



Activities and Interventions of the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility during the war on Gaza 2023-2026

June, 2026

Abstract

Since the beginning of the war on the Gaza Strip on 7th October, 2023 which resulted in severe damages in all aspects of life, including water and sanitation services, which are among the most important components of life and resilience, the CMWU has been working since the first day in cooperation with PWA, its partners, and international humanitarian institutions to provide the minimum life-saving water and sanitation services, through production, transportation and distribution of drinking water to IDPs shelter and networks as well, the CMWU has been distributing the potable water to IDPs and residents by existing networks and its 53 owned water trucks, the produced and distributed water from desalination plants up to date is more than **11.87** million cubic meters. Moreover, the CMWU has rented 36 trucks and installed water tanks on them to be used in transporting and distributing water in order to enhance the system capacity in various areas.

The CMWU, through daily operational activities, has been able to pump domestic water from wells through the distribution networks in an amount of **53.85** million cubic meters since the onset of the war till June 2026, whereas the wells' production is still no more than 25% of the needed demand and pre-war production.

In parallel, the CMWU, with the support of its partners, has been working on damage assessments of water and wastewater infrastructure and facilities in Gaza, North Gaza, the Middle Area, and Khan Younis governorates. The continuous follow-up and assessing the levels of infrastructure destruction in various areas, and according to initial estimates, the process of repairing and rebuilding various facilities, systems and infrastructure and reviving the system again in all governorates of the Gaza Strip is estimated at approximately **900 million USD** whereas this amount is subject to increase as there are still inaccessible zones in Gaza not assessed yet.

In the same context, the CMWU, in cooperation with PWA and through UNICEF support, has been closely following the implementation of two ongoing consultancy services aimed at assessing in detail the damages and preparing the necessary tender documents for the repair and reconstruction of affected facilities. The first consultancy covers the Middle Area and Khan Younis governorates, while the second covers Gaza and North Gaza governorates.

Securing reliable energy sources has become one of the highest operational priorities, particularly for water wells, which constitute the primary source of domestic water production. To sustain operations,

CMWU has repaired numerous electrical generators, rented additional units from the local market, and procured second-hand generators. Furthermore, CMWU continues to coordinate with humanitarian partners to facilitate the procurement and entry of additional generators into Gaza. However, the continued restriction on the entry of lubricating oils poses a serious threat to generator operation. Despite repeated appeals by international humanitarian organizations, the Israeli authorities continue to prevent the entry of these essential supplies, placing several critical WASH facilities many of which have accumulated more than 800 operating hours under emergency conditions at imminent risk of complete shutdown.

Through close coordination with humanitarian partners, approximately **13.08 million liters of fuel** had been distributed till June 2026 to sustain emergency operations. Nevertheless, the quantities of fuel entering Gaza remain significantly below actual operational requirements. Fuel continues to be supplied by UNICEF, stored by CMWU in central fuel tanks, and distributed to approximately 190 water and sanitation facilities. The fuel distribution process is managed through a monitoring system administered by UNICEF with field oversight provided by UNOPS.

CMWU has also received and distributed water tanks and bladders of various capacities for installation at displacement sites as part of emergency response interventions. However, the entry of these essential items remains heavily restricted. As no new shipments have been received for several months, CMWU's capacity to expand emergency water storage and distribution services has been severely constrained, placing additional pressure on emergency response efforts.

To safeguard public health and minimize the risk of diseases, CMWU has continued implementing water quality protection measures through the distribution of chlorine to groundwater wells and desalination plants. Since the beginning of the war, more than **401,394 liters of chlorine** have been distributed to maintain disinfection processes and ensure the safety of drinking water supplies under emergency conditions.

Throughout June 2026, CMWU in cooperation with WASH partners, and other humanitarian actors implemented numerous emergency repair interventions aimed at restoring essential water and wastewater services. Additional rehabilitation activities remain ongoing despite the severe shortage of construction materials and mechanical components. The depletion of local market supplies, coupled with the continued restrictions on the entry of essential materials, remains one of the principal constraints limiting the restoration of water and sanitation infrastructure.

The prolonged conflict, combined with the continued depletion of operational resources, has pushed Gaza's water and sanitation sector into an unprecedented state of deterioration. The remaining operational facilities are functioning under extreme stress, relying almost entirely on aging standby generators operating far beyond their intended service life. At the same time, restrictions imposed on the entry of equipment, spare parts, lubricating oils, and other critical supplies continue to threaten the sustainability of life-saving WASH services. Unless these restrictions are urgently lifted and the necessary operational materials are allowed to enter Gaza, many of the remaining functional facilities face the imminent risk of complete shutdown, with severe humanitarian and public health consequences for the entire population.

1. Introduction:

As a result of the war that started on October 7th, 2023, more than two million people were forcibly displaced from Gaza City and the North Gaza Governorate to the southern areas of the Gaza Strip, following evacuation instructions issued by the IDF. This unprecedented displacement occurred in parallel with a complete shutdown of electricity and water supplies, creating a catastrophic humanitarian crisis. The conflict led to the widespread destruction of key water and sanitation infrastructure, including wells, water pipelines, reservoirs, wastewater pumping stations, desalination plants, and treatment facilities. Additionally, the Israeli-imposed restrictions on the entry of essential materials, equipment, fuel, and spare parts severely hampered the ability to operate or repair critical facilities.

Throughout the hostilities and after the ceasefire, the water and wastewater sector in Gaza is still operated under extreme duress. Communities, particularly IDPs sheltering in overcrowded areas and UNRWA shelters, faced dire shortages of potable water and sanitation services, which increased the risks of disease outbreaks and public health emergencies. Despite these challenges, the CMWU, in close coordination with international humanitarian partners, local municipalities, and service providers, exerted extraordinary efforts to maintain minimal functionality of key services under the most constrained conditions.

CMWU adopted a multi-faceted emergency response strategy to mitigate the crisis and keep as many facilities operational as possible. This included rapid damage assessments and emergency repair operations on severely damaged key water facilities, sewage networks, and desalination plant often carried out using available materials and limited stock of spare parts due to blockade conditions. Besides operating the main two seawater desalination plants in the middle area, CMWU also

facilitated the installation of small-scale, modular desalination plants to serve communities with no access to safe water, particularly in displacement shelters, also mobile water tankers are being deployed across the Gaza Strip to ensure emergency water distribution to the most vulnerable populations.

Additionally, CMWU supported the continuity of municipal services by coordinating the delivery and distribution of essential resources, such as fuel, chemicals for water treatment, and heavy machinery required for excavation and repairs' activities. These interventions were critical in stabilizing the sector amidst the war and laying the groundwork for early recovery.

The completed and ongoing damage and needs assessments have revealed extensive destruction across the majority of WASH infrastructure and facilities, highlighting the urgent need for coordinated efforts by all concerned stakeholders to restore essential services and ensure safe access to drinking water and adequate wastewater management for both residents and IDPs.

In response to these critical conditions, CMWU has significantly scaled up its emergency response and early recovery operations, particularly during the summer months when water demand reaches its peak. These efforts focus on maximizing water production from all available sources to meet, to the greatest extent possible, the minimum emergency water requirements. Priority interventions include rehabilitating damaged infrastructure, restoring water transmission and distribution pipelines, and increasing water production and distribution capacity in areas hosting large numbers of residents and IDPs. CMWU's response has also prioritized the reactivation of non-operational groundwater wells, the rehabilitation of major water transmission lines, and the repair of damaged wastewater systems to reduce environmental pollution and mitigate public health risks amid the continuing deterioration of humanitarian conditions across the Gaza Strip.

The commitment of CMWU and its partners during this critical period has been essential in alleviating human suffering and initiating the restoration of essential services in post-war Gaza, despite ongoing challenges related to access, security, and resource limitations.

2.0 Activities of the Coastal Municipalities Water Utility during June 2026:

2.1 Operation of Water Supply Facilities

2.1.1 Desalination plants

The current operational desalination plants in the accessible areas of Gaza Strip are 42 including 2 seawater and 40 of brackish RO plants, in addition to the Emirati Desalination plant in the Egyptian side. The production and operational conditions of these plants are in the following:

1- Al Bassa seawater desalination plant – Middle Area

The CMWU is still operating the seawater desalination plant in the Middle area Al-Bassa) depending completely on the existing generators. The average daily water production during **June 2026** was reported to be around **1455 m3**.

The CMWU supplies water through its owned water tankers, besides the rented private tankers, which represented a turning point in covering the needs of the population and citizens with desalinated water, in addition the desalination plant are provided with 23 filling points and recently the CMWU has installed additional 10 filling points all around the desalination plant to facilitate filling the water.



2-Southern Gaza Seawater desalination plant (SGDP)

Since 17th November 2024, the CMWU started operating SGDP depending completely on the newly connected power line instead of electrical generators which increased the daily production of the plant from 2000 m3/day to approximately 17000 m3/day. Connecting the plant with the dedicated power line 5 MW was a result of great efforts exerted by the CMWU and PWA in order to operate the plant with its full capacity to cover part of the high-water demand during the current situation. However, the power line frequently suffers damage, leading to some drop in water production. In June, the average daily water production was **11,206 m³/day**.



3- Emirati Desalination plant to the Saudi water tank

A desalination plant with a capacity of 2,400 cubic meters per day was established at the Egyptian side financed by the United Arab Emirates through the Emirates Red Crescent and was operated in December 2023. The pipeline was connected to the closest water network and also a filling point has been installed. Since May 2024 till August 2025 the plant was out of operation due to the Israeli invasion to Rafah area and the destruction of the water carrier lines. However, during this period the Emirati Red Crescent has expanded and increased the production capacity of the plant in the Egyptian side to reach 10,000 m³/day, this expansion aims to secure a safe source of drinking water for southern governorates.

Recently and to meet the water demand in Al Mawasi area, which is fully occupied by IDPs, the CMWU, through Emirati funding, has completed the construction of a 6.7 km water pipeline from this plant to Al Mawasi. The pipeline serves the western parts of Khan Younis and Rafah around 600,000 residents and IDPs and it has been operational since 28th August 2025, whereas **in June** the average daily water supply from this plant was **4,907 m³**

4- Public Brackish RO Desalination Plants

During the war most of brackish desalination plants have been damaged, whereas the current operational plants are 40, most of which are located in the Middle Area, as illustrated *in the map below*, since this area experienced less destruction compared to other parts of the Gaza Strip. The production capacity of these plants ranges from 7 to 760 m³/day.

