



shelter assessments and assistance packages

Shelter assessments

As part of their continued assistance to Palestinian families in Gaza, the National Consensus Government's Ministry of Public Works, in partnership with UNRWA (the United Nations Relief and Works Agency) and UNDP (the United Nations Development Programme) have commenced joint shelter assessments of damaged homes in the Gaza Strip.

The joint shelter assessments and assistance packages will help facilitate a transition period for internally displaced persons currently taking refuge UNRWA schools and elsewhere. All affected families in Gaza will be assessed, including refugees and non-refugees.

Beneficiaries do not need to apply for assessments and assistance as has occurred after previous wars; assessments of all damaged homes will be undertaken simultaneously in all five areas of the Gaza Strip. All assessments should be completed within 60 to 90 days. There will be an opportunity for beneficiaries to appeal after assessments are complete.

Shelter assistance packages

As a collaborative effort between Shelter Cluster members, the National Consensus Government, UNRWA and UNDP, the following assistance packages will be offered to families whose homes are assessed as uninhabitable:

- Rental Subsidy and Host Family Support Package: Building on existing programmes being implemented in Gaza. Upon verification of eligibility, families with uninhabitable homes will receive one of the following amounts per month based on family size:

1. 1 – 5 receive USD 200 per month
2. 6 – 10 receive USD 225 per month
3. Over 10 receive USD 250 per month

- Reintegration Package: This one-time support is for all the estimated 20,000 families with uninhabitable homes and is in the amount of USD 500. It is intended for non-food items to help get a family back on their feet.

Damaged shelter numbers

According to the Shelter Cluster, it is estimated that some 60,000 homes were impacted during the fifty days of hostilities.

40,000 of these are estimated to have sustained minor damage or require modest repairs.

The estimated remaining 20,000 damaged dwellings are either destroyed or sustained major damage and are uninhabitable. It will take construction material and significant time and effort to rebuild or repair.

Estimated repair costs

Funding for the shelter sector is desperately required to ensure that the displaced with uninhabitable homes are able to find alternative shelter before the onset of winter.

The Shelter Cluster estimates that under the current access requirements imposed by the Government of Israel, it will take twenty years to rebuild Gaza. The seven-year Israel blockade of Gaza has prevented much needed new infrastructure from being built and if it is not lifted at the conclusion of the emergency, there is a risk that it will dramatically impair reconstruction efforts.



united nations relief and works agency
for palestine refugees in the near east

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UNRWA is a United Nations agency established by the General Assembly in 1949 and is mandated to provide assistance and protection to a population of some 5 million registered Palestine refugees. Its mission is to help Palestine refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, West Bank and the Gaza Strip to achieve their full potential in human development, pending a just solution to their plight. UNRWA's services encompass education, health care, relief and social services, camp infrastructure and improvement, and microfinance.

Financial support to UNRWA has not kept pace with an increased demand for services caused by growing numbers of registered refugees, expanding need, and deepening poverty. As a result, the Agency's General Fund (GF), supporting UNRWA's core activities and 97 per cent reliant on voluntary contributions, has begun each year with a large projected deficit. Currently the deficit stands at US\$ 70.5 million.