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Impact of the Current Crisis in the West Bank and Gaza Strip
Survey Report # 13
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Introduction

The **first section** of this report presents a summary of urgent needs in some of the Palestinian communities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, including the Newsflash concerning Bani Zeid Algharbyh, which was distributed on August 23rd 2004.

The **second section** includes summary of results of the information and update for communities surveyed during the previous two weeks. The section includes four major tables with brief comments on the data presented in these tables.

Section one: Urgent needs in Palestinian communities

1. Halmish Settlers are stopping supply of water to Bani Zeid Algharbyh (Monday, 23-8-2004)

Bani Zeid Algharbyh which includes the following communities: Beit Reema, Dier Ghassaneh, Kufor Ein, Qarawet Bani Zeid, and Annabi Saleh with a population of about 10,000 capita, is supplied with water through the Mekorot Company from a main line that comes from the nearby Halmish settlement. Supplied quantity is completely controlled by the Halmish settlement residents through the valve on the water line.

On August 15th 2004, settlers in Halmish closed the valve that allow supply of water to Bani Zeid Algharbyh completely; settlers, protected by the Israeli Occupation Forces (IOF) prohibited the municipality maintenance team from opening the valve to supply the needed water to the communities, the maintenance team was detained for few hours after confiscating their IDs and the keys for the main valve. On the other hand, settlers decreased the main line's diameters that supply water to Bani Zeid Algharbyh villages from 4" to 3". The municipality contacted Mekarot Company to do something against these actions; on August 22nd, Mekarot Company responded and opened the valve, but immediately after technicians left the place, settlers closed it again.

Action is needed to support the communities in getting the needed water.

This was the flash news distributed by the WaSH MP on Monday, August 23rd of this year.

On Saturday, August 28th, we were informed by Bani Zeid municipality that on Thursday, August 26th, the water valve was completely closed again by settlers and it seemed that the valve is closed each Thursday. The municipality maintenance team took the risk and went to the area which is very close to the settlement and opened the valve to supply the needed water to the related communities.

As a solution to the problem, the municipality suggested that since the valve is on the main line on the main road, which is easily reached by settlers, transfer of the valve from its place to another one about 300 to 400 meters towards Al Nabi Saleh

community, would be a preliminary solution to the control of opening / closing the valve. The WaSH MP contacted West Bank Water Department (WBWD) to see the visibility of this suggestion; they assured that they are following up the problem of supply in Bani Zeid and that the transfer of the valve would require the approval of the Joint Water Community (JWC).

On Sunday August, 28th the valve was closed again meaning cut of supply of water to the five related communities (Bani Zeid Algharbyh includes, Beit Reema, Dier Ghassaneh, Kufor Ein, Qarawet Bani Zeid, and Annabi Saleh with a population of about 10,000 capita). This stresses the need to find a quick solution to the problem where transfer of the valve from its present location to a new one, as suggested by Bani Zeid municipality, is a suggestion that should be considered and followed up by the WBWD.

2. Highlights of the WaSH situation in the Gaza Strip

Siege and closure have the main direct effect on the WaSH situation in the West Bank as well as Gaza Strip. During the past two weeks, Gaza Strip was divided into three parts: Northern, Middle and the Southern part. The three parts were completely closed and none of the residents of one part were able to reach the other two parts.

Maintenance teams trying to reach the needed areas were prohibited from reaching their destinations; on the other hand, trucks transporting solid waste were not able to transport it to dumping site causing accumulation of the solid waste near residential areas.

Effects on the Gaza Strip are summarized as follows:

1. **Deir Al Balah**: a destruction of a main water line (4 inches) in the eastern area near Kfar Daroom settlement.
2. **Qarara**: destruction of a main line of water in the eastern part of the community during the Israeli incursion of the community in addition to the land leveling and destruction of both agricultural land and households during this period.
3. **Al Mawasy** area: this area has been suffering from sever closure since the beginning of the Intifada. Even ICRC faced difficulties in entering this area and supporting its residents with basic WaSH related needs.
4. **Beit Hanoun**: maintenance work is still going on in the community after the Israeli last incursion between the period of July 28th 2004 and August 5th 2004.