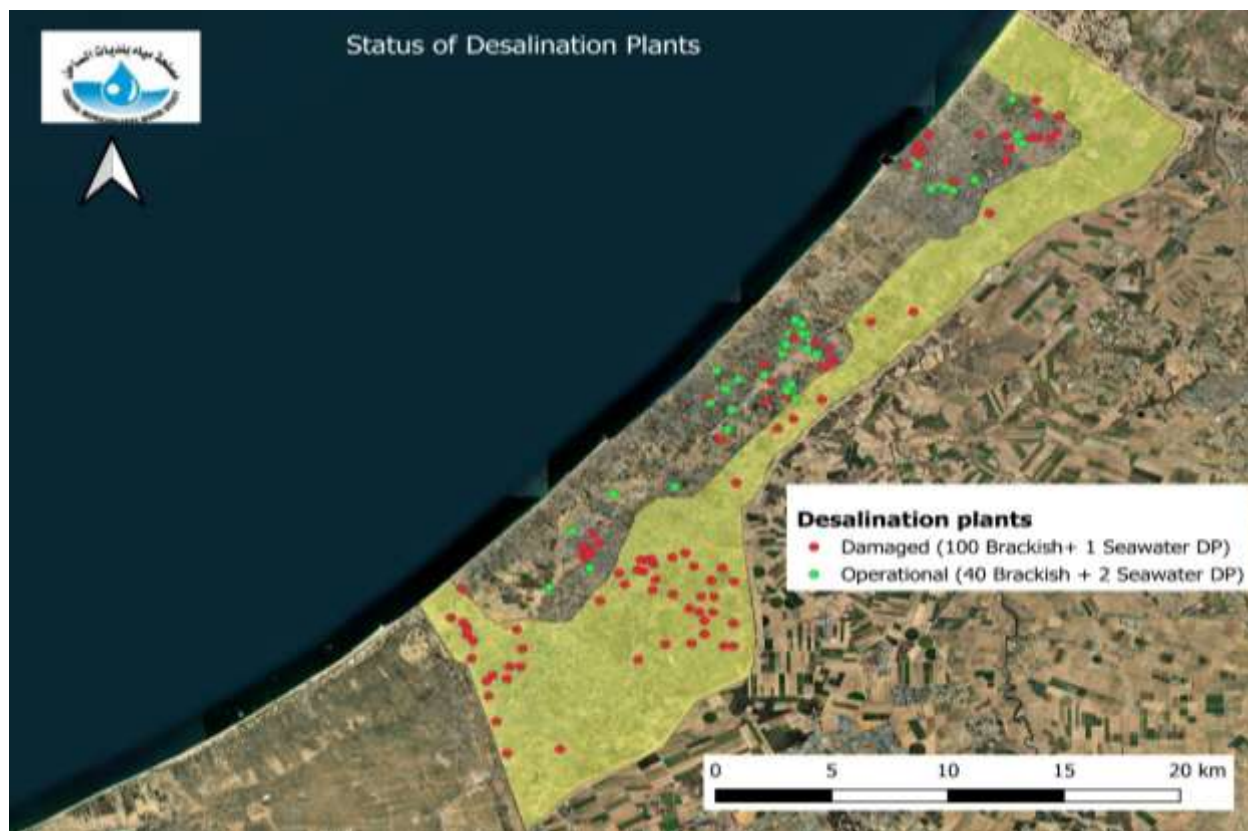
The highest-producing plants include the CMWU warehouse desalination plant in Khan Younis, with an average daily production of approximately 760 m³/day; Al Karaj desalination plant in Gaza City, producing around 400 m³/day; and the newly constructed Al Manshiya desalination plant in Gaza City, with an average production of 500 m³/day. In addition, the CMWU recently rehabilitated Al Shifa Desalination Plant, which currently produces 300 m³/day and additional plants are being constructed in Jabalia and Khan Younis to be operated soon.

During **June 2026**, the average daily water production of all operational public RO brackish desalination plants across the Gaza Strip reached approximately **3,673 m³/day**

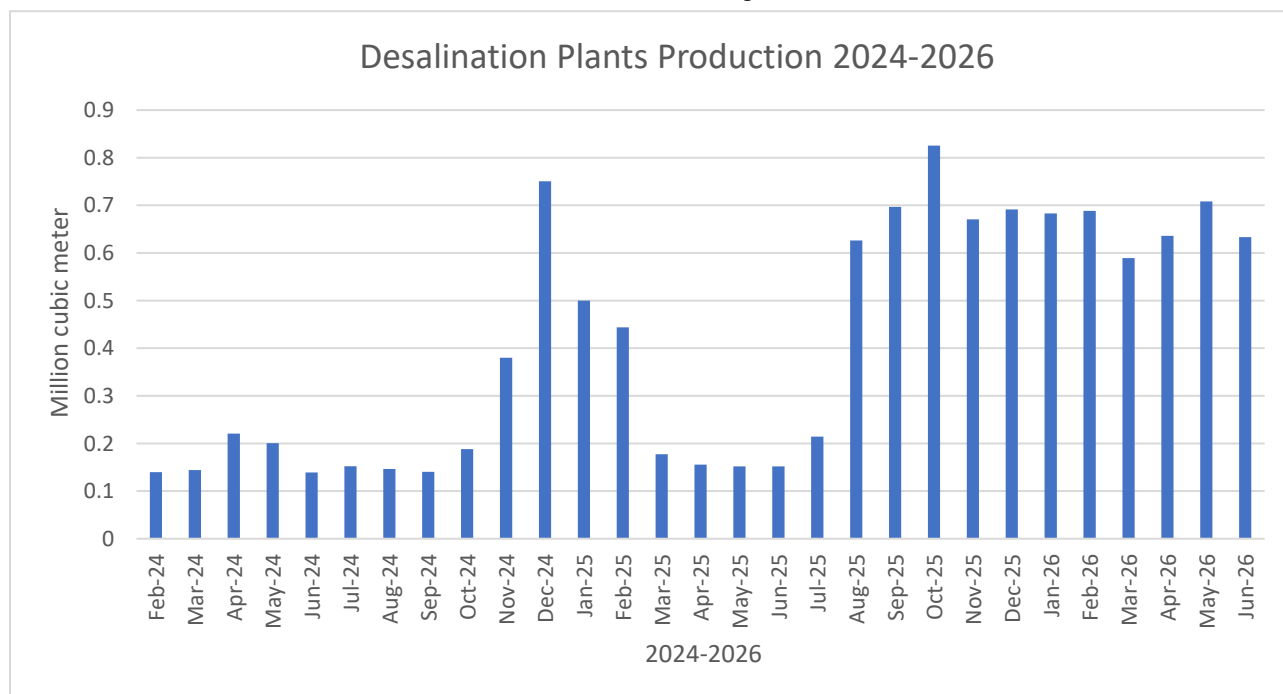
The production of brackish plants slightly increased in June particularly at CMWU warehouse and AL Manshiya desalination plants in response to the growing demand for drinking water during the summer months.

This effort comes amid exceptional conditions and significant pressure on water resources, which requires intensified work to ensure the continuity of services at the minimum possible level.

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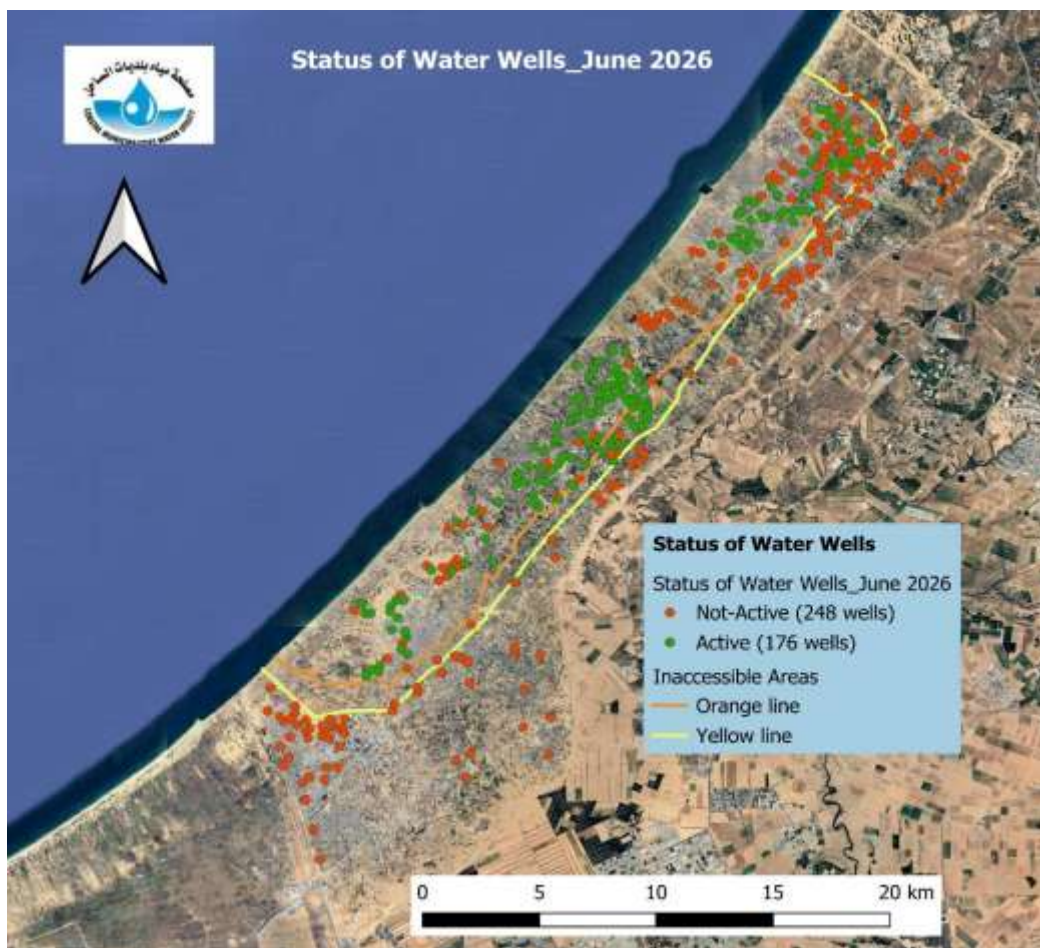
Status of Desalination plants



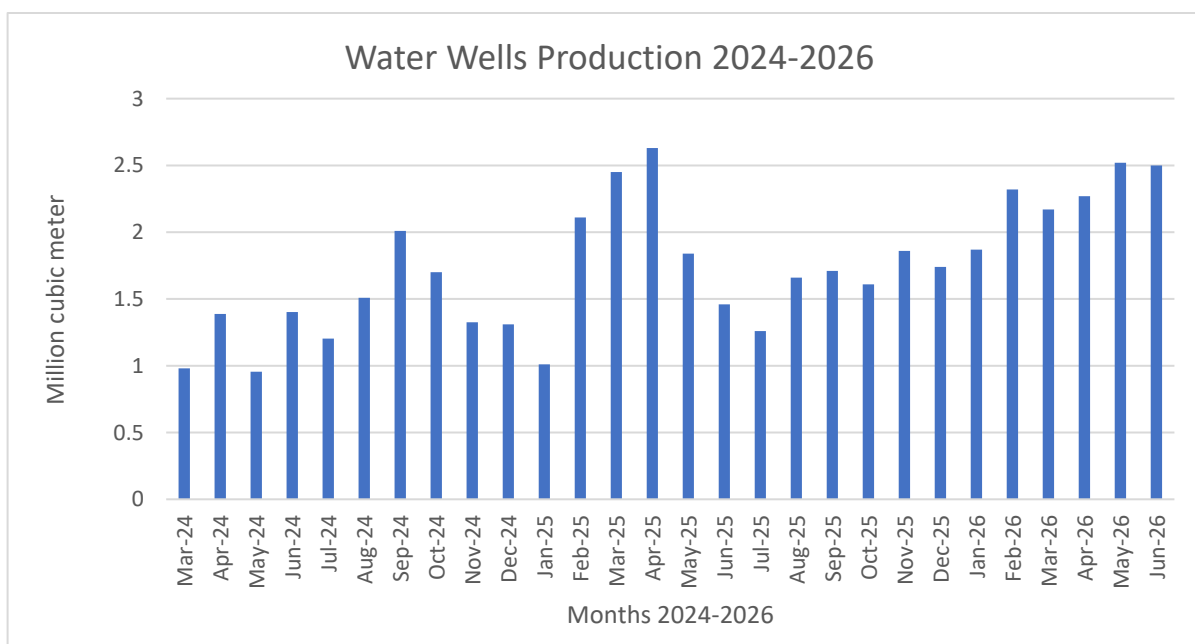
Water Desalination Production from February 2024 to May 2026

2.1.2 Water Wells

Limited water wells are still operational during war as most water wells are partially or completely damaged, hence the daily domestic water production from wells over war months did not exceed 25% of the original production. The below figures show the records of monthly water production from February 2024 till June 2026, whereas the fluctuation in water production depends on fuel availability, security issues and status of facility (operational or damaged) during each month.. The CMWU is continuing its efforts to repair more facilities and provide electrical generators to re-operate accessible vital wells. The average daily water production from municipal and secondary **operational wells** during June reached **83,525 m3**.. The map below illustrates the operational status of municipal wells across the Gaza Strip.



