



UN-HABITAT

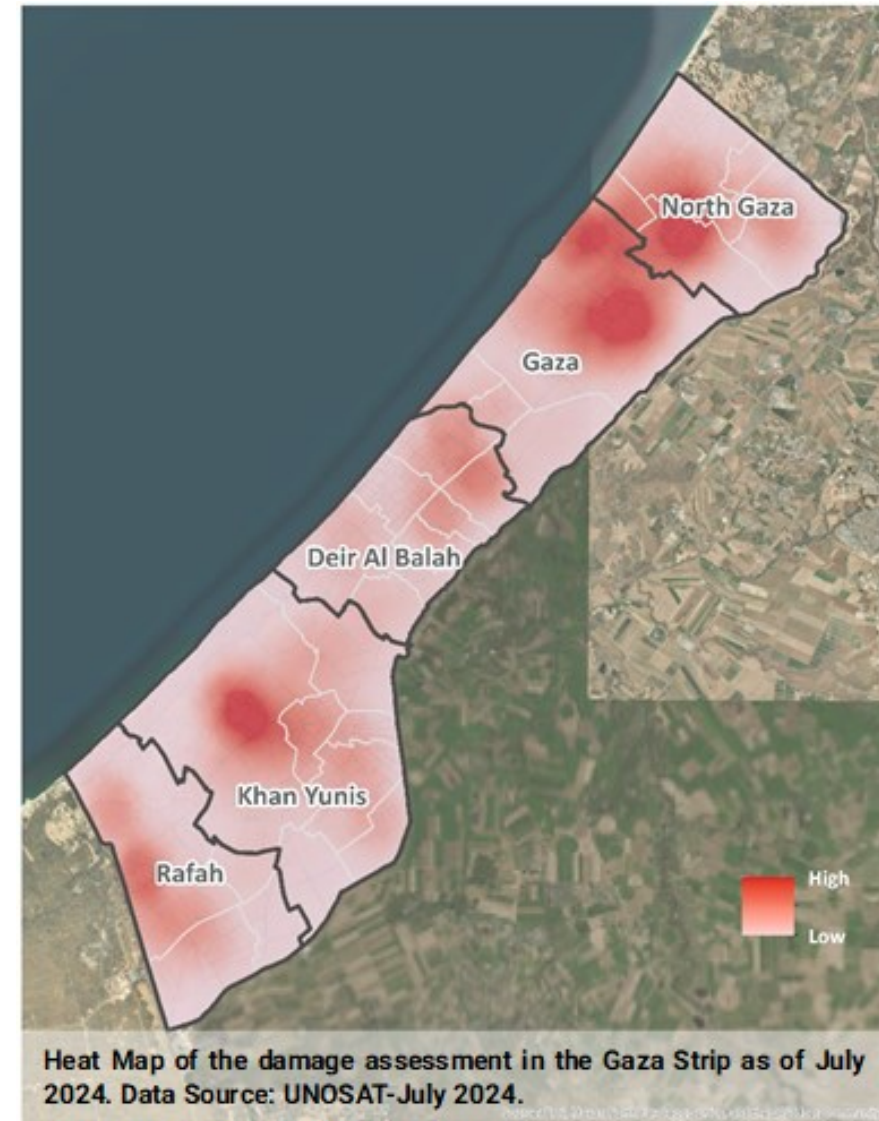
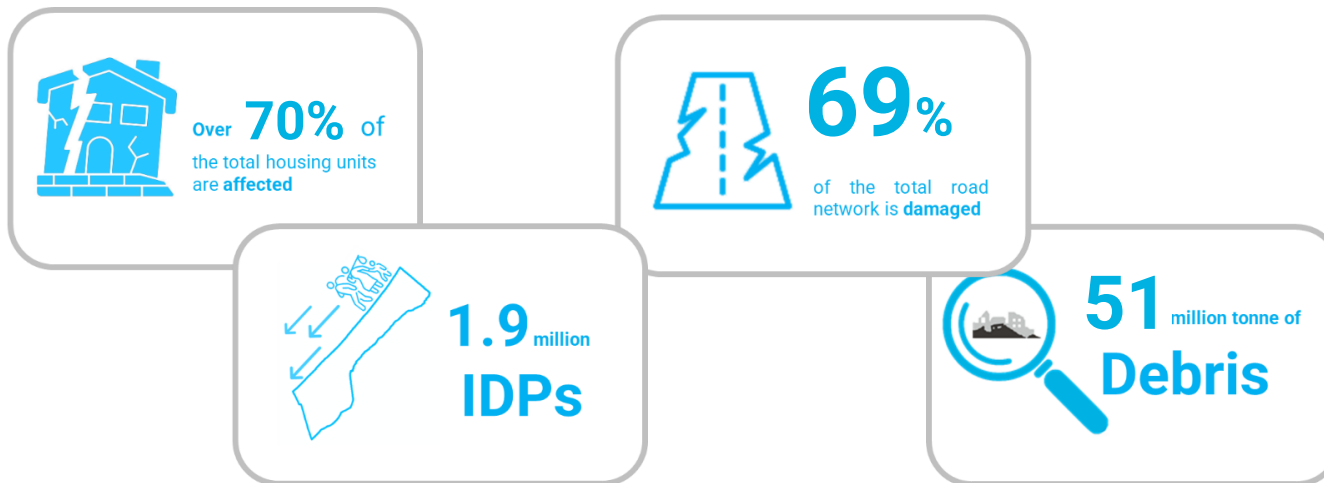
62nd Meeting of Ad Hoc Working Group-Gaza

