional selling points in Rafah, Khan Younis and Deir al Balah.
- FSS partners also supported the resumption of local agriculture and livelihoods. To sustain surviving livestock, about 3,000 families in Deir al Balah, Khan Younis and Gaza city and one poultry farm in Khan Younis received more than 1,000 metric tons of animal feed. To support the resumption of household and community-level agricultural production, more than 7,000 vegetable seed kits were distributed in Rafah, Khan Younis and Deir al Balah.



**Gaps and needs**

- After months of severe food shortages compounded by recent mass population movements, there is a critical need to ensure the steady flow of food assistance into Gaza.
- More than 50,000 metric tons of food supplies are required monthly to assist the whole population of 2.1 million people with full rations and sustain the little progress made towards improved food access during the ceasefire period. This is in addition to supplies required to sustain hot meal production, and the over 9,700 metric tons of flour needed per month to keep subsidized bakeries running without interruptions to ensure that people have access to affordable bread. Unless the inflow of aid immediately resumes, partners will be forced to progressively scale down vital assistance.
- On 8 March, six of the 25 UN-subsidized bakeries - five in Khan Younis and one in Deir al Balah, which had opened after the ceasefire took effect - were already forced to close due to a shortage in cooking gas.
- While some flour and food parcel distributions from previous dispatches have continued, available flour is being prioritized for use at the remaining 19 functional bakeries to sustain their operation, and food rations in stock in main warehouses are only enough for an estimated 500,000 people for one month. As prior to the ceasefire, partners are again being forced to reduce rations to stretch the supplies and reach more people, prioritizing the most vulnerable households. Fresh produce distribution has also nearly completely ceased. Moreover, at least 80 community kitchens are expected to close in two or three weeks due to the lack of supplies, while others will be forced to adjust the meal content or reduce the number of meals prepared to cope.
- With the exception of some seeds and animal feed, the entry of emergency agricultural and livelihood inputs remained restricted. As such, resumption of agricultural activities, including vegetable and fruit production, even at small scale, was highly limited. Fishery inputs and tools also remained restricted.
- While more than 1,000 metric tons of feed concentrate entered and was distributed, only a scant amount is left in stock which will affect meat and dairy production, which are essential particularly for children.

**Health**

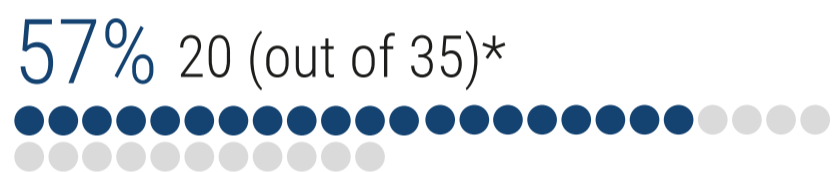
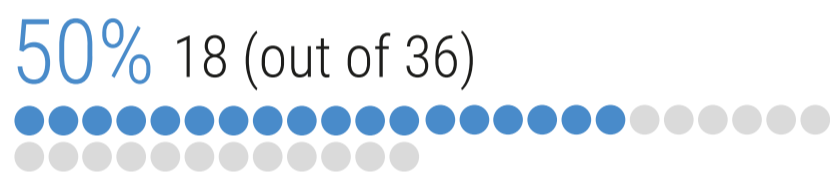
**Response**

- Health Cluster partners assessed more than 100 non-functional health service points to gauge conditions and identify those that could be restored in the shortest term and with the supplies available. Overall, 17 primary healthcare centres (PHCs) were rehabilitated, while 11 medical points and seven mobile clinics were newly established.
- Critical health services were expanded: in the North Gaza governorate, the outpatient department of the Kamal Adwan Hospital resumed functionality, and the Al Awda Hospital commenced the provision of pediatric services. The Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS) transferred a 70-bed field hospital to Gaza city from the south, while both outpatient and in-patient care capacity were expanded at the Wafaa Rehabilitation Hospital. At the Al Shifa Hospital, the Triage and Emergency Department capacity was expanded, while efforts continue to renovate the maternity building. In central and southern Gaza, the triage system at Deir al Balah's Al Aqsa Hospital was enhanced, and a prosthetics and orthotics clinic was opened in Khan Younis.
- Twenty-five health facilities, including 11 hospitals, two field hospitals and one PHC, received life-saving medications and supplies. These are estimated to meet the needs of approximately 1.9 million people through treatments and surgeries.