Some of the WaSH needs that are still outstanding include the following:

- a. Rehabilitation of water and wastewater networks destroyed during the previous incursion; this include the western area of **Beit Hanun**.
- b. Over 120 damaged household roof tanks in Beit Hanun.
- c. In the eastern part of **Jabalya (Assalya area)**, discharge of wastewater from the destroyed 8 inches pipe is still affecting the areas.
- d. The destroyed 6 inches main water pipeline that supplies **Jabalya** community with water is still not replaced, and this affects the supply of water to the main storage tank and therefore, affects the water pressure in the water network supplying water to the community.

3. Urgent water need in Yatta / Hebron Governorate

The Joint Services Councils (JSC) in Yatta area includes 28 communities located mainly on the eastern side of Hebron Governorate with a total population of more than 20,000 capita. Services provided by the JSC include water supply provided mainly by Mekorot Company as a main source of water in the southern part of the West Bank; this area faces shortage in the water supply especially during summer time. According the head of the JSC, Dr. Nayef Mahaneh, there is a great need for a new filling point from the main line that passes by road No. 60 and provides water to the nearby Israeli settlements. This new filling point will be able to provide the urgently needed water, by tankers, to residents of the JSC communities and their livestock.

For more information about this suggestion, please contact Dr. Nayef Mahaneh / Head of JSC.

Section two: Summary of information and update for the surveyed communities during the past two weeks.

The WaSH MP has been updating the data collected during the past two years. The new survey will specifically focus upon rapidly or significantly changed or changing data. 18 communities of the WB and GS have been surveyed during the past two weeks. A new questionnaire has been prepared to illustrate significant changes and elements of interest to key stakeholders.

In addition, the scope of the MP has widened and more specific information regarding Mekorot Company supply during year 2003 and 2004 will be collected, analyzed and distributed during the coming period.

Collected data is presented in the following tables at the end of this section.

General comments:

Table 1: Water Supply by Tankers for Communities Surveyed during the past two weeks (August / 2004).

- a. Comparisons of prices of tankers water before and after the current Intifada are presented. Most of the communities suffered from the noticeable increase on the price of bought water, which reflects the effect of closures and curfews on water transport.
- b. The price of tanker water is highest in Al Midya and Beit 'Ur at Tahta / Ramallah Governorate.
- c. Effect of checkpoints, fixed and mobile, earth mounds and curfew is estimated; in this table, 2 would mean that there is a severe effect on water transport i.e. completely blocked, 1 intermediate effect i.e. delays between 1 and 6 hours, and 0 means that there is no effect on the water transport. Earth mounds seem to have the hardest effect on almost all communities relying on tankers water.
- d. Comparison of supplied quantities now and before the Intifada is presented.
- e. Damages to water tankers during the same period are provided.
- f. Increase in supplied quantity through tankers is noticed in some communities and decrease for others. This may be reflecting the use of tankers water to compensate reduction of water quantity from other sources despite the difficulties in transporting these quantities, and could also show the difficulty in transporting water through tankers as a direct effect of checkpoints.

Table 2: Water supply by Mekorot Company for communities surveyed during the past two weeks (August / 2004).

- a. In Table 2, total water quantities supplied to the communities are collected, and more specifically, quantities supplied by Mekorot Company now and before the Intifada are collected from local councils of these communities.
- b. In this table, water supplies from all sources include all water supplied from all sources.

- c. 12 of the 18 surveyed communities surveyed have been affected by a reduction in supply.
- d. Just 1 community is not affected by reduction and gets more than the regular quantity before the current crisis.
- e. 5 of the 18 communities surveyed do not rely on Mekorot as a main source of domestic water.

