

GAZA: 1 YEAR ON

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT



OXFAM

Israel's war on Gaza, in response to the horrific attacks by Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups on 7 October 2023, is the latest and most brutal onslaught of violence against Palestinians in the 57-year-long Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

Oxfam, along with 20 partner organisations, has reached 776,917 people with cash, food, and essential basic items, restoration of water and sanitation services, and provision of protection to the most vulnerable groups. At the global level, Oxfam is helping lead campaigns for a permanent ceasefire and unfettered humanitarian access.

We are grateful to our supporters and institutional donors for their contributions to this humanitarian response.

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A father plays with his 3-year-old daughter in his tent in Rafah, where he took refuge after losing his house and factory.

(photo: Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)

LOOKING BACK

370,000
HOMES HAVE BEEN
DAMAGED

One year into Israel's war on Gaza, the humanitarian situation is catastrophic. Before October 2023, 80% of Gaza's population already relied on some form of humanitarian assistance and people lived under severe restrictions. Since the start of the war, more than 2 million Palestinians have been trapped inside Gaza, subject to terrifying bombardments, hunger, multiple forced displacements, and constant fear.

Destruction caused by Israeli airstrikes in Al Remal neighbourhood in the middle of Gaza City
(photo: Marwan sawwaf/Alef MultiMedia/Oxfam)

A YEAR OF AGONY

86%
OF GAZA IS UNDER
EVACUATION ORDERS

It has been one year since the start of Israel's military response to attacks by Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups on civilians in Israel on 7 October 2023. Over 1,200 people were killed and 240 people were taken hostage; around 100 hostages remain unaccounted for until today. Relentless Israeli bombardments and ground operations were launched and continue to be the daily reality for the 2.1 million people in Gaza. Israel's military assault has killed over 40,000 people and injured more than 95,000, while more than 10,000 people are estimated to remain missing under the rubble of destroyed buildings, with no way to recover them and bury their remains. The World Health Organisation (WHO) recently estimated that at least 25% of those injured have life-changing injuries, such as limb amputations, traumatic brain injuries and major burns, which require urgent rehabilitation now and ongoing support in the coming years.

Evacuation orders issued by the Israeli authorities are constantly forcing families to move, with no clear destination as nowhere is safe. Confusing messages cause chaos and anxiety, are given at very short notice, and force people to leave in a rush with the few belongings they can carry. About 1.9 million people in Gaza – 90% of the population – have now been internally displaced, many of them multiple times. This forced displacement has separated families, eroded social protection systems, and exposed people, especially women and girls, to a heightened risk of violence. The evacuation orders also force people to move away from the few available services. About 86% of Gaza is under Israeli evacuation orders as of September 2024.

People have been pushed into the Israeli-designated 'humanitarian/safe zone' of Al Mawasi, which now encompasses less than 13% of the Gaza Strip. Like the rest of Gaza, this area has not been spared from Israeli air strikes, proving this zone is far from safe. The area is incredibly overcrowded, and sanitary conditions are appalling. Food is scarce and the lack of clean water and hygiene products is causing outbreaks of diarrhoea and skin diseases. Shampoo, detergent, and dishwashing liquid are largely absent from the market, or available at skyrocketing prices, which most people in Gaza cannot afford. In June 2024, poliovirus type 2, which was non-existent for more than 25 years, was detected in samples collected from the wastewater, and two months later, a 10-month-old baby was partially paralysed after contracting polio.

The destruction across the Gaza Strip is enormous. The constant Israeli attacks have damaged more than 370,000 housing units; 79,000 homes have been destroyed completely. About 68% of cropland and roads have also been severely damaged. As of September 2024, only 17 of 36 hospitals remain partially functional, while all suffer from

a lack of fuel, medical supplies, and clean water. Ongoing bombardments and fuel shortages have also forced bakeries to shut down, limiting people's access to bread, a staple of the diet.

The Israeli military built a road, destroying everything in its way, including agricultural land and civilian infrastructure, which has split Gaza in two, cutting off Gaza City and the rest of northern Gaza from the south. There is an almost total absence of fresh vegetables, fruit, and protein sources such as poultry and meat in the markets in Gaza City and across north Gaza. Given the absence of many fresh food items, the population in the north is highly dependent on canned food, but the prices are prohibitively high.

