

IASC Briefing on Palestine

Reflections on Gaza Recovery Efforts

23rd June 2016, Geneva



Background

- **Blockade since 2007 and 3 major escalations in 6 years**
 - Devastated public infrastructure
 - Chronic power deficit disrupts supply of basic services
 - Restrictions on movement of people and goods
- **3,500** units pending from pre-2014 conflicts (1,900 totally destroyed)
- **75,000** housing unit deficit due to natural growth
 - Already vulnerable living conditions: overcrowding and inadequate shelter



OPE Jul-Aug 2014

During conflict:

- 28% of 1.8 Million Gaza population internally displaced
- 300,000 people at UNRWA collective centres (schools)
- 200,000 people displaced to host families or to public or unfinished buildings

- **11,000 units destroyed**
- **6,800 units severe damage**
- **5,700 units major damage**
- **142,500 units minor damage**

100,000+ IDPs unable to return home



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Response Strategy

Emergency Assistance:

- **Collective Centres**

- Last one closed July 2015

- **NFI distributions**

- Bedding set
- Hygiene set
- Kitchen set

- **Tents**

- **Winterization/sealing-off kits**



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Response Strategy

Temporary Solutions:

- **Temporary Shelters**
 - ‘Caravans’
 - Timber shelter
- **Transitional Shelter Cash Assistance**
 - Rental assistance
 - Host families
 - Makeshifts
 - Emergency repairs
- **Finishing off unfinished units**

Durable solutions:

- **Repair of damaged units**
- **Advocacy for holistic reconstruction**





Cash Assistance

- 17,250 families received a one-off reintegration cash assistance grant of \$500
- Transitional Shelter Cash Assistance
 - 17,044 Sept 2014-Dec 2015
 - 7,378 for 3 months in 2016
 - 1,081 for 6 months in 2016
 - Gap remains for **8,300 families in 2016**
- According to WB, at current rate reconstruction pledges will only be fulfilled by 2019.



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Caravans/TDS

Transitional Displacement Sites:

- **Sites ranging from 25-100 caravans**

Caravans:

- **Varying quality**
- **Additional summarization/
winterization assistance required**
- **Need for maintenance**

Temporary Shelters

Timber transitional shelters:

- **470 distributed to March 2016**
- **Lifespan up to 5 years**

Suitable in:

- **Khan Younis, Rafah**
 - Lack of rental stock
 - Larger spaces
 - Own plot
- **Initial sidestep to restrictions until challenges as a result of tighter wood restrictions**



Photo: CRS



Progress in Repairs

- **51% minor repairs completed**

- 11% in progress
- 1% funded

Gap of 54,890 units (37%)

- **2% major repairs completed**

- 39% in progress
- 4% funded

Gap of 3,117 units (55%)

Slowdown in repair funding:

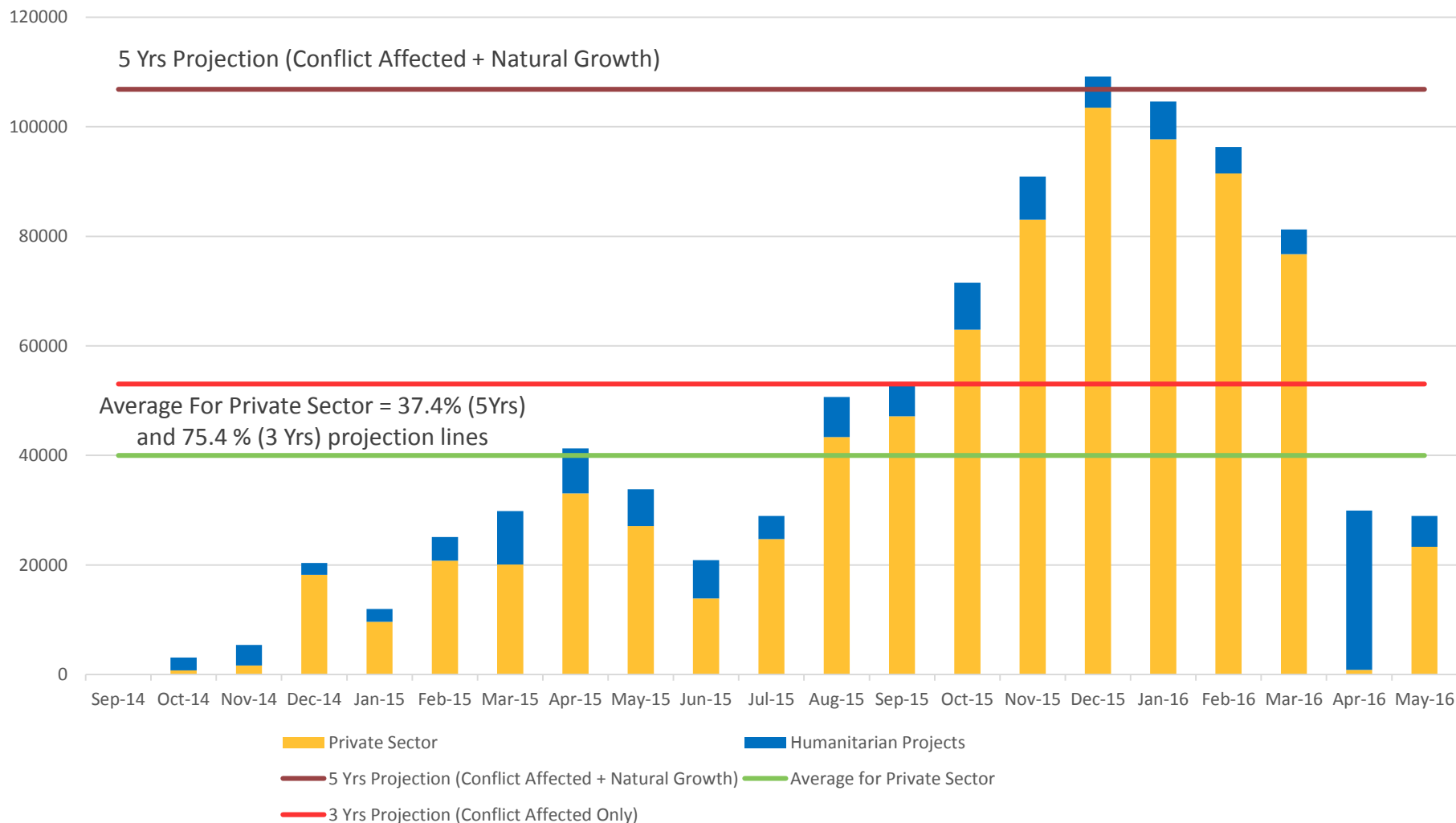
- 70,000 repairs in first 6 months
- 30,000 repairs Apr 15-Apr 16
- Only 2,100 more funded this year



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Construction Material Tracking

Quantities of Cement and Steel Bars (ton) entered through Kerem Shalom Crossing



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Progress in Return

- **48% severe repairs completed**
 - 43% in progress
 - 9% funded

No gap – hopefully completed this year
- **10% reconstructed units completed**
 - 17% in progress
 - 24% funded