Presented by: Zeyad Elshakra on behalf of Rania Hedeya

Date: 10 February 2025

Context and Key Challenges – The Gaza Strip

- The war on the Gaza Strip was destructive and brutal; leading to a staggering **killing of more than 47,161 Palestinians**, of which **70 per cent are women and children**. More than **110,000 Palestinians** in the Gaza Strip were wounded.
- There are more than **1.9 million internally displaced people** (90% of Gaza's population) , and **96% of the population is facing acute food insecurity** with **2.15 million people** at crisis levels of hunger or worse.



Post-ceasefire Key Challenges

- **Humanitarian assessments and delivery:** On the ground field verification of damage assessments remain limited, hindered by border access and logistical constraints.
- **Reconstruction and aid delivery:** The primary concern remains humanitarian aid, yet delivery remains a challenge. Recovery and reconstruction efforts depend on continuation of ceasefire, border access, rubble clearance and HLP challenges.
- **Shelter challenges:** Progress on transitional shelter solutions stalled due to restrictions on entering materials.
- **Debris management:** A new debris quantification completed with UNEP, while planning for a 2nd Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (RDNA) by World Bank, UN, and EU is underway.
- **Governance and Security:** No clear governance structure and concerns over future stability and potential of renewed escalation.



UN-Habitat Palestine's Programme Ongoing Engagements

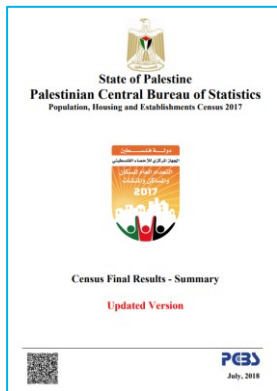
- **UN-Habitat is engaging with the WB, EU and UNCT on:**
 - The **Interim Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment (IRDNA)** for Gaza, providing a preliminary evaluation of the destruction caused by the war.
 - The **Conflict Recovery Framework (CRF)**, which is being developed to operationalize the RDNA and guide the reconstruction efforts for the Gaza Strip, including sectoral planning, resource mobilization and institutional coordination.
 - **UN-Habitat** is co-leading with UNDP on the **Housing Sector Recovery Strategy** in the CRF.
 - **UN-Habitat** is leading the **Urban Planning and HLP Recovery Sector Strategies** in the CRF.
- **UN-Habitat** is co-coordinating with **NRC** the **HLP Technical Working Group**, which is working to facilitate and provide technical support on HLP rights, issues, concerns and potential interventions,
- **UN-Habitat** is part of the **Shelter Cluster**, the **Site Management Working Group**, and the **Debris Management Working Group**.



