Geospatial dataset (polygon) of extensive IDF Gaza evacuation order of March 18, 2025

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This is an immediate release of the geospatial data underlying the IDF order for evacuation of a large area of the Gaza perimeter this morning, March 18, 2025. Following the heavy IDF attacks on Gaza endeding a ceasefire in the early hours of March 18, 2025, the IDF issued an evacuation order calling on Gaza residents to flee an area of 136 km around the perimeter of the Gaza Strip. This is over twice the area of the "buffer zone" announced in late February, which it includes, adding an additional 74 km^2 beyond the buffer zone's 62 km^2. The total area ordered evacuated constituted 37% of the Gaza Strip.

https://www.idf.il/ar/%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%B4-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%81%D8%A7%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A6%D9%8A%D9%84%D9%8A/%D8%AC%D9%8A%D8%B4-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%AF%D9%81%D8%A7%D8%B9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B3%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%A6%D9%8A%D9%84%D9%8A/swordsofiron-011223-150/

The wording of the order was similar to previous ones, as follows (English translation)

> Dear Gaza residents!
> Please pay attention and carefully review this map. Anyone who sees the block number in which they live or are located near it must follow and comply with IDF instructions via various media outlets.
> Gaza residents!
> This is a safe way to protect your safety, your lives, and the lives of your families.

This IDF announcement was similar to previous announcements discussed in earlier data releases in this repository it was released in an a user-unfriendly format, and was not available to most of the ostensible recipients, who lack

internet access. It was also ambiguous; for example, the warning/instruction text refers to block numbers as being the guide for evacuation, while the designated evacuation zone cuts through blocks (i.e. the same block might straddle in and out of the evacuation zone). As before, this data (polygon of the evacuation zone) was extracted and released immediately to provide a more usable and less ambiguous format for humanitarian agencies and others.

Prior releases in this series are available as follows:

Garb, Yaakov, 2023, "Geospatial dataset of Gaza targeting polygons publicized by the IDF on December 1, 2023", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/0HUXOJ, Harvard Dataverse, V2

Garb, Yaakov, 2024, "Geospatial dataset and analysis of usability for emergency communications of the official maps of Gaza “Humanitarian Area” and evacuation blocks", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/9CRVCJ, Harvard Dataverse, V2

Garb, Yaakov, 2024, "Geospatial dataset of northern Gaza evacuation scheme “superblocks” announced by Israeli army on October 6, 2024", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/AHOYNG, Harvard Dataverse, V1

Garb, Yaakov, 2025, "Geospatial dataset of Gaza ceasefire “buffer zone” and COGAT entry coordination “red line” of January-February 2025", https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/5KJV6Z, Harvard Dataverse, V1