

Rapid Needs Assessment of the NGO Sector to Respond to Repercussions of Israel's Offensive on the Gaza Strip



March 2009



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Executive Summary

On March 3 and 4, the NGO Development Center (NDC) held a rapid needs assessment workshop for Palestinian NGOs working in the sectors of Health and rehabilitation, Agriculture, Social Services and Education. It is important to note that this was the first needs assessment for and by local Palestinian NGOs. The mechanism applied focused on sector working groups and included the following points of discussion: role of NGOs in service delivery, preparedness of NGOs in the current situation, capacity and capability of NGOs to absorb additional funding and to implement additional programs, the need of each sector by priority, immediate and intermediate interventions with an emphasis on quick start, and the possibilities of cooperation and coordination. Forty-seven NGO representatives participated in this rapid needs assessment either through focus groups, interviews, or case studies.

The preliminary findings of the rapid needs assessment conducted by NDC indicate that Palestinian NGOs in Gaza face new and additional challenges as a result of Israel's 22 day military offensive which began on December 27, 2008. The vast majority of NGOs indicated the unstable political situation, Israeli occupation and its manifestations, continue to be the main detriment to their work. NGO participants stressed the need for continued advocacy initiatives on various tracks to end the Israeli occupation. NGOs also stressed the need for unity among Palestinian parties, coordination of efforts among all actors and the importance of finding exit strategies and working in the context of both immediate needs and long term development.

I. Roles (how and where do NGOs see their role)

In response to the question on the role of local Palestinian NGOs, participants identified the following, including: Empowering the Palestinian individual; Reviving the social fabric of the community; Continuation with the provision of quality services; Participation in planning for and implementation of reconstruction projects, coordination with other actors, i.e., Palestinian Authority, related Palestinian ministries, UN agencies and international NGOs, etc.; Developing immediate and long-term plans collectively; and Human rights including advocacy and lobbying initiatives (pressuring and influencing policy-makers).

II. Challenges

When asked about the challenges faced by NGOs, responses shifted from sector to sector, however, the overarching challenges were: The unstable political situation – fear in what the future brings; The inability to reach 'target groups' to provide the needed services; Shifting organizational plans from development to relief; Increased demand and dependency on the NGO sector; Preparedness and capacity of organizations to respond to new and emerging challenges and needs; Increase in demand and shortage of supplies; and the lack of funding available.

III. Immediate and Long-term Needs as Identified by Sector

During the two day workshop, NGOs discussed both immediate and long term needs by sector. It was noted that in addition to the immediate and long-term needs resulting from the latest Israeli actions, it was imperative to continue on-going projects and programs in place. The needs identified by the four sector working groups, specifically, Health and rehabilitation, Agriculture, Social Services and Education are detailed in this report.

Overview

It is imperative to take a step back and look at the situation in the Gaza Strip prior to Israel's 22 day military offensive which began on December 27, 2008. Notwithstanding Israel's unilateral disengagement of Gaza in 2005, the fact that Gaza remains an occupied territory means that Israel's actions towards the people and territory must be measured against standards of international humanitarian law and Israel must be held accountable for these violations. On September 19, 2007, Israel's Security Cabinet declared Gaza to be "hostile territory." Following this declaration, Israel cut fuel and electricity supplies to the Gaza Strip and dramatically decreased the number of humanitarian aid and commercial imports. During the week of 26 November – 2 December, 2008, only 66 truckloads (of which 24 trucks were from humanitarian agencies) were allowed entry into Gaza, constituting an average of only 11 truckloads per day – down from a daily average of 123 trucks per day in October 2008 and 475 per day in May 2007¹, in clear violation of the Agreement on Movement and Access (AMA) of 2005.

Now that the smoke has temporarily settled from Gaza's skies, local and international human rights organizations began reporting about the utter devastation that took place throughout the course of Israel's 22 day assault. According to statistics by the Gaza-based Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, at least 1,285 Palestinians were killed, of which 895 were civilians, including 280 children and 111 women. Another 167 of the dead were


civil police officers, most of whom were killed on the first day of the bombing when they were graduating from a training course. More than 2,400 houses were completely destroyed, as were 28 public civilian facilities, (including ministries, municipalities, governorates, fishing harbours and the Palestinian Legislative Council building), 29 educational institutions, 30 mosques, 10 charitable societies, 60 police stations and 121 industrial and commercial workshops².