Operational Water Wells- June 2026



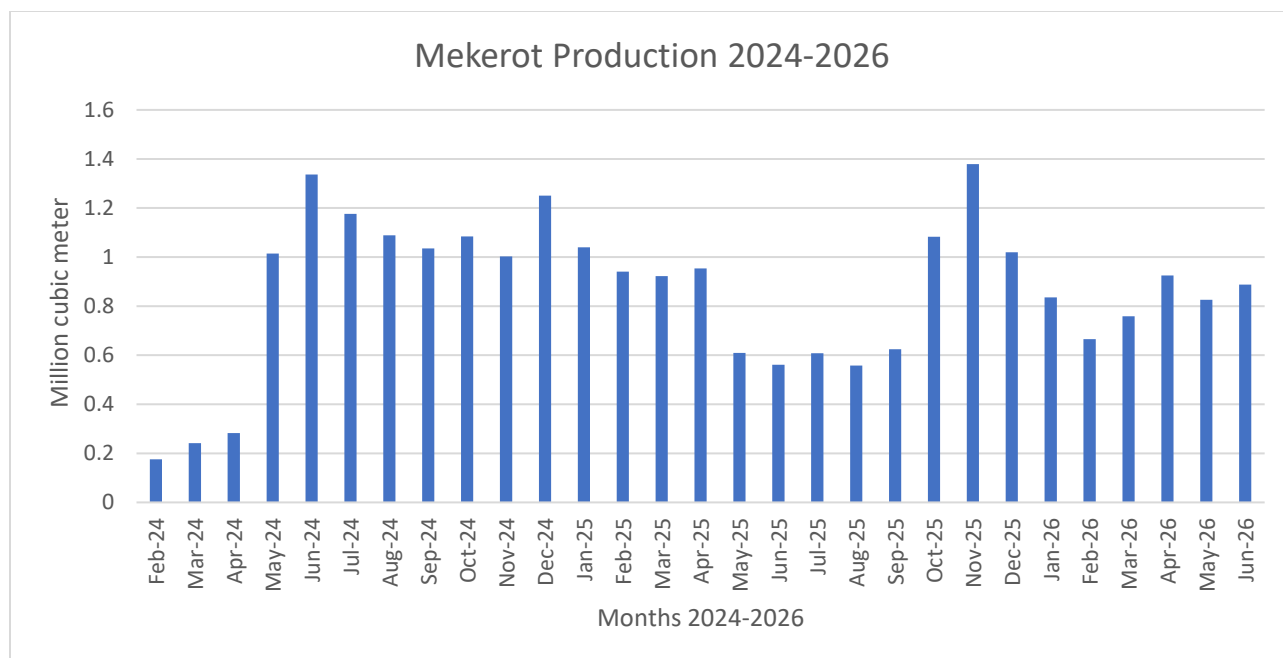
Wells Production from February 2024-June 2026

2.1.3 Mekorot Supply

There are three Mekorot water supply connections from Israeli side as follow:

- The first in the middle governorate called Ben Saed with a capacity 14,000 m³ /day, this source has been non-operational for nearly ten months due to severe damage to the feeding pipeline. The pipeline has been in operation since October 2025. However, in May 2026, it experienced a severe reduction in water supply, with more than 85% of its normal capacity lost. Production gradually increased in June reaching approximately **6,082 m³/day**
- The second is east Khan Younis connection with a capacity of 16,000 m³/day, During June, the average daily supply decreased slightly due to damage to the transmission pipeline, reaching an average production of **9,509 m³/day**.
- The third for Gaza governorate with 20,000 m³/day capacity, where it is working during the month with average daily of **14,000 m³**.

Mekorot connections have been partially damaged and interrupted during the war and after negotiation with the Israeli side through PWA, the connections were reactivated again to serve the people and to ensure providing the minimum level of water supply along with water wells and desalination plants. The below figure shows a fluctuation in water production which depends on the status of carrier lines and pumping facilities (operational or damaged) over 2024-2026 months

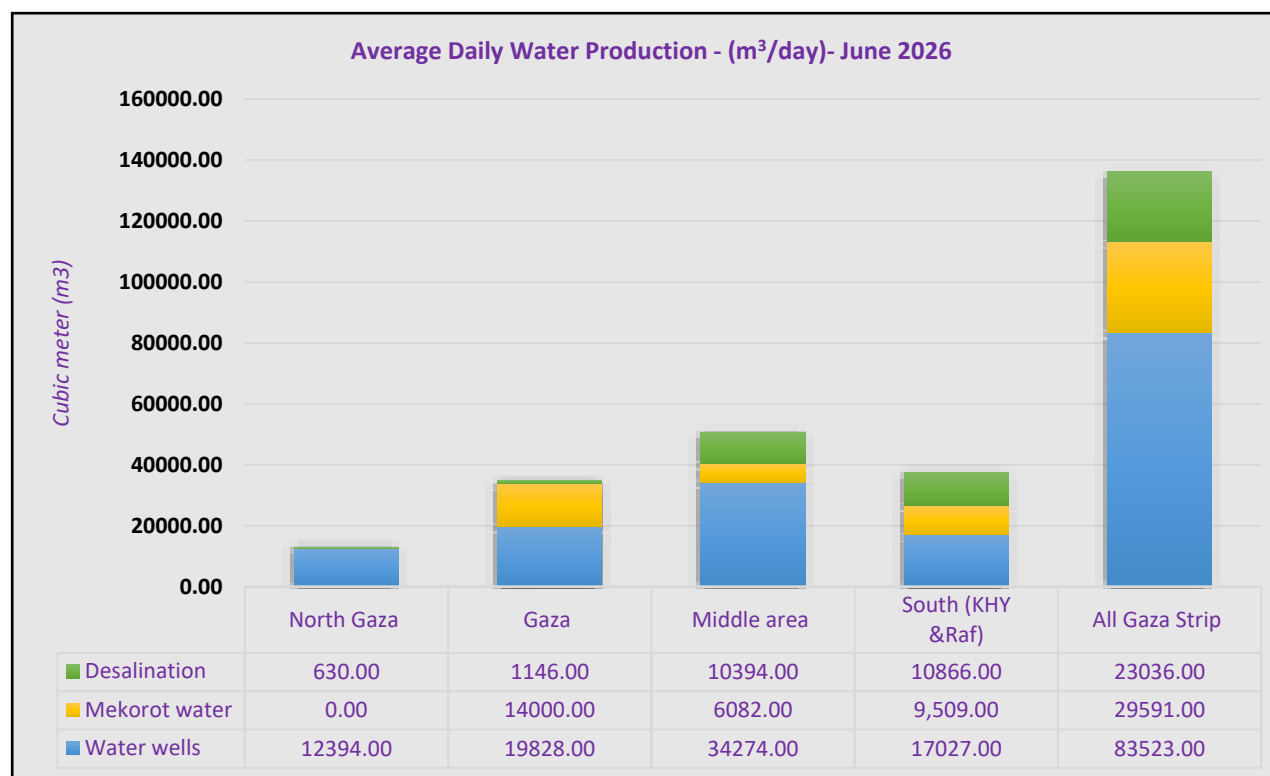


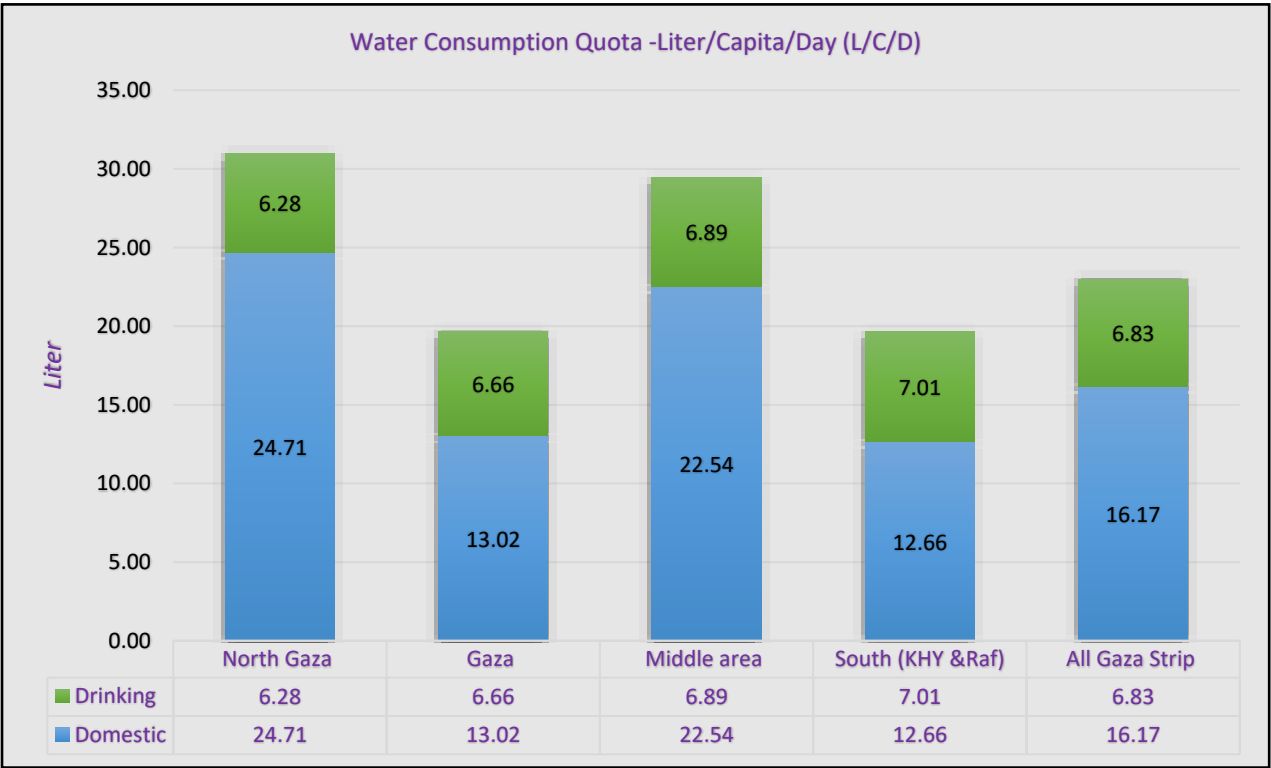
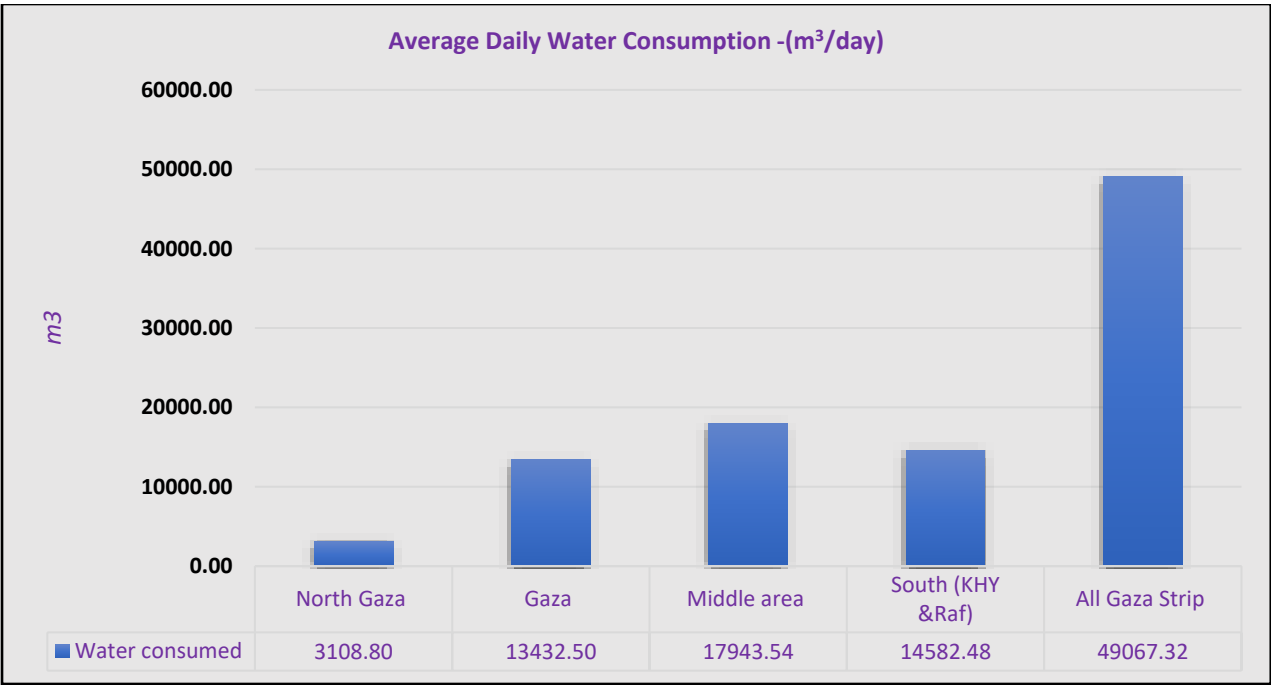
Mekorot monthly production from February till June 2026

