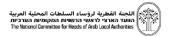
# National Emergency Information Center for Arab Society Briefing on Needs

\*2163 ArabHelpCenter@mse.gov.il











The impact of the war on Arab society

The center's objectives

The center's tasks

The Authority for Economic
Development of the Arab Society
(Ministry of Social Equality) works in
emergency to reduce gaps, alleviate
tensions and improve the quality of
services provided to the Arab
society

As a first and immediate response, a joint, National Emergency Information Center for the Arab society was established.

The Center hosted by Kfar Qasem Municipality and serves the Arab society in Israel's center and North

The National Council for Heads of Arab Local Authorities provides support and coordination vis-à-vis government institutions and aims to enhance local authorities' resilience during emergency

An additional center in Hura serves the Bedouin society in the Negev

The impact of the war on Arab society

The center's objectives

The center's tasks

A second, Northern front will affect many Arab municipalities whose preparedness for emergency is lacking

Significant gaps exist in emergency preparedness between the Arab and Jewish local authorities

Lack of awareness among the public and professionals with regard to emergency preparedness and response

Rapid governmental actions are not always adapted to the reality and needs of the Arab society

Concerns about the potential for violent events (May 21)

The impact of the war on Arab society

The center's objectives

The center's tasks

Assist civil protection

Strengthen social resilience

The impact of the war on Arab society

The center's objectives

The center's tasks

- Providing essential information from the Home Front Command and State authorities to the Arab Society
- Developing and disseminating emergency-related information and content in Arabic
- Monitoring and combating "fake news" in and about the Arab society
- Identifying local authorities' needs
- Identifying needs, actions and services provided by civil society organizations and philanthropy
- Organizing trainings for local authorities
- Strengthening connection to government ministries' actions and activities
- Addressing preparedness for the "morning after"



פתיחת מוקד חירום למידע ותמיכה בחברה הערבית إفتتاح مركز الطوارئ للمعلومـات والـدعـم للـمـجـتـمـع الـعـربـي

















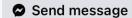
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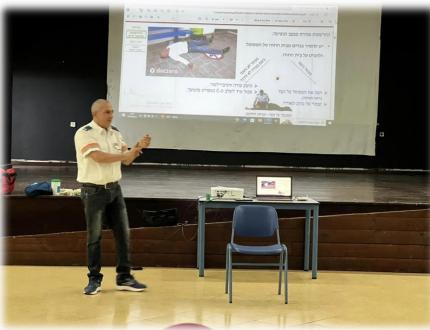
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2 comments 6 shares 108K views





## Immediate tasks

Mapping and assessing needs in local authorities

Launching campaigns

Collaboration and coordination with government ministries (e.g. health, welfare, education)

Call for civil society organizations

Awareness raising campaigns (eg. Choosing the most protected space)

Organizing trainings in local authorities (eg. first aid, civil defense, volunteers)

## Arab Local Authorities emergency preparedness and needs – highlights

## Mapping and assessing emergency needs in Arab Local Authorities



Identifying existing solutions in Arab local authorities



Needs assessment: lack of resources and organizational capacity



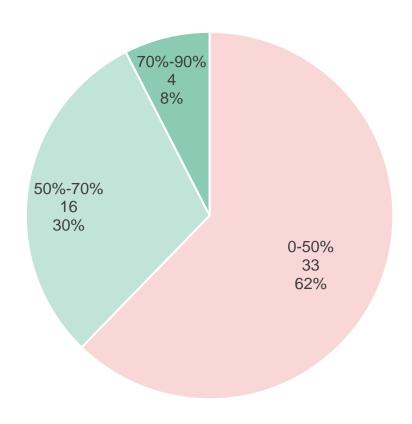
All local authorities have an emergency team, but structural barriers are evident

54

Local authorities responded (of 58)

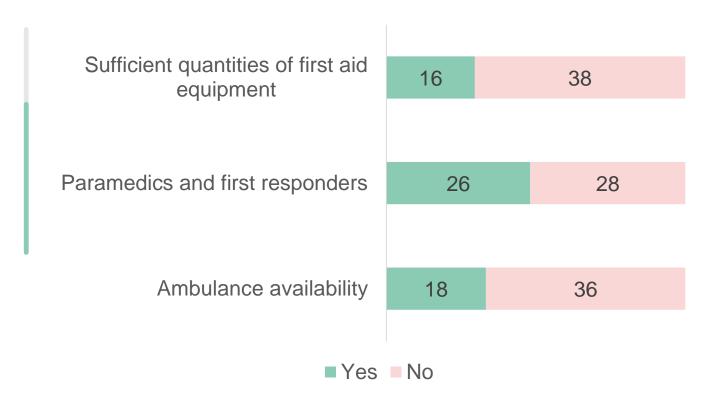
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## The percentage of households with a protected spaces ("mamad")



