



# UAWC UPDATED BRIEFING REPORT

## STOP GAZA STARVATION CAMPAIGN

March 17th, 2024



Over the past five months, the "Stop Gaza Starvation" campaign led by the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) has reached **96,975 beneficiaries** in the Gaza Strip, despite severe bombardments and challenges. Essential aid delivered includes food parcels, hygiene and sanitary products, mattresses, blankets, and firewood, addressing critical needs amidst gas shortages. Additionally, **172,000 people** received drinking water, a vital resource for survival. Key distributions: 44,000 food parcels, 12,000 hygiene kits, and essential supplies for warmth and dignity. The campaign prioritizes the most vulnerable, with over 65% being women and children, illustrating a focused effort on providing relief and support in Gaza's dire circumstances.



STOP GAZA STARVATION CAMPAIGN



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## Stop Gaza Starvation Campaign

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The situation in the northern Gaza Strip is particularly dire, where the magnitude of famine is escalating alarmingly. Approximately 700,000 Palestinians, trapped and besieged, face the grim prospect of death by starvation due to the absence of food. The UAWC's campaign, despite these overwhelming challenges, remains steadfast in its mission to deliver aid. Their work, more than just a relief effort, symbolizes an unwavering commitment to humanity and the survival of the Palestinian people under the most extreme conditions. The continuous direct targeting of humanitarian aid by the Israeli military not only exacerbates the crisis but also violates international laws and norms regarding the protection of civilians and aid workers in war zones. These developments highlight the critical importance of the international community's role in ensuring the safe passage of aid and holding accountable those who violate such principles.

The "Stop Gaza Starvation" campaign, in facing these adversities, calls for an urgent and substantial increase in international support. The campaign is not just fighting against starvation but also against the systematic destruction of a people's ability to sustain themselves. It's a fight for the right to live, access basic human needs, and maintain dignity in the face of an unprecedented humanitarian disaster. The courage and resilience of the UAWC team in Gaza and the Palestinian people amidst such adversity are a poignant reminder of the human spirit's strength and the urgent need for global solidarity and action.



We extend our profound gratitude to all partners and funders whose generous contributions have fueled the "Stop Gaza Starvation" campaign. Your unwavering support embodies a light of hope, casting a lifeline to those in Gaza amidst their darkest hours.

## Achievements of the "Stop Gaza Starvation" Campaign in Providing Vital Relief

Throughout the past five months, the "Stop Gaza Starvation" campaign, led by the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC), has achieved remarkable success in reaching areas previously inaccessible, especially in the critical recent period. The campaign has made significant inroads into many parts of the northern Gaza Strip and the Khan Yunis area, regions that have been heavily bombarded and faced numerous grave challenges. To date, the campaign has successfully reached 96,975 beneficiaries, providing them with essential food parcels containing a variety of vegetables, hygiene, and sanitary products particularly for girls and women, mattresses, blankets, and firewood for heating and cooking due to the absence of cooking gas in Gaza. The aid also included meats and hot meals for thousands of displaced residents, addressing the immediate nutritional needs amidst the crisis. In an impressive logistical feat, over 172,000 individuals across the Gaza Strip have been supplied with drinking water through tankers that distribute water to the inhabitants of the devastated areas. Here are the details of the distribution achieved by the campaign:

- Food Parcels: 44,000 parcels, containing essential food items and vegetables.
- Hygiene Kits: 12,000 kits, providing necessary hygiene supplies.
- Children's Clothing: 8,000 items, ensuring warmth and dignity for children.
- Mattresses: 4,000, improving sleeping conditions for families.
- Blankets: 4,000, offering warmth in harsh conditions.
- Firewood: 4,976, used for heating and cooking in the absence of gas.

This comprehensive effort means that a total of 96,976 beneficiaries have been reached, with women and children constituting over 65% of those helped, highlighting the campaign's focus on the most vulnerable populations. Additionally, 172,000 people have been provided with clean drinking water, a critical resource for survival.

The campaign's ability to deliver aid under such perilous conditions is a testament to the resilience and dedication of the UAWC and its supporters. The "Stop Gaza Starvation" campaign exemplifies a profound commitment to humanitarian relief and the sustenance of life amidst a dire crisis by navigating through war-torn areas and overcoming significant obstacles to reach those most in need. These achievements underscore the urgency of continuing support and solidarity to further alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip.



## Overcoming Challenges of Resource Scarcity

Due to the blockade and the weaponization of starvation employed by the Israeli occupation, available resources in the Gaza Strip are scarce, with many items either missing or priced exorbitantly. For instance, the cost of a carton of eggs has soared to \$30, and a single chicken exceeds \$25, while a 25kg bag of flour reached a staggering \$1,000 in the northern areas of the Gaza Strip. Faced with these dire circumstances, UAWC has relied on local farmers who have returned to agriculture, producing quantities of vegetables such as tomatoes, cucumbers, potatoes, lentils, oil, and peas. Despite the continuous bombardment in certain areas, a significant number of farmers in less affected regions have managed to resume their work in the fields.



