



PALESTINE
SHELTER CLUSTER

Coordinating Humanitarian Shelter and Settlements

NATIONAL SHELTER CLUSTER MEETING

21 Jan 2026

INTRODUCTIONS

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AGENDA

- National Update
- Gaza update
 - Reach Impact: Market monitoring and Flood Risk & Shelter Distribution Partner Mapping
 - IOM Needs and Population Monitoring: Flood dashboard
- West Bank update
- Information Management Update
- Technical Coordination Update
- Open discussion
- AOB

CONTEXTUAL / NATIONAL UPDATE

- Gaza:
 - Board of peace and next phase: Hostilities continue; Yellow line keeps moving; **CMCC** will probably last, as long as the 'green zone' will exist.
 - **Materials** entry is still not consistently improving; difficult to provide aid to cover all PiN. Advocacy for increased and diversified entry of materials.
 - **Winterization** and flood response
- West Bank:
 - WB is more and more unpredictable and unsafe and there is a big threat to **operational continuity**. Expanding demolitions, closed military areas, land seizures etc. More on access negotiations than on service delivery.
- National:
 - Continue to improve services to our partners (IM, technical coordination). SAG discussions and CCPM. In pipeline: Mapping of needs (SSC), market monitoring, and response (e.g. emergency repairs of damage buildings).
 - New Dashboard



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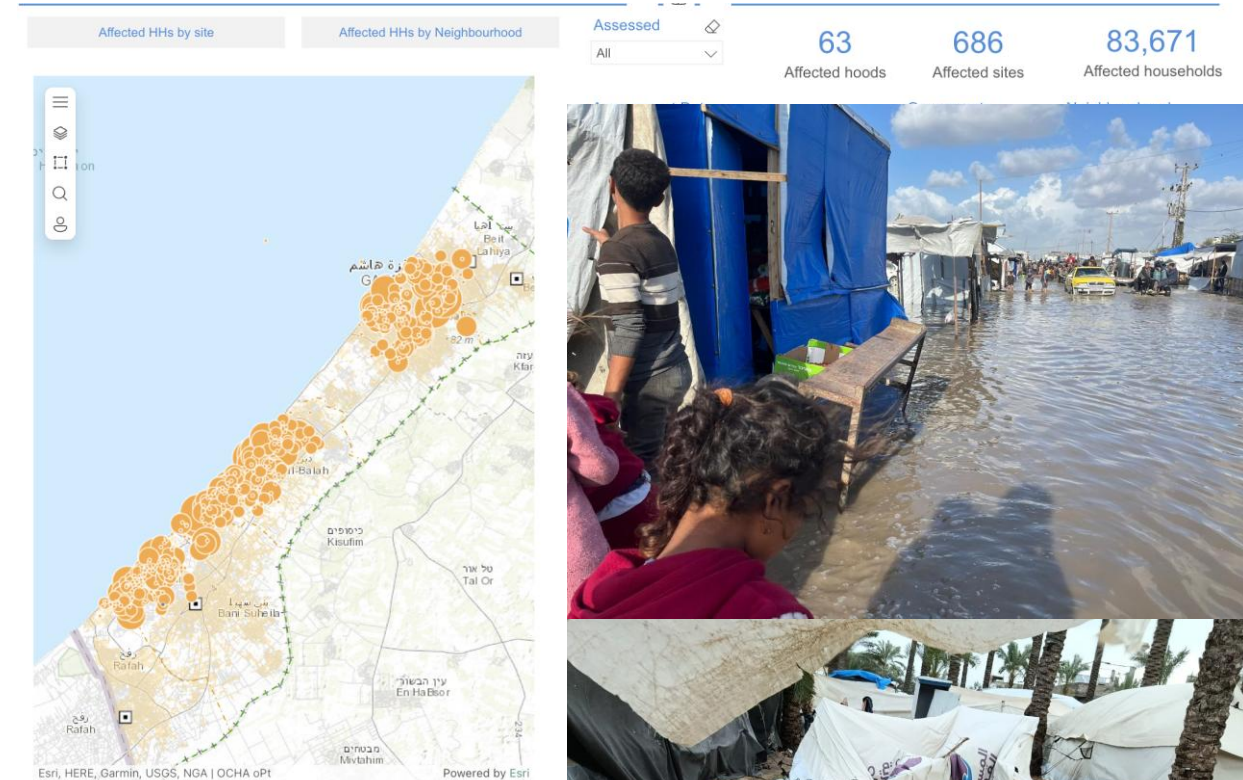
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GAZA UPDATE