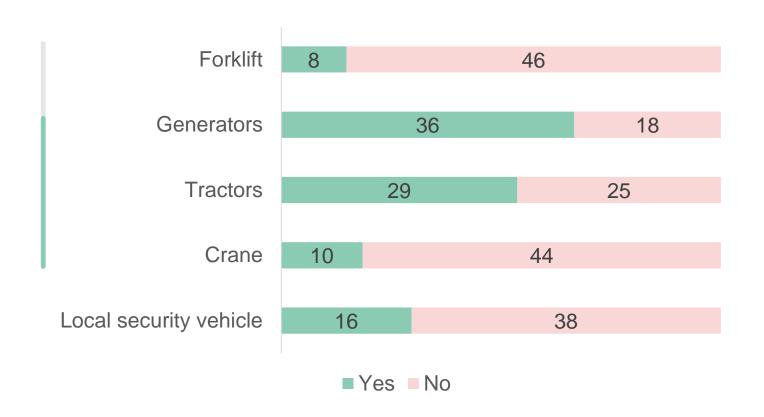
Approximately two-thirds of the local authorities (62%) report a low percentage of households with a protected space ("mamad")

## What essential emergency services/equipment are available in the authority at a sufficient level?



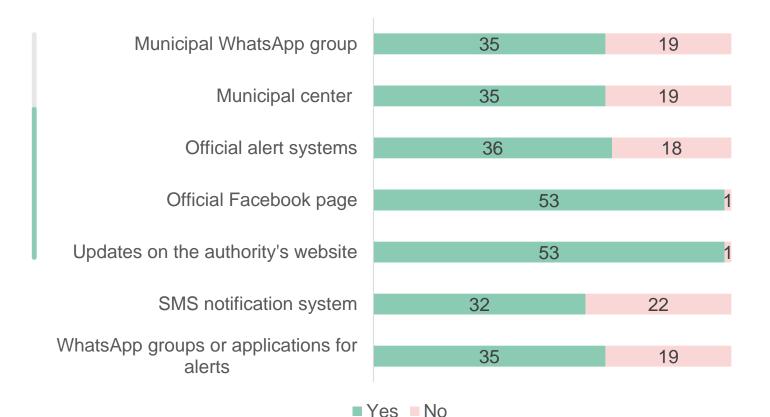
- 70% of the local authorities have a shortage of first aid equipment in sufficient quantities
- In more than 50% of local authorities, there are no paramedics and first responders
- Only one-third of the authorities have ambulances

## Mechanical engineering equipment in local authorities



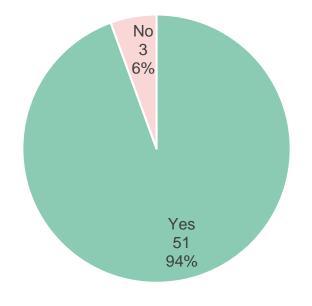
- In 70% to 85% of the local authorities, there is a lack of operational vehicles: cranes, security vehicles, and tractors
- About half of the authorities report a shortage of tractors.
- In one-third of the authorities, generators are not available.

## Means of communication

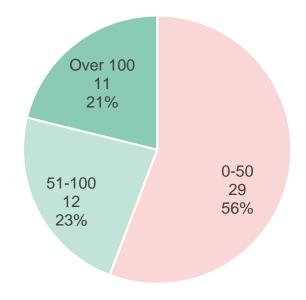


- Most local authorities use the authority's website and Facebook page as tools to communicate with residents
- Additional tools mentioned include:
  - Telegram
  - A dedicated application
  - Walkie talkies
  - CRM systems

## **Volunteers**



In most local authorities, there is a volunteer system



- There are a total of approximately 3,800 volunteers across all the local authorities
- 56% of the authorities have up to 50 volunteers, of which 7 have 15 or less volunteers

## Training needs for volunteer system



Many local authorities require training in various areas, particularly for crisis management and first aid

Other suggested topics for training include:

- Workshops on community resilience
- Volunteers with engineering expertise
- Emergency engineering consulting
- Training for mental health first responders
- SAAR Training (Preliminary Self-Assistance teams)

## Summary









## **Training**

In order to improve preparedness, trainings are needed in the following fields:

- First Aid
- Mental and psychological resilience
- Managing municipal situation rooms
- Managing volunteers
- Paramedics

#### **Equipment**

Local authorities lack equipment and tools to deal with emergencies, such as:

- Generators
- Emergency equipment and gears
- Medical supplies and first aid kits

#### **Communication**

Most authorities use their website or their Facebook page to communicate with the public.

