

Pathways to Peace: Gaza Ceasefire and Reconstruction

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Abstract:

This article discusses the ongoing Gaza ceasefire and the crucial link between peace and development. It explores the diplomatic efforts, humanitarian strategies, and reconstruction plans aimed at transforming the fragile truce into a sustainable peace.

Article:

In the Gaza conflict, an unsteady ceasefire has been holding since January 19, 2025, and is viewed as a valuable first step toward making peace and rebuilding after months of violent turmoil. This ceasefire, facilitated by a three-phase proposal regarding Israel and Hamas, intends to stop the fighting, allow for hostage exchanges, and support a long-term reconstruction phase in Gaza.

The ceasefire agreement provides for the release of Israeli hostages by Hamas in return for Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, along with phased humanitarian aid deliveries and partial Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. Despite challenges and mutual accusations of violations, the ceasefire aims to open talks and facilitate relief.

Egypt has taken the lead in presenting a comprehensive five-year reconstruction plan for Gaza, estimated at \$53 billion. The plan stresses phased rebuilding, beginning with rubble removal, mobile houses, and health units, while specifying zones for temporary population relocation. It is also security-conscious, recommending that Egyptian and Jordanian agencies train Palestinian security forces. The plan envisions a technocratic Palestinian governing committee for Gaza excluding Hamas, and calls for UN peacekeeping assistance.

Arab states are working to gather international support and funding for this initiative, especially from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. This reconstruction initiative dovetails with broader peace initiatives, intending to move from a ceasefire to full-scale peace negotiations.

Rebuilding Gaza is not only about restoring infrastructure; it is about creating governance, security, and humanitarian stability - essential pillars for lasting peace and prosperity.

To sum up, the ceasefire and reconstruction efforts in Gaza symbolize a path of hope through diplomacy, cooperation, and comprehensive planning. Continued international support is critical for transforming this fragile truce into a durable and lasting peace.