

**Fish “mafish” (In Arabic: “There aren’t any”)**

Ahmed sits waiting for customers at the Gaza fish market, but the increased prices of fish and their ensuing scarcity has turned what was once a source of stable food for Palestinians into a luxury since Israel imposed a 3 nautical mile limit on all Gazan boats from the shoreline\*. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), total catch decreased by 47% between 2008 and 2009. Thousands of fishermen have given up their jobs while fish vendors are now selling frozen fish smuggled through the tunnels from Egypt.

“Gazan fish are much fresher and of better quality than the fish imported through the tunnels, but their price is prohibitive for many people,” he claimed. “Up to 80% of our fish now come through the tunnels, besides freshwater fish raised in fish tanks, which is ridiculous.”

While appreciating the flotilla activists’ solidarity in trying to break the siege of Gaza, Ahmed says only a total lifting of the blockade would give a breath of life.

“The open sea is forbidden to us because of a political decision. The blockade could be lifted anytime, allowing us to resume our daily life.”

*Photo: Karl Schembri/Oxfam*

*\* The previous fishing zone was 6-9 nm before 'Operation Cast Lead', 12 nm in the Bertini Commitments, and 20 nm under the Oslo Accords.*

**1. Headlines (6 to 12 June)**

- **Mortars/rockets/casualties/incursions:** According to reports, 1 rocket was directed by Palestinian armed groups from Gaza at Israeli forces this week, while 15 rockets and 3 rocket-propelled grenades (RPG) were reported last week. There were reports of 1 airstrike and 3 incursions this week, whereas 14 shells, 3 Israeli military incursions and 5 Israeli air strikes were reported the week prior. 1 firefight was reported this week, while 3 were reported last week.

6 Palestinian militants were reportedly killed this week when what appears to be an Al Aqsa Brigades underwater military training mission was reportedly discovered and fired on by IDF forces supported by IAF helicopters. 3 Palestinian civilians and 1 Palestinian militant were also reported injured this week. 5 Palestinian militants were reportedly killed last week and one civilian – a 65 year old woman – was reported injured the week before. No Israeli casualties were reported this week or last week.

- **Fishermen:** 2 incidents of Israeli naval vessels firing at Palestinian fishermen were reported this week. The previous week, 2 incidents were also reported. Since January 2009, Israeli naval forces have restricted the access of Palestinian fishing boats to three nautical miles from the coast; in practice, access is sometimes restricted to as little as one nautical mile.
- **Tunnel related fatalities:** There were no tunnel related injuries or fatalities reported this week. Last week, 1 Palestinian was reportedly killed and 2 injured in a tunnel collapse under the Gaza-Egypt border. So far in 2010, 27 Palestinians have died and 48 others have been injured in tunnel-related incidents, including air strikes, tunnel collapses, electrocution and the explosion of gas cylinders.

**Palestinians in the “buffer zone”:** There were 4 reports of Israeli military fire in the so-called “buffer zone”, along the perimeter of Gaza this week, resulting in the reported injury of 3 Palestinian civilians. In 2 separate incidents this week, 3 civilians were reported injured when IDF troops opened fire on them as they collected scrap metal from the former Erez Industrial Zone. In the other 2 incidents reported this week, farmers were fired on as they worked their land in the buffer zone. In the week before, there were 3 incidents reported.

- **Rafah border crossing:** The Rafah border crossing with Egypt was officially open this week for medical cases, students and those with visas for third countries. Following the death of civilians aboard the Gaza flotilla, Egyptian authorities exceptionally opened the border in both directions for humanitarian cases and aid for an unspecified period of time. During the 7 days Rafah remained open this week, 2,888 people left, 1,318 entered Gaza and 976 were refused entry to Egypt. Last week, the Rafah crossing was officially open on 4 out of 7 days, with 1,795 people who left, 907 who entered Gaza and 915 who were refused entry to Egypt.
- **Power plant and electricity supply:** 1,226,337 million litres of industrial fuel were delivered this week for Gaza’s power plant. This is only 35% of the 3.5 million litres of fuel needed weekly at the current maximum capacity of 80Mw. Last week, 944,470 litres of industrial fuel were transferred. Imports of industrial fuel have steeply declined since the end of November 2009, when the European Commission transferred responsibility for buying industrial fuel to operate Gaza’s power plant to the Ramallah-based Palestinian Authority.
- **Cooking gas:** 978 tons of cooking gas reportedly entered Gaza this week, 55% of the normal weekly level of need of 1,750 tons. 748 tons of cooking gas were reported to have entered Gaza last week. The overall cooking gas shortage has been a main concern for humanitarian agencies since November 2009.
- **Diesel/petrol:** No diesel or petrol was delivered to Gaza this week. Last week, around 45,000 litres of petrol for UNRWA entered Gaza; no diesel was delivered. Entry of commercial petrol and diesel continues to be banned through the official crossings between Gaza and Israel. Small amounts of fuel destined for the open market have been allowed into Gaza from Israel on five occasions since a total ban on fuel imports for public sale was put in place by the Government of Israel in October 2008. Around 100,000 litres of diesel and 100,000 litres of petrol are reported to enter Gaza each day through tunnels under the Gaza-Egypt border (OCHA, 4 May 2010).

This update is compiled by **Oxfam International** from the best available information drawn from reliable international sources. Some of the information is preliminary and may be updated in subsequent reports.

- **Truckloads of supplies:** 638 truckloads of supplies were permitted entry through Kerem Shalom and the Karni conveyor this week. This is the equivalent of 48% of the pre-blockade weekly average of all trucks entering Gaza. 464 trucks were allowed into Gaza during the previous week.