Furthermore, the UAWC has established connections with several suppliers who have succeeded in importing some food items from Egypt. However, the issue remains that these imported goods are sold at extremely high prices, exacerbating the already challenging situation. In response to these constraints, the UAWC has focused on distributing hot meals through public kitchens, known locally as "Takayat," which are central cooking facilities that provide hot meals to the population. The UAWC supplies these kitchens with meat and rice, enabling them to cook and distribute hot meals in public spaces to hundreds of families. This effort not only addresses the immediate nutritional needs but also fosters a sense of community and support among the besieged residents of Gaza.

Additionally, the provision of water is managed through the restoration of several wells, partially repaired in the southern and central regions of the Gaza Strip. This initiative has become a critical component of the UAWC's efforts to address the severe water crisis exacerbated by the blockade and ongoing war. By rehabilitating these water sources, the UAWC ensures that thousands of residents have access to essential clean drinking water, mitigating one of the most pressing needs of the population under siege. This effort not only highlights adaptability and resilience in the face of adversity but also underscores the vital importance of water as a resource for survival in the Gaza Strip.



## Future Focus: Continue addressing Critical Needs in Gaza:Top of Form

- In the upcoming period, the Union of Agricultural Work Committees (UAWC) will focus on several critical needs to further support the beleaguered residents of the Gaza Strip, as we continue our "Stop Gaza Starvation" campaign. These initiatives are designed to address both immediate and long-term challenges exacerbated by the ongoing blockade and war:
  - 1.Rehabilitation of Artesian Wells in Northern Gaza Strip: Recognizing the acute water crisis, a major focus will be on rehabilitating Artesian wells in the northern regions. This effort aims to provide thousands of people with access to vital drinking water sources, mitigating one of the most pressing survival needs.
  - 2.Supporting and Encouraging More Farmers in Central and Southern Gaza: Agriculture remains a lifeline for the people of Gaza. The UAWC plans to assist, encourage, and support more farmers in accessing their lands, which are relatively safer, in central and southern parts of the Gaza Strip. By cultivating vegetables, these efforts will contribute to creating a local source of food, crucial for sustaining the population under siege.
  - 3.Focusing on the Health Needs of Women, Especially Young Girls: The health and sanitary needs of women and young girls in Gaza are of paramount concern. The UAWC intends to concentrate on providing necessary health supplies and support to address these critical needs, recognizing the unique challenges faced by female populations in crises.
  - 4.Rehabilitation of Bathrooms and Sanitary Facilities in Shelter Centers: With the increasing displacement, the need for clean and accessible sanitation is more important than ever. Efforts will be made to rehabilitate bathrooms and other sanitary facilities in shelter centers, ensuring dignity and reducing the risk of disease.
  - 5.Expansion and Increase of Hot Meal Distributions During Ramadan: Given the holy month of Ramadan, there is a heightened focus on distributing hot meals. The UAWC aims to expand the provision of these meals to accommodate fasting individuals, offering comfort and sustenance during iftar times.
  - 6.Clothing Distribution: Recognizing the basic need for clothing, especially under the current dire conditions, the UAWC plans to continue and increase the distribution of clothing to those most in need, ensuring that families and children have adequate apparel for the changing seasons.

These targeted initiatives are designed to address the immediate needs of the Gaza Strip's population while laying the groundwork for longer-term sustainability and resilience. By focusing on water access, agricultural support, health needs, sanitation, and nutrition, the UAWC is committed to alleviating the suffering of Palestinians in Gaza and supporting their right to live with dignity and security.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all partners and supporters who have contributed to the realization of the goals outlined above and who will continue to support and implement the campaign in the coming period. Your unwavering commitment has been indispensable in our efforts to alleviate the suffering in Gaza.

We also renew our call to all free people around the world to continue their support, enabling us to reach more affected individuals and stand by them in these trying times. The current situation and the conditions faced by the people in Gaza are indescribable, touching the very essence of their dignity. The occupation seeks to subjugate and eliminate them by creating these dire humanitarian conditions. Therefore, our appeal goes out to all those with a conscience to contribute to supporting the resilience of Gaza's residents in the face of this genocidal onslaught.

Your solidarity and support are more critical now than ever. Together, we can make a difference and uphold the dignity and survival of the people in Gaza. Thank you for standing with us.

Please visit the "[STOP GAZA STARVATION](https://uawc-pal.org/donate-now/)" campaign link to offer your support. Together, we can continue to make a meaningful impact and stand firm in our commitment to the people of Gaza. Thank you for your unwavering support and solidarity.