Gaza UPDATES

Impact of rain and weather conditions

- 83,671 households affected across 686 sites in 63 neighbourhoods.
- Coastal and low-lying areas, highly exposed to flooding and strong winds, leading to repeated shelter damage and displacement.
- Shelters are unable to withstand winter conditions, with widespread deterioration.
- Severe strain on shelter/NFI pipelines. Ongoing weather conditions are reducing the effectiveness of distributions.



Gaza UPDATES

Response Since 1 December to Date

- Approximately 50,000 tents, 172,000 tarpaulins, 235,000 blankets, and other items (including kitchen sets, clothes, and mattresses) have been distributed, reaching almost 135,000 households.
- Winter conditions have prevented the anticipated reduction in overall shelter needs despite the entry of items. Need for more durable housing solutions,
- It is estimated that over 1 million people remain in need of shelter items.
- Response capacity has remained relatively strong in recent weeks, with partners able to assess up to 20,000 households per week; however, this is expected to decrease due to pipeline constraints.



Tents

Entered

56.48K

Distributed

50.10K



Tarps

96.50K

172.09K



Blankets

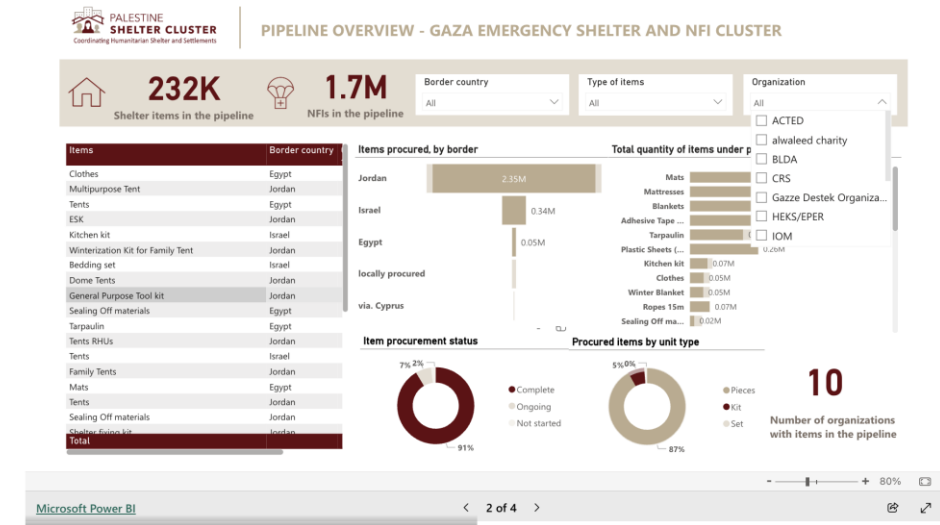
224.96K

235.89K

Gaza UPDATES

- Remaining Main Item Stocks *(Based on latest 5Ws submitted January)*
 - ~15,000 tents
 - ~200,000 tarpaulins
 - ~400,000 blankets
- Challenges
 - Pipeline unpredictability and approval processes (unclear approved items and dual-use items) are disrupting procurement planning **delaying the entry and dispatch of items.**
 - Shelter kits must be submitted for approval as separate items; combined kit requests are not accepted.
 - INGO registration, donor reference numbers are required for customs clearance, further slowing pipeline flow.