IMPACT ON THE WEST BANK

Israel's war on Gaza has extended to and had devastating impacts on the occupied West Bank. Israeli military operations and attacks by Israeli settlers on Palestinians have increased there over the past year. Between 7 October 2023 and 23 September 2024, 693 Palestinians were killed in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem. In the same period, Israeli authorities demolished, confiscated, or forced the demolition of 1,725 Palestinian structures, such as homes, agriculture, and water and sanitation structures, across the West Bank, displacing more than 4,450 Palestinians. While access and movement for Palestinians was already extremely difficult in the West Bank, it has become increasingly constrained since 7 October. Heightened Israeli restrictions in terms of physical and administrative barriers, including checkpoints, roadblocks, gates, and permit restrictions, have had an extreme impact on people's access to essential services, employment, and livelihoods. Farmers have been prevented from accessing their land, while direct attacks on their properties have resulted in destruction of crops, irrigation systems and greenhouses. More than 150,000 Palestinian workers from the West Bank used to enter Israel daily for work but had their work permits suspended by Israel after 7 October 2023, leaving those families without sources of income. The extreme mental distress that is produced by the demolitions and Israeli military operations and settler violence have also increased mental health concerns among the West Bank population.

AID UNDER FIRE

One year into the war, a safe humanitarian response that meets the overwhelming needs of the people in Gaza has been made impossible by the actions of the Israeli Government. Intense military operations by Israeli forces, including bombardments and ground operations, have continued to undermine humanitarian access and operations, placing affected communities and humanitarian workers and facilities at extreme risk. There have been regular incidents of offices, aid workers and convoys being hit by Israeli forces despite notification through the appropriate channels of their movement and location. By 19 August 2024, World Humanitarian Day, 289 aid workers had been killed in Gaza in Israeli airstrikes, making it the most dangerous and deadliest place in the world for aid workers. The breakdown of law and order within Gaza, including the theft of relief supplies from convoys, has also challenged response efforts, and poses security risks to affected communities and humanitarians.

Humanitarian agencies have seen not only the failure of Israeli authorities to uphold their responsibility to facilitate and support aid efforts, but Israel taking steps to hinder and undermine their work. Significant constraints continue to impede the access of humanitarian staff, supplies and equipment through land crossings into Gaza. Israel has imposed multi-layered inspection protocols before trucks can enter Gaza, and supply lines from Egypt and Jordan have been needlessly restricted. Both routes experience excessively bureaucratic and opaque processes, delays, and at times inconsistent openings of the crossing points.

The closure of the Rafah Crossing at the beginning of May 2024, after the Israeli army assumed control of its Palestinian side, compounded the challenges. The Rafah Crossing had served as the main entry point of aid and

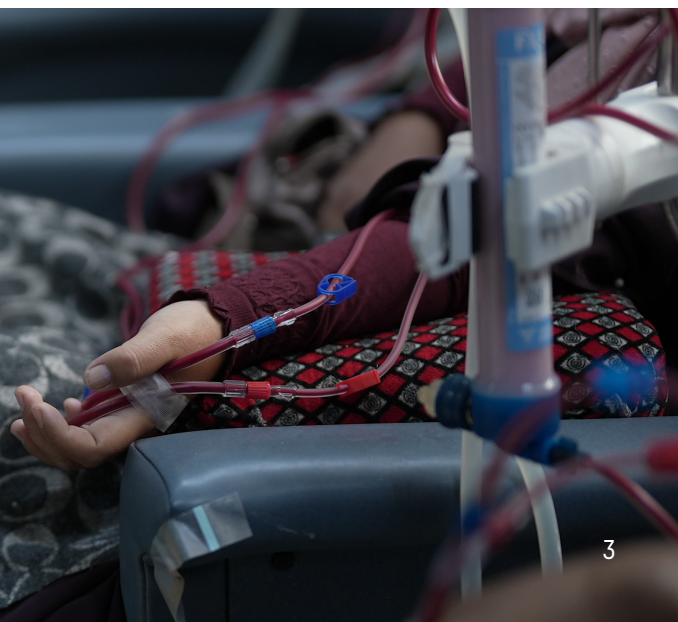
humanitarian personnel into Gaza since 7 October. Subsequently, the Karem Abu Salem (Kerem Shalom) Crossing was designated as the primary crossing for humanitarian cargo, food, fuel, and other supplies. However, the crossing has become extremely congested, primarily because of the inability to safely access the crossing from within Gaza. Persistent security incidents and mission delays have prevented humanitarian trucks from collecting critically needed cargo.

Bringing in items other than food, medicine, fuel, water, and basic shelter equipment is even more difficult, even if they are considered critical to a humanitarian response. They are at risk of being rejected unless pre-cleared by Israel through a process that can take months. One of Oxfam's key demands of Israel and the wider international community is that all feasible border crossings and land routes to both the northern and southern regions of Gaza are operational and accessible.