Evidence is also emerging of the use of illegal weapons, with reports and pictures showing phosphorous shells spreading tentacles of thick white smoke to cover the Israeli troops' advance into Gaza's neighbourhoods. Phosphorus burning through the air causes severe injuries and burns to anyone caught underneath, as many of us have witnessed through local, Arab, and international media coverage. According to Donatella Rivera, head of an Amnesty International investigation team in Gaza, "We know that white phosphorous munitions were used in built-up civilian areas, although the Israeli authorities previously denied this. Now we have irrefutable evidence of the use of this weapon, but the doctors who treated the first casualties did not know what had caused their injuries"³.

¹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Protection of Civilians Weekly Report – 288, 26 November – 02 December 2008.

² Palestinian Center for Human Rights, Weekly Report: On Israeli Human Rights Violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, No. 03/2009, 15 – 21 January 2009 http://www.pchrgaza.org/files/W_report/English/2008/22-01-2009.htm

³ Israel Must Disclose Weapons Used in Gaza, Amnesty International, 26 January 2009 <http://www.amnesty.org/en/news-and-updates/news/israel-must-disclose-weapons-used-gaza-20090126>



In a recent assessment conducted by the UNDP/PAPP which assessed attitudes and perceptions of Gazan's in the aftermath of Israel's military operations, the study found that, more than one third of household surveyed, 37% faced illness or health problems. This was more the case in extremely poor (42%) and poor (39%) households than in households with an average monthly income above the poverty line (28%). There was a higher frequency of health problems in households in refugee camps (40%) than in those in cities (34%) and villages (34%). Furthermore, 37% of households were indeed of primary health care and more than one fourth of these households could not access these services. Of those needing medical care, including primary health care, 72% faced problems, as only a mere 18% had health care provided to them without delays or restrictions. Moreover, of the respondents, 11% reported that someone in their family had been injured and 8% reported a death in the family during the recent Israeli military incursions.

The latest Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip have led to extensive damage to the local infrastructure including the razing of thousands of agricultural areas as well as trees and green houses, roads, water wells and network facilities, agricultural lands including smallholder farms. The military operation resulted in widespread razing of cultivated lands (18%), as well as destruction of greenhouses, livestock (8%) and poultry farms, registered groundwater wells (13%), irrigation networks and other productive agricultural assets.⁴ As Palestinians are mainly an agricultural producing society, the rehabilitation of the agricultural sector, of which more than 70% has been destroyed by Israel, is of utmost importance among the immediate needs for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the Gaza Strip.

The UNDP assessment found that the income poverty rate in the Gaza Strip is 65%. In real numbers, this means that out of the estimated 1,416,543 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, approximately 920,750 live in poverty. Of those 524,120 are extremely poor. 72% of families, affecting about 1,019,910 people do not have any alternative ways to face financial hardship, let alone pull themselves out of poverty.⁵

