

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The major drivers of humanitarian vulnerability in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) remained unchanged in the reporting period. The situation is characterized by a protracted occupation, which has entered its 50th year, the systematic denial of Palestinian rights, and continuing conflict, punctuated by frequent outbreaks of violence.

Although attacks and clashes in the West Bank (WB) declined significantly during the second quarter of 2016, 65 Palestinians have been killed in 2016 so far, the majority recorded in the context of attacks or alleged attacks against Israelis. Concerns remain of possible excessive use of force and extrajudicial executions by Israeli forces in their response to attacks or suspected attacks by Palestinians, in addition to a lack of accountability in these cases. Following several attacks, Israel increased restrictions on Palestinian movement throughout the WB, including the suspension of over 80,000 permits issued to Palestinians to access East Jerusalem for Friday prayers during Ramadan and for family visits to Israel.

There was a decline in the number of Palestinian structures demolished in Area C and East Jerusalem for lack of building permits, relative to the first quarter; however, the 628 structures demolished so far in 2016, up to the end of June, exceed the total for all of 2015 (523), as does the number of Palestinians displaced to date: 917 versus 640 in all of 2015. The number of donor-funded, humanitarian assistance structures demolished or confiscated up to the end of June (187) also surpasses the number (107) in all of 2015. This practice takes place in the context of an unlawful and discriminatory planning regime implemented by Israel. Bedouin and herding communities in Area C remain the most vulnerable and continue to face a high risk

of individual and mass forcible transfer due to a coercive environment that creates pressure on residents to leave their communities.

In the Gaza Strip (GS), the August 2014 ceasefire has largely held and the blockade imposed by Israel since 2007 remains in place. While some measures were relaxed, cement imports into the GS for the private sector were halted completely between 3 April and 27 May. The expansion of the fishing zone on 3 April was short-lived and Israel reintroduced limitations on fishing along the southern Gaza coast from 9 to 6 nautical miles on 26 June. The Egyptian-controlled Rafah crossing also remained closed in both directions for most of the reporting period.

Although no displacement has taken place since the ceasefire, an estimated 13,000 families, or 65,000 people, remain displaced. Some 24% of the approximately 18,000 homes destroyed or severely damaged have been reconstructed or repaired, another 27% are under construction and funding is confirmed for repair or reconstruction of a further 18% during 2016. Growth in the construction sector has resulted in a 21% increase in real GDP in the GS between Q1 2015 and Q1 2016, although the World Bank does not anticipate that the Gaza economy will rebound to pre-2014 levels before 2018.

The internal Palestinian divide continues to exacerbate the humanitarian situation. The lack of a resolution to the longstanding salary crisis affects tens of thousands of public employees in the GS and impairs the delivery of basic services, which are also crippled by electricity shortages. The electricity supply deteriorated during the reporting period due to recurrent shortages of fuel to run the Gaza Power Plant and disruptions to the electricity supply from Israel and Egypt.

KEY FIGURES

People in Need

1.3m in the Gaza Strip **1m** in the West Bank

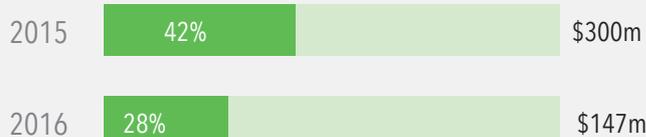
People Targeted for Assistance

1.1m in the Gaza Strip **641k** in the West Bank

Overall funding requirements

\$571m

Funding at end of Q2



FTS data as of 3 August 2016

KEY ACCESS AND OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES

Gaza Strip

Protection

- The use of force by Israel in the access-restricted areas (ARA) continues to be a particular cause for concern; more than 60 shooting incidents on land and more than 30 at sea have been recorded every month, more than double the figures for the last six months of 2015.
- Three people were killed and 114 injured in demonstrations at the fence. The number and intensity of demonstrations and injuries have declined steadily after a peak in October last year.
- By July, more than 90 fishermen had been arrested and detained, the highest figure in any year since records began in 2009.
- Two years on from the last escalation of violence, 65,000 people remain displaced and are exposed to additional concerns that arise from crowded and unsafe living conditions.

Food Security

- The situation remains critical and alarming. The slow progress of the reconstruction process, compounded by permanently high unemployment and limited access and control over natural resources, continues to further erode the already fragile resilience of the population. Dependency on humanitarian aid is high; food assistance and cash-for-work activities remain essential.

