

SITUATION OVERVIEW

GAZA

- Shelter Cluster partners continued delivering life-saving Shelter and NFI assistance across the Gaza Strip throughout February, responding to urgent needs among displaced and conflict-affected households through in-kind and voucher modalities. However, the response faced increasing operational constraints due to severe depletion of shelter stocks, limited entry of materials through crossings, and ongoing pipeline and approval challenges. Overall assistance reached only about **28% of the number of households supported in January**.
- Overall response capacity declined during the month as shelter materials—particularly tents and tarpaulins—approached depletion. While limited quantities of NFIs remained available, the shortage of core shelter materials significantly reduced the scale and frequency of distributions. By mid-February, partners reported periods where no distributions could be conducted due to lack of available items.
- Shelter Cluster partners reached approximately **32,000 households** with shelter and non-food items (SNFI) assistance during the reporting period. Distributions included **4,900 tents, 9,000 tarpaulins, 8,000 sealing-off kits, 16,500 bedding items, 5,200 bedding kits, 4,100 kitchen kits, and 8,000 clothing kits or vouchers**. In addition, inter-sectoral emergency responses to rainstorm incidents supported several hundred additional households through joint distribution packages combining tents, sealing-off kits, and other essential items.
- Relief Housing Units (RHUs) continued to be **installed on a limited scale** during the reporting period. **872 RHUs have entered Gaza**, of which **130 units have been installed, including 22 units supporting health facilities and 108 units installed at the Al-Zaitoun relocation site**. Site preparation and leveling works for additional locations are currently ongoing to facilitate further installations once conditions allow.
- Current stocks inside Gaza remain extremely limited. Shelter partners have reported only small quantities of items available in-country. Partners are therefore encouraged to maintain contingency reserves where it is possible to respond to sudden emergencies, **referral cases, underserved sites, and to prioritize assistance for the most vulnerable households**.
- In coordination with the Protection Cluster, the Shelter Cluster also developed a survey tool to understand why households remain in structurally unsafe buildings. The Protection Cluster conducted the survey, and initial findings are currently being analyzed to better understand household intentions and identify possible support options.
- According to the latest damage assessment report issued by AIOCP on **23 February**, a total of **7,112 buildings** were assessed, comprising **43,700 housing units**, including **20,643 totally damaged and 23,057 partially damaged units**. Of the assessed partially damaged housing units, **3,749 are classified as uninhabitable, 11,481 are considered habitable**, while the remaining assisted partially units are still under committee review to determine their habitability status.

Technical Updates

- The Cash and Markets for Shelter Technical Working Group has published [a market monitoring report](#) on the availability and prices of shelter and household items in Gaza, along with recommendations on cash assistance for shelter programs.
- SC has developed key considerations [on the appropriate use of RHUs \(Relief Housing Units\) as emergency shelters in Gaza, in consultation with Gaza SAG and other clusters.](#)



- [SC's IEC TWG, with contribution from CRS, CARE and Oxford Brookes developed IEC materials for the implementation of "Improved ESK" or ESK+, which is an upgraded version of the Emergency Shelter Kit. Access of tools, timber, and plywood is critical to implement improved emergency shelters in Gaza.](#)
- CARE, CRS, and Oxford Brookes from the Shelter Cluster's Transitional Assistance Technical Working Group (TSA TWG), held a workshop with students from Oxford Brookes on transitional shelter designs for the Gaza shelter response.
- Under the oPt-HF funded Shelter project, PUI in partnership with PEF has successfully launched a clothing assistance activity through a voucher modality, targeting 1,598 households in Gaza and Khan Younis.

With the restrictions on entry of items, PHC in partnership with IOM has carried out a pilot of 10 shelters, utilizing metal pallets as framing materials to manufacture improved emergency shelters, which can respond to the needs of limited households, with ongoing advocacy in parallel for urgently required scale-up of framing materials.



Credit for the photos goes to PHC and @Mahmoud Abo Hamda

WEST BANK

Area C Shelter Vulnerability – Key Updates

304 Communities	26K Families	30K Residential Shelters
216K Population	2K Need Rehabilitation	42 Forcibly Displaced and No Longer Exists

- The **Area C Shelter Vulnerability Assessment**, based on **10 technical shelter criteria**, has been completed and shared with partners to guide program prioritization. The findings reveal **significant shelter vulnerabilities**, with thousands of people living in substandard shelters that lack structural safety and do not withstand harsh weather conditions.