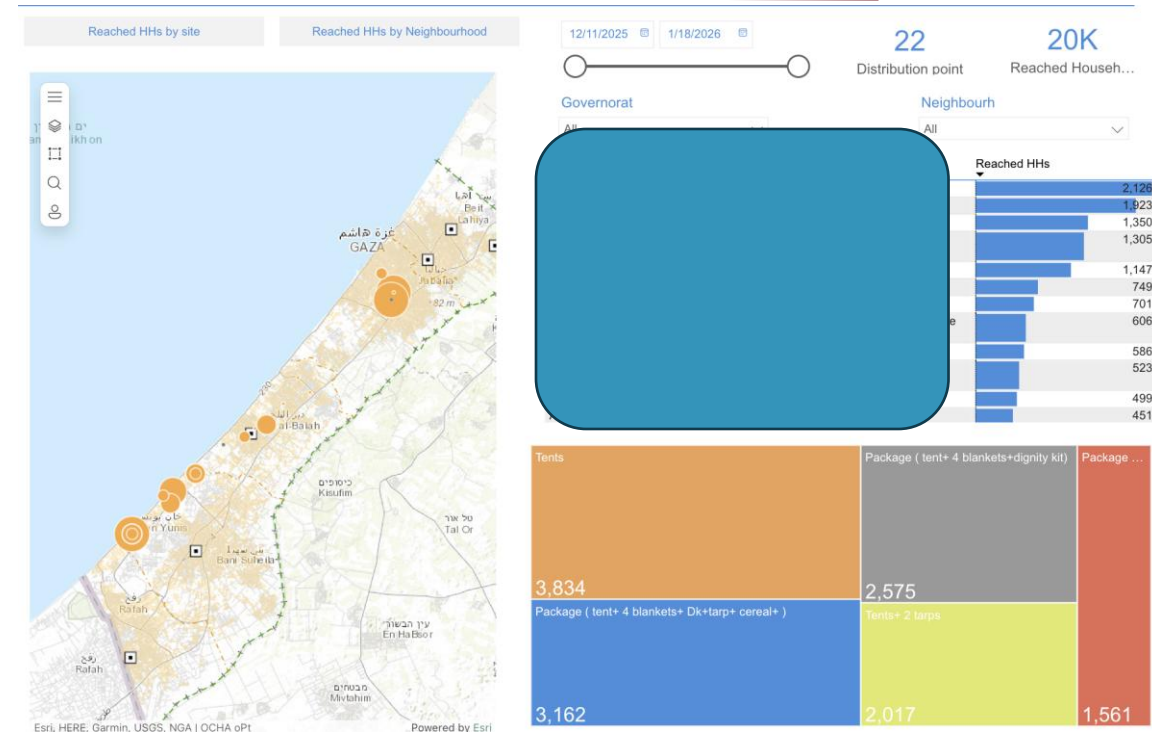
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Gaza UPDATES

Rapid Inter-Sectoral Joint Distributions

- Inter-sectoral joint package distributions responding to rainstorm incidents were conducted to support affected households, providing urgent shelter assistance.
- Joint kits included tents, tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene kits, dignity kits, and other items.
- MECA, as the main focal point, coordinated with OCHA, relevant sectors, and shelter partners, including BLDA, PEF, PARC, and others.
- Approximately 20,000 families have been supported through joint distributions to date.
- Qatari tents were reinforced with tarpaulins, as the tents are not waterproof.
- Overall community feedback on the joint kits was positive.
- Available Qatari tent stockpiles are reported as depleted
- The Shelter Cluster will continue supporting joint responses using available shelter and NFI items as long as possible, even as tent stocks run out.



Gaza UPDATES

Relocation (Last Resort)

- Unsafe buildings and flood-prone sites highlights the urgent need for relocation, where feasible.
- The Shelter Cluster supports coordination and assistance for relocation, when required, for households living in:
 - Risky shoreline areas
 - Collapse-risk structures
- Limited land availability, which affects the speed of shelter interventions, in addition to HLP-related issues and services availability.
- Relocation coordination is ongoing with OCHA, Protection, Site Management, WASH, municipalities, and other relevant actors.

Hypothermia

- 6 newborn deaths reported due to hypothermia, linked to inadequate shelter and exposure to cold weather.
- Intersectoral coordination meeting held to identify and mitigate hypothermia risks.
- Priority winterization items list shared for advocacy to address urgent gaps.
- Shelter-related questions were shared as part of the investigation questionnaire to support case analysis and response planning.
- Referrals Cases to be sent to the Shelter Cluster
- Prioritization of RHU assistance for families with newborns or heating points in sites.