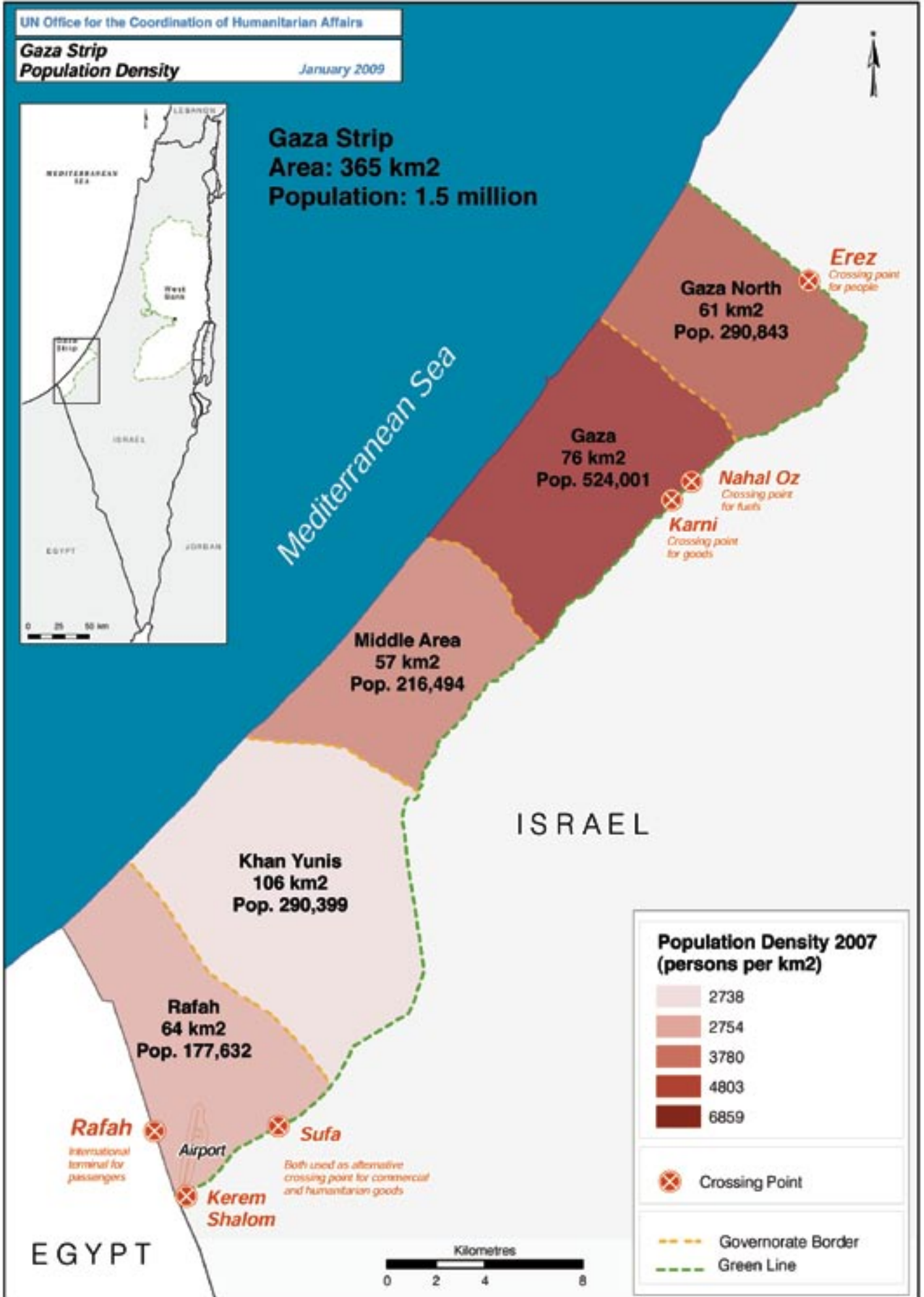
⁴ Press Release, Gazans Cite Psychological Toll, Unemployment as Major Concerns, According to a UNDP Survey; Agriculture and Private Sector Incur Massive Damages UN Report, United Nations Development program/Program of Assistance to the Palestinian People, February 9, 2009.

⁵ United Nations Development Program/Program of Assistance to the Palestinian People (UNDP/PAPP), Inside Gaza: Attitudes and perceptions of the Gaza Strip residents in the aftermath of the Israeli military operations, February 2008.

**Gaza Strip
Population Density**

January 2009

**Gaza Strip
Area: 365 km²
Population: 1.5 million**



MAP 1 (Gaza Population Density)

1. Background

The NGO Development Center (NDC) is an innovative Palestinian non-profit organization that empowers Palestinian NGOs to better provide vital services to Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, especially the poor and marginalized. Conceived in partnership with leading Palestinian NGOs, unions and networks, NDC mobilizes donor funding to deliver a unique combination of direct grants and capacity building programs that enhance the effectiveness, self reliance and sustainability of Palestinian NGOs. NDC advocates greater NGO transparency and accountability through the adoption of professional financial and management practices, and promotes sector-wide coordination and sharing of best practice experiences within its programs and on its Masader portal (www.masader.ps).