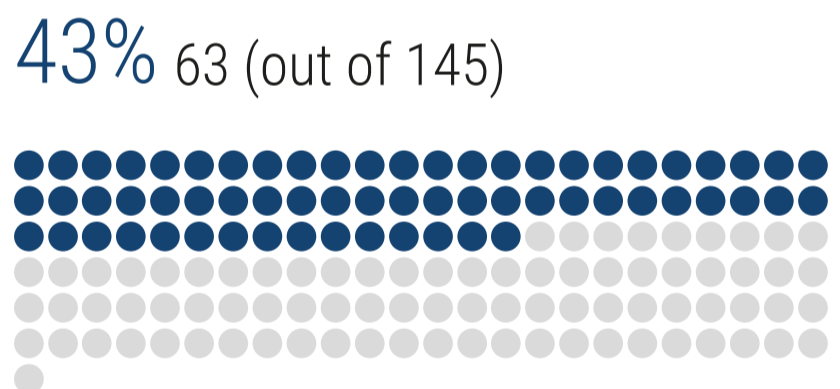
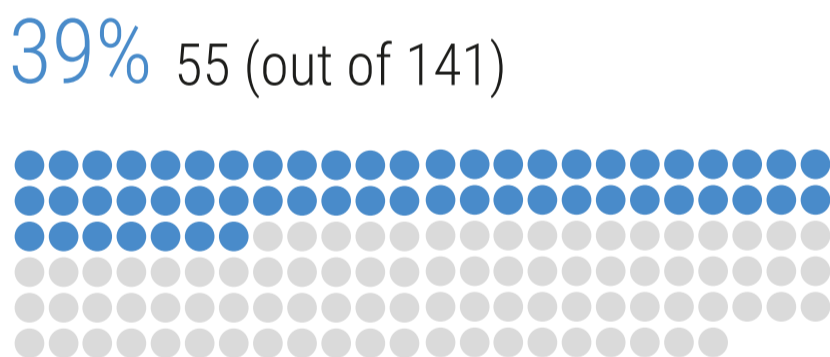
- Health partners also enhanced maternal services through the scaled-up provision of medicines and supplies to the 13 hospitals and three field hospitals providing Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care. Critical equipment such as fetal monitors, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machines and post-partum kits were also delivered to health facilities, and a maternal field hospital was relocated to the Basa neighborhood of Deir al Balah to address increased needs following population movements.
- To support the local health workforce, the Health Cluster mobilized four new Emergency Medical Teams (EMT). Two international EMTs were deployed to the Indonesian Hospital, in North Gaza, to support the provision of basic outpatient services, and to Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza city, while two national EMTs were deployed to the Al Shifa Hospital, and to the Al Aqsa, European, and Nasser hospitals in Deir al Balah and Khan Younis to enhance surgical capacity at the three facilities. As of 23 February, 26 international EMTs and two national EMTs were operational across the Gaza Strip.
- Between 1 February and 1 March, WHO supported the medical evacuation of 1,108 critically sick and injured patients, including 431 children, from Gaza to Egypt through the Rafah Crossing, alongside 1,676 companions. Fourteen children evacuated to Egypt in February were further transferred to Italy, while another 10 were transferred to Greece under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.
- A third round of the polio vaccination campaign was completed between 22 and 26 February, reaching 602,795 children under the age of 10 – the entire target population. The ceasefire allowed the health workers to reach more children than during previous vaccination rounds in 2024, including children who may have been missed due to population movements. This most recent round of vaccinations followed the detection of circulating poliovirus in wastewater that confirmed ongoing poliovirus transmission in Gaza.
- To enhance data reporting on communicable diseases, 12 health facilities – five in the north and seven in the south – were supported in setting up WHO’s Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS).
- To strengthen Infection Prevention and Control, a task force was set up at the Nasser Medical Complex and the European and Al Aqsa hospitals in Deir al Balah and Khan Younis.