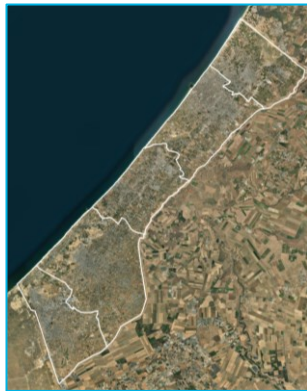
View of overwhelming destruction in northern Gaza © February 2024
UNRWA photo by Abdallah Al-Haj

Collaboration with UNOSAT – Updating the Building Footprint

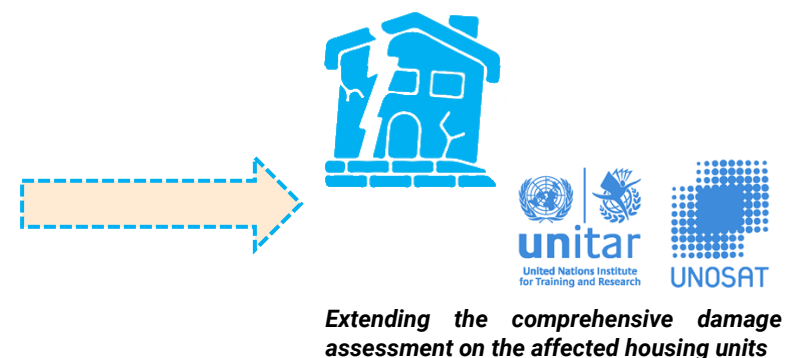
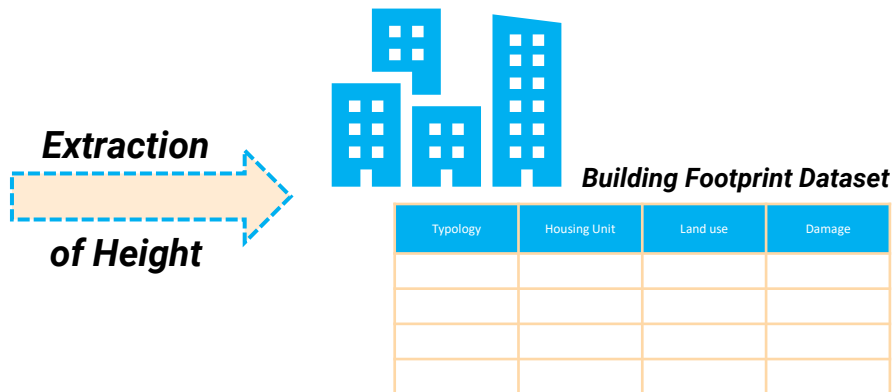
- In the **absence of the ability to collect on-field data**, previous data and visual interpretations were used as a baseline to assess the level of damage in the Gaza Strip.
- **UN-Habitat** has updated the **building footprint of the Gaza Strip**, using the **PCBS baseline of 2017** as a baseline and **available satellite image of May 2023** as a reference point for **pre-conflict data**.
- The updated building footprint was used as a baseline by a number of UN-agencies, including UNOSAT, and humanitarian actors in the Gaza Strip, allowing for a more in depth understanding of the level of the damage and number of affected people.



Population, Housing and Establishment census 2017



Satellite image May 2023



Collaboration with UNOSAT – Damaged Roads Analysis

- As part of the collaboration with UNOSAT, UN-Habitat team has contributed to the satellite-based comprehensive damage assessment to **detect damage and affected roads across the Gaza Strip**, based on an image collected on 18 August 2024.



- According to satellite imagery analysis:



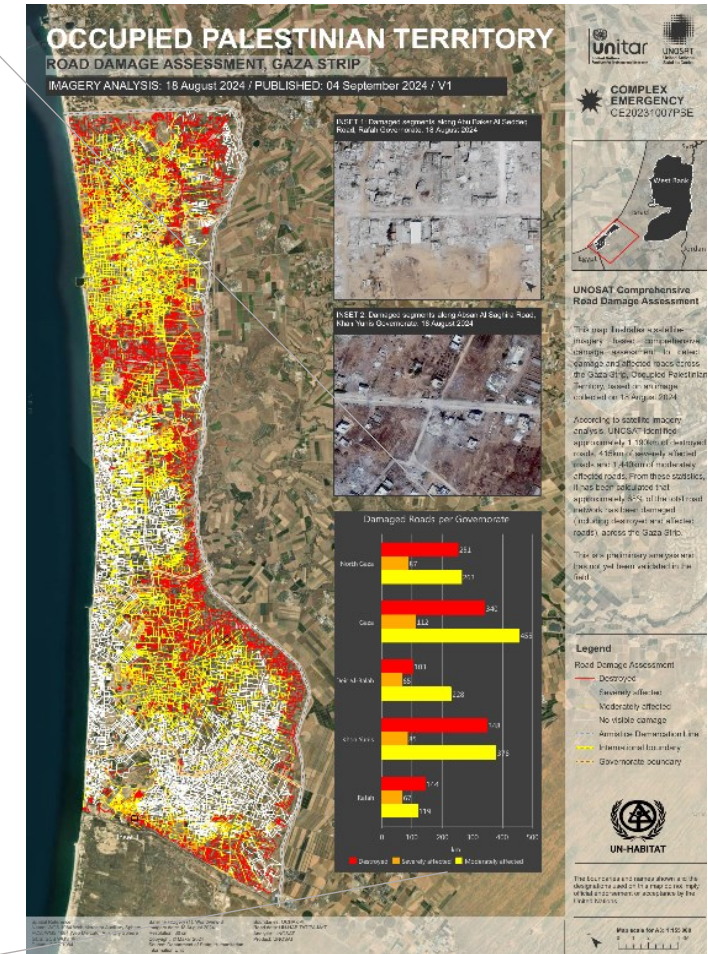
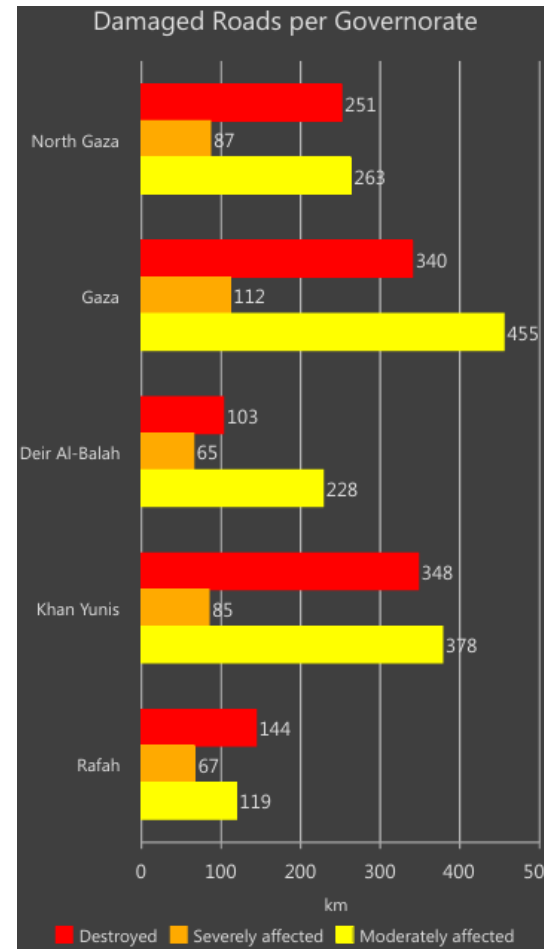
68%

of the total road network is **damaged**

- Approximately:

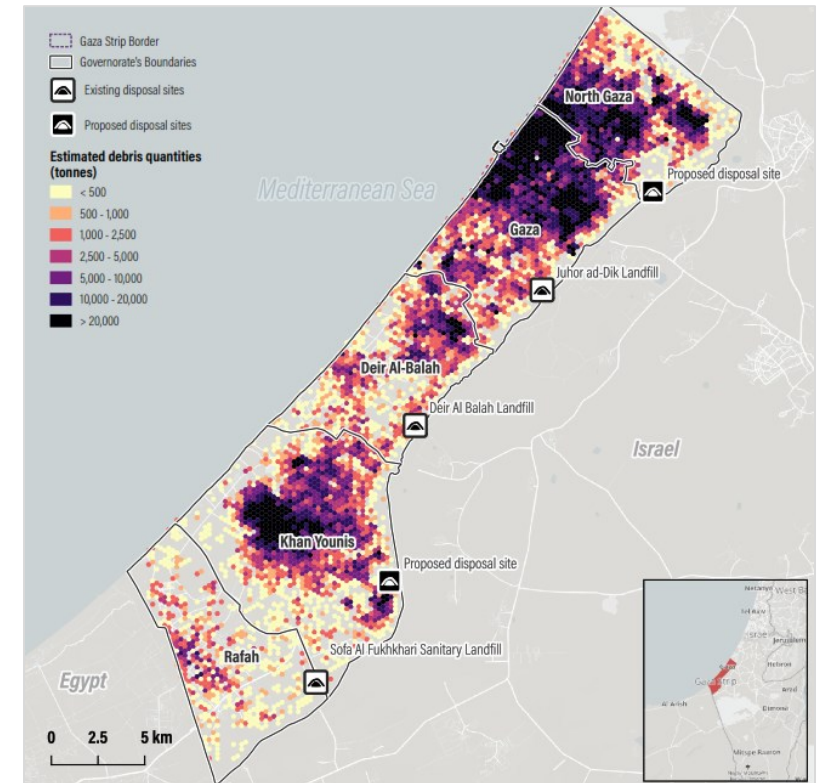
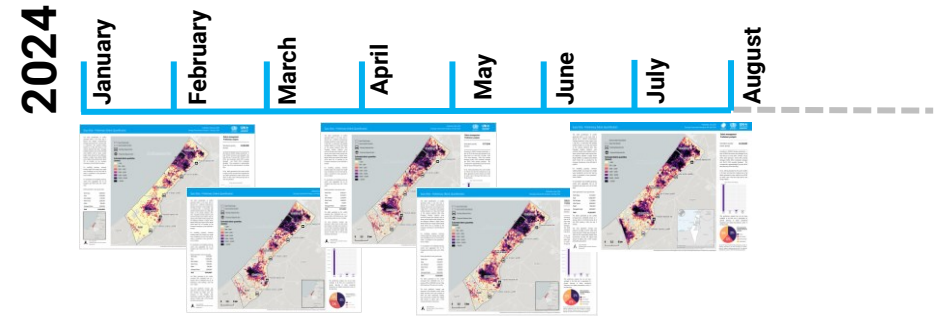
Destroyed roads	1,190 km
Severely affected roads	415 km
Moderately affected roads	1,440 km

- This is a preliminary analysis that needs to be **validated in the field**. However, it will be **invaluable input** for **municipalities** and **humanitarian and developmental partners** to **guide their interventions** on the ground.



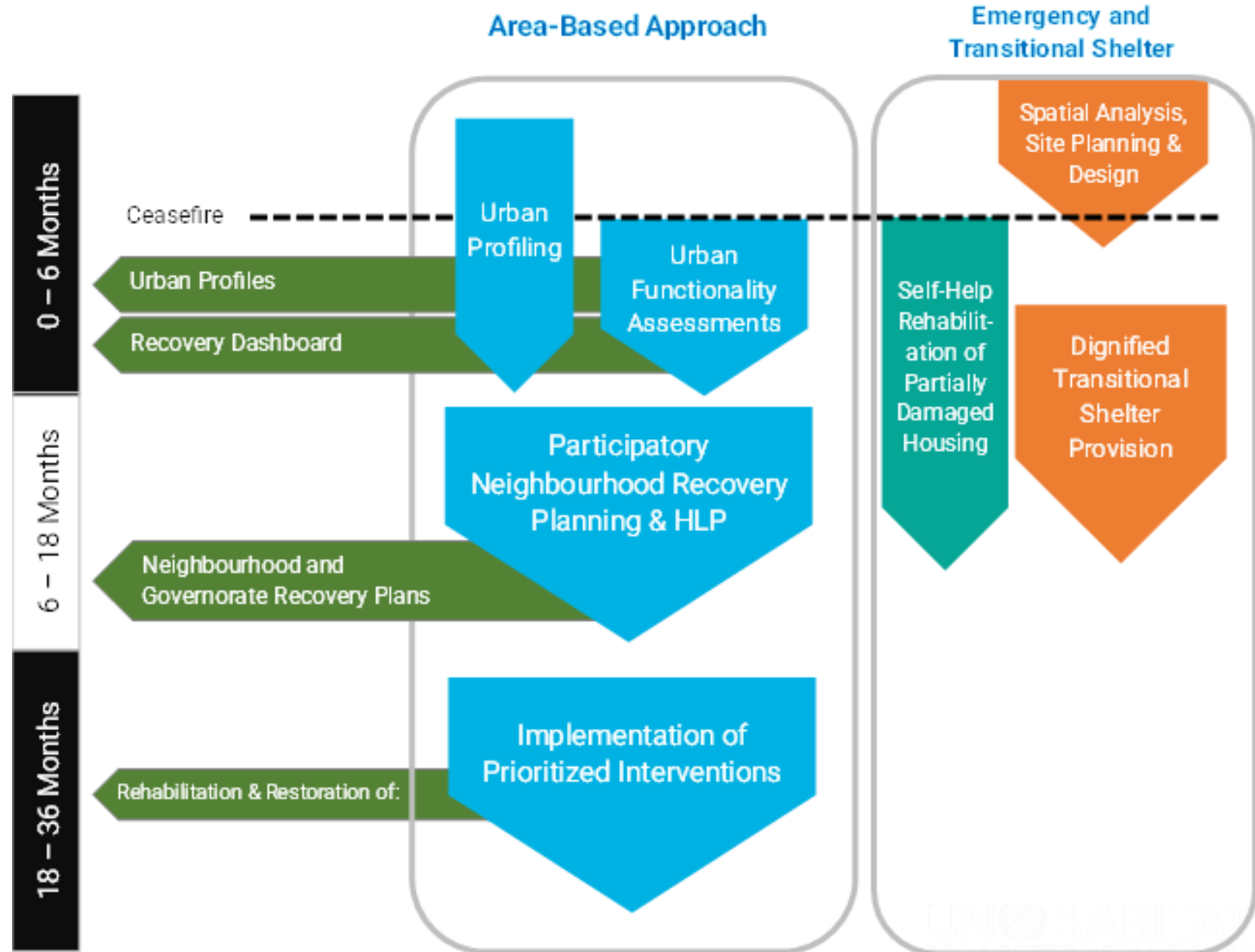
Collaboration with UNEP – Debris Calculations