Gaza UPDATES

Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) Meeting UPDATE – 8 January

(ACTED, BLDA, CRS, IOM, MAAN, NRC, PHC, UNRWA, UNDP, Shelter Cluster)

- An open and direct discussion was held to address coordination gaps and the performance of both the Shelter Cluster and partners. Gaps and performance challenges related to coordination, reporting, targeting, and duplication were openly discussed.
- Agreement to shift SAG meetings to monthly, with ad-hoc meetings as needed (proposed Gaza time: 12:00–13:30, once a month on Thursdays).

Gaza Shelter Cluster Meeting Modalities

- Gaza-level meetings will be held biweekly, on Tuesdays at 12:00 PM Gaza time, ensuring a one-week gap between Gaza-level and national-level meetings.
- Agreement to keep Gaza Shelter Cluster meetings in Arabic and in person, as in-person meetings have demonstrated stronger engagement, higher attendance, and improved relationship-building and partnership development.
- Online links will be shared only with participants outside Gaza or those with a valid reason to attend online.
- Rotate meeting locations between Gaza City and Deir Al-Balah to facilitate partner access.

WB UPDATE

WB UPDATES

Displacement and Return Constraints – Northern West Bank Camps

Nearly one year after the onset of large-scale displacement, more than **32,000 IDPs** from refugee camps in the northern West Bank remain displaced, with prospects for return increasingly constrained.

Israeli authorities have introduced **five conditions** for any gradual return, including:

1. Mandatory security vetting of returnees.
2. Reclassification of refugee camps as regular urban neighborhoods.
3. Exclusion of UNRWA and international humanitarian actors from operations inside the camps.
4. Imposition of new Israeli-designed urban planning layouts that prohibit the rebuilding of destroyed homes (at the moment 2000 HUs)
5. Establishment of PA-led security infrastructure with continued coordination with the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF).

These conditions significantly complicate the feasibility of return, raise serious protection and shelter concerns, **and point toward a high risk of protracted displacement**, with durable shelter solutions remaining out of reach in the near term.

WB UPDATES



Housing Damage Assessment – Northern Camps

Based on satellite imagery analysis, approximately **2,000 housing units** across the three affected refugee camps have been destroyed or severely damaged and rendered uninhabitable. The Shelter Cluster, in coordination with UNRWA, PA ministries, and OCHA, is exploring a desk-based damage assessment exercise to identify households who have lost their homes inside the camps, given current access constraints.

Weather-Related Shelter Damage

Severe winter storms during December and January damaged or destroyed dozens of tents and makeshift shelters in Bedouin and herding communities across the West Bank. More than **120 households in 18 communities** were affected, highlighting the urgent need to **upgrade shelter** to withstand harsh weather conditions, particularly for **marginalized communities in Area C**.

WB UPDATES

Community at Risk – Ras Ein Al-‘Auja (Jericho)

Ras Ein Al-‘Auja, one of the largest communities in Area C with **more than 100 families**, located near Jericho, is experiencing gradual displacement due to sustained settler violence and the establishment of multiple settlement outposts surrounding the community.

The deteriorating security environment has rendered living conditions increasingly unsafe and unprotected, raising serious concerns that the community may face **entire displacement**, with significant humanitarian and strategic implications.

Settler Violence and Community-Wide Displacement

Settler violence, often occurring with the presence or backing of **Israeli military and police forces**, continues to be systematically used as a tool to **intimidate and forcibly displace Palestinian communities** across the West Bank.

Communities with decades of continuous residence are increasingly being forced to leave. A notable example is **Khirbet Yanun (Nablus)**, where families displaced after more than **60 years of continuous presence**, underscoring the growing risk of **community-wide displacement**.

Demolitions and Forced Displacement

During **2025**, at least **520 shelters** were demolished across the West Bank, the majority in **Area C and East Jerusalem**, primarily under the pretext of lacking Israeli-issued building permits (which are virtually impossible to obtain)

These demolitions resulted in the displacement of **more than 2,200 people** and were compounded by military measures, access restrictions, and sustained settler attacks.