### Hospitals partially functioning



\* Two of the hospitals were merged into one

### Primary health care facilities



● Before ceasefire (1 month)      ● During ceasefire (first 42 days)

#### Gaps and needs

- As of 1 March, 15 out of 35 hospitals, 82 out of 145 PHCs, and 194 out of 360 medical points remained non-functional across the Strip.
- Throughout the ceasefire period, the Israeli authorities continued to deny the entry into Gaza of a wide range of critical medical items, hampering the ability of partners to scale up interventions and ensure the restoration and continuity of services. These include generators and related oil and spare parts to sustain electricity at health facilities; spare parts for ambulances; medical oxygen plants, oxygen equipment and supplies; defibrillators, ventilators, ECG machines and patient monitors; radiology equipment like X-rays, MRIs and CT-scans; laboratory reagents and tools; external and internal fixators for the treatment of fractures; cardiac catheterization equipment; oncology medicines and supplies; vaccines for routine immunization; analgesics; chlorine tabs and liquids, as well as ICT equipment to expand the EWARS and Health information management systems.

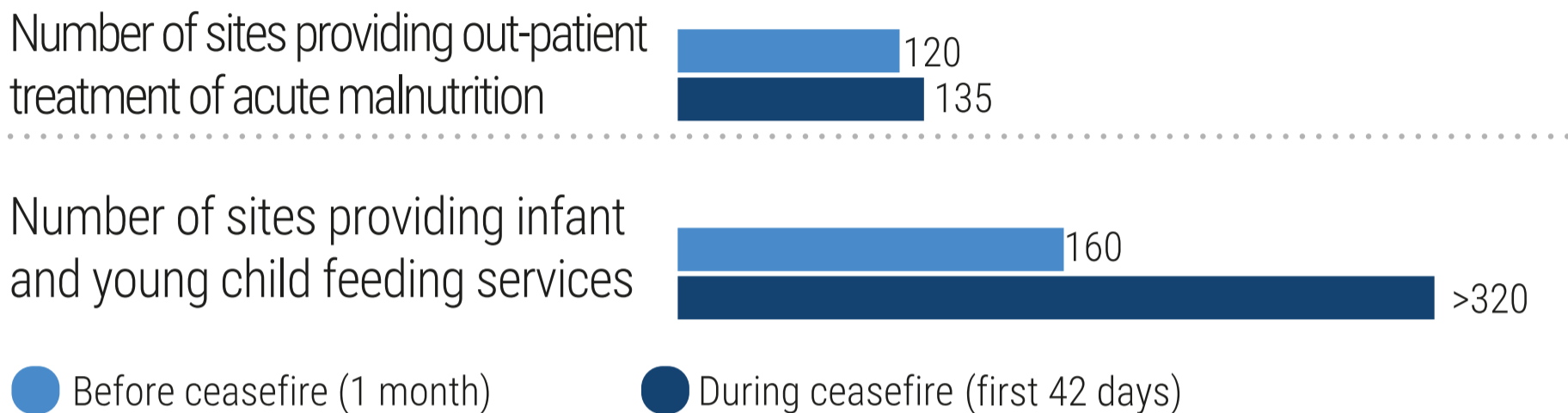
## Nutrition

#### Response

- Nutrition Cluster partners increased distribution of blanket nutrition supplements and complementary food as a preventative measure; the screening of children and pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW); and the treatment of those detected with

malnutrition.

