

GAZA HUMANITARIAN INFORMATION SERVICE (HIS)



Local voices. Global change.
Internews



Weekly Report (21-25 Sep 2014) - Issue 6



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About the Gaza Humanitarian Information Service

The HIS produces *Jossor ma'Gaza* ('Bridges with Gaza') The program broadcasts daily from Sunday to Thursday, 12:10 to 13:00, 17:00 to 18:00 and 22:00 to 23:00 on Voice of Palestine (99.4 & 90.7 FM), Palestine Television and 9 radio stations of the Internews-supported Jossor Network.



No News is Bad News - What Jossor's Listeners are Saying

Our reporting finds a growing disconnect between the aid provision community focused on the future and Gaza residents angry about right now, with no indication of better prospects for tomorrow.

"Fear and anxiety have increased. We witness isolation among kids and incontinence." - KG owner Muhannad Abadleh

"(An organization) distributed toys, carried out entertainment activities, and handed out stationary that we all consider insufficient."

In spite of efforts, we will never forget the war. We need financial help as promised." - Shaimaa, 6th grade student

"Displacement is devastating. No books, no clothes and worst of all, we cannot afford university fees." - Palestine University student

"My mother is paralyzed, needs an electric mattress and feeding tubes. With no electricity, her health is rapidly deteriorating." - Om Mohammad

"My property was bombed; my business ruined. I received no compensation from any entity. Jossor Ma' Gaza is the first agency to have looked into my situation." - Ayman Wadiyeh, factory owner

"We have not received any aid; we went to UNRWA seeking help/support but got nothing. I am only paid an unemployment subsidy". - Palestinian Refugee Family from Syria residing in Al-Tuffah neighborhood

"My husband passed away; I have no house, I registered for aid at UNRWA but received nothing. We are denied the basic needs of food and work." - Palestinian woman, refugee from Libya living with her brother.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT, 21/9/2014

- Curriculum is being lightened for the secondary schools with the removal of some courses, particularly regarding the Tawjihi program.
- Families are extremely distressed by the financial burden of commuting costs to send students to schools in different neighborhoods due to their schools still being used as shelters; girls are experiencing problems traveling
- Books and stationary being provided are insufficient.
- University students suffering from simultaneously paying tuition and books; some relief is being offered from certain universities.

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Best Picture of the week



Jossor ma' Gaza Reporter with student girl in Jabalia

FUEL AND ENERGY SHORTAGES, 22/9/2014

- Energy provision CANNOT WAIT for the reconstruction process to take place. Winter is approaching; health, water, public works, every aspect of recovery requires it! Buy energy from any source possible.
- Public investment needs to be made in solar power.
- Prices of electricity, diesel/solar and petrol need to be subsidized.
- The Gaza Strip requires a minimum of 400 megawatts; currently receiving only 190 from all sources combined.

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LOSS ASSESSMENTS, 23/9/2014

- INTERVIEWS: Dr Mohammad Mustapha, Deputy Prime Minister/Min of Economy AND Mr James Rawley, Humanitarian Coordinator, UN.
- Financial support will be provided for those with damaged or destroyed homes. Temporary housing solutions being explored.
 - Reports interviewing citizens of Gaza illuminates a desperate situation in agriculture and all walks of life.
 - A trilateral agreement has been reached between the Palestinian and Israeli governments re: entrance of inputs to the Gaza Strip..

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UNEMPLOYMENT, 24/9/2014

- INTERVIEWS: International Labour Organization, UNRWA, Min of Labour
- The unemployment situation is dire, with people sincerely desperate to work and support their families.
 - Job creation programs are underway, however, this has not dented the skyrocketing unemployment rate.
 - Donor funds to be pledged at October 12th conference will contribute to employment programs
 - MoL will soon implement a plan to create over 130,000 jobs.