- The rehabilitation of agricultural assets has not produced significant improvements due to funding constraints and difficulties related to the limitations imposed by the blockade.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI)

- The caseload of internally displaced persons (IDP) is easing slowly as reconstruction progresses. There are currently approximately 65,000 people displaced, down from 90,000 at the start of the year. However, the pace of reconstruction is delayed by complex documentation requirements and limited access to materials. BC material imports for the private sector in Q2 were roughly only a third of those for Q1, primarily due to the almost two-month ban on cement.
- Amidst growing frustration, complaints or requests have been submitted to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing and NGOs to address outstanding shelter needs.

Health and Nutrition

- Years of blockade and restrictions on the movement of people and materials have led to a serious deterioration in the availability and quality of health services. In addition, the longstanding non-payment of salaries of more than half of the Ministry of Health staff, including those employed by the Gaza de-facto authorities, has negatively affected staff productivity.

- Shortages of essential drugs and disposables have also had a negative impact on the delivery of health services and contributed to a deterioration in the health of some patients, while increasing the need for referrals abroad.
- Funding for national NGOs that play a key role in emergency preparedness and delivery of primary health services remains very limited.
- The severe fuel shortage and prolonged electricity cuts continue to impede the performance of hospitals and medical equipment. Together with an average shortage of 33% of essential drugs and 41% of medical disposables, these factors have resulted in greater demand for patient referrals outside of Gaza.

Education

- Programmes were interrupted by the closure of the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) office on the orders of the Gaza Ministry of Interior. As a result, all planned education-related workshops, training and meetings were cancelled for three weeks.

West Bank

Protection

- In the first half of 2016, 65 Palestinians (including 20 children) were killed and more than 178 were injured by live ammunition; 55 were killed during attacks or alleged attacks (including 17 children), while 10 were killed during raids or clashes with Israeli forces (including 2 children). Concerns remain about excessive force used by Israeli Security Forces (ISF) in many of these incidents and the need for accountability when violations have occurred.
- During 2016 an average of 420 children have been held each month in military detention (including a nearly four-fold increase in the monthly average of girls in detention compared with the previous year). Twelve administrative detention orders were issued against children.
- The heightened coercive environment in Area C is evident in the significant increase in demolitions and mass demolitions in the first half of 2016, alongside actions to obstruct post-demolition assistance. Communities are under mounting pressure to relocate.

Food Security

- The likelihood of vulnerable populations living in Area C abandoning land and the traditional livelihoods of livestock and crop production that they depend on has intensified with the frequent demolitions of agricultural assets.
- A halt to funding for food assistance has put people's food security at risk of sudden deterioration.

Shelter and NFIs

- Demolitions increased significantly in the first half of 2016. More and more instances of mass demolitions were recorded, where more than 50% of a community's structures are demolished, as well as repeated demolitions in the same communities within a short period after assistance has been provided. As assistance in the wake of demolitions is closely linked to legal aspects, many communities have already exhausted or limited their options of reconstructing shelters safely in the same or nearby locations with different geographical coordinates to avoid repeat demolitions.
- Upgrading shelters and responding to demolitions is increasingly difficult in Area C due to the introduction of new tactics by ISF, such as dismantling

- The blockade and access restrictions, particularly on construction materials, have delayed the implementation of projects and increased costs.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

- Severe shortages of electricity and fuel have had a negative impact on the operation of more than 300 water and wastewater facilities. Electricity outages exceed 18 hours per day, severely disrupting the provision of basic services, including health and water.
- The lack of mobile pumps to drain water from flood-prone areas during winter storms has the potential to result in outbreaks of disease that could endanger public health on a large scale. Such an event would entail additional programming costs in WASH and other sectors such as Health and Nutrition.
- Aquifers are over-utilized for agricultural, domestic and industrial purposes and are highly polluted.

structures directly after their installation or the confiscation of materials during the delivery of the assistance. This situation substantially increases the risk that people will move outside the community, or will refuse aid and live in inadequate and flimsy shelters to try to avoid further retaliation.

- Inadequate funding for shelter upgrading and improvement in Area C and East Jerusalem leaves many communities and households living in inadequate and insubstantial shelters. In light of the changing circumstances on the ground, settlement expansion and more restrictive building regulations in Area C, a faster pace of shelter improvement and upgrading is needed more urgently than ever.

WASH

- Very few WB partners have received funding and the majority are still awaiting funding.
- During the dry season, the most vulnerable communities (with no or limited supplies) face water shortages and are forced to allocate their meagre financial resources to access drinking water. This reduces their resilience and increases the risk of displacement. During Ramadan, Mekorot (the Israeli water supplier) cut water supplies and many WB areas were affected by shortages. As a result, many WASH partners changed priorities to partially accommodate the needs of the affected communities.