- Nutrition partners opened 15 new sites providing out-patient treatment of acute malnutrition across Gaza, and 29 new sites providing blanket nutrient supplementation; as of 1 March, there were 135 and 180 such centres, respectively, across Gaza. The number of sites providing infant and young child feeding services doubled from 160 to over 320.
- Out of 109,600 children under the age of five screened for malnutrition during Phase One of the ceasefire, 3,165 were identified as moderately or severely acutely malnourished and enrolled for treatment. Out of nearly 21,000 PBW who were screened, almost 1,000 were diagnosed with acute malnutrition.
- To strengthen prevention, about 230,000 children and 90,000 PBW received specialized nutrient supplements. Additionally, more than 19,000 infants and young children were provided with ready-to-use complementary food.



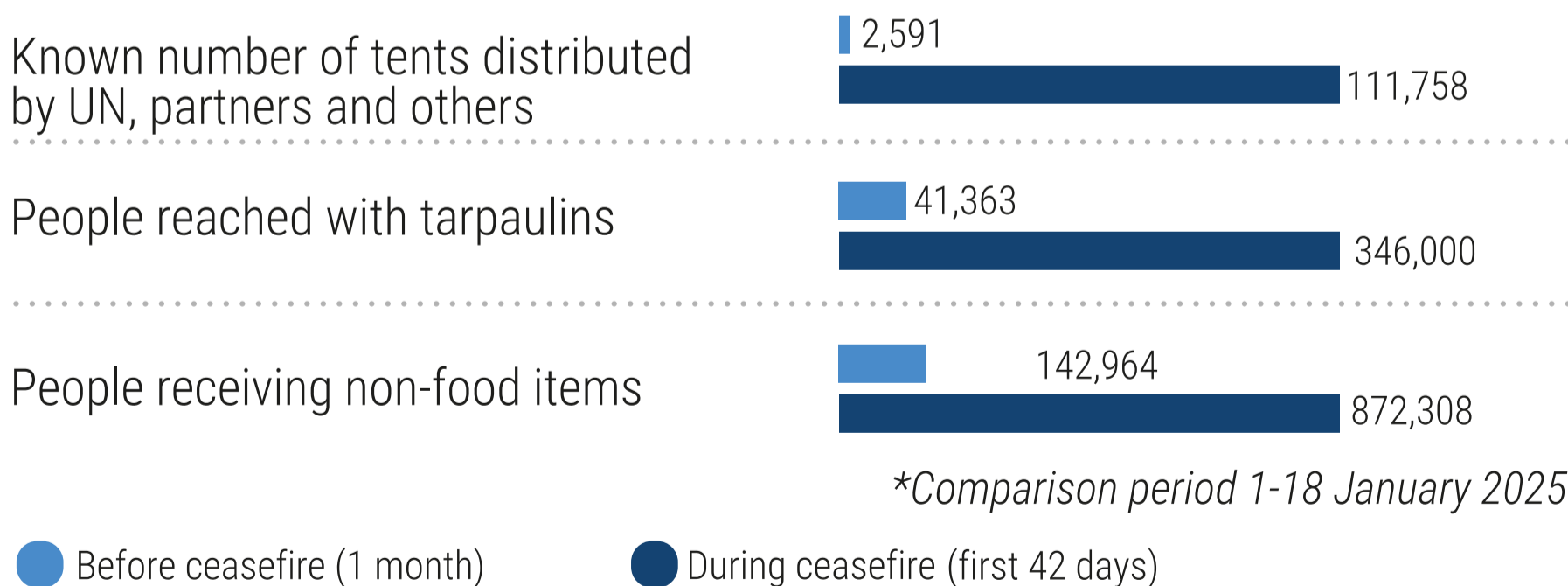
**Gaps and needs**

- Data collected in February showed a slight improvement (from four to eight per cent) in the number of children and PBW consuming the minimum-required food groups. This finding is attributed to the increased availability of goods in local markets. However, 92 per cent of children aged 6-23 months and new or expectant mothers are still not meeting their nutrient requirements.
- More than 25,000 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for the treatment of acutely malnourished children were prepositioned across Gaza. Still, the blanket supplementary feeding programme targeting all children under the age of five and all PBW in Gaza requires the sustained, at-volume entry of both nutrient supplements and ready-to-use complementary food. Due to the massive destruction of infrastructure in the Gaza Strip, nutrition partners have limited storage capacity, increasing reliance on new inflows for even short-term activities.