Several communities experienced **entire displacement**, reinforcing concerns about the accelerating erosion of Palestinian presence in Area C.

WB UPDATES

What Is Needed Now

- **Increased and predictable support** for communities at risk of eviction and displacement. According to **WBPC estimates**, more than **40,000 people** primarily in **Area C** are at imminent risk of displacement (100 communities) , requiring **scalable and sustained responses**.
- Given the restrictive conditions imposed for return to the three northern camps, and the absence of acceptance by any party to date, the **majority of the 32,000 displaced camp residents** will require **adequate temporary shelter solutions**, including:
 - Completion of unfinished buildings;
 - Upgrading substandard shelters;
 - Provision of **OFCs and transitional shelter options**.
- **Strengthened protection measures** for communities facing continuous settler violence, through enhanced coordination with **Protection, WASH, and Food Security clusters**.
- **Timely and rapid response** to mass demolition and displacement incidents, which requires sufficient **pre-positioning of Essential Housing Items (EHIs)**.
- Greater attention to the **political, economic, and humanitarian consequences** of prolonged displacement, particularly the long-term erosion of **livelihoods, social cohesion, and community resilience**.
- While **advocacy initiatives have had limited influence on Israeli policies on the ground**, it remains a critical need to **sustain coordinated, evidence-based advocacy efforts**. These should continue to document, analyse, and communicate the **humanitarian, protection, and shelter impacts** of current Israeli policies.



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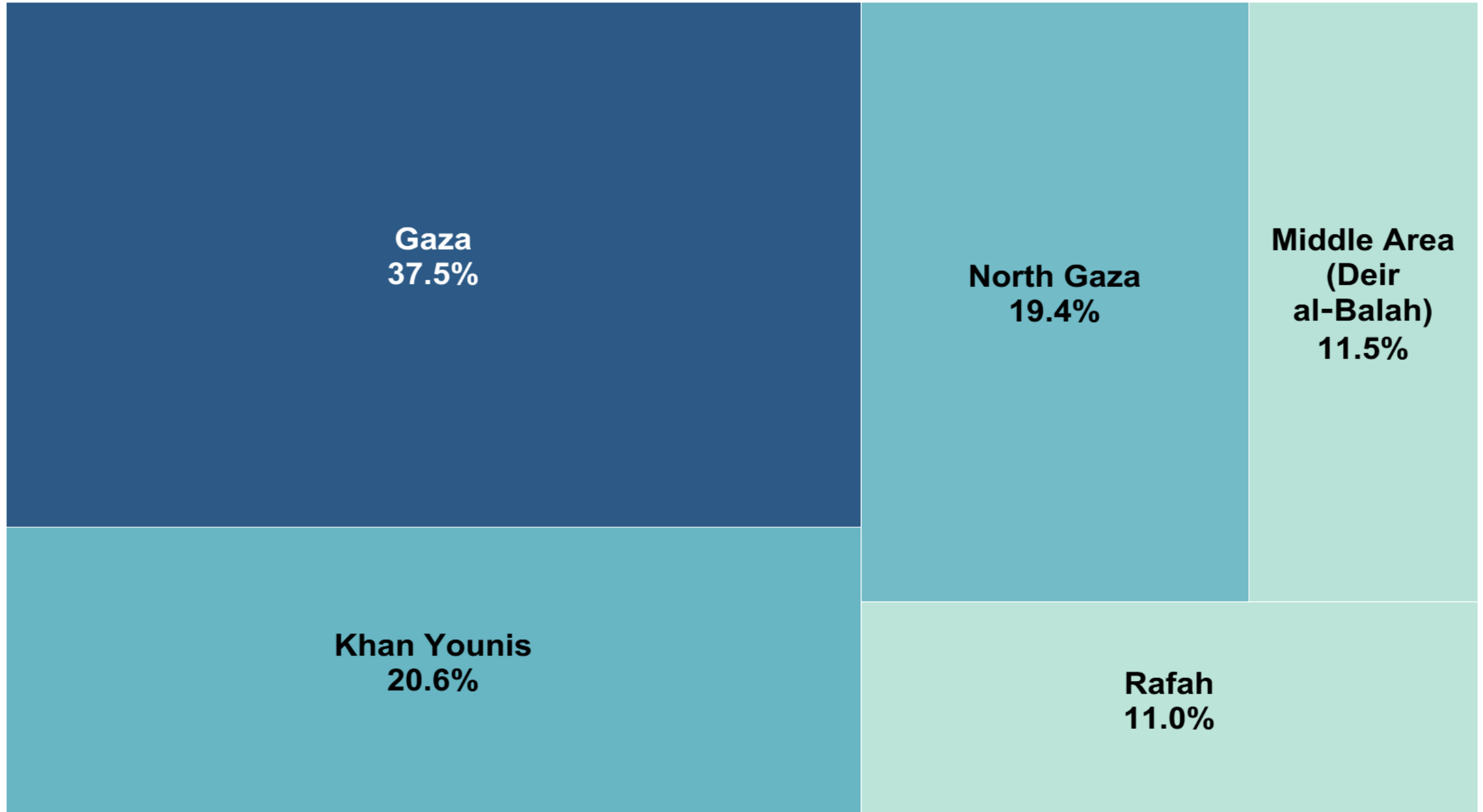
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IM UPDATE