Health and Nutrition

- Several critical interventions remain unfunded. Mobile clinic services for vulnerable communities in Area C were forced to halt for 6 months due to lack of funding.

Education

- Access restrictions in the Hebron H2 area hamper the work of volunteers providing protection to children and teachers at checkpoints and monitoring violations education-related violations.
- Frequent attacks on education in the H2 area of Hebron have also isolated schools and their staff. It has been agreed with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MoEHE) to strengthen the implementation of psychosocial social (PSS) programmes.

FUNDING ANALYSIS UPDATE FOR THE SECOND QUARTER 2016¹

The 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is currently 28% funded, covering US\$161 million of requested requirements. Compared with funding received this time last year for the 2015 Strategic Response Plan (SRP), the 2016 HRP has received less funding both in percentage (42% in 2015 versus 28% in 2016) and in absolute terms (\$300 million in 2015 versus \$161 million in 2016).

Only 16% of the funding requested for top priority projects has been received to date, while "other" projects have 34% funding coverage – even though the sum for top priority projects is significantly lower than for other projects.

Funding levels between clusters are fairly even in percentage terms, with funding levels by cluster ranging from 22% to 28%. The Food Security Sector (FSS) has received the most funds in absolute terms (\$90.7 million), but the funding gap remains high with \$231.3 million still required to implement food

security activities for the rest of the year. In percentage terms, the Shelter and NFI Cluster is currently the least funded (22%) having received \$24.8 million, leaving a funding gap of \$87.2 million.

Projects exclusively targeting the WB, with needs primarily in Area C and East Jerusalem, have received \$41 million, whereas projects exclusively focused in the GS have received \$95 million. Projects targeting both areas have received \$19 million. This geographical distribution of funding corresponds to the fact that 69% of those targeted for humanitarian assistance in the 2016 HRP are in the GS.

Almost 90% of the funds contributed to date have gone to UN agencies. INGO and local NGO projects therefore remain considerably underfunded through the second quarter.

1. Source: FTS <https://fts.unocha.org/>, as of 3 August 2016.

\$570.7m
REQUESTED

\$453.4m (79.5%)
UNMET

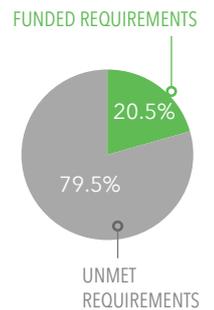
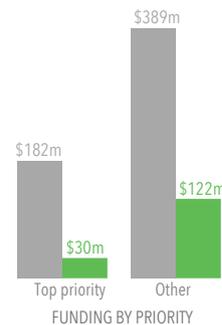
\$161m (28%)
FUNDED

FUNDED PROJECTS AND FUNDING RATES



FUNDING PROGRESS

	Funded	Unmet requirements	Total
Protection	25%		\$46m
Food Security	28%		\$322m
Shelter NFIs	22%		\$112m
WASH	25%		\$30m
Health and Nutrition	28%		\$26m
Education	28%		\$18m
Coordination and Support Services	29%		\$17m



Key indicators

People subject to demolition/ eviction orders (WB)



Children benefiting from individual case management (Gaza only)



People attending GBV awareness raising sessions (WB and GS)



Achievements

- 160 communities in the WB received a regular protective presence. This was a particularly important intervention in the context of closures and increased activity by Israeli forces in Hebron.
- 5,871 people (including 2,968 women) received information on their rights and how to access legal services.
- Cluster partners provided 90 field briefings to diplomats and raised a range of protection concerns.
- 2,564 GBV survivors (including 107 men) accessed legal services.
- 81 risk assessments were provided in support of reconstruction efforts coordinated by UNDP.
- 197,932 people (including 174,985 children) received education on the risks of explosive remnants of war (ERW).

Challenges

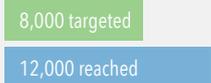
- Lack of funding across the cluster, particularly for top priority projects, has deterred implementation or the scope of activities partners could undertake.
- The protection cluster has been particularly reliant on the Humanitarian Pool Fund (HPF) to ensure prioritized interventions can take place in 2016.

*Protection activities that serve whole communities including protective presence, targeted advocacy and some forms of legal action are not included in this figure

FOOD SECURITY

Key indicators

Tonnage of food items purchased from local producers



*Lower local prices allowed the increase.