**Shelter**

**Response**

- The Shelter Cluster and its partners distributed or registered the distribution of 111,758 tents – more than 96,946 in the north and about 14,812 in the south; these include bilateral assistance that the cluster is aware of. By contrast, in the month prior to the ceasefire, only 2,591 tents were distributed. Also during Phase One, tarpaulins were distributed to 346,000 people, sealing-off kits to 29,363 people and other non-food assistance, including bedding kits, blankets, mattresses, kitchen sets and clothes to 872,308 people. These figures relate only to shelter materials provided or facilitated through UN coordination.



**Gaps and needs**

- Despite the rapid scale-up in shelter assistance, gaps in tents and critical shelter items remain.
- Identifying safe and accessible locations to set up shelters remains a critical challenge due to widespread damage, rubble, explosive ordnance and the lack of essential services. There is an urgent need to bring in construction materials, particularly

cement, to scale up the shelter response by preparing foundations for sites. However, such material is prevented from entering the Strip by Israeli authorities.

## Education

### Response

- Two hundred fourteen new temporary learning spaces (TLS) were established across Gaza – five in the North Gaza governorate, 18 in Gaza city, 104 in Deir al Balah, 84 in Khan Younis and three in Rafah – with over 21,785 school-aged children supported. Overall, as of 1 March, 631 TLSs were operational throughout Gaza, supporting more than 172,871 students across different grades.
- On 23 February, the Ministry of Education (MoE) launched the new, compressed academic year for 2024-2025, marking the first return to some form of in-person learning at schools since the escalation of hostilities in October 2023. This was made possible by the ability to move between the southern and northern parts of Gaza, with IDPs vacating schools previously used as shelters, and returnee children enrolling in large numbers in schools that had continued to provide at least some form of learning throughout the conflict. As of 1 March, according to MoE, over 150,000 students had registered in 165 governmental schools - 30 in the Gaza governorate, 52 in Deir al Balah, 57 in Khan Younis, and 26 in Rafah - more than half of which are operating on three shifts a day, with over 7,000 teachers mobilized to support teaching. To expand space for education, the Cluster is supporting teaching orientation initiatives and the cleaning and repair, to the extent possible, of recently vacated schools.
- As of 1 March, 290,000 children were also enrolled in the MoE's e-schooling programme, with 252,300 actively attending classes, and 274,990 students were registered in UNRWA's distance-learning programme, with 178,744 accessing the self-paced learning material.



● Before ceasefire (1 month)      ● During ceasefire (first 42 days)