2.2 Water Supply and Consumption:

The table below presents the average daily water production from all sources' municipal wells, Mekorot supply, and public desalination plants along with the actual household water consumption for domestic and drinking purposes across the Gaza Strip governorates during June 2026. The total average daily water production reached approximately 136,150 m³/day (83,523 m³ from municipal wells, 29,591 m³ from Mekorot, and 23,036 m³ from desalination plants. Despite this combined production, the water availability per capita remains far below the minimum humanitarian standards. Consumption levels varied across governorates, ranging from 30.99 liters per capita per day (L/C/D) in North Gaza to 19.67 L/C/D in the southern governorates (Khan Younis and Rafah), with Gaza governorate recording 19.68 L/C/D and the Middle Area reaching 29.44 L/C/D. These figures remain significantly below the minimum humanitarian standards and are subject to frequent fluctuations due to multiple challenges, mainly the security situation, fuel and power sources availability, frequent infrastructure damages, and evacuation orders that render key sites inaccessible or unsafe to operate.

Water availability in June 2026								Actual Consumption Household side m³/day
Governorate	Average Daily Water Production from All Resources			Water Consumption Quota -Household level			Population	
	Water wells	Mekorot	Desalination	Domestic	Drinking	Total		
	m³/day	m³/day	m³/day	Liter/C/D	Liter/C/D	Liter/C/D		
North Gaza	12394.00	0.00	630.00	24.71	6.28	30.99	100325	3108.80
Gaza	19828.00	14000.00	1146.00	13.02	6.66	19.68	682419	13432.50
Middle area	34274.00	6082.00	10394.00	22.54	6.89	29.44	609560	17943.54
South (KHY &Raf)	17027.00	9,509.00	10866.00	12.66	7.01	19.67	741516	14582.48
All Gaza Strip	83523.00	29591.00	23036.00	16.17	6.83	23.00	2133820	49067.32



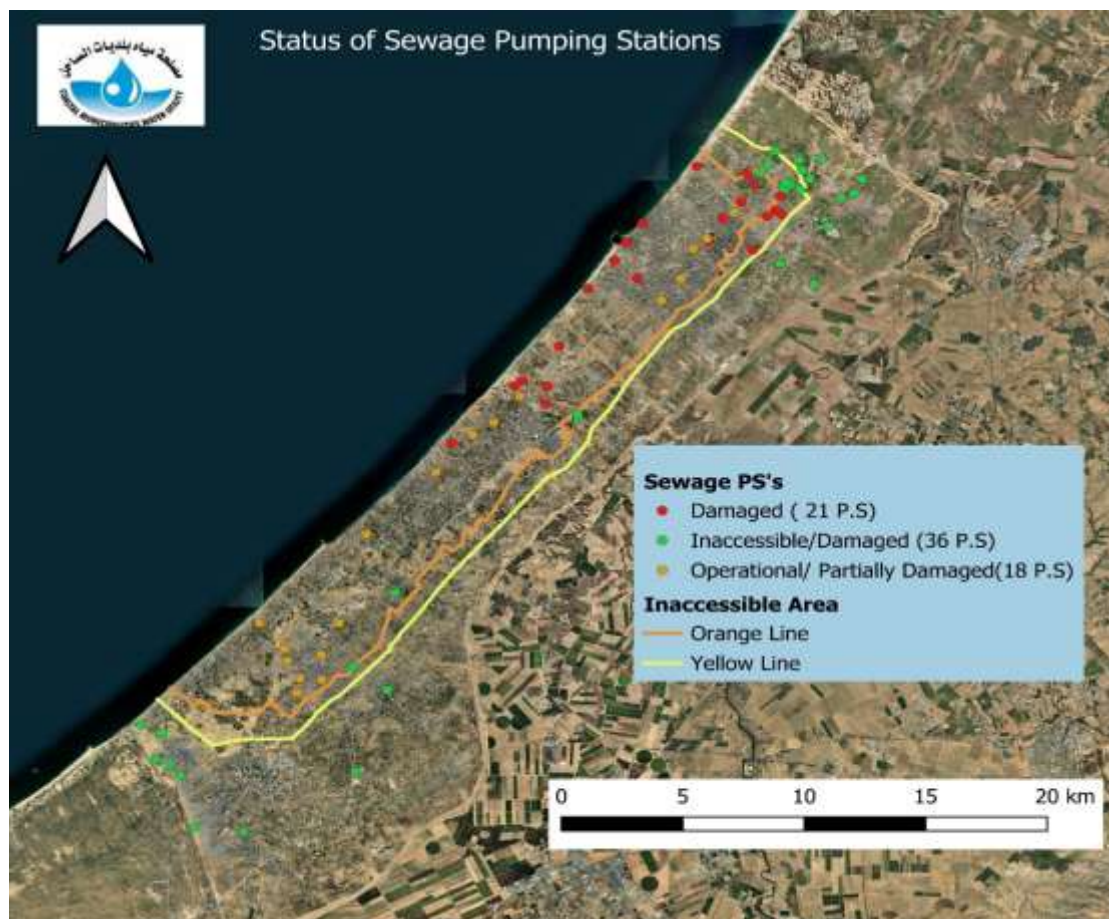


2.3 Operation of Sewage Facilities

2.3.1 Sewage Pumping Stations

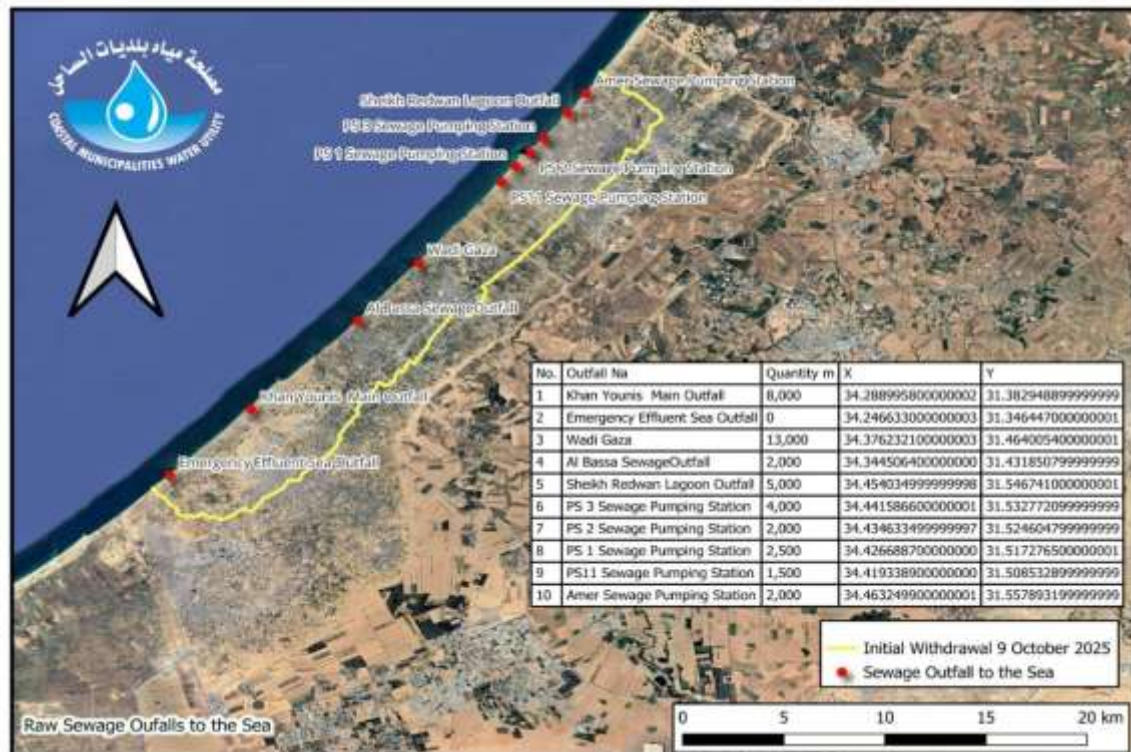
Limited sewage pumping stations remain operational despite sustaining partial damage, while most stations are either completely destroyed or inaccessible. This situation has resulted in diverting generated sewage to Wadi Gaza in the Middle area, where in other areas wastewater flows are diverted directly to the sea or to stormwater lagoons, including Al Sheikh Redwan Lagoon in Gaza, Al Amal Lagoon in Khan Younis, Al Saftawi Lagoon in Jabalia, and Aslan Lagoon in Beit Lahia. In some areas, particularly IDPs sites where no discharge points are available, sewage is collected in cesspits and periodically evacuated and managed by CMWU and municipal vacuum and suction trucks.

The operational and accessible sewage pumping stations till June 2026 are 18 facilities whereas *The map indicates* that most of pumping stations are located in inaccessible areas and are likely damaged.



Status of Sewage PS till June 2026

The daily discharge of raw sewage to the sea through the ten indicated outfalls is approximately **40,000 m³** which resulted in environmental and health hazards along the coastal side.