- UN-Habitat has collaborated with UNEP on regularly **updating the debris calculation** based on the **findings of the UNOSAT comprehensive damage assessment**.
- The destruction of **buildings and roads** has generated an enormous quantity of debris: by **December 2024**, the amount was estimated at **over 51 million tons**.
- UN-Habitat has extended the debris calculations on **the municipality level**, with additional focus on the refugee camps, as well as the **typology** of the affected structures.
- This detailed analysis will **influence the decision-making process** regarding: (i) the phasing and prioritization of debris removal works, (ii) selection of proper dumping sites (iii) as well as proposing environmentally friendly solutions for disposing and recycling of the generated debris amounts.



UN-Habitat's Vision for Humanitarian Response

UN-Habitat Proposed Integrated Recovery Framework for Gaza Strip



UN-Habitat's Vision for Humanitarian Response

- As part of the Integrated Recovery Framework for Gaza Strip, **UN-Habitat secured 1 million USD** through the Japan Supplementary Budget (JSB) to implement.
- The project aims to **enhance the resilience** of crisis-affected vulnerable communities in Gaza Strip **through creating pathways out of the ongoing acute humanitarian crisis** and **establishing the foundation for rebuilding in a more resilient and sustainable manner.**
- The **expected results** of this project are:
 - 2 Urban Profiles for the targeted neighbourhoods
 - 2 Area-based neighbourhood master plans
 - 1 HLP support campaign to vulnerable families
 - 2 area-based projects to rehabilitate and upgrade public services
 - 25 Partially damaged houses are Rehabilitated using a community-led self-help modality.

***Urgent Early Recovery and Resilience Building Towards
Reconstruction in the Gaza Strip***

For Japanese Supplementary Budget FY 2024



25 October 2023, an aerial view of the heavily damaged and collapsed buildings in Gaza city © UNRWA Photo by Ashraf Amra

Proposed Concept Notes

Gaza Urban Profiling and Shelter Planning Response

UN-HABITAT

Duration: 1 year
Budget: 350,000 USD

Problem:
The ongoing war on Gaza Strip have left unprecedented damage, the non-stop bombardment and mass displacement, have tremendously exacerbated the already dire humanitarian situation in Gaza Strip. There is a critical need for comprehensive, data-driven urban planning to address the most pressing challenges without compromising future development opportunities.

Objective:
To provide up to date, holistic documentation and analysis of the impact of the crisis on the selected urban areas in the Gaza Strip, determine the most affected areas in the neighbourhoods, identify opportunities for multi-sector interventions (humanitarian and recovery).

Results Framework Main Outcome and Outputs:
A comprehensive Urban Profile for Gaza Strip is developed

- Online Database
- Capacity building on information management

Sustainable Debris Removal, Recycle and Reuse in Gaza Strip

UN-HABITAT

Duration: 2 years
Budget: 600,000USD

Problem:
The war in Gaza has led to large-scale destruction, displacement, and casualties. Almost the entire population has been displaced, the majority several times. Damage to housing and community infrastructure is colossal. An estimated 39 million tons of debris, 102 kg per square meter, was generated by April 2024. Debris management requires innovative approaches, adapted to the typology of neighbourhoods, to sorting, inspection, space for disposal, and equipment for recycling.

