

# URGENT HUMANITARIAN AND ECONOMIC INTERVENTIONS FOR GAZA

## 1. ALLEVIATION OF THE ENERGY CRISIS

### EMERGENCY FUEL

- 200-250 critical facilities are reliant on emergency fuel with a total cost of US\$8 million per year.
- Without the emergency fuel, 55 sewerage pools in Gaza would overflow, and the 28 most critical hospitals would face life threatening interruptions.

**US\$3.5 million is needed to ensure uninterrupted provision of emergency fuel until 31 December 2018.**

### INCREASED ENERGY SUPPLY TO GAZA

- Gaza needs 500MW/day of electricity. Gaza currently receives 120-140MW/4 hours electricity/day.
- The GPP is operating one turbine. Operating 3 turbines would increase electricity by 3-4 hours/day.
- It is estimated that the Gaza electrical grid experiences up to 20% in technical losses.
- Egyptian lines have been inoperable since February 2018, reducing electricity by a possible 24MW.

**US\$10 million/month per month to increase GPP operations and electricity supply to 8 hours/day.**  
**US\$5 million is needed for initial repairs to the grid and to rehabilitate the GPP storage tank.**  
**US\$12 million is needed to rehabilitate the Egyptian lines.**

## 2. EMERGENCY HEALTH CARE

### RESPONSE TO THE COLLAPSING HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

- Since 30 March 2018, 18,739 Palestinian injuries, of which 9,772 required hospitalization.
- ±1,200 injured people will need limb reconstruction, and ±7,500 elective surgeries have been postponed due to the influx of trauma casualties and the lack of beds.
- In July 2018, 250 essential medicines out of the total 516 essential medicines list (48%) were at less than one month's supply and 206 essential medicines (40%) were completely depleted in Gaza.

**US\$20 million is needed to meet lifesaving trauma management and emergency healthcare needs until 31 December 2018.** Additional resources will be needed to ensure surgeries and rehabilitation support continue in 2019 for complex cases.

## 3. WATER AND SANITATION

### INCREASED ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

- Water availability is dropping below 50 liters per capita per day, less than half of the minimum requirement recommended by WHO.

- Water and wastewater services are dropping to less than 20 per cent of capacity, mostly due to limited energy supply (grid electricity and/or emergency fuel),
- 95% of Gaza's water is not potable.
- 109 million liters of untreated wastewater is released into the sea every day.
- Some 300,000 people will be affected by serious public health concerns as sewage could potentially overflow onto streets.

**US\$14 million** is needed to fund critical projects in support of urgently recharging the aquifer, increasing waste water treatment, improving water distribution and providing energy to existing desalination and waste water management facilities.

#### 4. IMPROVED ACCESS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

- Poverty rates were 38.8% in 2011 and 53% in 2017. Unemployment in Gaza is 53.7% and 80% of Gaza's population depends on humanitarian assistance, such as food aid, to meet their basic daily needs.

**\$16 million** per month needed for creating 53,000 skilled and unskilled jobs which would lower the unemployment rate by 10 percentage points.

#### IMMEDIATE MEASURES TO IMPROVE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

- Restoration of full payment of public sector salaries.
- Fully operational Kerem Shalom and Rafah Crossings.
- Expanded Fishing Zone.
- Relaxation of dual use list.
- Increased agricultural exports.
- Increased patient medical referrals from Gaza
- Funding for UNRWA core services, to ensure service delivery and to continue salaries for 13,000 staff.
- Expanded cash for work programmes, including as a modality for humanitarian assistance or for support to local business recovery.