



## Save Food Production and Agriculture in Gaza

### **Agricultural sector is paralyzed, over 70% of people are food insecure**

For 11 consecutive days, Israeli Occupation Forces continued to disregard International and Humanitarian Laws by imposing collective punishment on Palestinians in Gaza. As of May 21<sup>st</sup>, Israel's massacres have resulted in the killing of over 260 martyrs including 60 children and 40 women. More than 1,900 people have been injured where more than 60% of them are children and women, many of whom have survived with permanent disabilities. This all comes in addition to the fact that more than 373,000 children are now in need for long-term psychological support, according to the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

The Palestinian Ministry of Information - Government Media Office, announced that 120,000 people were forcibly displaced from their homes. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) latest report on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May 2021, as of 20<sup>th</sup> May, over 77,000 IDPs were seeking protection in 58 UNRWA schools, including in 23 designated emergency shelters (DES). Following the announcement of the ceasefire, the vast majority are returning home, but about one thousand, whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged, remain.

Gaza's MoA estimated around \$27 million in damage that included greenhouses, agricultural lands and poultry farms. The United Nations and aid groups said Palestinians now had limited or no access to water facilities. 490 agricultural facilities such as animal farms, wells and irrigation networks were damaged according to the information shared by The Palestinian Ministry of Information - Government Media Office in Gaza. 11 sewage stations were bombed, 50 water wells were destroyed, 17,200 meter sewage network length were destroyed, 10,500 square meter road network are also destroyed. 14,000 meter length water pipes completely destroyed. In addition to the main streets and infrastructure being bombed and destroyed.

According to the MoA in Gaza, the damage to the livestock production sectors is doubling on a daily basis. Over the past few days, cow breeders have destroyed more than 15 thousand liters of milk, because they are unable to market them. The highlighted risk for farmers and breeders to access their lands and agricultural facilities remains of concern. In addition to tens of sheep lost and a number of beehives destroyed as a result of the hostilities.

Until today, there is a full closure of the sea, leading to a complete disruption of fishing activities affecting 3,600 fisher households. The destruction of An Na'jeh water well and water transmission pipelines in North Gaza has disrupted the access to water for about 50,000 people in the area. Other water wells in the area were also reportedly damaged. Water and sewage networks were also damaged in Beit Lahia, disrupting operations, and resulting in loss of water and leakages of wastewater, affecting at least 65,000 people. The North Gaza Seawater Desalination Plant has stopped operating due to the risk that faces workers and a damaged electrical supply line, affecting the access of about 250,000 people to drinking water. The shortage of electricity still affects all Gaza WASH facilities, including water wells and reservoirs and wastewater treatment plants.

The United Nations said approximately 800,000 people in Gaza do not have regular access to clean piped water, as nearly 50 percent of the water network was damaged in the bombing. UAWC emergency damage assessment team and local committees in Gaza and West Bank counted and calculated damage through field visits to all cities in Gaza. According to the Initial Rapid Assessment conducted by UAWC's team, it is estimated that:



- 30,000 km of irrigation networks and transmission lines are destroyed.
- 50 solar energy units are destroyed.
- 190 agricultural ponds are destroyed.
- 500 dunums of crops are destroyed
- 2,100 greenhouses are destroyed.
- 20 agricultural wells are destroyed
- 50 fishing boats are destroyed.
- 220 damaging holes in agricultural lands caused by missiles.
- 200-250 deaths in the animal sector

### CALL TO ACTION

Due to the escalating emergency needs of impacted areas and communities, UAWC is launching its emergency response campaign, which seeks to target internally displaced Peoples in general, as well as a total of 10,000 farmers and fishermen families in need of urgent and long-term recovery interventions. The campaign therefore aims to respond to the immediate needs of affected families by providing 50 tons of relief goods. The campaign further aims to prepare for carrying out vital interventions that will be required immediately within the agricultural sector after the cessation of Israel's military attacks, and will act as a response to the massive agricultural losses that are and will continue to drastically impact families whose livelihoods are heavily dependent on agricultural activities. Consequently, this campaign anticipates a short-term emergency response phase, and a one-year agricultural recovery phase. UAWC continues to monitor the situation to update its needs and adjust its plans accordingly.

### UAWC urges immediate aid access and support for the agricultural sector in Gaza through two levels of intervention:

1. Immediate primary rehabilitation and provision of basic input production units at all levels. The protection and promotion of **resilient livelihoods** must begin immediately to reverse the de-development of Gaza. This includes:
  - The provision of animal fodder and veterinary supplies
  - The rehabilitation of farming lands
  - The provision of protected marketing channels
  - The rehabilitation of water storage units
  - The reparation of fishing boats and gear
  - The rehabilitation of greenhouses and
  - The provision of necessary tools to resume production
2. Advanced medium term interventions
  - Rehabilitation of agricultural lands and roads
  - The installation of irrigation networks and the construction of new wells
  - The provision of solar energy units
  - The provision of water storage units and veterinary supplies
  - The reparation of damaged animal shelter

If you would like to contribute to UAWC's activities to revive Gaza, please don't hesitate to contact us at [s.karajeh@uawc-pal.org](mailto:s.karajeh@uawc-pal.org) or call us at 0097202-2421712.



**DAMAGE IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CAUSED BY ISRAELI OCCUPATION  
DURING THE RECENT ATTACKS ON GAZA STRIP THAT LASTED 11 DAYS:**



**490 AGRICULTURAL FACILITIES (ANIMAL FARMS,  
WELLS, IRRIGATION NETWORK...ETC)  
WERE DESTROYED**

**11 SEWAGE STATIONS WERE DESTROYED**



**50 WATER WELLS WERE DESTROYED**

**17,200 METER SEWAGE NETWORKS  
WERE DESTROYED**



**10,500 M<sup>2</sup> ROAD NETWORKS  
WERE DESTROYED**

**14,000 METER WATER PIPES WERE DESTROYED**



**15 THOUSAND LITERS OF MILK WERE DESTROYED**

**3,600 FISHER HOUSEHOLDS WERE AFFECTED**