### Gaps and needs

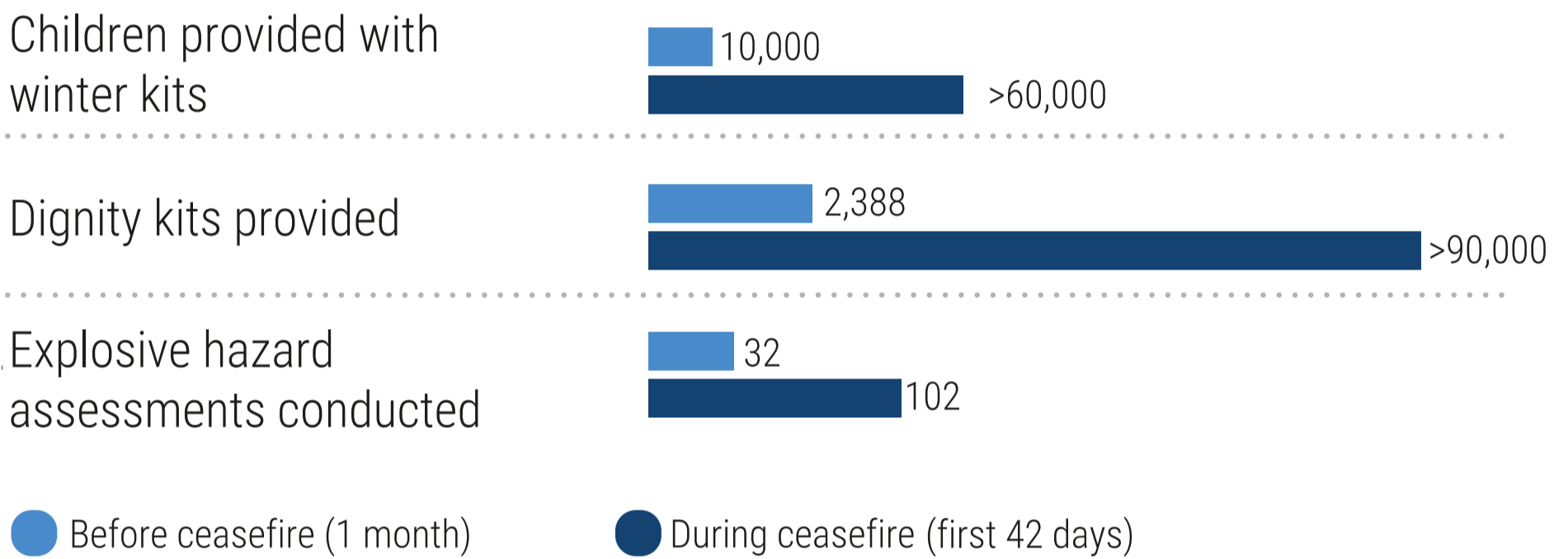
- An estimated one third of approximately 658,000 school-aged children are believed to remain completely cut off from any type of formal, informal, or distance learning avenues.
- Persistent restrictions by the Israeli authorities on the entry of tents for TLSs and other educational supplies, from learning materials to school furniture, continued to severely hamper the response throughout Phase One. During that period, only 100 out of an estimated 600 special tents needed to establish new TLSs entered Gaza.
- At least 88 per cent of school buildings require either full reconstruction or major rehabilitation to be functional again. For the remaining 12 per cent of schools, the ongoing shortage of construction materials is preventing critical repairs, including to damaged WASH facilities, with the lack of capacity to clear explosive ordnance also preventing the use of some damaged buildings and increasing the need for temporary learning spaces.
- Funding remains insufficient to meet the massive levels of education needs, hindering the ability of partners to expand access to education and mitigate the long-term impact of the crisis.

## Protection

### Response

- Protection partners scaled up critical response services and risk mitigation activities across Gaza. Interventions spanned from case management and cash assistance for child protection and survivors of gender-based violence, to targeted aid to unaccompanied and separated children, mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), coordination of comprehensive support to released detainees returning to Gaza, and distributions of dignity kits, shelter kits, assistive devices, diapers, and clothing for the most vulnerable households, adults and children.
- As families returned home and grieved the loss of their homes and loved ones, child protection partners provided critical services. They helped children and caregivers manage stress and anxiety, build social connections, promote positive coping skills, and heal. Mobile family- and community-based support has been provided through recreational and other semi-structured activities (level 2 of the MHPSS pyramid) and where possible, more structured and focused psychosocial support interventions, as individual and group counseling (level 3 of the MHPSS pyramid).

- Child Protection partners reached over 60,000 babies and children with winter clothing kits and footwear and established eight new child-friendly spaces in northern Gaza.
- During the mass population movement, child protection actors deployed at monitoring and assistance points distributed child identity bracelets and raised awareness on how to prevent family separation. By doing so, they successfully contributed to the reunification of over 250 children with their families.
- Child protection actors also provided training on child protection and MHPSS approaches to more than 1,100 humanitarian staff.
- Three new women and girls’ safe spaces (WGSS) were established in Jabalya and Gaza city. Over 90,000 dignity kits were distributed to women and girls, compared with 2,388 in the month prior to the ceasefire.
- Mine Action experts conducted 102 explosive hazard assessments (EHAs), including four for access roads, 27 for shelters and camps, 21 for medical facilities, 11 for UN sites and seven for public places. Mine Action teams also accompanied 43 interagency missions to ensure safe access. To raise people’s awareness of the dangers of explosive remnants of war (ERW), more than 1,690 explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) sessions were delivered for about 41,000 people, including over 2,760 children. In addition, tens of thousands of EORE printed materials were distributed to people moving northwards following the reopening of the “Netzarim Corridor,” and an SMS campaign reached 1.5 million people.
- One hundred mobile protection teams comprising trained emergency protection responders as well as volunteers of the Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network were deployed across 152 multi-sector aid distribution sites; they ensured that vulnerable groups – including people with disabilities – had safe and dignified access to humanitarian assistance.