Objective:
People affected by the conflict in Gaza are safe from hazardous debris and unexploded ordnances and are capacitated to develop community driven debris management plans including reusing and recycling for housing reconstruction and transitional shelter construction.

Results Framework:
Unprecedented amounts of debris in Gaza Strip are managed and transformed into a resource in emergency response.

- Local community involvement
- Strengthened management processes for recycling environment

Building Future through the Rehabilitation of Partially Damaged Schools in Gaza Strip

UN-HABITAT

Duration: 2 years
Budget: 3,500,000 USD

Problem:
The repeated military escalations and ongoing war in Gaza have severely damaged or destroyed a significant portion of the education infrastructure, leaving 67% of schools in need of complete rebuilding or major repairs, depriving over 625,000 students and 22,564 teachers of access to education and safe learning spaces, thereby exacerbating long-term humanitarian and social crises.

Objective:
To contribute to post war recovery efforts by restoring the functionality of the educational system in Gaza Strip and expediting its recovery through the rehabilitation of the educational infrastructure and the creation of an adequate environment to continue learning.

- Support repairing and refurbishing several public schools that have been partially damaged, ensuring a safe and conducive learning environment for students and teachers.
- Enhance the educational infrastructure by introducing essential facilities, such as libraries, computer labs, and playgrounds areas, etc., to enrich the learning experience.
- Support the children and youth to overcome the (PTSD) resulted from the ongoing war, by restoring a major component of their pre-war daily routine
- Promote environmentally sustainable practices in social infrastructure rehabilitation.

Results Framework:
Rehabilitated schools are refurbished with essential furniture and equipment

Improving Emergency Shelter Response and Recovery Efforts towards Reconstruction in the Gaza Strip

UN-HABITAT

Duration: 1 year
Budget: 1,850,000 USD

Problem:
The ongoing war in Gaza has displaced over 1.7 million people and damaged more than 60% of housing, creating an urgent need for temporary transitional shelters to provide immediate, secure housing for displaced families, address overcrowding, and alleviate the severe humanitarian crisis.

Objective:
To construct transitional shelters using a modular approach, providing immediate, safe, and resilient housing solutions for displaced families, while promoting community involvement, sustainable practices.

- Provide secure, temporary shelter for displaced families through modular, easily assembled units.
- Foster community participation in the design and construction process to enhance ownership and resilience.
- Ensure sustainability by using locally sourced materials and scalable designs for future expansion.

Results Framework Main Outcome and Outputs:
Pilot transitional shelter clusters using modular approach in selected municipalities in the Gaza Strip are installed.

- Pilot transitional shelter solutions for four clusters (initially each cluster contains 8 neighbourhoods, serving a total of 96 families of 576 individuals) using innovative materials.
- Shelter kits distribution containing essential items such as blankets, sleeping mats, and basic household necessities to the displaced families.

Rebuilding Hope: Rehabilitation of Partially Damaged Housing Units in Gaza Strip

UN-HABITAT

Duration: 2 years
Budget: 2,700,000 USD

Problem:
The ongoing war in Gaza has caused unprecedented destruction of housing, displacing over 1.9 million people and leaving 70% of homes damaged or destroyed, necessitating urgent efforts to rebuild and provide shelter solutions.

Objective:
Alleviating the suffering of internally displaced Palestinian families and supporting their recovery through housing rehabilitation and creation of livelihood opportunities

- Supporting self-help rehabilitation of 200 housing units for affected non-refugee Palestinians in vulnerable situations.
- Providing practical technical advice for the use of cash grants, and technical support and guidance to families targeted by this project.
- Creating livelihood opportunities for the construction and rehabilitation workers.
- Promoting environmentally sustainable practices in housing rehabilitation.

Results Framework Main Outcome and Outputs:
Improved housing conditions of vulnerable households and increased income opportunities for community members engaged in the rehabilitation and reconstruction process.

- 200 housing units for vulnerable families are rehabilitated using self-help approach.
- A fit-for-purpose self-help housing rehabilitation manual for the damaged houses in Gaza Strip.

Thank you!

www.unhabitat.org