Access to the north of Gaza has become increasingly difficult and dangerous. Israel issued evacuation orders on 13 October 2023 and, since then, has set up a series of checkpoints to restrict access. Israel has regularly rejected aid missions and transportation of essential items to northern Gaza.

While Oxfam and partners remain committed to supporting Palestinians in Gaza, an immediate and permanent ceasefire is imperative to help stop further loss of life, deliver the required levels of humanitarian aid and halt the destruction of civic infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, water supply systems and sanitation facilities. Without a ceasefire, it is impossible for humanitarian staff to work safely and help protect the lives of civilians.

A patient being treated in Al-Aqsa hospital. Only 17 out of 36 hospitals in Gaza remain partially functional.
(photo: Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)



OUR RESPONSE

The Oxfam team in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT) has launched a humanitarian response despite the unprecedented challenges. Along with a wide range of partner organisations, Oxfam started responding in the days after the crisis, delivering cash, food, and essential basic items, and restoring water and sanitation services.

309,129

PEOPLE PROVIDED WITH
CLEAN WATER THROUGH
REHABILITATING DAMAGED
WATER NETWORKS

Filling water bottles from an Oxfam water tank, in the Al-Mawasi area of Khan Yunis Governorate. (photo: Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)

OUR APPROACH

Oxfam and partners prioritised the delivery of assistance based on people’s vulnerability, focusing on families with people with disabilities or chronic illnesses, families with children under the age of five, women or elderly-headed families, and people facing specific risks, such as survivors of gender-based violence (GBV).

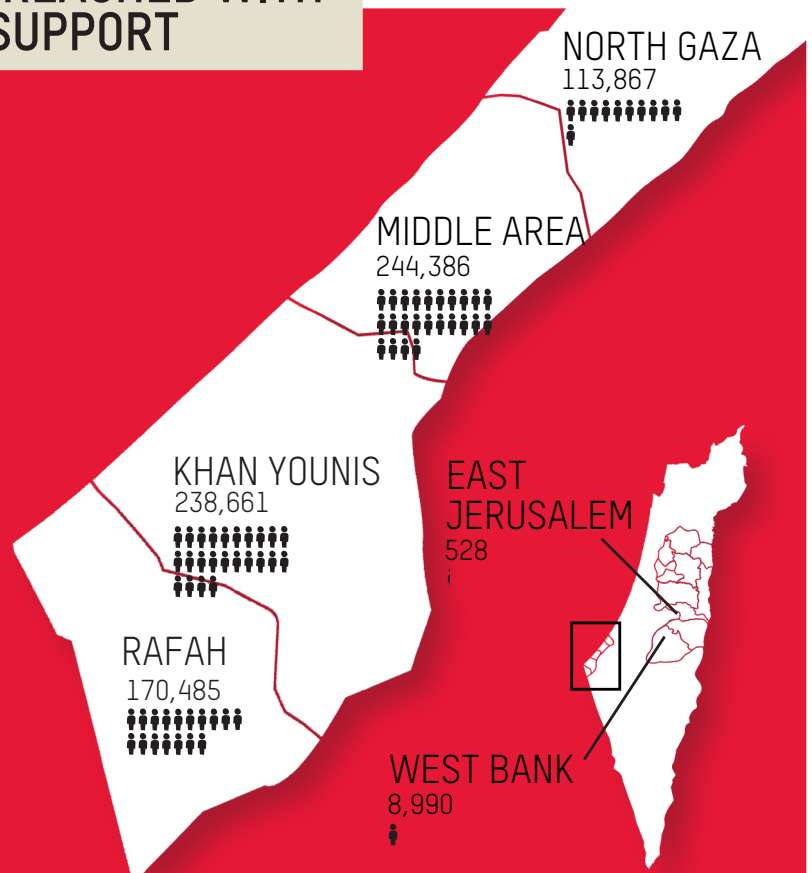
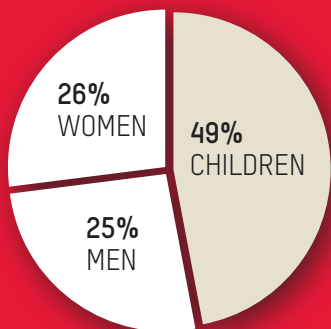
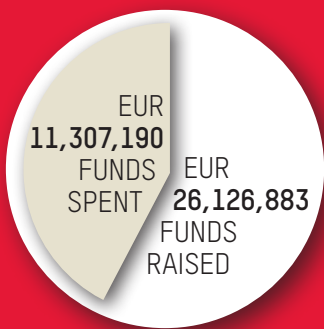
Oxfam staff, partners and suppliers in Gaza have been displaced themselves, and many organisations, including Oxfam, had to set up new offices in the south. As no place is safe in Gaza, Oxfam and partner staff are working under extremely challenging and life-threatening circumstances to deliver aid to their communities. The exceptionally difficult conditions require Oxfam and partners to remain flexible and adapt to the rapidly and constantly changing situation. We have invested in several supply lines since the start of the response, with supplies and materials entering Gaza from Egypt and Jordan. Despite the obstructions we continue to face, this investment has enabled Oxfam to react to the continuous changes in access and border crossings to Gaza, ensuring our pipeline remains as adaptive as possible to the situation.