**Gaps and needs**

- Persons with disabilities continue to face major challenges meeting their needs. According to assessments by Atfaluna and WHO, prior to the escalation of hostilities in October 2023, there were already 58,000 people in Gaza with a reported disability, who have since been at risk of deterioration and exacerbated vulnerabilities because of interrupted care. An additional estimated 22,500 people injured in Gaza during the conflict have life-changing injuries that require assistive devices, rehabilitation services or both, including 5,700 children requiring intensive rehabilitation support. Thirty-five thousand children and adults are at risk of permanent or temporary hearing loss. Despite the scale of needs, assistive devices including wheelchairs, crutches, hearing aids and critical spare parts and equipment for repair of devices have been restricted for entry by Israeli authorities.
- Every child in Gaza is currently in need of psychosocial support. Israeli authorities have restricted entry of psychosocial support kits – which include items such as balls, or board games – as “non-humanitarian” or not critical. Of the 2025 Flash Appeal target of 19,000 kits, only a handful have entered.
- Child protection case managers are facing extremely high caseloads and are prioritizing high and medium risk cases. A child protection information management system is required to ensure safer handling of the cases, data protection and to facilitate referrals and trends analysis. However, laptops, phones and tablets are denied entry by Israeli authorities, making it impossible to roll out this system.
- Between 19 January and 1 March, 16 incidents of ERW explosions were reported. Mine Action actors can only mark and report explosive ordnance, rather than safely move or dispose of them due to lack of materials and required permissions.
- Due to lack of funding, partners were only able to address 102 out of 344 requests for EHAs. While 10 EHA teams are present in Gaza, at least 20 teams would be needed to scale up EHAs and undertake them not only for priority humanitarian sites, but also at individual shelters.

**Site management**

**Response**



- Between 27 January when the “Netzarim Corridor” reopened and 6 February, the Site Management Cluster (SMC) set up six flow monitoring points along Al Rasheed Coastal Road to track movement patterns and population profiles. Humanitarian service points were also immediately established by the UN and partners to inter alia guarantee emergency medical services to people on the move, distribute water, food and nutrition supplements, provide psychological first aid and referrals for the most vulnerable cases.
- SMC partners identified 150 newly established IDP sites. They are assessing those sites to understand their respective demographic breakdowns and multi-sectoral needs and gaps, as well as identifying sites that have been vacated by IDPs and decommissioning activities required to ensure public health and safety.
- In addition to managing 162 active sites, the Cluster provided guidance and training to partners constructing new sites, to ensure adherence to minimum site planning principles about safety, sanitation and overall living conditions.

### Gaps and needs

- With just US\$1.1 million received so far, out of the \$82 million requested as part of the 2025 Flash Appeal, only a small percentage of the overall number of IDP sites are currently managed by SMC partners.
- Inadequate funding and the limited entry of materials have also hindered the conduct of site improvement works based on findings from safety audits and other assessments, necessary repairs and cleaning, including through cash-for-work initiatives, and the expansion of sites with required facilities.
- A total of 360 solar street lighting units essential to reduce protection risks at sites and WASH facilities were scheduled to enter the Strip, with their entry now placed on hold by the closure of all crossings for cargo.

## Multi-purpose cash assistance

### Response

- The Cash Working Group expanded financial assistance to vulnerable households, reaching 60,750 families (over 330,000 people) with multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) codes to redeem NIS1,000 (about \$276). An additional 99,500 vulnerable households were identified and are scheduled to receive MPCA in the coming weeks.