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REFUGEES TO GAZA FROM SYRIA & LIBYA, 25/9/2014

- INTERVIEWS: Mr Rafaat Badran, Dir. Refugee Affairs Min of Foreign Affairs
- Extreme difficulties being experienced by Palestinian refugees to Gaza from Syria and Libya including loss of documents.
 - A strike was organized by refugees in front of UNRWA to claim support; UNRWA responded with \$125 in assistance per family, insufficient to cover even a rental payment.
 - Unnumbered passports have been issued as identification; there is a jurisdictional issue over refugees from outside, however, they may seek help from the PA Department of Diaspora Affairs at MoFA.

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Jossor ma'Gaza reaches the West Bank and Gaza Strip through Voice of Palestine (99.4 & 90.7 FM), Palestine TV and the Internews Jossor Network:

In the Gaza Strip NileSat 12034 & Alwan Radio (94.5 FM); **In the West Bank** Minbar Al Hurriya (92.7 FM Hebron & reaching approx 60% of Gaza);

Halla (107.4 FM Jerusalem); Raya (96.8 FM Ramallah); Bethlehem 2000 (106.3 & 89.6 FM Bethlehem); Tariq Al Mahaba (97.7 FM Nablus);

Nas (104.9 FM Jenin); Al Fajr Radio (90.4 FM Tulkarem). Many radio stations also stream live on their websites.

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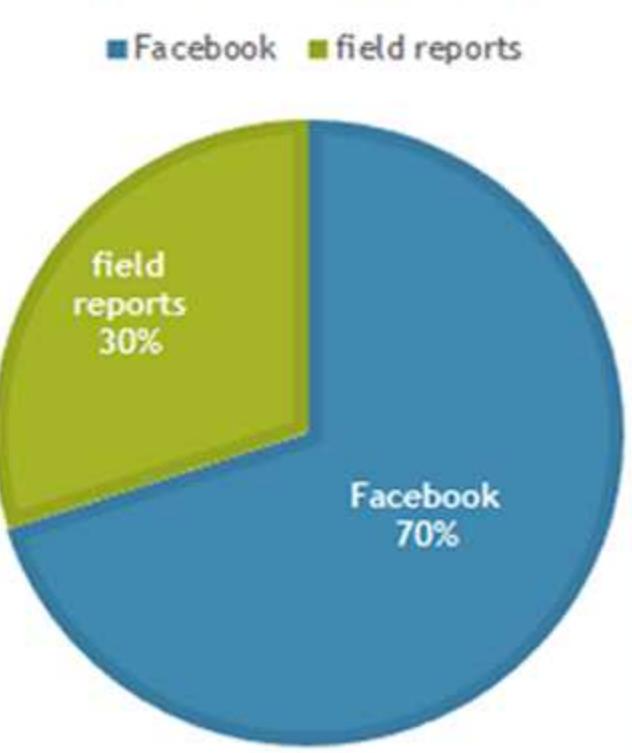
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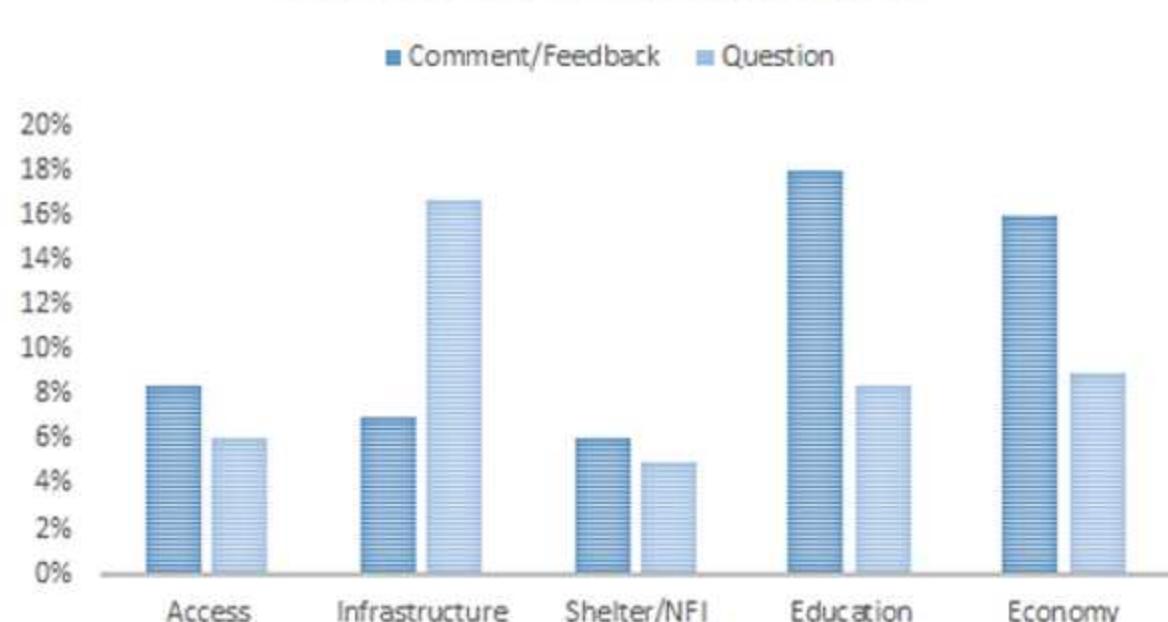
Main Feedback from Citizens