Israel’s evacuation orders have violated international law. Instead of protecting civilians, successive displacement orders have exposed civilians to harm. Families have been forced to flee under fire – some a dozen times – and are pushed into overcrowded unsafe areas without access to basic services. The spreading of ground operations and Israeli-issued evacuation orders have had a severe impact on the humanitarian response. For example, 87 latrines and 22 handwashing stations installed by Oxfam and partners became inaccessible and were destroyed or abandoned after the Israeli forces expanded their incursion into Rafah, causing more than a million people, who had previously been instructed to move to the south, to flee again.

NOTE

For full names of partners, with acronyms, please refer to p. 11

776,917 PEOPLE REACHED WITH OXFAM SUPPORT



FOOD SECURITY & LIVELIHOODS

Within the first year of the response, Oxfam and partners provided critical, life-saving food and livelihood assistance to 314,628 people.

Multi-purpose cash was distributed to 3,383 households (19,628 people). Providing cash rather than goods respects people's ability to prioritize their spending based on their circumstances and preferences. Our monitoring shows that recipients use the cash primarily to buy food, water, medicines, and hygiene items.

Oxfam and partners (Al Bayader, CFTA, ESDC, MA'AN, PARC and PEF) procured and distributed 18,709 **ready-to-eat food parcels**, with items such as beans, peas, tuna, sardines, dates and dried apricots. These parcels supported 91,173 people. 1000 food parcels were procured in Gaza, while 4,869 food parcels came from Egypt and entered Gaza through the Rafah crossing in the initial months of the humanitarian response. These parcels supported the population in Rafah, Khan Younis and Deir el Balah. After the closure of the Rafah crossing in the south of Gaza, we shifted our focus to the Jordan supply line in which Oxfam had invested since February/March 2024. 12,840 food parcels procured in Jordan then entered Gaza through Erez West and Erez East (northern border of the Gaza Strip) and supported people in Gaza and northern Gaza governorates.

The distribution of 31,207 **fresh vegetable parcels**, including tomatoes, onions, potatoes, lemons and peppers, supported 187,242 people. The vegetables were sourced from farmers in the West Bank, Rafah, Khan Younis and Middle Area, and distributed by our partners ESDC and PARC to displaced families and host communities in Rafah, Khan Younis and Deir el Balah.

To **protect livelihoods**, Oxfam supported 300 farmers in Khan Younis and Deir el Balah with essential agricultural inputs such as soil sterilizers and fertilizers, while two nurseries were given support packages consisting of a solar power system, small equipment such as kitchen tools and raw materials for food processing to sustain their services for farmers. Three women-led food businesses were also given raw materials and small equipment to continue their production and provide affordable food.

When the conflict escalated on 7 October 2023, workers and patients from Gaza who were outside Gaza for work or medical treatment, were stranded in the West Bank after the Israeli authorities revoked their medical and work permits. In Ramallah and Jericho in the West Bank, Oxfam provided **meals** to these workers and patients, reaching 227 people, each receiving 2-3 meals a day. Oxfam and RWDS also supported 421 stranded patients and their companions with a **cash grant** of 200 USD that enabled them to meet immediate needs.



A community member is receiving a food parcel from Oxfam in North Gaza.
(photo: Marwan Sawwaf/Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE

Within the first year of the response, Oxfam and partners delivered live-saving WASH services to 587,136 people.

Water trucking was introduced in Gaza City, Middle Area, Khan Younis and Rafah, reaching 152,213 people and covering the water needs of people for drinking (three litres per person per day) and/or domestic use (15 litres per person per day). Oxfam and partners also conducted regular water quality testing at the source, delivery truck and with water containers, to ensure the safety and suitability of water for various purposes.