There is a need to develop and implement additional tools to increase outreach

#### Infrastructure

The personal and public emergency infrastructure in local authorities are lacking, and there are vast need in this domain:

- Public shelters
- Improve the accessibility of public shelters
- Emergency vehicles

Swift, flexible and coordinated response is needed. Philanthropic assistance should be directed to specific organizations within each category

## **Mixed Cities**

## **Snapshot from the Mixed Cities\***

\*Note: this is a partial snapshot as of mid October. Things are rapidly changing and more actions are being taken by the municipalities

	Ramla	Lod	Tel-Aviv Jaffa	Haifa	Acre	Maalot-Tarshiha	Nof-Ha-Galil
Situation Room	Active	Active	Active	Active	Active	Separate but closely coordinated	Active. Working through neighborhoods
Communication with local leadership groups (examples)	Various leader forums (council members, religious leaders)	Calming messages via different groups and social media	In talks to convey calming messages	Links with local leaders and coalitions of local NGOs	Various leader forums (council members, religious leaders) working through mediation cetners	Focus on de- escalation through religious leaders	Ongoing work with Arab council members and issuing joint statements
Dissemination of information and calming messages	Ongoing messages and instruction	Monitoring social networks	Campaigns and working through social networks	Issuing statements on billboards and other channels	Social media monitoring, residents' organization, spreading messages	Instructional videos in Arabic on shelter locations, content translation	Updates and messages in Arabic, creation of calming messages
Translation to Arabic	V	Insufficient	V	V Arab spokesman in the Municipality	Insufficient	V Arabic speaking volunteer groups	Message and instruction to Arabic
Shortages - equipment, budget, shelters.		Lack of shelters and equipment for the Arab society			Lack in irregular budget requests, Lack of equipment and budgets for shelters	Transforming public buildings into shelters	Delayed budgets by the Ministry of Interior an Ministry of Education

## **Action summary - Mixed cities**

#### **Actions to date**

- Increased awareness and wellplaced mechanisms to prevent the return of May 2021 events.
- No guarantee that the situation will remain calm

#### **Required Actions**

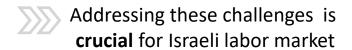
- Enhance campaigns that reduce tensions between Jews and Arabls, identify joint interests and promote equal distribution of resources
- Central role and support is needed for community leaders and groups, public officials and community organizers
- Need to enhance individual and community resilience (mediations centers, welfare activities etc)
- Continue to promote existing governmental plans
- Asist in fast removal of administrative and bureaucratic barriers

## **Employment**

## **Employment**

## Israeli economy and labor market are likely to face significant challenges:

- Labor force shortages particularly for lowpaid jobs
- Reduced economic activity will lead firms to impose unpaid leave. Likely to increase and impact Arab society.
- Tensions between Jews and Arabs in the workplace and increased fear amongst Arab workers to attend workplace
- Collecting data as things unfold.





## **Required steps:**

- 1. Reducing tensions addressing exclusion of Arab workers, preserving diversity and highlighting the role of Arab workers in supporting the national economy
- 2. Providing employers with trainings to address complex situations
- 3. Using mechanisms such as employment guidance centers (Ryan) to address needs
- 4. Investing in financial mechanisms that provide affordable, legal credit to prevent expansion of black market loans
- 5. Leveraging the expertise of civil society organizations in the field

## **Main Governmental Actions**

## Central government actions and next steps

01

#### Allocating 35-40 Million NIS for immediate and urgent needs:

- Placing shelters in the Negev
- Renovating shelters in the North (Ministry of Construction and Housing)
- Emergency equipment (Ministry of Interior)
- Supporting situation rooms and emergency plans (Ministry for Social Equality)
- Supporting civil society organizations that promote emergency preparedness (National Insurance)

02

#### Modifying and adjusting existing budgets and activities within GR 550, for example:

- Responding through "Maward" in emergency
- Prioritizing emergency preparedness and educational activity in schools (Ministry of Education)
- Promoting an additional resilience center for the Arab society (Ministry of Health)

03

Strengthening ties between different government ministries and heads of local authorities to increase trust

04

Continued support in the National Emergency Information Center – a platform for ongoing and future work

## In the hope of calmer days!



מוקד חירום לתמיכה ומידע לחברה הערבית



مركز الطوارئ للدعم والمعلومات للمجتمع العربي