Sewage Outfalls to the sea

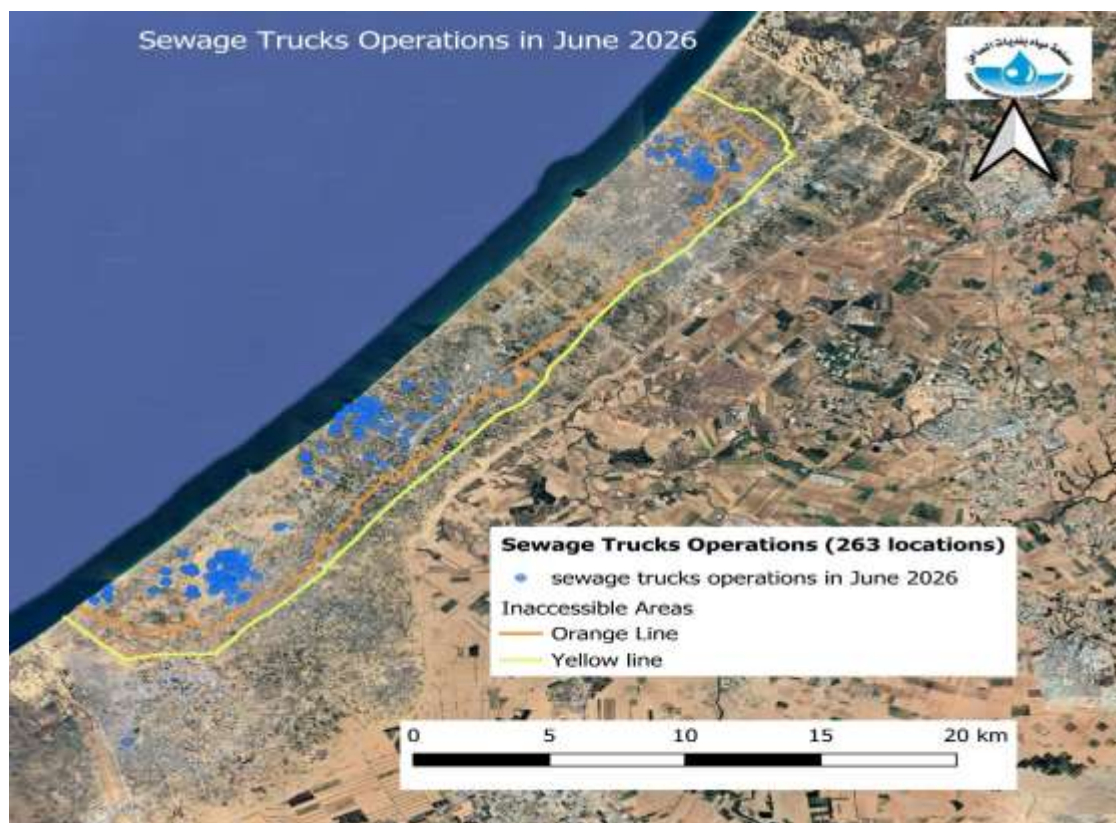
To reduce the risks of sewage system destructions, the CMWU is still working on fixing and repairing the damages within the available resources, the interventions include but not limited to:

- The CMWU teams have been working to clean sewage lines and networks from blockages and rubbles. The focus is also on treating overflow points within residential neighborhoods and removing health hazards that pose a direct threat to the environment and public safety.
- The CMWU continues to utilize its available and recently received suction trucks and mobile pumps to evacuate sewage from flooded areas, particularly where IDPs are concentrated. These trucks are clearly marked and visible.
- CMWU is actively seeking to enhance its operational capacity by providing additional suction trucks and mobile pumps, which are critical for managing floods during this challenging time. These resources and heavy machineries are essential to controlling and eliminating floods especially in shelters where IDPs are vulnerable to disease and other public health risks.

In June 2026, the CMWU teams carried out emergency interventions to address the impacts of sewage floods particularly in IDPs sites through utilization its sewage suction truck to evacuate the sewage from many random ponds in different IDPs sites in Dair AL Balah, Al Nussirat, Al Burej, AL zawayida, Mawasi Khan Younis, which hosting thousands of IDPs



In addition to the above operations, the CMWU also deployed the sewage jetting and suction trucks available in its warehouse in Khan Younis to respond to emergency requests and appeals in north Gaza and Southern governorates. In June 2026 the two trucks conducted approximately **263** operations. The spatial distribution of these interventions is illustrated in the map below.



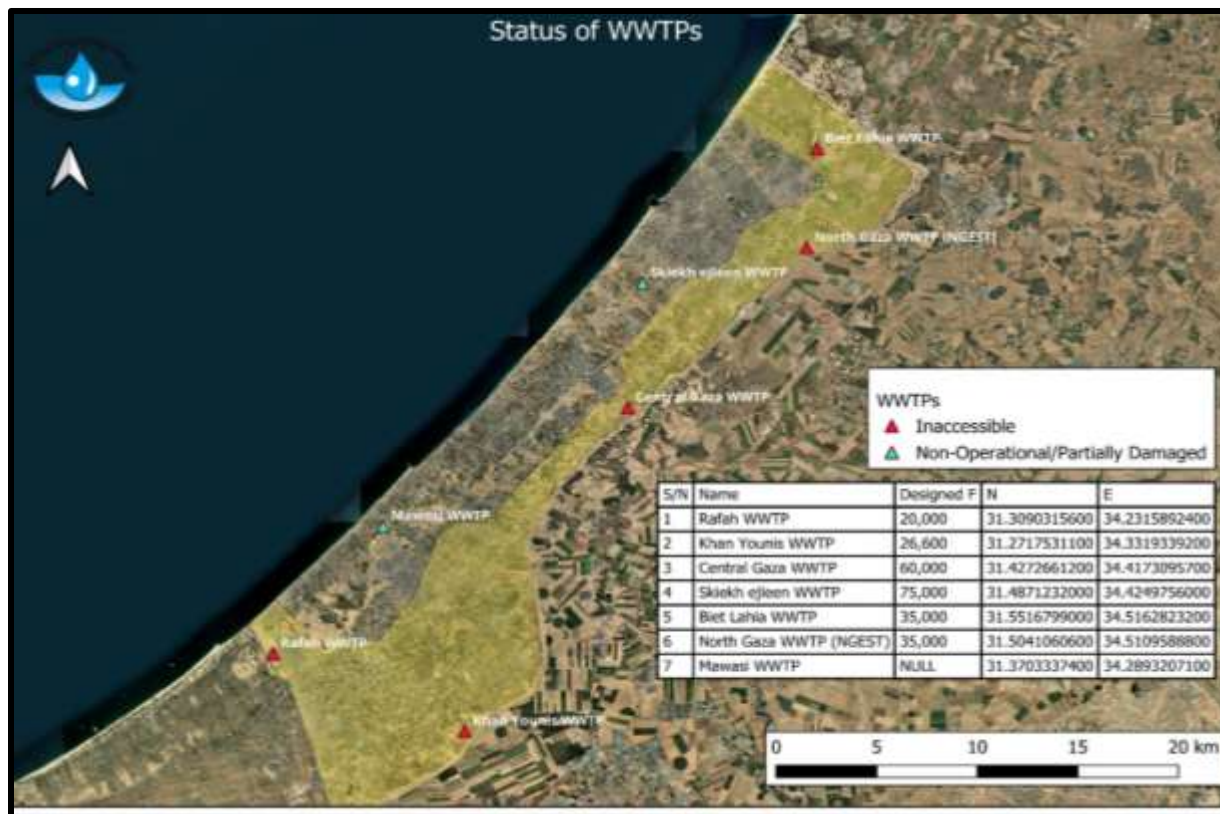
Sewage trucks operations in June 2026

2.3.2 Operation of Wastewater Treatment Plants

There were five operational wastewater treatment plants in the Gaza strip, three of them were newly constructed (Khan Younis WWTP, Al Bureij WWTP and North Gaza WWTP), whereas the other two plants are considered intermediate plants located in Rafah and Gaza city.

Besides these main WWTPs, there were two wastewater treatment plants in Khan Younis (Al Mawasi) and Beit Lahia that were decommissioned following the construction and operation of the central WWTPs. These plants also sustained damage during the war and they are the only accessible plants out of these seven facilities.

During the war the operation of the three central plants (KHWWT, BWWT and NWWT) stopped due to the severe destruction in their main structures. Also, the operation staff could not reach these plants as they are located in the yellow area *as shown in the below map*. As a result of this stoppage, currently most of the generated sewage is diverted to the sea without treatment causing pollution along the coastal side.



1- KHWWTTP

To mitigate the hazards resulted from discharging untreated sewage to the sea and the frequent floods in Khan Younis governorate where most of IDPs concentrated. In year 2024 the CMWU and PWA coordinated for inspection and assessment of the damages of East Khan Younis WWTP (26,600m³/day). The visual inspection showed that the damage can be handled, and based on that, the CMWU has prepared a proposal for recommissioning of KHWWTTP and shared it with the interested donors to be included in their plans for the coming years. In this regards UNDP has responded and assigned a consultant to assess the needs and develop all needed designs and tender documents to re-operate the plant.

After repeated rejection to visit WWTP. On 17 February 2026, approval was finally granted, and technical staff from UNDP, PWA, and CMWU, accompanied by the assigned consultant, carried out a visual inspection for all plant components.

Based on the site inspections and the available satellite imagery, the consultant completed the preparation of the tender documents for the proposed repair and rehabilitation works and submitted them to CMWU in June for technical review and comments.



2- CGWWTP

In June 2024, CMWU and PWA coordinated for an inspection visit to Gaza Central Wastewater Treatment Plant (GCWWTP). The visual inspection revealed that several plant's components and structures had sustained severe damage.

Approximately two years later, UNICEF, supported by a KFW has requested a coordinated site visit. On 11 February 2026, approval was issued by CLA for UNICEF staff to access the site. The team conducted a visual inspection, which confirmed that multiple structures and components were damaged. However, due to limited time and the extent of destruction, the team was unable to inspect some underground infrastructure, as well as certain rooms on upper floors and rooftops.

The findings from both inspections should be further analyzed by a team of wastewater treatment experts to support the preparation of a comprehensive technical assessment. A detailed assessment mission, involving a multidisciplinary team, is recommended and would require approximately 2 to 4 weeks on site. This mission should be supported by manual laborers and excavation equipment to enable access to facilities and underground networks currently obstructed by rubbles.



3. Sheikh Ejleen WWTP

In order to mitigate the floods and sewage crisis in Gaza city, the CMWU has launched a consultancy service for assessment and developing the needed tender documents for recommissioning of Sheikh Ejleen WWTP which is the only accessible WWTP. The recommissioning includes two phases, the first for maintenance works to ensure sewage stabilization and anaerobic treatment where the second phase for reconstruction and upgrading works to treat the received sewage from Gaza city within the acceptable standards before discharging to the sea.

The consultant has completed the detailed design documents for the two phases and submitted in June the documents for CMWU and concerned parties review and approval.

On the other hand, the CMWU through UNICEF support has completed the cleaning and rehabilitation works at the WWTP making the site ready for phase I works. The proposal for this phase has been submitted to CMWU committed partners to mobilize support for the intervention and enable the recommissioning of the WWTP as soon as possible.



4. NGWWTP

After several attempts, approval was granted to visit and assess the damage at the North WWTP. The approval was limited to a small number of technical staff, and the CMWU was the only local entity present during the visit. The inspection revealed that the damages are primarily concentrated on the following facilities:

- The administration buildings
- The power system and air blowers building, including generators, transformers, blowers, and electrical panels
- The gas balloon system and its associated components
- The solar PV power system and its accessories
- The odor treatment system
- Various electrical panels across all buildings have been subjected to theft and vandalism

As for the remaining facilities, they have not suffered structural damage; however, most of the electro-mechanical equipment requires maintenance and rehabilitation due to corrosion and prolonged shutdown under harsh environmental and technical conditions.