NDC has conducted a two day rapid needs assessment workshop for NGOs working in specific areas in the Gaza Strip. This assessment will be NDC's reference point for future interventions especially in the wake of the Israeli offensive on the Gaza Strip (between 27 Dec-23 Jan 2009), and its impact on the humanitarian, social, and health situation in Gaza.

Objectives of the Post-military offensive Rapid Needs Assessment

- To define the existing role of NGOs in service delivery to the community and the relationship with governmental institutions;
- To identify the extent of Israel's offensive on the NGO sector in the areas of health, social services and agriculture, and at the humanitarian level.
- To identify the needs of the NGO sector and to prioritize them, along with identifying needed projects for reconstruction in the short and medium terms.

2. Main Assessment Issues/Aspects

The main issues assessed were as follows:

I. Role of NGOs in service delivery to the community: The degree to which the services provided by NGOs reflect a new scope, better quality, significance and complementarity with services provided by governmental institutions.

II. Repercussions of the Israeli offensive on the NGO sector and community: The degree to which NGOs have been effected by the offensive on Gaza and repercussions in humanitarian, health, social and agriculture areas.

III. Expected roles for NGOs in the reconstruction phase: The degree to which NGOs reflect preparedness, adequate capacity for implementation and the ability to absorb additional funding to expand programs.

IV. Sectoral needs and prioritization: The degree to which the post-military offensive requires development of professional capacities of NGOs and stakeholders as well as priority responses to health, rehabilitation, social services for women, children and youth, agriculture, and education in the short and medium terms. Identification of needed interventions (projects) on the short and long term with an emphasis on a quick launch of projects.

V. Coordination and partnership: The degree to which relationships among NGOs and other actors reflect synergy, complementarity and partnership.

3. Methodology

The rapid needs assessment process involved conducting a two-day focus group workshop attended by representatives of forty seven NGOs working in the sectors of health and rehabilitation, agriculture, psycho-social and education. The facilitator used a multi-methodological and dynamic learning-oriented assessment approach and was assisted closely by NDC team in Gaza. The approach was flexible and used primary and secondary sources of data collection, based on triangulation, cross checking and validation with the view to conclude objective and evidence-based assessment information and conclusions. The information was collected via semi-structured interviews of six community activists; focus groups, field observation for a number of NGOs; and literature review of NDC and other NGOs.

Participating NGOs discussed the main assessment issues, as mentioned above, provided their feedback and recommendation on how to improve, strengthen and enhance areas in need of development in addition to highlighting lessons learnt from their own experiences. To this end, the facilitator analysed the gathered data and reflected NGOs needs, roles, concerns and recommendations into the development of this report.

3.1 Limitations of the Assessment

The rapid needs assessment study had some limitations pertaining to the results that were mainly based on the conclusions and recommendations of a selected number of NGOs that represent the four major sectors, health and rehabilitation, agriculture, education and psycho-social. This assessment can be later on expanded in both time-frame and sectors to include a comprehensive overview of the needs in the Gaza Strip.

4. Principle Findings

The principal findings of the study are analysed according to the main assessment issues discussed during the two-day workshop and summarised with the aim to triangulate from different points of view of NGOs, community activists, and literature review. Each one of these statements adds an idiosyncratic element to the conclusion.

I: Role of NGOs in service delivery to the community

1. The role of NGOs working in health is complimentary to that of the government. However, coordination between NGOs and the Ministry of Health remains ineffective.
2. Services provided by NGOs working in health are more qualitative, flexible and dynamic yet less comprehensive compared with those provided by the Ministry of Health.
3. Rehabilitation services are mainly provided by NGOs that adopted new approaches to include services such as home-care (providing medical and psychological care) guidelines and awareness instructions necessary for persons with disabilities and their families.
4. Women-based NGOs provide unique services such as empowerment programs and legal services.
5. NGOs working with women and children bear nearly full responsibility in empowering women in areas such as rights and gender equality, and development of children's abilities and talents via recreational, educational, cultural and psychosocial activities.

