

Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC)

Urgent Appeal

for Humanitarian Aid and Rehabilitation, the Gaza Strip and Area C in the West Bank

Contribute to the Sumud of Gaza and Area 'C' Residents from the On-going Genocide and Ethnic Cleansing

To our partners and believers in justice and freedom worldwide:

The recent horrors of war have left Gaza battered, bruised, and on the brink of a humanitarian catastrophe. As we pen this message, an entire population is grappling with overwhelming loss, pain, and destruction.

Over two weeks since the onslaught, the numbers are terrifying: Over 7,000 lives lost, more than 20,000 wounded, of which a staggering 65% of these are children and women. Thousands of homes lie in ruins; infrastructure, including roads and essential basic services (including even bakeries), has been obliterated. Gaza is plunged into darkness with no electricity, scant water supplies, dwindling food stocks, and limited communication infrastructure.

Gaza: A Snapshot of the Devastation

- *Casualties: Over 7,000 casualties, with more than 20,000 injured.*
- *Demographic Impact: An alarming 65% of these numbers represent women and children.*
- *Infrastructure Damage: Thousands of residences are reduced to rubble, with essential public infrastructure being severely impaired.*
- **Regrettably, these figures are deteriorating rapidly with each passing moment.**



Survivor of Israeli bombing

Israel's offensives have not just targeted basic community infrastructure, but also the very essence of livelihood. A vast portion of the Gaza Strip's agricultural sector, a lifeline for its population, is under threat, and not just from the very limited water supply. Thousands of farmers are being prevented from accessing their fields and land. Over 10,000 tons of fruits and more than 25,000 tons of vegetables are unreachable, which are essential to satisfy the Strip's current needs. The use of starvation as a weapon against civilians is evident.

Basheer, a resident of Gaza City and a staff member of UAWC was displaced due to the no-stop bombardment and relocated to the south of the Gaza Strip, describes a devastating humanitarian situation. He struggles to provide the essentials for his children. For instance, they lack access to clean water, resorting to using the limited and contaminated supply available. To conserve water, they visit the bathroom only once a day. Bread, the Palestinian food staple, is absent, prompting them to use rice as a substitute, attempting to soothe their children who constantly ask for bread. Food is so scarce that Basheer can barely provide one meal a day. On top of their basic needs, he adds, "***We spend our nights gazing at the sky, fearing the descent of the next missile. The darkness of the night terrifies us, as we anticipate death at any moment.***"

For the sake of humanity, this genocide must cease. War criminals must be held accountable, and this prolonged occupation needs to end. Like all other humans, the people of Gaza long for a life of dignity, freedom, and peace - a life they haven't tasted for decades.

An alarming situation in West Bank's Area C

There's another catastrophe unfolding in the West Bank that many are overlooking. Settlers and the army are launching deadly attacks on various regions of the West Bank, especially in areas classified as "Area C." Taking advantage of the brutal assault on Gaza, settlers are carrying out ethnic cleansing campaigns in "Area C." To date, approximately 90 Palestinians have been killed, and over 1,100 have been injured across the area. Furthermore, more than 100 families have been forcibly evicted from their homes and lands in "Area C." Settlers have destroyed and burned houses, tents, and livestock sheds, also looting their contents. An incident in Sa'ir a few days ago saw settlers attacking livestock farmers, driving them away from their homes, subsequently occupying them, and stealing around 300 heads of livestock. Currently, Area C lands are being seized brazenly and in broad daylight. It's worth noting that Area C constitutes over 60% of the total area of the West Bank, and is inhabited by over 300,000 Palestinians, all of whom are now at risk of being killed and/or displaced.

Ahmed is a farmer residing in the southern region of East Sair in the Hebron district. On October 9th, Ahmed and his family were brutally attacked by settlers. They were beaten with sticks and stones, and shots were fired at them. Their home, along with four surrounding houses, was burned down. Tragically, Ahmed's livestock, consisting of 200 sheep - his primary source of livelihood, was stolen, and his farm was devastated.

Following the assault, Ahmed, along with his family of eight, relocated to Sair, taking temporary shelter at a relative's place. Currently, they are grappling with a severe shortage of essentials, lacking adequate food, water, and medical supplies.

West Bank: Another Tragedy

As Gaza's plight captures international attention, a parallel tragedy unfolds in the West Bank, particularly in Area C. Here, a silent ethnic cleansing is underway, with settlers exploiting the war on Gaza situation to escalate their aggressive campaigns. Since the start of war on Gaza this October:

- *Casualties:* Approximately 100 Palestinians have been killed, with over 2,000 injured across varying regions
- *Forcible Evictions:* Over 100 families find themselves displaced from their ancestral lands, witnessing their homes being pillaged and destroyed.



Steadfastness despite all attempts to uproot us!

Emergency Aid Request: Critical Needs for Displaced Families in Gaza and Area C



In this dire time, we appeal to you to **STAND WITH GAZA!** Your contributions can rebuild homes, rehabilitate farms, and most importantly, bring hope to a population that has endured too much. As a global community, let's unite and ensure that the people of Gaza can and should have a life, one that they rightfully deserve.

Through this urgent appeal, we implore you to swiftly provide critical support to assist us in the immediate intervention in the following areas:

1. **Provision of food and water** for the affected and displaced families in Gaza and Area C in the West Bank.
2. **Supply of tents and clothing** for the families in Gaza, especially winter ones, as the weather has become colder, and the displaced have little clothes, having left them in their destroyed/bombed homes. Their number is in the thousands.
3. **Rehabilitation of agricultural land and facilities** that were destroyed and which provide food for the population of Gaza. Their number is in the hundreds.
4. **Water supply and rehabilitation of water sources** in Gaza, especially springs that were destroyed by bombing, to quickly resume irrigation/watering of crops.
5. **Legal support for residents** of Area C in the West Bank, to pursue their cases of land that has been seized.
6. **Providing housing and tents for the displaced** in Area C in the West Bank.
7. **Supply of housing materials and essentials for the displaced** Area C in the West Bank.
8. **Provision of infant milk and its various needs** for families in Gaza and Area C in the West Bank.
9. **Provision of women's needs** in Gaza and Area C in the West Bank.

Urgent Funding Needed: A Breakdown of Our €1 Million Aid Plan for 5,000 Families in Gaza and Area C

In response to the escalating humanitarian situation, UAWC has conducted a quick assessment, revealing an immediate need to intervene on behalf of approximately **5,000 vulnerable peasant families**. Of these, an estimated 4,000 families are situated within the Gaza Strip, while an additional 1,000 families reside in the West Bank, specifically in Area C. In our commitment to alleviating the hardships faced by these affected communities, we project that a sum of **one million** euros is imperative to facilitate comprehensive interventions and support mechanisms for the steadfastness of the indigenous population.

The facts and figures noted in this appeal are provisional and unfortunately continually increasing. UAWC has prioritized areas where they have and continue to work, and families are known to the team. They cater to farmers who have borne substantial losses. Several among them tragically lost their lives in the bombings, and hundreds of dunums of land stand devastated. Given the prevailing security circumstances, pinpointing precise figures, or evaluating material losses remains unfeasible.

Financial Appeal: Deciphering the €1 Million Aid Strategy

UAWC's rapid assessment delineates a need to assist approximately 5,000 at-risk peasant families. Our projected funding requirement stands at one million euros, aiming to bring meaningful change to these lives. The figures presented, given the current circumstances, are provisional and may be subject to change.



Every thought, every euro, every share, every prayer counts and can make a difference!

Thank you for your compassion, support, solidarity, and action!