People receiving food in kind and food vouchers



West Bank



139,000 Males 145,000 Females
Less than 18: 106,000

Gaza Strip



555,000 Males 533,000 Females
Less than 18: 515,000

People benefiting from cash-based activities



West Bank



11,300 Males 11,200 Females



Achievements

- Achievements in food assistance outcomes by mid-year confirm the ability of implementing partners to reach targeted beneficiaries. This success mitigates the risk of growing food insecurity and the deterioration of food consumption patterns.
- The main achievements related to livelihood support projects have been fulfilled outside the HRP framework due to lack of funding for HRP projects early in 2016. Funding for agricultural-livelihood activities, although limited, was sufficient to support the livelihoods of 7,000 herder HHs in the WB and GS. Food Security Sector (FSS) partners managed to complement HRP-funded activities for 2016 by delivering some services through carry-over activities from last year's HRP.

Challenges

- Lack of funding has negatively affected some 113,000 World Food Programme beneficiaries: both in-kind basket and voucher values had to be reduced in the WB.
- In the GS, UNRWA was unable to implement cash assistance intervention, the school feeding programme and the mother and child nutrition programme due to lack of funding.
- Increased humanitarian aid is needed to protect and support those with vulnerable livelihoods and to improve beneficiaries' resilience. Agricultural-livelihood support projects still have a funding deficit of around 95%, which puts at risk the livelihoods of approximately 300,000 farmers, herders and fishermen.
- Support in the form of food assistance and cash-based programmes continues to be vital in addressing chronic unemployment and fragile livelihoods. The protracted de-development situation in the GS does not offer many sustainable livelihood alternatives: cash-for-work has funding gaps of around 85% in the GS and around 70% in the WB.

	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Refugees	July - voucher - more funds TBC	End of 2016
Non-refugees	November - voucher 52k people \$3m gap	October - in kind 89k people November - voucher 72k people \$4.5m gap

**Organizations work per quarter and food assistance targets same groups of beneficiaries multiple times along the year. Therefore, 100% of beneficiaries reached at any time of the year does not imply that the 2016 goal is accomplished.

🏠 SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS

Key indicators

Households assisted after demolition or damage

85% HH targeted

*Based on eligible cases since 1 Jan 2016

83% HH reached

Vulnerable families received assistance to access transitional shelter solution meeting minimum standards

11,000* HH targeted

9,639 HH reached

*Updated due to reduced IDP caseload

Households assisted to upgrade or repair damaged units

11,450 HH targeted

3,896 HH reached



Achievements

- 224 families were assisted after demolitions and work is in progress with a further 45 HHs.
- Assistance to renovate shelters was provided to 336 HHs in the WB, including 41 female-headed households (FHH), and 456 hardship cases in the GS that included 80 FHHs and 50 persons with disabilities (PWD).
- 3,104 HHs were provided with assistance to repair damaged shelters, including 330 FHHs.
- Emergency response and winterization assistance was provided to 8,705 HHs and two projects to support IDPs facing another winter have been funded through the Humanitarian Fund (HF).
- 9,589 families received transitional shelter cash assistance for either three or six months.
- Funding has been identified for eight of the 28 schools identified for use as collective centres requiring preparedness measures.

Challenges

- Lack of funding to upgrade and improve shelters for 83 communities located entirely in Area C in poor conditions, and for over 50% of families targeted for shelter repairs in the GS.
- Delay or occasional prevention in providing shelter materials in the wake of demolitions.
- 65,000 people remain displaced in the GS; delays and irregular provision of Temporary Shelter Cash Assistance (TSCA) erode coping mechanisms, exacerbated by the gap in funding for the coming six months of the year.
- Restricted access to materials causes delays, prolongs displacement and exposure to harsh conditions, and results in increased frustration and pressure on organizations trying to provide assistance.

🚰 WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Key indicators

People in humanitarian situation benefited from access to improved sanitation services