6. The role of NGOs working in education is complimentary to government-run schools. NGOs have contributed significantly to the education sector via establishing data bases, conducting research, advancing new educational approaches and tools, targeting children with learning difficulties and integrating these children into the formal school system, and training teachers working in government administered schools.
7. NGOs working in the youth sector share responsibility with governmental institutions in youth development via providing psychosocial, recreational, cultural and sport activities, youth civic engagement and promoting small-scale income generating initiatives. These NGOs have substituted the role of government institutions in regards to human rights and civic engagement.
8. NGOs working in the agricultural sector have played a major role in agricultural development. However, these NGOs are fragmented whereby the sector is affected by the Palestinian political divide and a lack of an integrated comprehensive development plan and institutional arrangements.
9. NGOs should give more attention to advocacy, mainly in areas such as the siege on Gaza Strip, occupation and buffer zones.
10. The repercussions of the Israeli offensive were greater than the operational capacity of NGOs in the Gaza Strip.
11. NGOs work is immensely affected by the siege and closure of borders, shortage of materials and equipment, creation of buffer zones, inadequate funding, internal political divide, inadequate integrated planning and coordination and partnership among NGOs and governmental institutions.

II: Repercussions of the Israeli offensive on the NGO sector and community

1. The state of health organizations and the health sector was critical prior to the offensive on Gaza Strip and has been further exacerbated by the Israeli military offensive due to the damage incurred to health centres, increased demands on services, and shortage of medical supplies and equipment.
2. There is an increasing demand on rehabilitation services and other community services. For example there are an additional 800 citizens with various types of physical disabilities who require urgent psychological, medical and social (humanitarian protection) assistance.
3. Women-based NGOs lack the adequate capacity to address the repercussions of the Israeli offensive. Women-based NGOs lack emergency plans, adequate human and financial resources, relief responses and ability to reach the damaged areas.
4. There are direct material damages to a number of NGOs.
5. Youth organizations continue to work on youth development issues such as education and awareness, culture and research. However, their needs have increased due to the military offensive on Gaza.
6. There is an increased uncertainty among NGOs due to: lack of funding, political context, and control on NGOs by government, political affiliation of NGOs and affordability of NGOs to meet the community's fast-growing needs.
7. NGOs lack in willingness to intervene in ending the internal political divide.
8. Community needs have been exacerbated, specifically in the area of psychosocial support. However, NGOs response to these needs is weak due to inadequate resources (human, equipment, tools, office space, and financial) and inadequate professional capacity in emergency planning and decision making.

III: Expected roles for NGOs in the reconstruction phase

NGOs expressed the need for the following actions that would contribute to preparedness, adequate capacity for implementation and the ability to absorb additional funding to expand programs:

1. Work in areas/fields not covered by the Ministry of Health such as rehabilitation, health education and awareness, emergency services and psychosocial support.
2. Rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and their families. Additional home care teams have been employed to respond to the growing needs resulting from the military offensive
3. Participate in women-based research, identification of needs and priorities and orientation of the reconstruction phase with emphasis on the human factor.
4. Conduct research to characterize determinants of the education system in the post-war phase, identification of needs and priorities and formulation of a vision and development plan.
5. Participate in formulating a comprehensive vision and plan for the agricultural sector. NGOs should also focus on providing psycho-social support to farmers' families.
6. Oversee the reconstruction process to ensure good governance and transparency.
7. Youth will be engaged via reflecting their needs, participation in the implementation and benefiting from the reconstruction process.
8. Participate effectively in data collection and information, identification of needs and priorities, contribute to the development of reconstruction plans, institutional arrangements, monitoring and evaluation and establishing mechanisms to guarantee transparency and accountability.
9. Document war crimes and human rights violations.
10. Professional development of NGOs in order to improve the quality of services provided to target groups.
11. Lobby and advocacy activities to influence Palestinian laws, policies and strategies related to target groups. Highlight the Israeli occupation in the Gaza Strip including the buffer security zones.
12. Empower Palestinians to be able to demand their rights.
13. Continue in service delivery to the community.
14. Position the human factor at the centre of the development process.
15. Restore Palestinian political and social fabric through lobbying and advocacy efforts aimed at Palestinian unity and ending internal divide.

In order to commence implementing the above mentioned actions, the following should be done:

1. A damage assessment study of the NGO sector in the Gaza Strip.
2. A need for additional resources (human, equipment, tools, materials, office space, and financial) in NGOs to meet the growing demands.
3. Train NGOs' human resources on how to work during emergencies.
4. Setting up emergency plans.