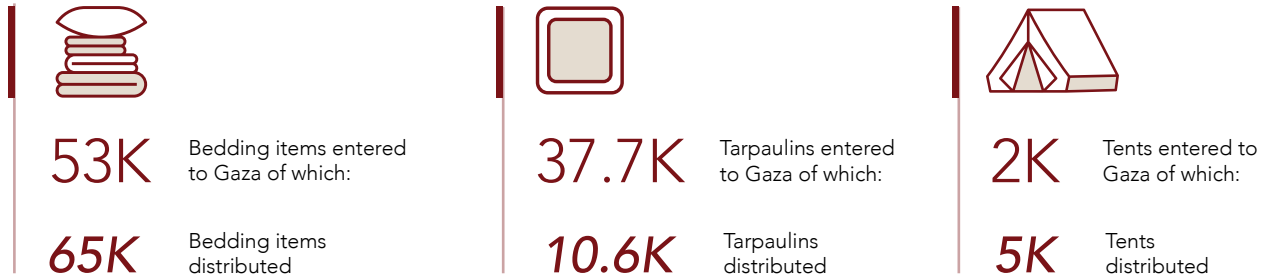
- The assessment covers **304 communities** across Area C, including approximately **30,000 residential shelters**. Of these, **more than 2,200 shelters require urgent upgrading and rehabilitation** to meet minimum safety and living standards. The assessment also indicates that **42 communities have been entirely forcibly displaced**, highlighting the severity of the protection and shelter situation.
- These findings underscore the **critical importance of sustained support to marginalized and vulnerable communities in Area C**, not only through **shelter upgrading interventions** but also by integrating protective measures to mitigate the impact of **increasing settler violence across the West Bank**.
- Strategically, partners emphasized the need to **approach the West Bank as a single operational context**, ensuring that responses to **Northern West Bank displacement do not divert attention from ongoing structural shelter vulnerabilities in Area C**. The Shelter Cluster will also **review and update the Area C Guidance Note** to reflect the evolving operational and protection environment.

Governorate	No. of Community	No. of families	No. of population	No. of residential shelters	No. of shelters need rehabilitation
Betlehem	25	4,827	26,424	8,788	276
Hebron	109	8,465	128,860	8,499	891
Jenin	27	2,143	10,855	2,140	200
Jericho	22	2,886	13,962	3,164	264
Jerusalem	46	4,028	16,624	4,026	178
Nablus	16	408	2,443	437	267
Qalqiliya	10	1,381	6,273	1,402	19
Ramallah	18	310	1,526	349	22
Salfit	5	29	144	33	26
Tubas	24	1,025	7,007	1,024	9
Tulkarm	2	172	810	172	0
Total	304	25,674	214,928	30,034	2,152

SHELTER ASSISTANCE

- During February, shelter partners maintained ongoing assistance activities across Gaza in accordance with previously planned interventions. No major updates were reported regarding the shelter assistance pipeline during the reporting period.
- Despite continued partner efforts, needs remain extensive due to widespread housing destruction and protracted displacement. Current operational constraints, including limited availability of shelter materials and funding gaps, continue to impact the ability of partners to scale up assistance to meet growing needs.
- The Shelter Cluster continues to coordinate with partners to monitor pipeline developments and identify priority areas for response as resources become available.
- In February 2026, shelter cluster partners and Committees on the ground continued providing shelter relief items despite immense constraints:

GAZA Shelter Partners

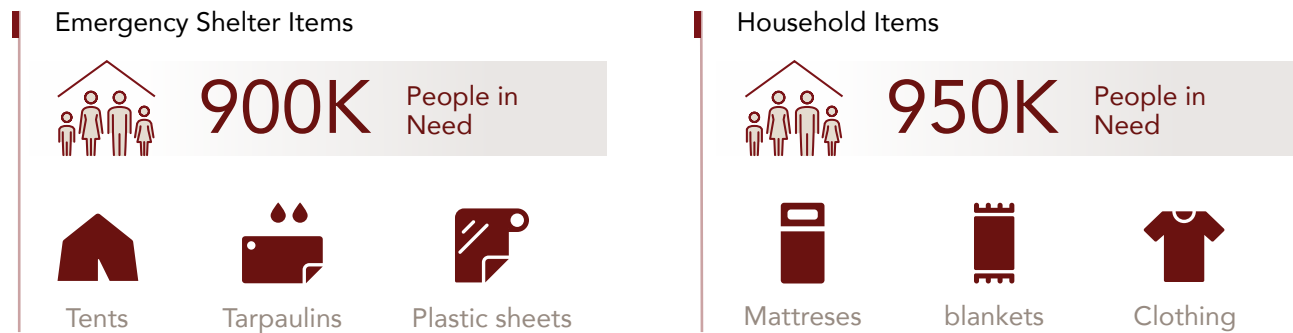


KEY GAPS AND NEEDS

UNMET NEEDS:

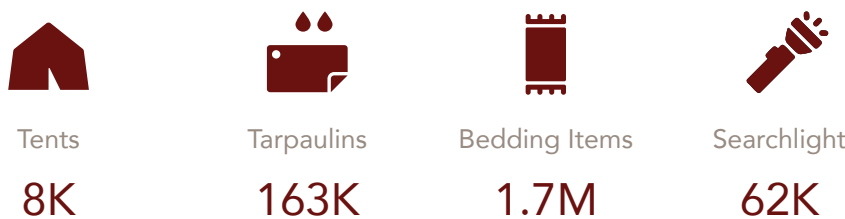
Gap analysis result as of February 2026

Based on the number of people reached over the past six months and the number of people newly displaced during the same period, a thorough analysis—taking all relevant factors into account—indicates that a significant number of people still urgently require shelter assistance.



CURRENT PIPELINE FOR GAZA

The situation in Gaza up to February 28th for Emergency Shelter and NFI cluster Pipeline status show as below



Source: [Pipeline overview – Gaza emergency shelter and NFI cluster](#)