Despite considerable impediments, Oxfam managed to bring in five **desalination units** through the Rafah crossing. The units were installed across Rafah, Al-Mawasi, and Khan Younis in coordination with PEF. They operated with solar power for six hours daily, providing three litres of clean drinking water per person per day, reaching 48,422 people.

Israeli military operations have heavily damaged or destroyed water and sewage systems. Oxfam, together with Gaza's Coastal Municipalities Water Utility (CMWU), rehabilitated 15 damaged **water networks** in Gaza City, the Middle Area and Khan Younis. This has given 309,129 people access to water. Damaged **wastewater networks** in 23 sites were also rehabilitated, supporting 143,000 people.

In coordination with and supported by DG ECHO flights, the Logistics Cluster led by the World Food Program, and IOM, Oxfam brought in water, sanitation and hygiene supplies from the Oxfam supply centre in the UK. The equipment supplied included, latrine slabs, latrine superstructures, tap stands and handwashing stations. The materials enabled Oxfam and partners to build 216 **latrines** that supported 27,107 people.

Together with partners PEF and PMRS, Oxfam distributed 6,407 **hygiene kits** and 12,136 **jerry cans and Oxfam jerry buckets**, supporting 62,802 people. The kits included items such as soap, shampoo, laundry detergent, menstrual pads, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Alongside supplying the kits, partners ran campaigns to inform communities about basic hygiene practices.

The collapse of a functioning solid waste management system is worsening the public health crisis. Gaza has two main landfills, one in the north and one in the south of the Gaza Strip. Both have been inaccessible for solid waste service providers since the war started. Oxfam and PEF have conducted daily **solid waste collection** (total of 400 tons) using donkey carts in seven sites in Al Mawasi and Khan Younis.



Amidst Gaza's scorching heat and the ongoing siege, we have been delivering water to those in need. (photo: Ismael Snonou/Oxfam)

587,136
PEOPLE REACHED WITH
LIFE-SAVING SERVICES

PROTECTION

Within the first year of the response, Oxfam and partners also provided protection assistance to groups with vulnerabilities, including women and girls and people living with disabilities; we reached 56,531 people. Protection assistance follows a community-led approach and focuses on four key components:

- Protection analysis and monitoring
- Psychosocial support
- Facilitation of access to protection services
- Material protection support.

As part of our **psychosocial support** response, with a specific focus on psychological first aid, awareness raising sessions and recreational activities were conducted by partners AISHA, Atfalouna, CFTA, RWDS and Wefaq for 5,040 adolescent girls in the south of Gaza. The sessions provided adolescent girls with a space to share their needs and concerns about risks they face, and to discuss solutions to mitigate or prevent those risks. Information about services, including GBV support was shared during the sessions. The sessions supported young women who had previously received protection kits.

To facilitate **access to protection services**, partners AISHA, Atfalouna and Wefaq identified and registered unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) in health facilities and shelters in Rafah, after being trained by UNICEF and Oxfam on the assessment form, online registration platform and identification and registration mechanisms. The children, especially those who were exposed to heightened safety risks, were referred to relevant services.