Representatives of Health, Community Rehabilitation and Agriculture NGOs

IV: Sectoral Needs and Prioritization

1. Health and Rehabilitation

1. Completion and continuation of on-going projects and programs.
2. Rehabilitation of health centers and facilities.
3. Support of operational cost of NGOs, its hospitals and centres.
4. Development of aid services and reception centres.
5. Provision of primary health care services; medical supplies and diagnostic equipment; 6 enhancing laboratories; and upgrading and improving intensive care units.
7. Developing the capacities of health care personnel in the areas of preparedness and specialization.
8. Establishment of joint emergency operation rooms for health service providers equipped with the necessary equipment.
9. Continuation of child programs (breast-feeding, nutrition, classic and chronic child diseases).
10. Rehabilitation services for people with special needs and making available specialized aid equipment.
11. Provision of psychosocial support for people with disabilities and their families
12. Social and humanitarian support such as equipment and material aid, nutritional supplements, sponsorship, and improved housing environment.
13. Expansion of rehabilitation services.
14. Support early intervention programs to prevent deterioration that could lead to disability
15. Empowerment of persons with disabilities to protect themselves and demand their rights.
16. Coordination with the Ministry of Health to ensure complementarity.
17. Development of a comprehensive health plan and the establishment of a comprehensive tracking system to document all activities in the health sector.



NGOs Working Group for Health Sector

2. Agriculture

1. Rehabilitation and reconstruction of destroyed agricultural land, water cisterns, water pools, roads, nurseries, green houses; smallholder farms, irrigation networks and agricultural wells.
2. Provision of agricultural materials and assets including pesticides, fertilizers and seedlings.
3. Provision of portable water tanks for farmers' families.
4. Immediate maintenance of chicken farms.
5. Improvement of the livestock sector and support the local livestock industry.
6. Maintenance of fishing boats and provision of materials and tools to fishermen.
7. Employment opportunities for farmers whose agriculture lands were destroyed.
8. Immediate psycho-social and financial support to farmers and their families.
9. Provision of micro-finance and loan programs for agricultural investment.
10. Formulation of a comprehensive vision, plan, definition of stakeholders' roles based on an organizational capacity assessment, and establishing a monitoring and evaluation system.
11. Establishment of bio-agriculture laboratories, agricultural training centres, and veterinary medicine service centres.
12. Establishing observation sites and horticulture farms in Al-Mawasi zone
13. Postgraduate studies in specific agriculture specializations.
14. Implementing agriculture projects in buffer zones.

3. Education

1. Rebuilding and reconstruction of destroyed and damaged schools and universities.
2. Provision of assistance in tuition for all students.
3. Making available basic education tools and essentials such as, text books, desks and laboratories, etc...
4. Socio-economic support for children and their families (schoolbags, stationary, transportation, etc...).
5. Supportive education centres and remedial education programs within and outside the formal school system.
6. Inclusion of children with disabilities, learning difficulties, and those with mild mental retardation.
7. Recreation/ extra-curricular and cultural activities for children.
8. Provision of class teacher aids, school counsellors and speech and language therapists in schools.
9. Psycho-social and capacity development programs for school principals, teachers, counsellors, administrative staff and students.
10. Enhanced learning and teaching techniques.
11. Adult learning and programs geared towards the elimination of illiteracy.
12. Promotion of education action-based research.

4. Psycho-social

1. Developing skills of psycho-social and mental health workers.
2. Provision of psycho-social and counselling activities and programs, including recreational and venting out activities for children, youth and women.
3. Support for counselling, social and legal programs including professional therapeutic treatment and awareness activities on how to deal with children in times of crisis.
4. Rehabilitation of children with special needs.
5. Family support interventions targeting all family members.
6. Support for divorced women and care-givers.
7. Awareness raising activities.
8. Construction of safe playgrounds for children specifically in marginalized and densely populated areas.
9. Specialized cultural clubs for children and youth.
10. Empowerment activities and skills development that lead to employment generation for women.
11. Training youth on civil defence, crisis management and emergency interventions.
12. Documentation of war crimes and violations against women and youth.
13. Relief interventions to meet basic needs of women (food supplements, hygiene kits, and clothing)
14. Employment opportunities for women in the reconstruction process including small-scale income generating projects.
15. Support for female university students to continue their university education.
16. Advocacy and lobbying activities and initiatives to change laws pertaining to women and youth rights.
17. Promotion of national security via promoting the culture of dialogue among youth.
18. Promotion of youth civic engagement, inclusion of youth in decision-making and promotion of effective political participation among youth.
19. Awareness and education campaigns on human rights, democracy and good governance.
20. Knowledge of day-to-day issues and their priorities via action-oriented research.