IM Update

New SC Dashboard 2026

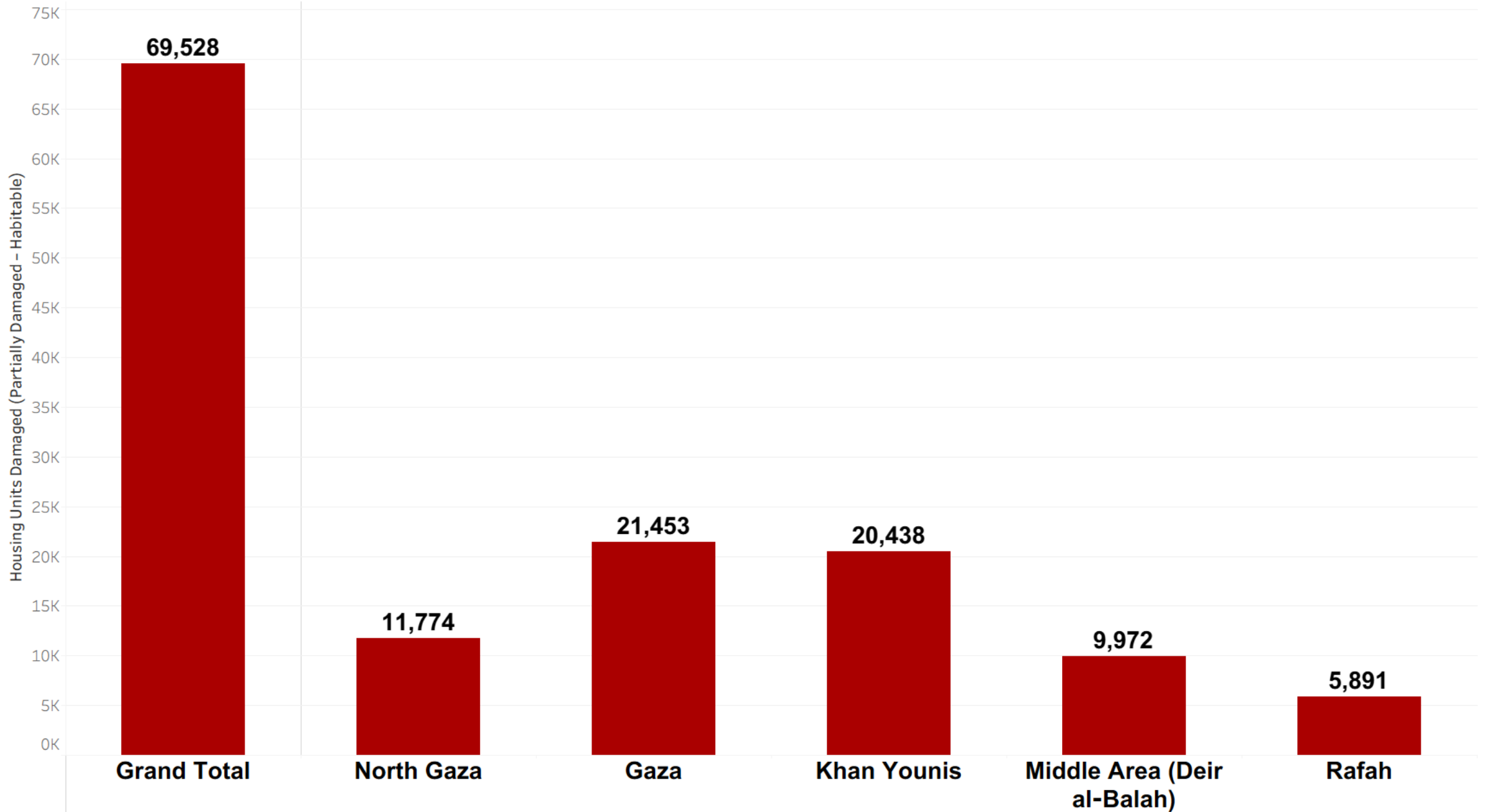
MOPWH Gaza Damage Figuers
Proportion of housing units by governorate in the Gaza Strip