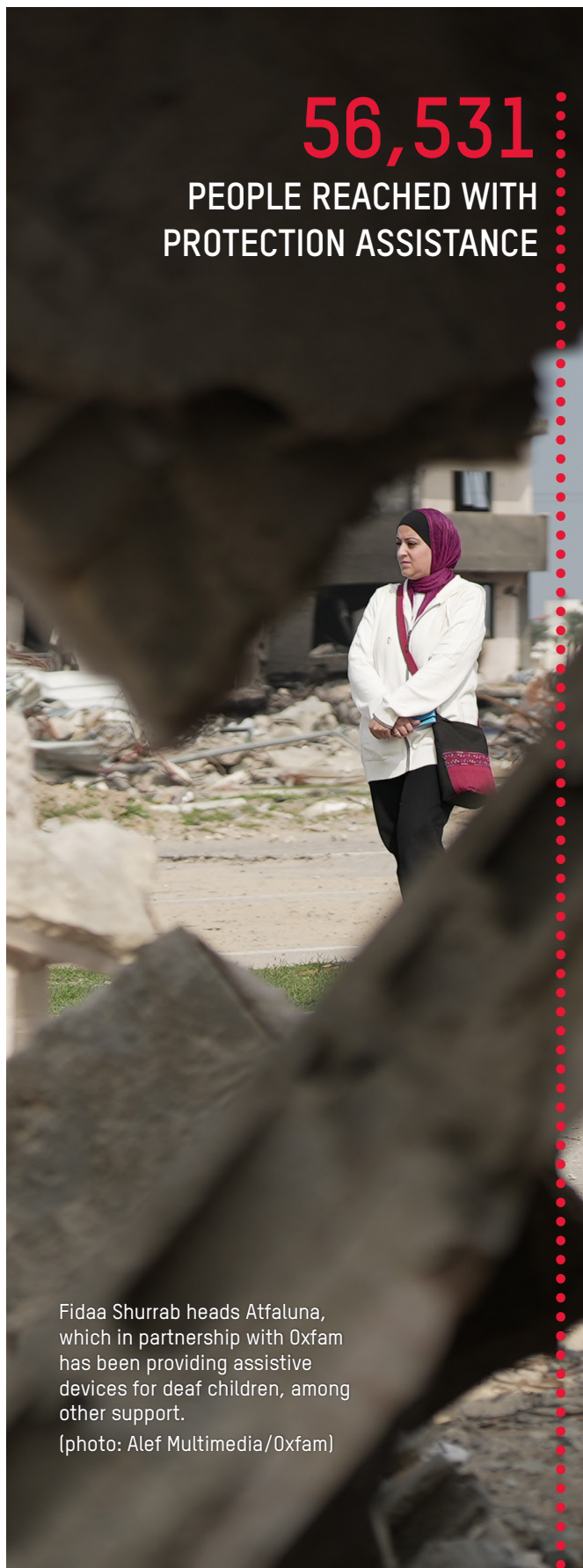
Oxfam, Atfalouna and Stars of Hope Society (SHS) distributed **assistive devices** to 227 people with disabilities and personal and **medical supplies bags** to 335 people with specific needs. These were distributed in Rafah.

Oxfam and PEF distributed 12,775 **female protection kits**, including clothing, such as head scarf and dresses, and personal hygiene and self-care items, such as deodorant, menstrual pads and baby wipes. The kits were distributed to the same people who received hygiene kits.

Oxfam is currently conducting a **protection analysis** focusing on displaced population and plans for quarterly updates. Oxfam is also supporting the protection cluster by conducting protection monitoring through data collectors and protection frontliners. This contributes to the protection cluster bi-weekly protection snapshots and dashboard.

56,531

PEOPLE REACHED WITH PROTECTION ASSISTANCE



Fidaa Shurrab heads Atfalouna, which in partnership with Oxfam has been providing assistive devices for deaf children, among other support.

(photo: Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)

ADVOCACY

On 15 March 2024, Oxfam published a briefing note, [Inflicting Unprecedented Suffering and Destruction: seven ways the Government of Israel is deliberately blocking and/or undermining the international humanitarian response in the Gaza Strip](#) which concludes that humanitarian access in the Gaza Strip has effectively worsened since January 2024.

On 12 April 2024, Oxfam, along with [more than 250 humanitarian and human rights organisations, called to stop arms transfers to Israel, Palestinian armed groups](#). We called on all states to immediately halt the transfer of weapons, parts, and ammunition to Israel and Palestinian armed groups, due to the risk that they could be used to commit or facilitate serious violations of international humanitarian or human rights law.

Ahead of the UNGA vote on the Illegality of occupation, Oxfam, along with 34 Humanitarian and human rights organisations, published a joint statement, [NGOs call on all UN Member States to adhere to the ICJ Advisory Opinion on the unlawfulness of Israel's occupation](#). Resolution GA/12626 was [adopted](#) by UNGA on 18 Sept 2024.

OCT
23

On 25 October 2023, Oxfam published a briefing note, [Starvation as weapon of war being used against Gaza civilians](#), which outlined that only 2% of usual food delivered to Gaza is reaching the affected population and that starvation is being used as a weapon of war.

MAR
24

On 4 April 2024, Action Aid, Oxfam and the Palestinian organization Al Mizan Center for Human Rights published a Joint Briefing on Israeli Evacuation orders, [Compelled to Flee: Cycles of Israeli forced displacement of Palestinians](#).

APR
24

In July 2024 Oxfam published a briefing paper, [Water War Crimes: How Israel has weaponised water in its military campaign in Gaza](#), which offers detailed analysis of how the Government of Israel has systematically weaponised water against the Palestinians in its latest assault on Gaza, raising grave concerns of human rights violations and breaches of international law.