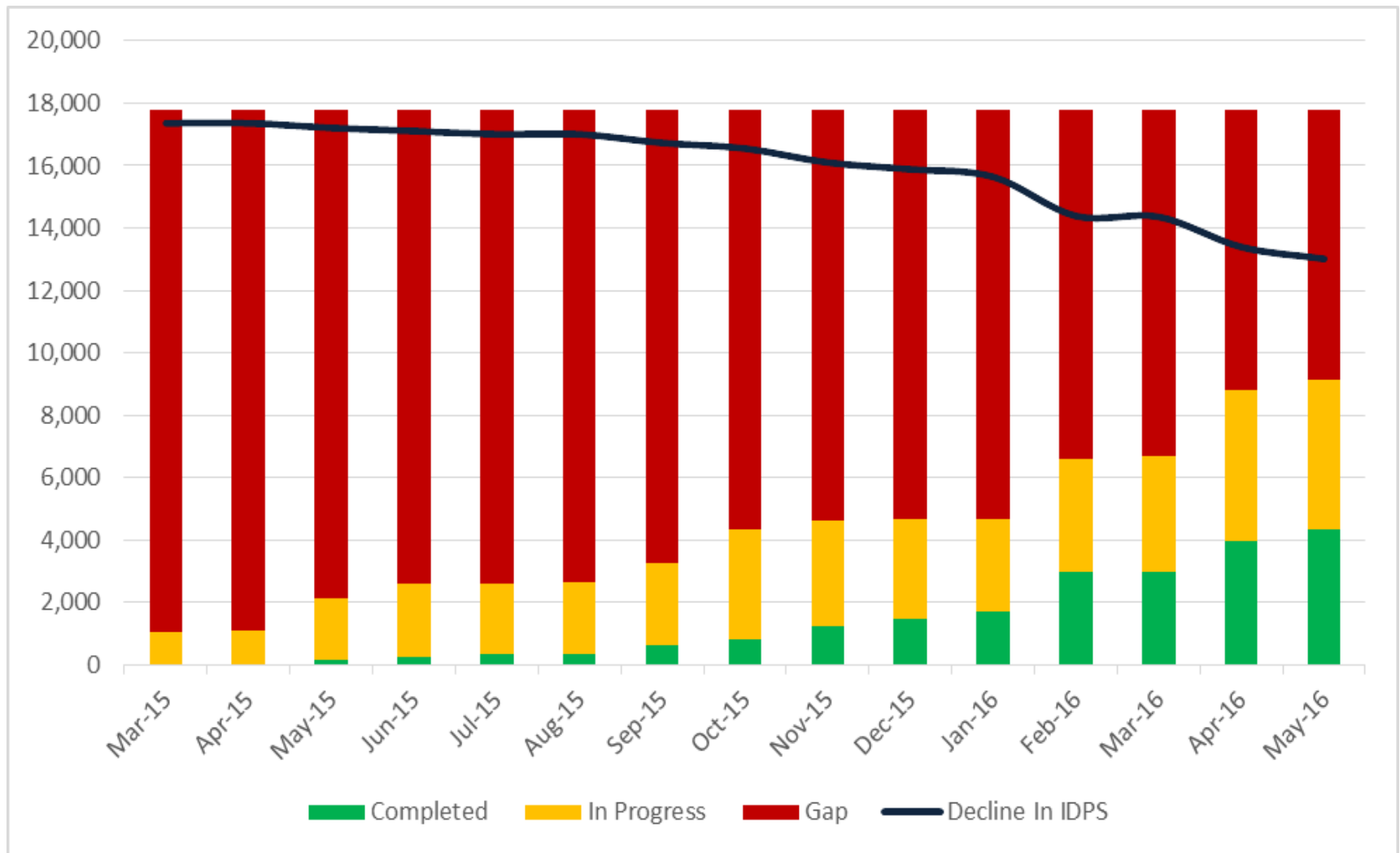
Gap of 5,466 units (50%)

Even if all in progress and funded completed this year, over **30,000 IDPs** will remain at the end of 2016.



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Progress in rehabilitation and reconstruction of uninhabitable houses





Challenges

- Outcomes
- Funding
- Materials – direct and indirect
- Prioritization
- Holistic approach
- Participation



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Advocacy

- Tracking and information sharing
- Progress and process
 - HLP and urban planning
- Prioritization vs coverage
- Integrated approach
 - Reconstruction workshop



Photo: BDLA

Recovery to what?

- Humanitarian-recovery-reconstruction continuum
- 'Build back better'
- Pre-2014 is not the benchmark
- Stabilisation agenda



Photo: NRC