External Facilitator wraps up the Focus Group Work on Psychosocial Sector

V: Coordination and partnership Findings

1. The Palestinian NGO Network (PNGO) plays a significant role in sectoral coordination and therefore should be a source of information.
2. The coordination between NGOs working in health and the Ministry of Health is regulated by law.
3. There is a need for a joint data base that tracks persons with disabilities, equipment and materials provided to them.
4. There is a need for synergy and complimentarity among NGOs in service provision and exchange of knowledge, experiences and information.
5. Coordination mechanisms should be established between women working NGOs and the various governmental institutions, particularly for those NGOs that need legal advices and protection.
6. NGOs compete against one another for funding disregarding if the funding falls within their mandate and scope of work.
7. NGOs working in education should pursue staff exchange with CBOs to strengthen their capacities.
8. There is a need to establish a committee comprised of NGOs working in the field of education, the Ministry of Education and experts in education psychology.
9. Inadequate integrated and shared data bases and information systems led to duplication.
10. Inadequate sectoral networking or coordinating bodies.
11. Inadequate coordination among NGOs and governmental institutions.

In response to the lack of information exchange among the various NGOs, NDC emphasised the role of the Palestinian NGOs Portal (Masader) (www.masader.ps) which works as a platform of information exchange among the NGO sector. Currently, Masader includes approximately 450 member NGOs from the West Bank and Gaza. Masader empowers the NGO sector through assisting NGOs in overcoming geographical limitations and providing them with opportunities for communication amongst each other and among other relevant parties.



NGOs Working Group for Community Rehabilitation Sector

5. Lessons Learned: Cross-Cutting Aspects of the Conclusions

1. Establishing common data bases linked to Masader for knowledge sharing among NGOs to better understand and support decision making.
2. Preparation of emergency plans to improve preparedness for unexpected circumstances.
3. Preparation of comprehensive and integrated plans associated with institutional arrangements to ensure synergy and complimentarity among NGOs, governmental institutions and the private sector.
4. Setting up coordination mechanisms including: (1) electronic forum linked to Masader to exchange views on specific matters, (2) regular quarterly meetings, (3) annual conference to present lessons-learned and success stories, (4) staff exchange, (5) common training courses, (6) report dissemination and (7) project and initiative promotions that are based on partnerships.
5. Emphasis on capacity building in terms of adequate resources (human, equipment, tools, materials, office space, and financial) and advanced processes via staff training.
6. Sustain service provision to target groups.

6. Main Conclusions

The main conclusions of the rapid needs assessment for the NGOs working in the above mentioned fields are as follows:

1. The role of NGOs is complimentary in scope and quality to the services provided by governmental institutions.
2. Some established NGOs are donor-driven.
3. A number of NGOs have changed their scope of work from that of service delivery to relief.
4. There is a need for better coordination between all stakeholders including the PA, NGOs/CBOs, the private sector, and a focus on sustainable sectoral development plans/projects.
5. There is a considerable increase in community needs regarding services provided by NGOs.
6. There is substantial material damage to NGOs' offices and infrastructure.
7. NGO capacity in emergency management needs to be strengthened by providing trainings to NGO staff on how to prepare emergency plans and act once occurring.
8. Palestinian citizens need to be empowered to demand and protect their rights in addition to lobby and advocate for: (1) influencing Palestinian laws, policies and developmental strategies (2) highlighting the Israeli occupation including buffer zones in the Gaza Strip and (3) restoring the Palestinian political and social fabric through ending the internal divide.
9. There is a need to participate in the reconstruction phase including collection of data and assessment of needs and priorities, formulation of visions and plans, implementation, monitoring and evaluation to ensure transparency and accountability.
10. There is a need for action-oriented research studies to support decision-making.
11. War crimes and human rights violations need to be documented.
12. There is a need to conduct a damage assessment study of the NGO sector in the Gaza Strip.
13. There is a need for additional resources (human, equipment, tools, materials, office space, and financial) in order for NGOs to be able to meet the growing demands.
14. There is a need to improve the synergy and complementarity among NGOs on one hand and among NGOs and the governmental institutions on the other.
15. There is a need to establish an integrated shared data base for sectoral NGOs.