2.4 Providing Fuel to Operate WASH Facilities

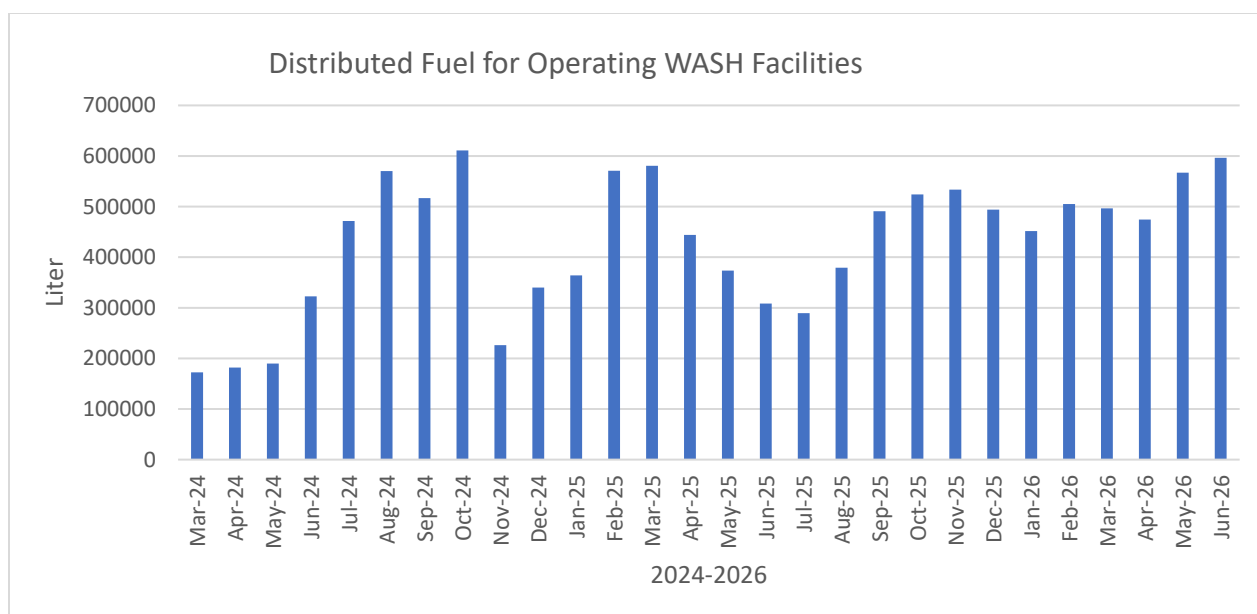
Through UNICEF fund, the CMWU in cooperation with UNRWA still provides WASH facilities in the Middle and Khan Younis Governorate with diesel, in order to ensure the operation of these facilities and provide the population with water and sanitation services, especially in light of the continuation of the Israeli war on the Gaza Strip.



The CMWU constantly strives to secure a regular supply of fuel without interruptions, as diesel generators are currently the backbone of all WASH facilities following the complete cutoff of power supplies since the onset of the war. In collaboration with PWA, the CMWU is making every effort to obtain limited quantities of fuel to maintain minimal operation of the facilities. This situation has significantly impacted wastewater services and water supply, which have been already deteriorating over the past months.

The figure below illustrates fuel distribution to WASH facilities in the middle and southern governorates from March 2024 to June 2026. Fuel distribution remained relatively stable during the past months. However, the main challenge affecting the operation of WASH facilities is the shortage of lubricant oils, as the Israeli authorities continue to restrict their entry. This threatens the operation of generators, most of which have exceeded the allowable operating hours and require oil replacement

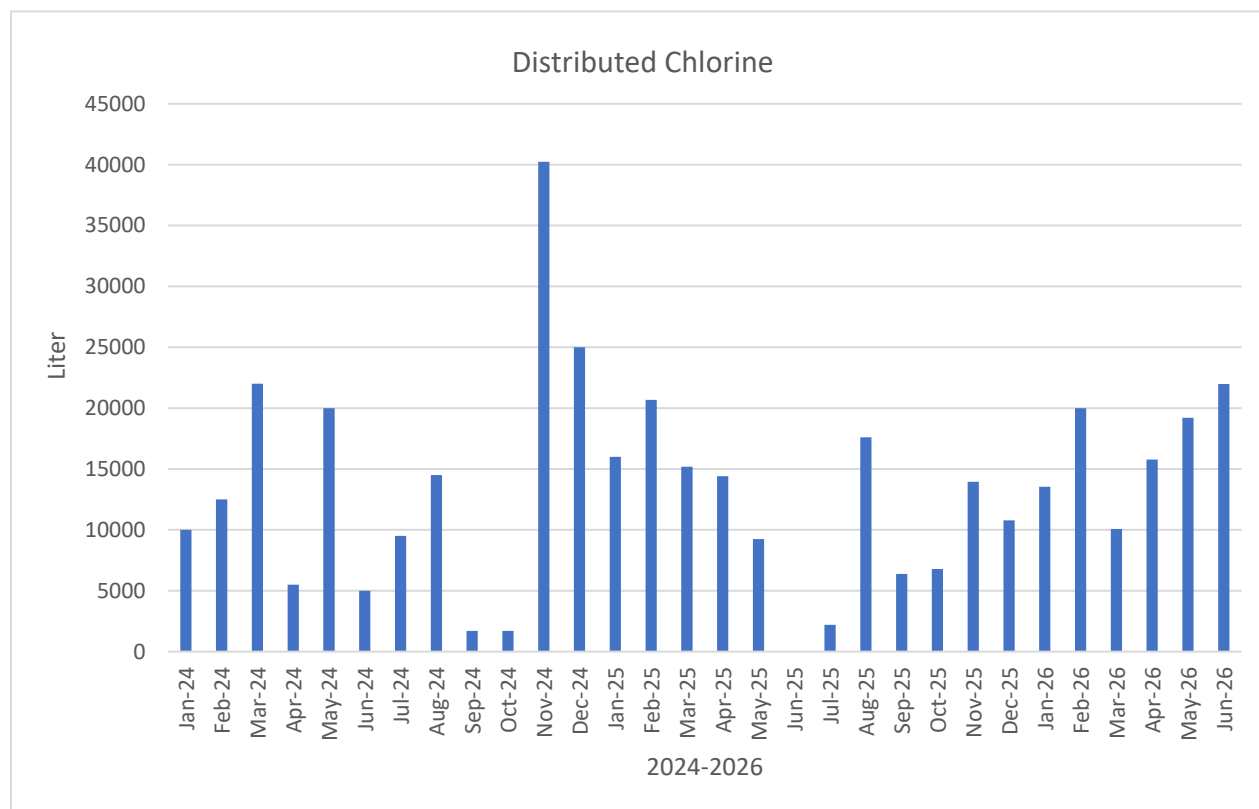
The CMWU has appealed to international organizations to facilitate the entry of these oils; however, no response has been received so far. The shortage is expected to worsen during the upcoming summer months, as facilities will need to operate for longer hours to meet minimum demand, particularly due to increased water needs for hygiene during the summer season.



Distributed fuel for operation WASH facilities

2.5 Supply Chlorine for Water Disinfection

Through UNICEF and ICRC funds, CMWU has been providing water supply facilities with the needed chlorine solution for water disinfection. over the last months of 2024 there was a remarkable fluctuation in the distributed chlorine and that depends on materials availability, security issues and continuation of military operations in Gaza Strip which resulted in destruction of water facilities. However, the CMWU has been working on repairing the affected facilities to bring them back into operation, therefore in some months the distributed chlorine increased and in others decreased, Moreover, during September and October almost there was no chlorine supply which led the CMWU to raise many appeals to UNICEF and international agencies to secure the needed quantities. UNICEF has responded to these requests and has been successfully supplying adequate quantities of chlorine for water supply facilities as shown in the figure below.



Chlorine Supply during 2024-2026

Under CMWU water quality monitoring Program:

The CMWU laboratory team continues to carry out intensive field inspections to test, calibrate, and adjust chlorination and disinfection systems at various water production wells on a regular basis. This effort aims to ensure the quality and safety of the water supplied to residents and displaced people across different areas of the Gaza Strip. These efforts include close monitoring of all production facilities, contributing to the maintenance of high standards of water quality and public health safety. These efforts reflect CMWU’s ongoing commitment to protecting public health and delivering safe and sustainable water services.

In June 2026 the CMWU has distributed additional quantities of chlorine to municipal water facilities and desalination plants across the Gaza Strip in response to rising temperatures and the increased demand for water during the summer season. This intervention aims to ensure the continued disinfection of drinking water and maintain compliance with approved public health and water quality standards.

However, the water sector continues to face increasing operational challenges, most notably the ongoing restrictions on the entry of chlorine dosing equipment, injection pumps, and the spare parts required for the operation and maintenance of water disinfection systems. These constraints threaten the sustainability of this critical public health intervention and further complicate efforts to maintain safe drinking water quality and protect public health across the Gaza Strip.



2.6 Water Supply and Water Trucking Services

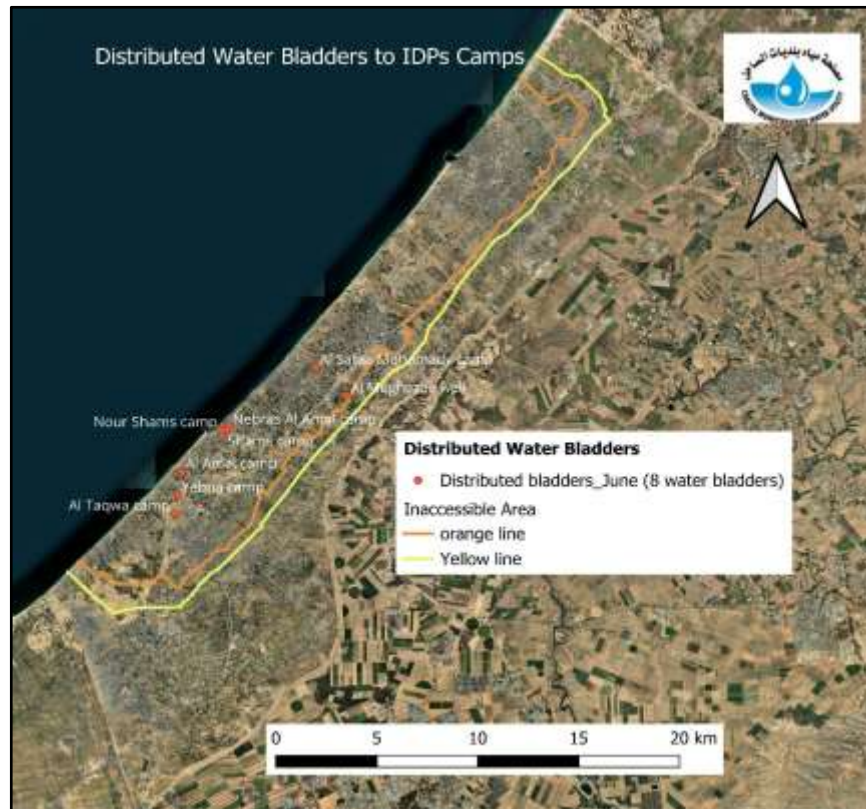
2.6.1 Water Distribution to Various Shelters and UNRWA Schools

The CMWU continues to provide shelters, UNRWA Schools and residential areas with potable water, particularly in response to the growing demand for drinking water amid the ongoing Israeli war on the Gaza Strip. In June 2026 the CMWU in cooperation with international and local partners has distributed approximately **105,000 cubic meters** of water through its owned and hired water trucks.



