**Shotlist/Info:**

**WFP News Video: New Analysis Shows Unprecedented Catastrophic Hunger as Gaza Risks Famine**

**Shot: 14-21 December 2023**

**Locations: Gaza, Israel, Italy**

**TRT: 2:46**

**:00-:21**

People dig through the rubble of a destroyed apartment house in search of survivors.

**Rafah, Gaza**

**Shot: 14December23**

**:21-:53**

**SOT Arif Hussain, WFP Chief Economist (English)**

***“****What is happening in Gaza is unprecedented. Both in terms of its scale but also how quickly it has happened. You know in the world right now there are about 130,000 people who are in catastrophic levels of hunger, meaning they are starving. In Gaza more than half a million. That is 4 times more. And that is what makes this totally unprecedented.”*

**Rome, Italy**

**Shot: 21December23**

**:53-1:09**

Shelves lie almost completely empty in one of the few remaining open shops in Rafah.

**Rafah, Gaza**

**Shot: 14December23**

**1:09-1:33**

Families cooking near the Al-Qastal School shelter. Originally this school was not a designated shelter but due to overcrowding elsewhere it now hosts around 2000 people. It is currently in one of the most inaccessible areas due to the conflict.

**Deir al-Balah, Gaza**

**Shot: 18December23**

**1:33-1:49**

**SOT Bisan (Arabic):**

*“I hope that when this war ends it never happens again…and I hope we can return home, even if it is destroyed, so we can get our belongings.”*

**Deir al-Balah, Gaza**

**Shot: 18December23**

**1:49-1:57**

People on the street outside Al-Qastal School.

**Deir al-Balah, Gaza**

**Shot: 18December23**

**1:57-2:33**

**SOT Arif Hussain, WFP Chief Economist (English)**

***“****We can still avoid this famine. But we need to make sure that people have food, people have water, they have shelter, they have sanitation. And for all of those things to happen we need border crossings open so these commodities can come in. And then we need to make sure they can reach people which means we need access pretty much everywhere throughout the Gaza strip. And that is only possible if there is a humanitarian ceasefire.”*

**Rome, Italy**

**Shot: 21December23**

**2:33-2:46**

Convoy of 46 trucks carrying 750 metric tons of life-saving food into Gaza. This is the first convoy to arrive from Jordan through the newly opened Kerem Shalom crossing.

**Near Kerem Shalam Crossing, Israel**

**Shot: 20December23**

**ENDS**

**WFP News Release**

21 December 2023
**GAZA GRAPPLES WITH CATASTROPHIC HUNGER AS NEW REPORT PREDICTS FAMINE IF CONFLICT CONTINUES**

**ROME** – More than one in four households in Gaza currently face extreme hunger, and there is a risk of famine unless access to adequate food, clean water, health and sanitation services is restored, according to a new Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report released today.  IPC is a multi-stakeholder platform that analyses data to determine the severity and magnitude of hunger crises, according to internationally-recognized scientific standards.

This latest food security analysis for Gaza, which includes data from the World Food Programme (WFP), other UN agencies and non-governmental organizations, confirmed that the entire population of Gaza – roughly 2.2 million people – are in crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity. The IPC report further highlighted that 26 percent of Gazans (577,000 people) have exhausted their food supplies and coping capacities and face catastrophic hunger (IPC Phase 5) and starvation.

“WFP has warned of this coming catastrophe for weeks. Tragically, without the safe, consistent access we have been calling for, the situation is desperate, and no one in Gaza is safe from starvation.” said WFP’s Executive Director Cindy McCain.

According to the IPC, there is a risk of famine occurring within the next six months if the current situation of intense conflict and restricted humanitarian access persists.  From earlier assessments, WFP food security experts had already established that Gazans have used up all their resources, livelihoods have collapsed, bakeries are destroyed, shops are empty, and families can’t find food. People told WFP staff that they often go entire days without eating and that many adults go hungry so that children can eat.

“These are not just numbers – there are individual children, women and men behind these alarming statistics,” said WFP Chief Economist Arif Husain. “The complexity, magnitude and speed that this crisis has unfolded is unprecedented.”

More emergency food and multi-sectoral assistance is essential to prevent wide-spread deaths. The recent seven-day pause highlighted that WFP and partners can provide assistance when the conditions allow, and the re-opening of the Kerem Shalom border crossing sets the stage for more food and other relief supplies to flow into Gaza, which needs to continue and accelerate with additional border crossings and operating conditions inside Gaza that allow for safe and orderly deliveries to all people in need.

“We cannot stand by and watch people starve. Humanitarian access is needed now for supplies to flow into and throughout Gaza and for civilians to safely receive life-saving aid,” said McCain. “More than anything, what is needed now is peace. WFP reiterates the call for a humanitarian ceasefire - the world must come together now to save lives.”

**Note to Editors:**

**Photos** available via [this link](https://multimedia.wfp.org/Share/hlqn1ajen1bo8x7x66p2i5i0r5dx48h1).

For **broadcast quality video** material please contact jonathan.dumont@wfp.org

For **interviews** please contact WFP.Media@wfp.org

# # #

The United Nations World Food Programme is the world’s largest humanitarian organization saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.

Follow us on Twitter @wfp\_media

**For more information please contact (email address: firstname.lastname@wfp.org):**

Frances Kennedy, WFP/ Rome, Mob. +39 346 7600 806

Abeer Etefa WFP/ Cairo, Mob. +20 10 666 34352

Alia Zaki WFP/ Palestine, Mob.+393421852248
Nina Valente, WFP/ London, Mob. +44 796 8008 474

Martin Rentsch, WFP/Berlin, Mob +49 160 99 26 17 30

Jordan Cox, WFP/Brussels, Mob. +39 338 9957376
Shaza Moghraby, WFP/New York, Mob. + 1 929 289 9867

Steve Taravella, WFP/ Washington, Mob.  +1 202 770 5993

Thida Ith, WFP/ Ottawa, Mob. +1 613 608 2587

Zeina Habib WFP/Dubai, Mob. + 971 52 4724971

Jonathan Dumont

Head of Emergency Communications

The United Nations World Food Programme

Via Cesare Viola, 68

00148 Rome, Italy

Twitter: @jonathandumont1

Mobile Tel: +39 340 2249140

--