Table 3: Effect of checkpoints, earth mounds, and curfews on access to services in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In this table, summary of effects of fixed and/or mobile checkpoints, earth mounds, and curfews on access to services including access of water tankers, access of maintenance teams, and access to Public Health Centers (PHC). 2 means a high and direct effect (completely blocked); 1 would mean an intermediate effect (delays 1 to 6 hours), and 0 would mean No direct effect. 'NA' = not applicable.

Table 4: Damages in water infrastructure during the past two months.

This table summarizes damages in water infrastructure in the surveyed communities during the past two months. Roof tanks remain a major target for Israeli soldiers in almost all the Palestinian Governorates. Details are available in the table below.

Table 1: Water Supply by Tankers for Communities Surveyed during the past two weeks (August / 2004).

No.	Comm. ID	Comm. Name	District	Date	Tanker W. price (NIS / m ³)		Check Points (CP) effect on tankers (*)					W.Tankers Supply (m3/month)		Damaged tankers (No.)		
					During Intifada	Before Intifada	Fixed CP	Fixed CP name	Mobile CP	Earth mounds effect	Curfew effect	Current	Regular	Comp.	Partial	
1	301470	Kafr 'Ein	Ramallah	17/08/2004	8.0	5.0	NA		1	NA	2	300				1
2	301495	Al Lubban al Gharbi	Ramallah	28/08/2004			NA		NA	NA	NA					
3	301505	Deir as Sudan	Ramallah	18/08/2004	14.0	9.0	NA		2	NA	1					
4	301530	Al Mughayyir	Ramallah	18/08/2004	12.0	8.0	NA		2	2	2	3000	4000			1
5	301595	Shuqba	Ramallah	28/08/2004	12.0		NA		1	NA	1	1500	1500			
6	301665	Budrus	Ramallah	26/08/2004	10.0		NA		0	NA	1	700				
7	301745	Al Midya	Ramallah	26/08/2004	33.0	20.0	1	Ni'lin	1	NA	1	300	300			
8	301820	Beit 'Ur at Tahta	Ramallah	28/08/2004	26.0	18.0	NA		1	NA	2	700	800			
9	452400	Wadi Rahhal	Betlehem	18/08/2004	15.0	10.0				2		400	600			
10	452715	Ar Rawa'in	Betlehem	18/08/2004	10.0	5.0						150	200			
11	502505	Khirbet al Mantara	Hebron	23/08/2004	15.0	10.0						50	20			
12	502545	Jala	Hebron	24/08/2004	20.0	10.0						100	50			
13	502685	Idhna	Hebron	21/08/2004	15.0	10.0	2	Checkpoint at the entrance of the community	1	1		2000	1000			
14	502750	Taffuh	Hebron	16/08/2004	10.0	5.0										
15	502835	Beit 'Awwa	Hebron	15/08/2004	15.0	10.0	2	Beit Awwa junction	1	1	NA	3000	1000			
16	503120	Yatta	Hebron	16/08/2004	10.0	5.0				2		5000	2000			
17	503245	Adh Dhahiriya	Hebron	22/08/2004	15.0	10.0			1	2		2000	500			
18	503320	As Samu'	Hebron	19/08/2004	15.0	10.0			2	2		2000	1000			

Table 2: Water supply by Mekorot Company for communities surveyed during the past two weeks (August / 2004).