Limited quantities of construction materials continued to enter Gaza. 1 truckload of glass, 16 truckloads of wood and 3 truckloads of aluminum were permitted entry into Gaza this week. Last week, 6 truckloads of glass, 12 of wood and 1 of aluminum were allowed in. In addition, 51 truckloads of clothing and footwear entered Gaza (41 were allowed in last week).

This week, 1 truckload of white cement and marble were delivered to Al Quds Hospital. Last week, 13 mini-buses and 3 ambulances purchased by UNRWA were permitted entry. There were also 2 truckloads of iron and cement delivered to the Palestinian Red Cross last week. Entry of other major essential goods, including materials for reconstruction, furniture, livestock, IT equipment and vehicles, remain either restricted to limited quantities, or barred from entry.

- **Exports:** No exports left Gaza this week. Between 10 December 2009 and 18 April 2010, a total of 118 truckloads of exports left Gaza, including 85 truckloads of cut flowers and 33 truckloads of strawberries. Prior to this, there had been no exports from Gaza since 27 April 2009.

## 2. Fuel deliveries (week)

		Diesel	Petrol	Cooking Gas
6 June- 12 June				<b>978 tons</b>
	Percentage of need *			<b>55%</b>
Previous week				748 tons
* Fuel association 2006 estimates - ** Imports of diesel and petrol for the general public and public sector in Gaza were exceptionally authorized on 5 occasions since October 2008				

### Delivery of Industrial Fuel to the Power Plant (week):

Industrial diesel	Previous week	6 June- 12 June
	944,470 hundred litres	<b>1,222,337 million litres</b>
<b>Percentage of amount required to operate at maximum supply capacity of 80 MW</b>		<b>35%</b>

## 3. Humanitarian trucks (week):

Truck originator	Total for week 6 to 12 June
UNRWA	104
WFP	12
ICRC	1
WHO/ Health Ministry	1
Commercial	418
NGO	13
Karni Crossing	89
<b>Total trucks for the week</b>	<b>638</b>
<b>Percentage of weekly average before the blockade (April 2007)</b>	<b>48%</b>

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#### **4. Electricity Sentinels**

Area	Total Hours of Blackout June 6-12 2010 (Based on 168 hours)	Percentage of blackout per week	Have gas?
Beit Hanoun	45	27	Yes
Beit Lahia	45	27	Yes
Jabalia	60	36	Yes
Gaza City	50	30	Yes
Deir El Balah	60	36	No
El Burej	50	30	Yes
El Nusairat	40	24	Yes
El Maghazi	45	27	No
Khan Younis	30	18	Yes
Rafah	35	21	Yes

#### **5. External links to further reports**

##### **UN OCHA Protection of Civilians Weekly Report: 2 June- 8 June**

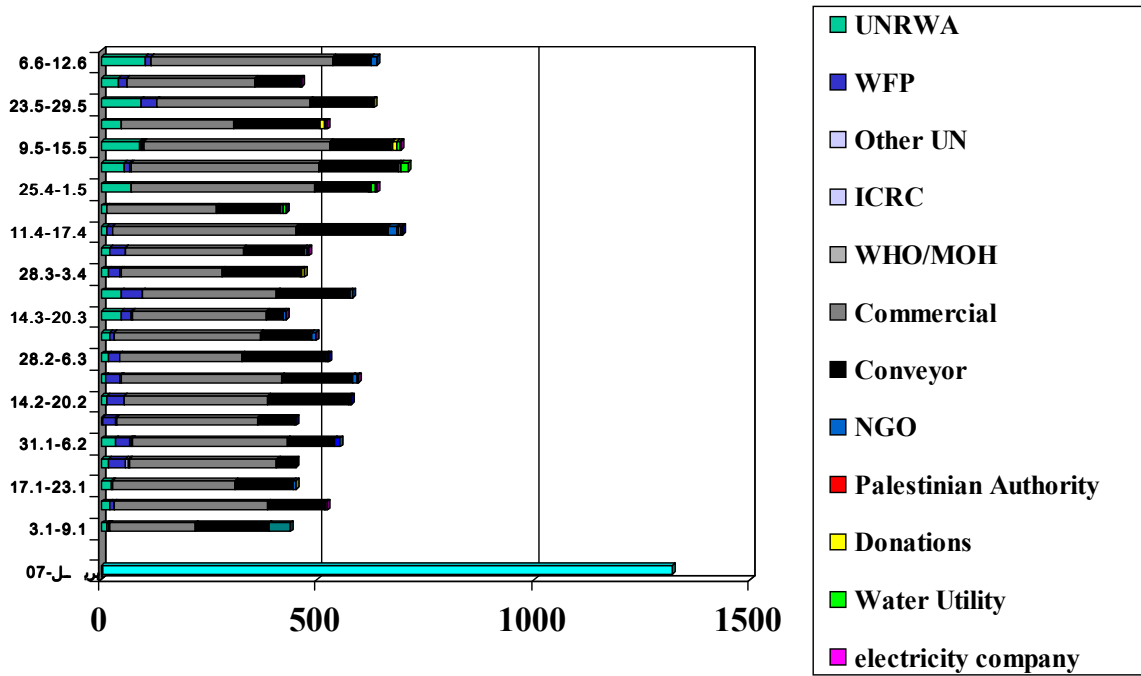
[http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha\\_opt\\_protection\\_of\\_civilians\\_2010\\_06\\_11\\_english.pdf](http://www.ochaopt.org/documents/ocha_opt_protection_of_civilians_2010_06_11_english.pdf)

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#### **7. Trend Charts**

### Truckloads of humanitarian goods passing weekly into Gaza in January – June 2010 as compared to the pre blockade April 2007 weekly average



### Fuel passing weekly into Gaza in January – June 2010 in comparison with fuel association 2006 estimates of weekly need

