

## MOFA Germany Story Perforated water tank and cracked walls



*“Um Ali was affected by the recent conflict in Gaza. She was not able to use her perforated water tank. Now with CARE’s help with a project funded by the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs to implement Emergency Shelter and Water Assistance in Gaza, Um Ali has received a new water tank, in addition to plastic sheets to cover her broken window”*

Um Ali is 48 years old. She lives in the Al Mughraqa community of Gaza City with her husband and three children, two daughters and one son. Um Ali’s husband suffers from physical and mental disabilities and is unable to work. The family has no job and no source of income.

During the recent crisis in Gaza, Um Ali and her family had to flee their home and seek refuge in her parent’s home in the Al An Nuseirat Refugee Camp. Once it was safe, they returned but they found their home heavily damaged with cracks and bullet holes all over the walls and the window panes blown out. “It was so awful and sad when we returned but we had no option but to stay,” said Um Ali.

Despite all the hardships she faces at home, Um Ali volunteers her time at a local community organization to help document the names of families in her community who were affected by the bombardment.

Half of Um Ali's roof-top water tank is damaged by 17 bullet holes, so she is only able to use half of it (250 litres). "A new tank will cost me 600 NIS and I don't have this money. If it were not for a food basket provided by CARE, I don't know how I'd feed the children, Um Ali says.

Um Ali's family has also received plastic shelters for windows and roofs from CARE to cover her windows and roof. "We feel warmer now, thanks to God and to CARE's staff".

After a couple of days, Um Ali received a plastic water tank, "I was so happy when I knew that CARE will provide me with the water tank, I was using the old one, which full of holes, I tried to fill in the holes with textiles and plastic covers, but it didn't work."

Um Ali and her family are completely dependent on external assistance. She is among to 80% of all people living in Gaza that are dependent of external assistance.

"Despite of the hard time we went through, I am happy, that we have people like CARE and the people of Germany, who are thinking of us and taking care of us, without CARE my only option will be staying in an unhealthy and cold home with my three kids and disabled husband".

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