

INJAZ CENTER EMERGENCY SITUATION ROOM FLASH UPDATE

Dear Valued Partners,

Injaz remains steadfast in its dedication to enhancing the resilience of the Arab community, ensuring their preparedness to effectively respond to emergencies, and advancing a shared society in Israel. The Emergency Situation Room stands as a pivotal component of this commitment, and the ongoing initiatives have demonstrated tangible positive impacts.

This communication serves to provide you with an update on the advancements made within our Emergency Situation Room, established to swiftly deliver appropriate support to the Arab community in times of crisis.

Your unwavering support and partnership in these vital endeavors are highly appreciated, and we encourage you to reach out should you have any questions or require further information.



Injaz Center



Injaz | אינג'אז | انجاز

המרכז המקצועי לטיפול בסיטואציות חירום
Center For Professional Arab Local Governance (Reg)
המרכז המקצועי לקידום הרשויות המקומיות הערביות ע"ר



ההיئة العربية للطوارئ
הוועד הערבי לחירום
The Arab Emergency Committee

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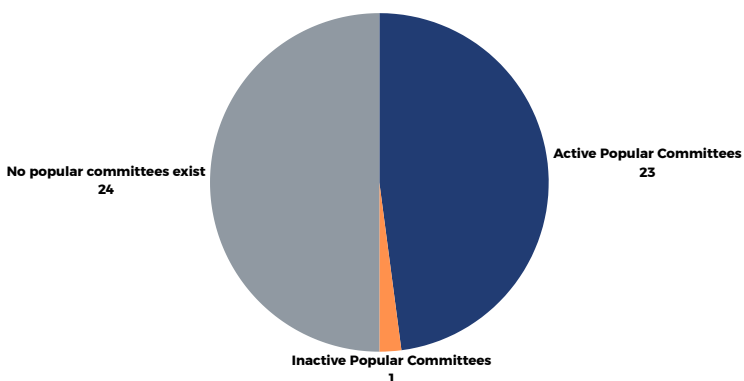
Since its inception, Injaz's Emergency Situation Room has taken on a number of initiatives including:

1. Mapping Infrastructure Amid Emergency Situations:

a. Popular Committees, read the full mapping and recommendations: [EN](#) / [AR](#) / [HE](#)

The mapping identified 26 active popular committees in Arab towns and mixed cities, including 23 in Arab towns and 3 in mixed cities. These committees are primarily focused on liaising with local authorities, engaging in political activity, and initiating social and community initiatives.

Despite their active presence, these committees are not currently involved in emergency response efforts. The mapping suggests the need to establish a lasting and locally organized "infrastructure" for handling emergency situations within the Arab community. This would involve integrating popular committees into the local emergency response setup. The mapping also provides contact information for the heads of popular committees, which could be used to initiate communication and collaboration with these organizations.



Overall, the mapping provides valuable insights into the existing landscape of popular committees in Arab towns and mixed cities and identifies opportunities for strengthening their role in emergency response efforts.

b. Charting Public Shelters, read the full mapping and recommendations: [EN](#) / [AR](#) / [HE](#)

This mapping provides an overview of the existing public shelters in Arab communities. The majority of the shelters are located within educational institutions, but there is still a significant deficit in shelters, especially in unrecognized villages in the Negev. The mapping also makes recommendations for government ministries, local authorities, and civil society organizations to improve the preparedness of Arab communities for emergencies, read the key findings of the mapping:

- The majority of shelters (87%) are located within educational institutions.
- Only 13% of shelters are located in public areas or community centers.
- The number of shelters is inadequate to accommodate the entire population or the students they were originally designed for.
- There is a significant deficit in shelters in unrecognized villages in the Negev.

Educational Institution	Total Included in the Mapping	Number of Shelters
Schools (Elementary, Middle, and High)	100	164
Special Education Schools	14	10
Kindergartens	210	66
Special Education Kindergartens	5	3



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2. Advocacy on Public Health Initiatives

Injaz Center has partnered with the Ministry of Health to conduct a series of tours in Arab villages along the northern border to assess the needs of these communities and provide support during challenging times. The tours have included engagements with local authorities and emergency teams, and have identified a list of immediate needs, including facilitating evacuation agreements, consolidating health fund operations, supplying medical equipment, enhancing mental health services, and providing medication to the elderly. Injaz has committed to forwarding the list of needs to the Ministry of Health for prompt attention.



the Ministry of Education, including the budget supervisor in the ministry, the director of society and youth, and other senior officials, where we emphasized the importance of implementing informal and non-formal educational programs and youth clubs in the afternoon hours in the shadow of the war to prevent a deterioration of the situation, as was the case in the events of May 2021. On November 22, 2023, we officially received a notification from the Ministry of Education regarding the non-freezing of the budget and the immediate implementation of the program.



3. Education and Financial resilience amidst prevailing emergency situations;

Education: Over the past month and in order to prevent the freezing of this budget, Injaz, in collaboration with the Treasurers Forum, the Forum of Youth Department Directors, and the National Committee for Heads of Arab Local Authorities, held numerous meetings with senior officials in-

Balance Grants: In recent months, Injaz, working through the Treasurers Forum and in coordination with the National Committee for Heads of Local Authorities, successfully advocated for the release of an additional balance grant budget totaling 200 million NIS. Recognizing the urgent needs of Arab local authorities during the state of emergency, Injaz, in close partnership with the National Committee for Heads of Arab Local Authorities, worked extensively with the Ministry of Interior. We are pleased to report that our collective efforts resulted in the approval and release of the 200 million NIS budget on the 8th of November 2023, after being held for over 4 months.



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Reducing Disparities and Gaps Fund: In collaboration with the Treasurers Forum and Sikkuy-Aufuq, Injaz conducted an in-depth research study on the new criteria of the Reducing Disparities Fund. Following the war, Injaz, in coordination with Sikkuy-Aufuq and the National Committee for Heads of Arab Local Authorities, worked to release the budget for the Reducing Disparities and Gaps Fund on a monthly basis. This initiative, aiming to ensure financial resilience for Arab local authorities during emergencies, saw the budget released to the authorities on the 24th of November, 2023.

4. Data-Base

Injaz Center is in the process of establishing a database designed to enhance information exchange between government ministries and Arab local authorities, with a specific focus on facilitating communication during emergency situations. The comprehensive database will compile data from all Arab local authorities in Israel, encompassing contact details for key decision-makers. This integrated information system aims to automate communication channels between Injaz and the authorities, streamlining the process and enabling efficient tracking of progress on government programs and initiatives, especially during emergency situations.

The database is still in the pilot phase, but Injaz has already learned some valuable lessons and is committed to developing a database that is effective and user-friendly. The feedback from the pilot phase will be used to improve the database before it is rolled out to all Arab local authorities.