JUL
24

SEP
24



CEASEFIRE NOW

The #CeasefireNOW campaign consists of a coalition of over 800 international humanitarian, development and human rights organisations, including Oxfam, who came together in October 2023 in a comprehensive and strategic effort to advocate around needs and challenges arising from the conflict in Gaza and the region and the humanitarian response. By means of public mobilisation, targeted advocacy and strategic engagement with governments, media, and international organisations, the campaign seeks to influence policy, mobilise global support and ultimately achieve a ceasefire and a sustainable resolution to the crisis.

Collaborative efforts include:

- Shifting the positions of several countries, on ceasefire and arms trade, as reflected in the adoption of resolutions in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), that underscore the illegality of the occupation and the urgency of peace efforts.
- Collaborative efforts by humanitarian and human rights organizations were critical in mobilising public opinion and engaging policymakers on the need to protect civilians and respect IHL. This momentum was demonstrated by the widespread public support including millions participating in global action – including a day of action on 18 December 2023 – and signing petitions for peace.
- Continuous pressure to open and expand capacity of key crossings, allowing the entry of humanitarian aid and fuel into Gaza alongside the reinstatement of critical United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) funding, provided some relief – albeit insufficient – to those most in need, even as the broader crisis continues.
- Continued efforts to uphold IHL and demand accountability in case of violations of international law including atrocity crimes.
- Amplifying the global demand for an immediate ceasefire and halting of arms transfers has contributed to an increase in the political cost for governments that have not yet fully respected their obligations under international law or furthered genuine peace efforts, highlighting the importance of maintaining pressure on all actors involved in Israel’s war on Gaza, and the broader regional escalation.



+4M

PEOPLE SIGNED
THE CEASEFIRENOW
PETITION

Dorothy Sang (Care International UK) speaking at a CeasefireNow vigil. (photo: Guy Bell/Oxfam)

OUR PARTNERS AND DONORS

Oxfam is working in partnership with 20 organisations in Gaza. From the beginning of the war, the humanitarian response has been partner-led, building on years of experience working with partners in OPT. Most are strategic partners with an extensive track record of working in humanitarian, gender justice and development programs. Oxfam also works with small-scale community-based organisations to increase outreach.

We work with the following organisations:

- [Abdel Shafi Community Health Association \(ACHA\)](#)
- [Agriculture Development Association \(PARC\)](#)
- [Al-Ataa Charitable Association](#)
- [Al Bayader](#)
- [Association for Woman and Child Protection \(AISHA\)](#)
- [Atfaluna Society for Deaf Children](#)
- [Coastal Municipalities Water Utility \(CMWU\)](#)
- [Cultural & Free Thought Association \(CFTA\)](#)
- [Economic and Social Development Centre of Palestine \(ESDC\)](#)
- [Juzoor for Health and Social Development](#)
- [MA'AN Development Center](#)
- [Palestinian Development Women Studies Association \(PDWSA\)](#)
- [Palestinian Environmental Friends \(PEF\)](#)
- [Palestinian Medical Relief Society \(PMRS\)](#)
- [Rural Women's Development Society \(RWDS\)](#)
- [Stars of Hope Society \(SHS\)](#)
- [Tamer Institute for Community Education \(Tamer\)](#)
- [Union of agricultural work committees \(UAWC\)](#)
- [Wefaq Association for Women and Child Care](#)
- [Youth Empowerment Center \(YEC\)](#)

Oxfam in OPT had a contingency plan in place for an escalation in Gaza. However, the scale of the current war is beyond what was envisaged and therefore, the scope of the partner portfolio has been broadened. As part of our preparedness efforts, we reached out to operational non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in the Gaza Strip who have expressed interest in collaborating with Oxfam.

We also launched a partner mapping and self-assessment exercise to assess both the current and potential capacity and readiness of these local NGOs to implement with Oxfam activities in areas north of Wadi Gaza. This enabled Oxfam and partners to begin distributions of food parcels and hygiene kits in Gaza and northern Gaza at the end of June 2024.

PEOPLE
FROM ACROSS
15
COUNTRIES DONATED
TO OUR RESPONSE

We have received support for the emergency response from the following donors:

- Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)
- Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO)
- Dutch Relief Alliance (DRA)
- Elrha Foundation
- German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)
- Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
- Humanitarian Coalition (HC)
- Irish Aid
- The Occupied Palestinian Territory Humanitarian (OPT) Fund
- Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)
- Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- UNICEF
- Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI)

LOOKING AHEAD

Oxfam staff in Al-Mawasi collect notes and reflections from people on the ground.
(photo: Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)

Oxfam and partners will continue to implement activities to improve access to water and sanitation, food, and protection services. If, and when, conditions allow, such as during any potential humanitarian pause, we intend to scale up our assistance. However, an immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire is the only meaningful solution to the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

NEXT STEPS IN OUR RESPONSE

The upcoming winter and rainy season require immediate interventions. A large part of the population is currently living in flood-prone areas or inadequate shelters. In the coming months, Oxfam will contribute towards the implementation of the sector-wide Winterisation Plan for Gaza by, for example, repairing critical stormwater infrastructure to mitigate flooding risks, restore essential services and prevent the outbreak of diseases.