No.	Comm. ID	Comm. Name	District	Date	Water supply (m3/month)		
					From all sources (*)	Mekorot Supply (current)	Mekorot Supply (regular)
1	301470	Kafr 'Ein	Ramallah	17/08/2004	2000	1450	1900
2	301495	Al Lubban al Gharbi	Ramallah	28/08/2004	2500	3200	3500
3	301505	Deir as Sudan	Ramallah	18/08/2004	2500	2200	3000
4	301530	Al Mughayyir	Ramallah	18/08/2004	5500		
5	301595	Shuqba	Ramallah	28/08/2004	3800	2800	5000
6	301665	Budrus	Ramallah	26/08/2004	1500	1200	2500
7	301745	Al Midya	Ramallah	26/08/2004	1500	2300	3500
8	301820	Beit 'Ur at Tahta	Ramallah	28/08/2004	3500	2700	4000
9	452400	Wadi Rahhal	Betlehem	18/08/2004	400		
10	452715	Ar Rawa'in	Betlehem	18/08/2004	150		
11	502505	Khirbet al Mantara	Hebron	23/08/2004	100		
12	502545	Jala	Hebron	24/08/2004	100		
13	502685	Idhna	Hebron	21/08/2004	12000	10000	15000
14	502750	Taffuh	Hebron	16/08/2004	6000	6000	3000
15	502835	Beit 'Awwa	Hebron	15/08/2004	5000	900	7000
16	503120	Yatta	Hebron	16/08/2004	40000	35000	70000
17	503245	Adh Dhahiriya	Hebron	22/08/2004	15000	13000	17000
18	503320	As Samu'	Hebron	19/08/2004	17000	15000	17000

No.	Comm. ID	Comm. Name	District	Date	Fixed check point effect on						Mobile check point effect on			Earth mounds effect on			Curfew effect on		
					Tankers	Ch. Point name	Maintenance teams	Ch. Point name	PHC access	Name	Tankers	Maintenance teams	PHC access	Tankers	Maintenance teams	PHC access	Tankers	Maintenance teams	PHC access
15	502835	Beit 'Awwa	Hebron	15/08/2004	2	Beit Awwa junction	0		2	Beit Awwa junction	1	0	1	1	0	1	NA	NA	NA
16	503120	Yatta	Hebron	16/08/2004										2	0	2			
17	503245	Adh Dhahiriya	Hebron	22/08/2004							1	1	1	2	1	2			
18	503320	As Samu'	Hebron	19/08/2004							2	0	2	2	2	2			

(*): The followings have the corresponding meanings : 0: No Effect 1: Intermediate Effect 2: High Effect

Table 4: Damages in water infrastructure during the past two weeks

No.	Community Id	Community Name	District	Date	Wells		Springs		Tankers		Roof Tanks	Cisterns	Reservoirs		Water Network Destruction		
					Comp.	Part.	Comp.	Part.	Comp.	Part.			Comp.	Part.	Main Lines	Secondary Lines	% of affected population
1	301470	Kafr 'Ein	Ramallah	17/08/2004						1	20				No	No	
2	301495	Al Lubban al Gharbi	Ramallah	28/08/2004							7				No	No	
3	301505	Deir as Sudan	Ramallah	18/08/2004							5				No	No	
4	301530	Al Mughayyir	Ramallah	18/08/2004						1	13				No	No	
5	301595	Shuqba	Ramallah	28/08/2004											No	No	
6	301665	Budrus	Ramallah	26/08/2004							30				No	No	
7	301745	Al Midya	Ramallah	26/08/2004											No	No	
8	301820	Beit 'Ur at Tahta	Ramallah	28/08/2004							9				No	No	
9	452400	Wadi Rahhal	Betlehem	18/08/2004											No	No	
10	452715	Ar Rawa'in	Betlehem	18/08/2004											No	No	
11	502505	Khirbet al Mantara	Hebron	23/08/2004											No	No	
12	502545	Jala	Hebron	24/08/2004											No	No	
13	502685	Idhna	Hebron	21/08/2004											No	No	
14	502750	Taffuh	Hebron	16/08/2004											No	No	
15	502835	Beit 'Awwa	Hebron	15/08/2004											No	No	
16	503120	Yatta	Hebron	16/08/2004							40				No	No	
17	503245	Adh Dhahiriya	Hebron	22/08/2004											No	No	
18	503320	As Samu'	Hebron	19/08/2004											No	No	