Issue	Recommendation
Education Parents complained that their school-age children are now obliged to walk long distances to alternate schools in cases where their usual neighbourhood schools are still being used as shelters for the displaced. This has created an additional financial burden on families for transportation. Parents appealed for authorities to find alternate solutions for IDPs living in schools so that children may resume their normal lives.	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents should be provided with a mechanism through which they may voice their concerns, issues and suggestions. - Transportation subsidies for affected families should be explored as a mitigation measure for the additional financial burden of transport. - <i>Jossor ma' Gaza</i> will communicate parents' feedback to the appropriate authorities (UNRWA, MoEHE) so that they may reflect on a solution.
Unemployment Gazans suffer massively of debilitating unemployment and related poverty levels due to the damage and destruction of factories, businesses and work facilities throughout the Gaza Strip. As a result, people resort to desperate measures such as migration by boat via human traffickers or sale of their organs, both resulting in dire consequences or even death.	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employment and job creation programs should constitute a priority for the humanitarian community. The better their design, integration with the domestic economy and sustainability, the better the chance of achieving synergistic goals: allowing people to earn money to support their families with dignity; supporting the reconstruction effort; and stimulating purchasing power of the population. - <i>Jossor ma' Gaza</i> may produce a special program discussing the dangers of migration and organ sale.
Infrastructure People suffer of electricity cuts at long intervals during the day. The few hours during which the electricity functions are entirely insufficient. Prices of fuel, electricity and diesel/solar are high and difficult to cope with in the actual dire financial situation of most families. Electricity must be negotiated and/or rebuilt urgently, regardless of the source. Gazans wish to see subsidies or other method of reducing energy costs.	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The issue of energy subsidy/payment relief for households should be discussed in appropriate fora, including the humanitarian cluster groups and emergency operations committees, and incorporated into recovery plans. - <i>Jossor ma' Gaza</i> is monitoring developments related to the floating power plant; this issue should constitute a top priority in discussions between the UN Humanitarian Coordinator, the Palestinian and Israeli governments.
Access People have difficulties moving both inside the Gaza Strip and crossing borders. For instance, a number of families had entered Gaza for vacation and have since been denied access out, putting their work, studies and residencies abroad at risk. Access issues persist for all inputs, but a particular plea was received from the private sector.	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Logistics cluster and private sector representative associations such as PalTrade should together consider mechanisms by which to facilitate movement of primary inputs for manufacturing into Gaza, a step which will support industrial recovery and resumption of jobs. - Information regarding borders/crossings may be communicated via <i>Jossor ma' Gaza</i>.