Gaza Strip
Bisection of Gaza Strip

6 January 2009



MAP 2 (Bisection of the Gaza Strip)

Annex 1. Lists of Participants

NDC

Mr. Alaa Ghalayini, Gaza Program Manager

Community Activists

1. Dr. Bassan Abu Hamad, Health
2. Mr. Husam Hamdouna, Remedial Education
3. Mr. Munther Al-Rayyes, Agriculture
4. Mr. Mohammed Omar, Rehabilitation
5. Ms. Zainab Ghonaimi, Women's Rights
6. Dr. Yousef Safi, Youth Human Rights and Civic Engagement

Health Sector

1. Palestinian Medical Relief Committees
2. Union of Health Work Committees
3. Gaza Community Mental Health Program
4. Palestinian Red Crescent Society in Gaza Strip
5. Ard El Insan Palestinian Benevolent
6. Happy House Association for Mother and Child Care
7. Health Care Committees

Community Rehabilitation Sector

1. Jabailia Rehabilitation Association
2. Al-Wedad Association for Community Rehabilitation
3. Right to Live Society
4. Atfaluna Association for Deaf Children
5. El-Amal Rehabilitation Society, Rafah

Agriculture Sector

1. Arab Center for Agriculture Development
2. Ma'an Development Center
3. Union of Agriculture Work Committees
4. Palestinian Hydrology Group for Water and Environmental Resources Development
5. The Agriculture Development Association (PARC)
6. Khuza'a Permculture Center Association
7. Olive Trees Protection National Association



Psychosocial Sector

1. Culture and Free Thought Association
2. Palestine Save the Children Foundation
3. Basma Society for Culture and Arts
4. Fekra Arts Institute
5. Women's Affairs Center, Gaza
6. Women's Affairs Technical Committee
7. Sharek Youth Forum
8. The Palestinian Youth Association for Leadership and Rights Activation (PYLARA)
9. The Palestinian Non-Governmental Organization Network
10. Carmel Cultural Association
11. Youth Without Borders
12. Palestinian Friendship Center for Development
13. Amara Society for Teaching and Developing the Palestinian Woman
14. Al Ataa Benevolent Association
15. Panorama

Education Sector

1. The Palestinian Early Childhood Programs
2. El-Amal Rehabilitation Society, Rafah
3. Society of Remedial Education Center
4. Nour El-Marefa El-Khariria Association
5. Tamer Institute for Community Education
6. The Gulf Educational Association
7. Palestine Red Crescent Society

Annex 2. List of Reviewed Documents

- Annual Report, NDC, 2007.
- Annual Report of Union of Agriculture Work Committees, 2007
- Annual Activity Report of Remedial Education Center, 2008
- Annual Report of Women Affairs Center, 2008
- Gaza Emergency Appeal, NDC. December 2008
- Gaza Emergency Updates- Agriculture Relief Committees, 2008
- Human Rights and Good Governance Program (HR/GG), NDC
- Job Creation Project in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (AFD), NDC
- Quarterly Newsletter: Issue No 1, Issue No 2, Issue No 3, NDC
- Resource Kit of the Palestinian NGOs Code of Conduct, NDC
- Semi-annual report of National Center for Community Rehabilitation, 2008
- Strategic Plan of HADAF, 2009-2011 for Youth Human Rights and Civic Engagement, 2008
- Strategic plan of Gaza Community Mental Health Program, 2008-2010
- The Palestinian NGO Portal (Masader), NDC
- The Palestinian NGO Project III
- Three Years Programs for Jamaey Center Association for General Service (JCAGS) in Rafah (2009-2011)



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