2.6.2 Installation of Water Bladders and tanks at IDPs site

The CMWU is still working on distribution water tanks and bladders to shelters besides assessing the proposed locations for the new installation. In June 2026 five water bladders of 5m³ capacity and three with 10m³ have been installed in different IDPs sites in Khan Younis as shown in below map.



Distributed Bladders in June

2.6.3 Water Trucking Services

CMWU tankers continue to distribute drinking water to residents and IDP shelters across all Gaza Strip governorates to alleviate the suffering caused by the ongoing crisis. Water trucking services remain essential, particularly as Mekorot supply is limited and frequently disrupted due to repeated damages.

In June, The CMWU has received **5 water trucks** of 10 m³ capacity through PWA and UNDP, with funding from the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSrelief). This support forms part of ongoing efforts to strengthen the delivery of safe drinking water to residents and IDPs across the Gaza Strip.

The newly delivered water tankers besides the already existing 53 trucks enhance the operational capacity of CMWU's to transport and distribute potable water more efficiently, improving access to safe drinking water in the most vulnerable and underserved areas.

Additional water tankers are also expected to be delivered in the coming period to further support and expand emergency water distribution operations.



2.6.4 CMWU Mobile Lab:

The CMWU still monitors through its portable lab and equipment the quality of distributed water to ensure providing safe water access to IDPs. This Lab was previously provided by WHO after the destruction of the CMWU central lab in Al Zahra city in March 2024.

The current tests that are conducted by the CMWU lab including TDS, EC, PH, Feacal coliform, E.coli, Turbidity



2.7 Repairing and Fixing the Damages of Infrastructure and WASH Facilities

2.7.1 ICRC Financed Emergency Interventions:

Agreements have been signed among the CMWU and ICRC to implement a group of emergency interventions and activities. Some of these activities were implemented, and others are still ongoing which include:

1- Service Works for Repairs of Water Wells, Production and Pumping Facilities

Repair works in June 2026 took place at the following water facilities:

Item	Facility	Municipality	Description	Lat.	Long.
1	Al-Nadi well	Burej	Maintenance works for submersible pump 30 HP, the work include rewinding of deteriorated electrical motor 30 HP.	34.404889	31.438410
2	El Sa'ada well	Khan Younis	Comprehensive maintenance works for deteriorated vertical pumping unit, the work included replace all damaged parts, dismantle and reinstall the pumping unit.	34.296302	31.346493



2- Hiring Heavy Machineries for water and wastewater Repairs

The contract has been extended till January 2027 to cover the urgent repairs of water and wastewater damages in all governorates. The following includes the repairs that have been implemented under this contract in June 2026

Municipality	Description
Khan Younis	- Maintenance of 395 meter of water networks - Maintenance and cleaning 2800 meter of sewage pipes and 130 manholes - Searching and detection work of sewage manholes. - Remove all waste concrete elements on wastewater line & Open Roads.
Middle Area	- Maintenance of 300 meter of water networks - cleaning and maintenance of 2000 meter of sewage pipelines and 100 manholes
Gaza	- Maintenance of 900 meter length of water networks - Maintenance and cleaning of 6300 meter of sewage pipes and 300 manholes - assessment and inspection the damages of sewage manholes.
North Gaza	- Maintenance of 395 meter of water networks - Maintenance and cleaning 2800 meter of sewage pipes and 130 manholes



3- Hiring Water Wells in Khan Younis

Through ICRC support, CMWU has renewed the agreement to hire four private water wells in Khan Younis, increasing their production from 1,200 m³/day to 3,000 m³/day to serve the IDPs at Al Mawasi area, which is now hosting thousands of IDPs.

In parallel, CMWU continues its efforts to repair damaged water wells and to connect IDP camps in Al Mawasi area to the public water network, aiming to replace the reliance on hired wells with public services. Recently, CMWU, in cooperation with Oxfam, completed Phase I and II of connecting a number of IDPs camps previously served by hired wells to the UAE pipeline, which supplies desalinated water from the Egyptian desalination plant. In the same time the contract of the hired wells is still ongoing until connecting more areas with public networks to ensure stability of water supply.

4- Assessment for Recommissioning Sheikh Ejleen WWTP (90%)

The consultancy of this assessment is nearly completed since the consultant “CEP” has developed the tender documents for the two phases of rehabilitation and recommissioning of WWTP and submitted the documents for review and approval.

5- Procurement of Electrical Generator to Operate Shoblaq Water Well in Zahra (5%)

The tender has been launched and still under evaluation, it includes procurement of second-hand generator from the local market to operate the recently rehabilitated shoblaq well to serve the returnees of Al Zahraa

6- Emergency Rehabilitation, Repair and Maintenance for Generators of Water and Wastewater Facilities in Gaza Strip (50%)

This contract was awarded to Abdulrahman Yassen Son's Co, it is still ongoing with 50% progress where the lack of materials hinders the maintenance and causes delay to complete the jobs.

7- Electrical Repairs for Damaged Panel Boards of Water and Wastewater Facilities (20%)

The contract was awarded to electro Co., during June repair works for electrical panels have been implemented in different WASH facilities

8- Procurement of electrical generator for Al Marwa water RO desalination plant (90%)

This contract included procurement of a generator 220 KVA to operate the newly constructed RO desalination plant at Al Marwa water well in Jabalia, the plant produces 37 m³/hr which provides a safe water access to more than 50,000 residents and IDPs in north Gaza. The generator has been inspected by CMWU technical team and will be commissioned and tested.

9- Construction of Hayat Rafah Water Desalination plant

The tender has been launched and is currently under evaluation. The project aims to provide a reliable water source for thousands of IDPs in Al Mawasi area, who are suffering from severe water shortages and limited access to available water resources.

The works include drilling of a water well, installation of a reverse osmosis (RO) desalination plant with a production capacity of 50 m³/hour, and implementation of all associated civil, mechanical, and electrical works required to ensure efficient and sustainable operation of the facility.

The completed plant is expected to serve approximately 60,000 IDPs in the targeted area



2.7.2 Disconnecting Sewage pipelines from Stormwater Ponds-Khan Younis

The CMWU has implemented a series of interventions to address the discharge of wastewater into **Mujadala, Abu Al Reesh, and Al Arayeshiya** stormwater retention ponds in Khan Younis City. The works included disconnecting wastewater pipelines from the stormwater drainage system, rehabilitating and cleaning the affected ponds.

These interventions were carried out with the support of ICRC and UNICEF, under projects that provided heavy machinery, skilled labor, and technical personnel,. The works have contributed to improving environmental and public health conditions, reducing pollution risks, preventing wastewater accumulation, and restoring the functionality of the stormwater management system under the challenging humanitarian conditions in the Gaza Strip.



2.7.3 Maintenance of three electrical Generators

The CMWU through Oxfam support has completed the maintenance of three generators. The maintenance aims to operate the following essential water facilities in Gaza city:

- Al Sheikh Redwan 11 water well, the generator with capacity of 330KVA
- Orabi water well with capacity of 110KVA
- Gaza workshop with capacity of 110KVA



2.7.4 Rehabilitation of Al Hawaber Sewage Pumping Station in Jabalia

The CMWU through UNICEF support is still working on rehabilitation of Al Hawaber sewage pumping station in Jabalia, the works include maintenance of pumps, manifold, electrical panels and cleaning the wet pit. This project forms part of CMWU's ongoing efforts to address urgent humanitarian needs and reduce the environmental and public health risks associated with sewage flooding, through the rehabilitation of key pumping stations and transmission pipelines to enable the safe transfer of wastewater and prevent flooding in residential areas.



2.7.5 Service Works for Repairs of Water Wells, Production and Pumping Facilities

The CMWU through Oxfam support is still working on the maintenance and rehabilitation of water wells to improve services to acceptable levels, the targeted facilities under this project are 15 water wells located in Gaza city and north Gaza. The progress till June 85%



2.7.6 Hiring Heavy Machineries and labors for Emergency Repairs

The CMWU through UNICEF support and under hiring machineries and labors contract has carried out many of emergency maintenance works for water and wastewater networks and facilities in the areas of Jabalia, Beit Lahia, Gaza City, the Middle Governorate, and Khan Younis. The works

including cleaning and maintenance of sewage manholes, dismantling pipes, replacement of damaged parts of pipelines and many repairs that ensure continuity of water and wastewater essential services.

During June, approximately 600 meters of water distribution networks and 3,000 meters of wastewater networks were repaired under this project. In addition, 100 sewer manholes were cleaned across the Gaza governorates to improve the performance of the wastewater system and reduce the risk of sewage overflows.



2.7.7 Maintenance of Al Qala'a water well in Khan Younis

The CMWU through UNICEF support has commenced the rehabilitation and maintenance works at Al Qala'a well, the works includes :

- Drilling and digging of water wells bore hole
- Supply and Install UPVC borehole casing 315mm diameters, and Install screen filter
- Well flushing, Cleaning and Pumping test.

The work still ongoing to complete the civil works for steel shed.



2.7.8 Rehabilitation of Two water wells Al Matahen and Old well in Al Qarara

The CMWU through Eco peace support has completed the maintenance of two water wells in AL Al Qarara, the first was AL Matahen and the following are the completed works

- Maintenance of exiting damaged pumping unit.
- Rewinding of 60HP, hollow shaft electric vertical.
- Electromechanical works
- Supply and install enclosure galvanized steel shed for the well.



2.7.9 Rehabilitation of Heteen Water Well

The CMWU through Eco peace support has completed the maintenance of Heteen water well which serves Rafah IDPs, The work in Heteen well included :

- Drilling and digging of water well
- Supply and Install UPVC borehole casing 160mm diameters, and Install screen filter
- Well flushing, Cleaning and Pumping test.
- Electromechanical works of the well includes (7 HP submersible pump, control operation panel,)
- Supply and install water supply network



2.7.10 The Provision of Rehabilitation and Installation of Boreholes in Gaza Strip

With support from UNICEF, the CMWU started the rehabilitation works in the following wells in the Egyptian camps in the middle area and Rafah camps in the south

#	Facility	Works	X	Y
1	Egyptian camp New Well 1 -	Start work in Egyptian camp New Well 1, the work includes : - Drilling and digging of water wells - Supply and Install UPVC borehole casing 225mm diameters, and Install screen filter - Well flushing, Cleaning and Pumping test.	34.40859°E	31.4877°N,

2	Egyptian camp - Administration Well (Old) -	Start work in Egyptian camp - Administration Well (Old), the work includes : - Well flushing, Cleaning and Pumping test.	34.40859°E	31.4877°N,
3	Al-Nakhail (1) camp - Al-Eqleimy	Start work in Al-Nakhail (1) camp - Al-Eqleimy, the work includes : - Drilling and digging of water wells - Supply and Install UPVC borehole casing 225mm diameters, and Install screen filter	34.256111	31.339346
4	Majd (2) camp - Al-Eqleimy	Start work in Majd (2) camp - Al-Eqleimy, the work includes : - Drilling and digging of water wells - Supply and Install UPVC borehole casing 225mm diameters, and Install screen filter	34.258922	31.337944



2.7.11 Emergency Repair of Three Water Wells

The CMWU through NRC support has completed the maintenance of three groundwater wells in Gaza City and Beit Lahia, the rehabilitated wells are:

- Abu Obida Well – Gaza City
- Bilal Bin Rabah Well – Beit Lahia
- Sabra 8 (Khalil Tibi) Well – Gaza City

The wells had sustained damage during the war and had remained out of service for several months. The repair works included Construction of wells' rooms , Maintenance of pumps, mechanical, and electrical rehabilitation

All rehabilitation works were successfully completed, restoring the operational capacity of the three wells and improving the reliability of water supply to around 40,000 inhabitants in Gaza and north Gaza.