MOPWH Gaza Damage Figuers

Housing Units Severely Damaged (Uninhabitable)

Governorate





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Technical Update

Technical Updates: Gaza

Module 1 | Emergency Shelter Response in Gaza

January 2026 Revision

Version No.	Issue Date	Revision summary comment
3.0	January 2026	

Module 1: Compilation of updated emergency shelter technical guidance has been published.

[LINK HERE](#)



Type of Assistance	Technical Guidance	IEC materials	Notes
Tents Assistance	Technical Guidance on Tents Assistance in Gaza	Installation of Geodesic Tents Installation of Family Tents	Provision of tents on sites must be coordinated with SMC
Distribution of SOKs and Tarpaulin Packages	Technical Guidance on distribution of SOKs and Tarpaulin packages	Temporary Occupancy of Damaged Buildings (includes SOK IEC)	
Provision of Emergency Shelter Kits (ESKs)	Technical Guidance on Emergency Shelter Kits	How to Build an ESK? IEC Annexes in English and Arabic	Partners' ESK pilots ACTED's ESK Pilot CRS ESK Pilot

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Technical Updates: Gaza

- SC has developed technical key considerations on the use of **Relief Housing Units as one of the emergency shelter solutions for Gaza**, including:
 - Site considerations: access to services
 - Critical Thermal Adaptation
 - Privacy and adequacy
 - Targeting Criteria
 - Access: logistics and reaching people to scale



The document has been reviewed by other clusters and will be published this week.

- SC has developed a **harmonized PDM and technical evaluation assessment template for tents assistance**. It is currently being translated to Arabic and will be transferred to Kobo for partners to use.

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- **CMS TWG: Cash and Markets for Shelter**
[Market monitoring report published](#). Cash and vouchers technical guidance under development
 - **EDA Sub-TWG: Emergency Damage Assessment**
Shelter Cluster tool being developed. If you are carrying out damage assessments for provision of SOK, please share your tool with SC Technical Team.
 - **IEC Sub-TWG: Information, Education and Communication Materials**
[Updated IEC](#) on how to build an ESK developed based on CRS ESK Pilot. Available in English and Arabic, will be presented in upcoming cluster meeting. Thanks to CRS, CARE and Oxford Brookes for developing it.



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Discussion / Q&A / AOB

Upcoming meetings (Gaza Time)

	Date	Time
National SAG: TBC		
Gaza Shelter Cluster meeting	27 January	12:00
Gaza SAG meeting	5 February	12:00
WB Shelter Cluster meeting	27 January	10:00
WB SAG meeting	17 February	10:00
Next National Shelter Cluster meeting	4 February	13:00
▪ AIOCP DA, NRC, HEKS EPER, CRS, HLP WG, ...		