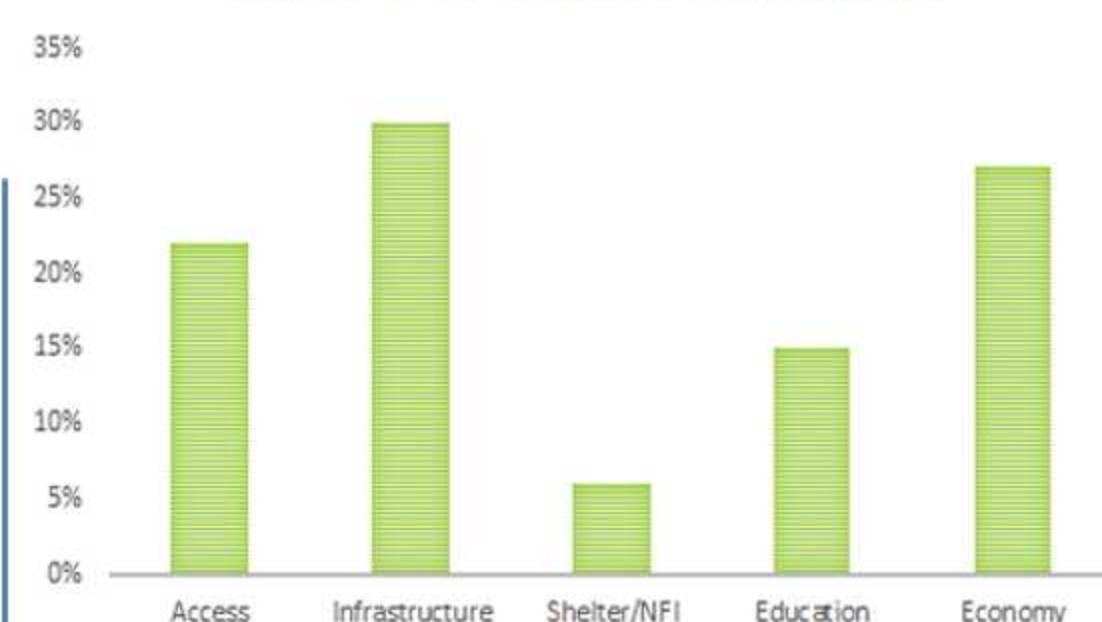
CITIZENS' FEEDBACK



FACEBOOK FEEDBACK



FIELD REPORTS FEEDBACK



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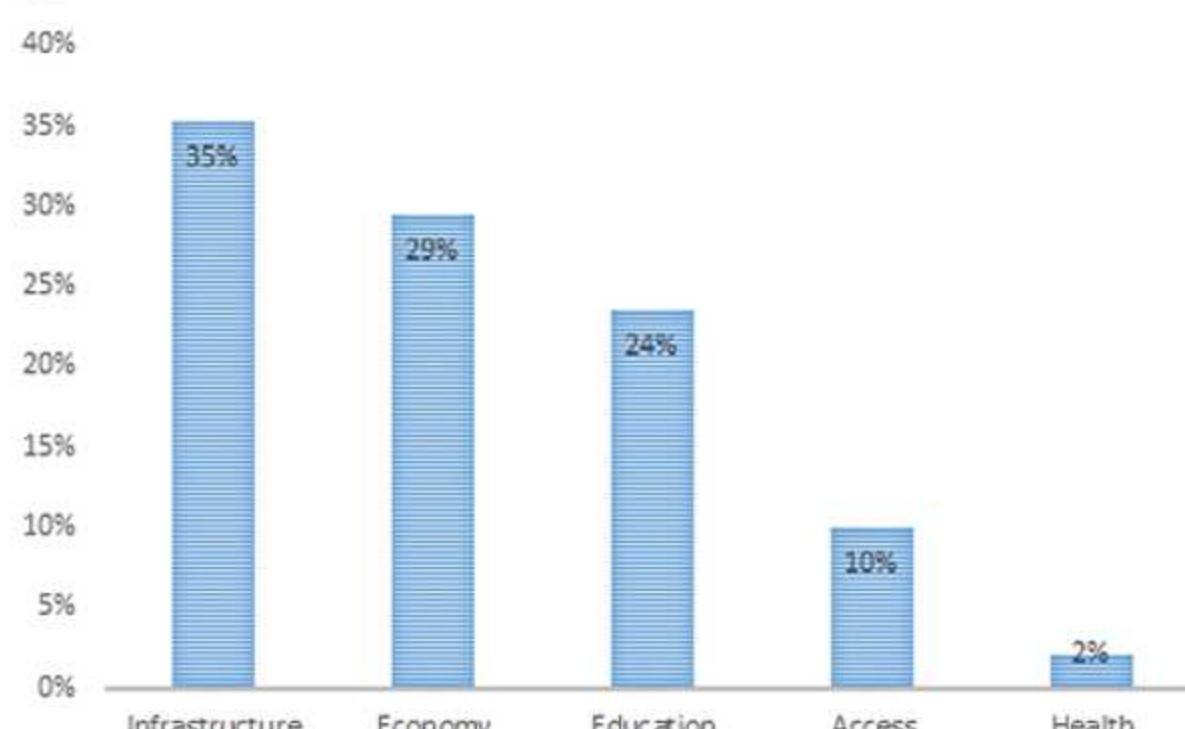