2.7.12 Maintenance of Water Networks in Tal Al Hawa Neighborhood in Gaza

The CMWU through Oxfam and ESDC support has completed the maintenance of damaged water and wastewater networks in Tal Al Hawa area west of Gaza city. This project aims to improve the water services in this vital area and provide safe and reliable water access for more than 20,000 residents



2.7.13 Maintenance of Shabab and Al Reyada water well in Gaza

With support from PARC and CARE, CMWU has completed the rehabilitation and maintenance works at Shabab and Reyada water well in Gaza City. The works include the maintenance of well pump, manifold, and electrical control panels, in addition to the construction of well rooms using steel-sheet structures.

This well serves thousands of residents in western Gaza City, providing a reliable source of safe water and contributing to the continuity of essential water supply services for the surrounding communities.



2.7.14 Rehabilitation of Musadar Brackish Water Desalination Plant

With support from NRC, CMWU has completed the maintenance works at Al Musader RO desalination plant the works included: supply, Installation, and Commissioning of 4" × 40" BW RO Membrane (8membranes) and the works of repairing and painting the D.P room, maintenance of pressure pump, valves, electrical panel and dispensing unit



2.7.15 Repair of Sewage Networks in Khan Younis

With support from NRC, The CMWU has completed the maintenance of three wastewater networks in Khan Younis

- Al-Manshiya,
- Al-Kaseeha,
- and Abu Shammala areas in Khan Younis Governorate.

The implemented works aimed to improve the networks' capacity to convey and manage incoming wastewater from the served residential areas to the maximum possible extent under the current challenging conditions, while reducing wastewater overflows and associated public health risks.



2.7.16 Installation of Water Filling Point at Al Manshiya Desalination Plant

With support from NRC, The CMWU has completed the installation of water filling point at the newly constructed Al Manshiya desalination plant in Gaza city.

This plant produces daily around 500 m³ of desalinated water which is distributed to people through water trucking and where the new filling point with feeding production capacity 90m³/hr @ 2 bar has improved the filling process and enhance the production of the RO plant to serve more than to 90,000 residents and IDPs in Gaza.



2.7.17 Maintenance of Sewage networks in Khan Younis

The CMWU in cooperation with Al Nakheel Association for Development, has commenced maintenance and rehabilitation works on wastewater networks in several areas of Khan Younis City. The works are being implemented under the Emergency WASH Response Project, funded by the Occupied Palestinian Territory Humanitarian Fund (oPt HF).

The project includes the rehabilitation and maintenance of wastewater networks in Al Amal Neighborhood, specifically around Hamza Mosque, Hisham Amer Block, and the area opposite the Palestine Red Crescent Hospital. The works also cover the rehabilitation of several wastewater network sections in the city center, including Al Dananeer Street and the vicinity of Al-Aqsa Community College.



2.7.18 Emergency Maintenance For Hesbit Al Samak Sewage Carrier line- Khan Younis

The technical teams of the CMWU through UNICEF support has carried out emergency maintenance works on the wastewater transmission line serving Hesbit AL Samak Sewage Pumping Station in Khan Younis. The intervention aimed to prevent wastewater overflows, reduce associated environmental and public health risks, ensure the continuous operation of the pumping station, and maintain the efficiency of the wastewater system in the area.

The Sewage Pumping Station is one of the city's critical wastewater facilities, it serves more than 100,000 people, making its continued operation essential for protecting public health and the environment.



2.7.19 Supply Three Electrical Generators for WASH Facilities

The CMWU with support from UNICEF has provided three electrical generators to operate a number of key municipal water wells in north Gaza. CMWU's technical teams had completed the rehabilitation and preparation of the targeted wells and reconnected them to the municipal water distribution networks, enabling the resumption of water pumping and improving access to safe water for thousands of people in their homes, shelters, and displacement sites.

The targeted wells are among the most important water sources in the north Gaza due to their high production capacities and the good quality of the extracted groundwater. The generators were installed at the following wells:

- Al Tawbah Well in Beit Lahia, with a production capacity of 70 m³/hour.
- New Al Nazla Well in Jabalia, with a production capacity of 100 m³/hour.
- Alwan Well in Jabalia, with a production capacity of 140 m³/hour.



3 Needs Assessment of Water and Wastewater Infrastructure throughout the Gaza Strip

Through UNICEF support, two consulting firms signed contracts with UNICEF to conduct the needs assessment and prepare the tender documents for the WASH damages. A team from PWA, CMWU, and municipal staff have been dedicated to closely following up on the progress of both assignments. The progress of the two assignments is as follows:

- ✓ **Provision of Consulting Engineering Services for Detailed Needs Assessment and Tender Documents for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure in Southern Area; Khan Younis and Deir El Balah**

101 water wells have been assessed , 21 reservoirs and, 17 sewage pumping station where the assessment of the water tanks and stormwater pumping station is ongoing as the below table:

Type	Assessed
Water Wells	101
Wastewater Pumping Station	17
Water Tanks and Pumping stations	21
Stormwater pumping stations	7

The field visits to Water and Wastewater networks that were completed by the Consultant's Team are shown in the dashboard as per the link below. The Consultant's Team was accompanied by Khan Younis municipality's engineers, See link below for further dashboard presentation <https://dash.raiconsult.com/Unicef-enhanced-dashboard>



✓ **Provision of Consulting Engineering Services for Detailed Needs Assessment and Tender Documents for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure in Southern Area; Gaza and North**

Substantial progress was achieved in the assessment of municipal groundwater wells, water reservoirs and booster stations, wastewater pumping stations and stormwater pumping stations.

Water Wells:

- A total of 182 wells were identified across the municipalities within the contract scope.
- In accordance with the contractual ceiling, 80 wells have been assessed (44% completion overall), while 102 wells (56%) remain not yet completed.
- 88 wells are accessible (outside the orange area) and 94 wells are not accessible (inside the orange area).

Water Reservoirs:

- A total of 12 reservoirs were identified across the municipalities within the contract scope.
- 6 out of 12 reservoirs have been assessed (50% completion), while 6 remain not yet completed (50%).
- reservoirs are accessible and 7 are not accessible.

Wastewater Pumping Stations (WWPSs):

- A total of 31 wastewater pumping stations were identified across municipalities within the scope.
- 18 facilities have been assessed (58% completion), while 13 remain not yet completed (42%).
- Accessibility analysis based on the orange area indicates that 17 facilities are accessible and 14 are not accessible.

Stormwater Pumping Stations (SWPSs):

- A total of 5 stormwater pumping stations were identified.
- Assessment completion has reached 100%, with all 5 facilities assessed.
- Accessibility analysis based on the orange area confirms that 4 facilities are accessible (outside the orange area) and 1 is not accessible (inside the orange area).

Pipelines:

In Gaza Municipality, the updated pipeline assessment covers approximately:

- 91.59 km of water pipelines;
- 99.45 km of wastewater pipelines; and
- 26.39 km of stormwater pipelines.

In Jabalia Municipality, the assessment covers approximately:

- 82.02 km of water pipelines;
- 63.38 km of wastewater pipelines; and
- 5.90 km of stormwater pipelines.

In Beit Lahia Municipality:

- 10.31 km of water pipelines;
- 35.43 km of wastewater pipelines; and

- The assessment process has produced a standardized, georeferenced dataset and interactive dashboards, enabling rapid visualization of damage patterns, operational status, and emerging priorities across the assessed municipalities.

- ✓ An interactive GIS dashboard has been developed as part of the assessment to provide UNICEF and partners with direct access to detailed, georeferenced assessment results for WASH facilities. The dashboard supports rapid visualization of damage, operational status, and priority needs and is available at :
- ✓ **Wells** : <https://giscep.site/gisportal/apps/dashboards/f1dfb0d08ded429c8b039499a1759e4b>
- ✓ **Water Reservoirs and Booster Stations** : <https://giscep.site/gisportal/apps/dashboards/45e5ee2552cf473bb309cb069110e027>
- ✓ **Pumping Stations** : <https://giscep.site/gisportal/apps/dashboards/e3d8acc41d6a46779e39cc8c93d1b129>
- ✓ **Username:** guest01 **Password:** guest@20298%\$#



4 Challenges:

- Lack of materials: As a result of the indiscriminate bombing of a large part of the infrastructure of the water and sanitation sector and the lack of materials, this led to an exacerbation of the problem and the inability to repair what was destroyed except for a small part of it. On the other hand, the Israeli side is still preventing the entry of materials necessary to operate the water and sanitation system, especially generators, generators spare parts, and spare parts for networks and desalination plants.
- Prevention the Entry of Lubricant Oils for Generators and Water trucks: The Israeli side continues to prevent the entry of lubricant oils, threatening the operation of WASH generators as well as water and sewage trucks.
- Cutting off Mekorot water: frequent cutting off the water supply of the three connections of Mekorot Company's water, affects severely on water supply in the three governorates especially Khan Younis which has destroyed infrastructure and water sources.
- Cutting off the electricity supply: Since the beginning of the war, cutting off electricity from all lines supplying the Gaza Strip, in addition to stopping operation of the only power plant in Gaza from working, has led to damage on the water supply system, which has resulted into reducing the operation of WASH facilities in a reduced capacity by using the already overloaded diesel generators as this led to a reduction in the amount of water from 100 liters to an average of less than 25 liters per person per day.
- The systematic Israeli destruction of infrastructure: Since the first day of the war, the IDF deliberately to destroy the water sector infrastructure , whereas sewage treatment plants, pumping stations, the desalination plant in northern Gaza, the main lines, machinery and equipment were destroyed, especially in Gaza, Khan Younis and the north Gaza, which led to the difficulty of supply water through networks which led to a state of thirst among many people of Gaza and the north, in addition to the sewage flooding in many areas and neighborhoods.
- Difficulty of coordination during the war: Despite numerous attempts by the CMWU, PWA and international institutions such as OCHA, UNICEF, and the Red Cross to coordinate with the Israeli side to enter the necessary materials, equipment, and machinery to operate and maintain water and sewage systems. All these attempts did not succeed in convincing the Israeli side to approve the coordination requests.
- Targeting crews working in the water sector: The Israeli side deliberately targeted crews working in the water sector, as 7 workers in the CMWU, including engineers and field workers, were

martyred, the last of which was targeting two water distribution workers in water tankers serving the displaced population.

- The deterioration of the financial situation of the CMWU: As a result of the war on Gaza, all resources of funding for the CMWU activities stopped, especially after it stopped issuing water bills due to the inability of the population to commit to paying their water bills. This is in addition to stopping the implementation of all projects, which negatively affected the CMWU ability to finance its various expenses, such as Operating, maintaining, and paying the salaries of its employees and workers who are still performing their duties in operating and maintaining water and sanitation facilities to serve the residents of the Gaza Strip, especially in places of displacement. This is in addition to the inability of the CMWU to pay the dues of the CMWU sub-contractors from the private sector.
- Fuel Shortage: As a result of the continued Israeli ban on the entry of materials into Gaza since the collapse of the ceasefire in March 2025, a severe fuel shortage has occurred. This has directly impacted on the operation of water and sanitation facilities, which rely on fuel to power their generators.
- Accessibility and Security Challenges: Military operations and the location of several facilities near the yellow line have also severely affected access to water and wastewater facilities, hindering their operation. This has significantly disrupted service provision, particularly in light of the already limited water resources.