Oxfam will continue advocating for the reopening of all crossings and unrestricted delivery of essential aid to alleviate the immediate humanitarian crisis in Gaza. By working with coalitions to maintain pressure on key governments and international institutions, Oxfam demands for Israel to uphold its obligations under international humanitarian law and to allow humanitarian operations to function without obstruction.

Oxfam's advocacy will continue to go beyond short-term relief, working towards a sustainable approach that gives respect, agency and sovereignty to Palestinians. This means supporting a Palestinian-led reconstruction process, that challenges Israel's control over resources and prioritises Palestinian ownership, restoring agency and addressing the structural challenges that have perpetuated the crisis.

Reconstruction must also be connected to the broader political and economic roadmap and locally driven. Humanitarian actors and third-party states must engage with a broad range of stakeholders, including Palestinian authorities, civil society organisations and the private sector, to address issues of movement, access to goods and the root causes of the crisis. Member States must also continue to uphold their obligations to ensure that an end to the occupation and the Gaza blockade is achieved.

The 2014 Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM) has been severely hindered by the restrictions on goods imposed by Israel's blockade. Oxfam advocates that any reconstruction mechanism must challenge the Government of Israel's control over the 'dual use' list; impose obligations on Israel as the occupying power under international law; ensure a stronger role is played by the UN with regard to IHL violations; facilitate economic development; guarantee Palestinian ownership and accountability; and establish clear accountability mechanisms to measure progress.

Oxfam's advocacy will continue to demand a permanent ceasefire and the removal of restrictions on the movement of people and goods. Through consistent media engagement, policy briefings and lobbying, Oxfam urges member states to live up to their responsibilities in upholding IHL, and links any reconstruction efforts to a need for systemic changes that address the root causes of the conflict.

PRE-CEASEFIRE

Current phase. Calling for an immediate ceasefire, and any humanitarian pause during this phase will be used for maximum scale-up.

PHASE I

CEASEFIRE

Ceasefire reached and response scale-up, including start of early recovery

PHASE II

RECOVERY

Recovery, including longer-term programming outlook.

PHASE III



Dry food parcels awaiting delivery in Gaza. (photo: Abdulrahman Mahasneh/Oxfam)

OUR VISION

The international community has failed Palestinians and Israelis alike by not addressing the root causes of the conflict, which have been the catalyst for this year of devastating hostilities. Gaza and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem have been under military occupation for 57 years, and it is abundantly clear that military force cannot resolve this conflict.

The decades-long cycle of violence is a result of ongoing impunity afforded to Israel, which has fuelled further human rights violations, war crimes and other violations of international law. The international community has failed to ensure the equal rights and self-determination of the Palestinian people as guaranteed in the UN Charter Article 1(2). Israel, as the occupying power, must uphold its obligations under international law and allow unfettered access for humanitarian relief. An immediate, permanent and unconditional ceasefire is the only meaningful solution to the humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza.

States must take all diplomatic, economic, and political actions necessary to prevent further Israeli atrocities in Gaza, and to enable more assistance and to prevent the possibility of Palestinians being forcibly displaced from Gaza.

In addition to this, states should discontinue their arms sales and other forms of security assistance that would facilitate the risk of genocide and ongoing war crimes by Israel upon Gaza and abide to the ICJ- imposed provisional measures.

Finally, the international community must advocate towards a long-term political solution beyond humanitarian relief. This should include the dismantling of illegal settlements and the cessation of their expansion in OPT and an end to the military occupation, the lifting of Israeli blockade and restrictions that hamper the Palestinian economy and the movement of people and goods, and support for Palestinian self-determination and access to international forums and legal mechanisms.

One year on, international efforts are needed now more than ever to facilitate a peace process that will lead to a viable, permanent status agreement and ensure equality, security, dignity, sovereignty, justice and prosperity, both for Palestinians and Israelis.



Duaa Mansour is playing with her children on a swing in the house she has been displaced to. Duaa is struggling to feed her children, who lost significant weight during Israel's war on Gaza. (photo: Alef Multimedia/Oxfam)