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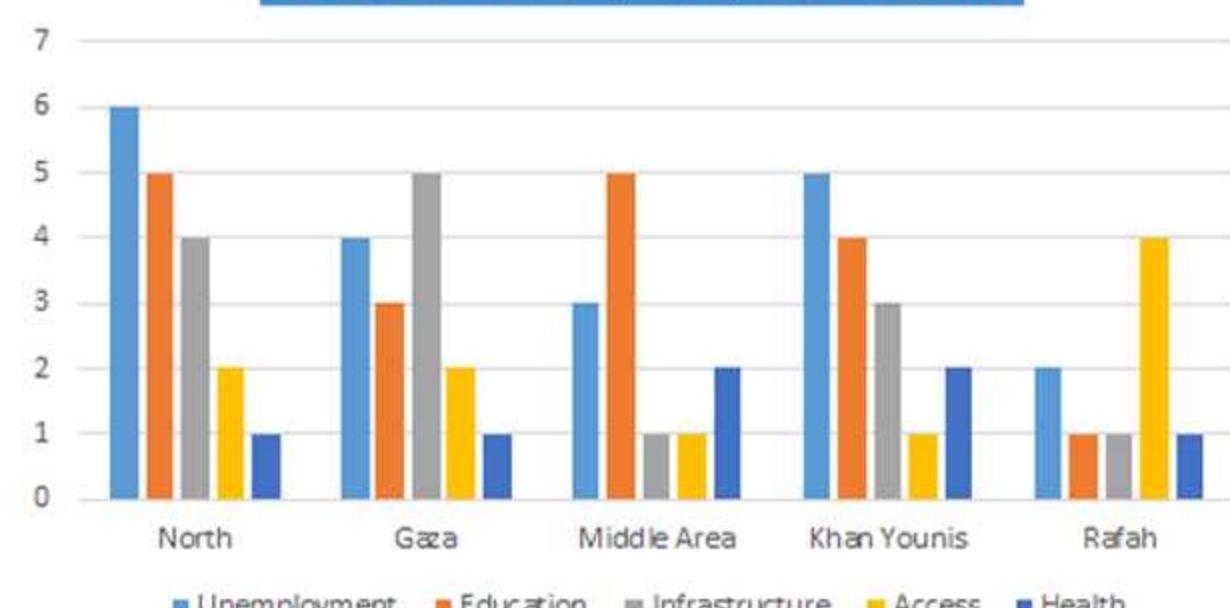
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Broadcasting during the week

Topics covered



Distribution of Topics by Governorate



29

Interviews with the local population



Interviews with the internally displaced, refugees to Gaza from Syria and Libya, unemployed people and university students from all governorates.

12

Interviews with humanitarian organizations and PA institutions



The United Nations Humanitarian Coordinator, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, Energy Authority, ILO, Ministry of Labour, Welfare Association, Al Aqsa University, Gaza Electricity Company.

8

Official Statements



Official messages from :
Ministry of Education, UNRWA, MoEHE,
Al-Aqsa University, Ministry of Labour,
ILO, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Department
of Diaspora Affairs.

Broadcasting for the upcoming week

Day/Date	28/9 Sun	29/9 Mon	30/9 Tue	1/10 Wed	2/10 Thu
Topic	Environment and pollution	Support to Gazan women	Banks, loans and returned cheques	IDPs and shelters (update)	Preparations for Al-Adha Eid