### Gaps and needs

- Although some markets reopened in northern Gaza, supply chain disruptions persisted, resulting in continuing price volatility and affecting consumer access.
- Limited liquidity and banking constraints continued, making it difficult for beneficiaries to withdraw or use funds effectively. Cash-out commission rates also soared to 20 per cent, significantly reducing the real value of MPCA assistance.
- The closure of crossings for incoming cargo since 2 March is already reversing improvements in market functionality observed since 19 January. In some cases, prices of staple items such as flour, sugar, and vegetables have increased over 200 per cent. Traders have begun withholding goods due to uncertainty over when new supplies would arrive.

## Emergency telecommunications

### Response

- The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) provided technical support to facilitate the scale up of the humanitarian response in northern Gaza and to ensure uninterrupted power for critical operations. One solar solution kit was installed to allow for communication with the Gaza Security Operations Centre (GSOC) on a 24/7 basis.
- Some progress was made in restoring critical telecommunications services damaged or destroyed by 15 months of conflict.
- The Cluster also provided one UN agency with satellite-based tracking devices to support staff safety and security.

### Gaps and needs

- The entry of equipment and tools for repairs and maintenance remained severely restricted, curtailing efforts to restore telecommunications and internet services. In northern Gaza, restricted access to damaged telecommunication infrastructure located in the declared “buffer zone” made it impossible to undertake repairs.
- Ensuring a stable fuel supply to sustain emergency telecommunications services across Gaza is needed.
- The deployment of the ETC Rapid Response Solution, which provides shared internet services for humanitarian responders, has been pending pre-clearance since April 2024. Although 30 VHF radios could be imported in June 2024, since then, all subsequent requests for additional VHF radios and repeaters – critical to enhance staff safety and security – have been denied by Israeli authorities.

## Logistics

### Response

- The Logistics Cluster secured three additional warehouses in northern Gaza, totaling 5,350 square metres. It also secured a new consolidation warehouse in Amman, with a capacity of 3,500 pallet spaces. As of 5 March, 44,492 cubic metres of humanitarian cargo had been consolidated in Amman, and 69,492 cubic metres received for common storage in Gaza.
- The Logistics Cluster continued transport operations from accessible entry points in the north (Zikim and Erez) and the south (Kerem Shalom) and provided access to south-north-south cargo transport to organizations as a last resort.
- In Jordan, the Logistics Cluster facilitated access to direct government-to-government convoys and re-established the back-to-back (B2B) convoy-facilitation as a temporary service for Phase One, following the waiving of customs clearance requirements for humanitarian cargo. Between the 19 January ceasefire and 1 March, the Cluster facilitated 36 direct and B2B convoys from Amman to Zikim and Erez, delivering 838 trucks with 7,110 metric tons of food, nutrition, logistics, shelter, health and WASH items for 16 partners.

### Gaps and needs

- Humanitarian organizations rely on a continuous and steady flow of supplies to maintain operations, and any interruption forces them to either stockpile goods in advance, which is often unfeasible within the Gaza crisis context, or operate reactively, leading to critical shortages.
- The market in Gaza, already fragile, will experience structural shocks as supply shortages drive up the prices of essential goods. Humanitarian organizations that often depend on local procurement for food, medical supplies, and other necessities will struggle with inflated costs and limited availability, further complicating their ability to respond to urgent needs.
- Supply chain management costs, already high, will increase through longer storage times and spoilage, particularly for perishable goods and critical health items which require temperature sensitive logistics. Storage facilities outside of Gaza, such as those in Jordan or Egypt, could reach capacity, forcing organisations to seek costly alternatives or risk re-routing or losing critical supplies.

Disclaimer: The information contained in the charts above captures humanitarian assistance through the UN and its partners or bilateral assistance made known to the UN. Therefore, not all humanitarian assistance that has been delivered is captured.

For more charts, see [Infographic: Humanitarian response by the UN and humanitarian partners during phase one of the ceasefire](#).