358,000 people targeted

33,503 people reached

Gaza Strip

32,421 reached

15,623 Males 16,798 Females 21,672 Children

West Bank

1,082 reached

480 Males 602 Females 1,082 Children

Households receiving hygiene vouchers and kits

120,000 HH targeted

10,866 HH reached

Gaza: 10,714 HH **West Bank:** 152 HH

Number of vulnerable people served with drinking water

60,000 people targeted

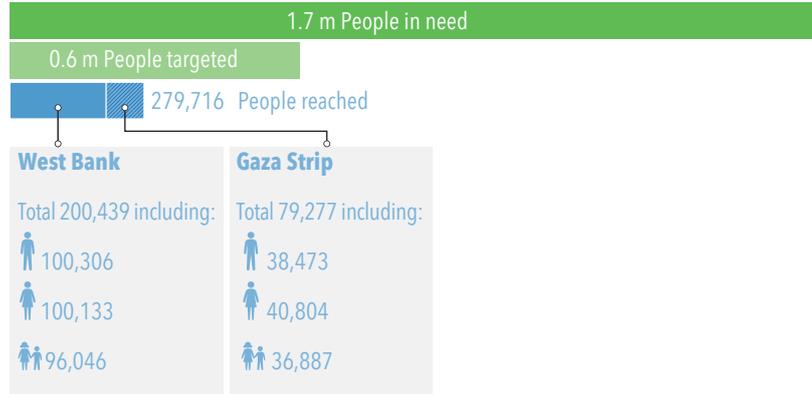
56,965 people reached

Gaza Strip 11,450 reached

5,358 Males 6,092 Females 11,450 Children

West Bank 45,515 reached

23,482 Males 22,033 Females 25,425 Children



Achievements

- 55% of demolition incidents received a WASH response.
- 71% of people targeted by the cluster received hygiene awareness advice.
- 95% of vulnerable people targeted by the cluster received drinking water.
- 67 locations where flood prevention activities were undertaken or where stagnant floodwater was drained.

Challenges

- Development restrictions in Area C continue to affect the provision of WASH services to communities.
- Lack of funding is a common concern across all partners in the WB and in the GS.

Key indicators

Refugees/non-refugees in underserved communities in Area C benefitting from mobile clinic services



Children and pregnant women who had received micronutrient supplements



Children treated from moderate and severe malnutrition



Consultations of patients in the ARA or communities with totally destroyed PHCs



Most vulnerable refugees receiving health services in Gaza



Community members trained on first aid



Achievements

- 126,906 beneficiaries, both refugees and non-refugees, in Area C were reached by Health and Nutrition Cluster (HNC) partners.
- 77,197 children and pregnant women received micronutrient supplements.
- 410 community members were trained in first aid.
- The HNC conducted a planning workshop with the Ministry of Health and cluster partners to discuss a plan to organize and coordinate mobile clinic services in the West Bank for 2017. The Ministry of Health will assume a leading role in this regard.

Challenges

Due to lack of funding, many vulnerable groups did not receive adequate support as below:

- Only 4,832 of 100,000 patients in the GS ARA received medical treatment from HNC partners.
- Only 4,357 of 27,000 of the most vulnerable refugees received health services.
- Only 179 of 1200 elderly persons in the GS received care from HNC partners.
- Only 546 of 11,000 people with conflict-related disabilities received appropriate support.

EDUCATION

Key indicators

Children benefitting from the provision of essential school supplies and DRP equipment



School children and teachers benefitting from protective presence



Of school children and school staff benefitting from emergency learning packages and services



Students and school staff benefitting from psychosocial support services



Achievements

- 250,118 children in the GS UNRWA schools were provided with essential educational services and 36,046 children and school staff in GS and in WB UNRWA schools received psychosocial support.
- 7,991 children benefitted from a protective presence and accompaniment in vulnerable areas in the WB.
- 46,590 children and school staff in GS UNRWA schools benefitted from emergency learning packages and services.

Challenges

- The severe lack of funds is detrimental to an effective humanitarian education response in both the GS and the WB.
- Access restrictions in the Hebron H2 area impede volunteers from providing protection to children and teachers at checkpoints and monitoring violations against education.
- Frequent attacks in the H2 area have isolated schools and their staff. It has been agreed with Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOEHE) to strengthen the implementation of PSS programs.
- A long-running teacher's strike earlier in 2016 halted the delivery of education in government schools in the WB.
- In the GS, programmes were interrupted by the closure of the NRC office upon orders from the Ministry of Interior. As a result, all planned education-related workshops, training and meetings were cancelled for three weeks.
- Partners reported that parental involvement in PSS project interventions did not achieve the anticipated target.
- The blockade and access problems, particularly in the GS, for both personal supplies and goods (especially construction materials), cause delays and increase the cost of projects.
- With the transition from cluster to sector/Education in Emergencies Working Group (EiEWG), funding support is needed by lead agencies for coordination.

Key indicators

Quarterly activity indicator	Achieved
Cluster leads in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) report against progress in cluster HRP targets.	
Frequency of updates on geographic and thematic humanitarian snapshots produced on countrywide dashboards and snapshots; other relevant analysis.	
Frequency of cluster reports on progress towards sector objectives/targets using an established monitoring framework.	

Achievements

Predictable monitoring updates ensure that critical response gaps are not overlooked and the HCT is enabled to take corrective measures in a more strategic manner, particularly the mobilization of resources for underfunded, critical interventions, either through the allocation of pooled funding or in direct engagement with donors. The publication of the dashboard for the second quarter of 2016 is part of ongoing efforts to provide regular systematic reviews and snapshots specifically examining resource mobilization versus achievements, objectives and the target caseload.

Challenges

The request from UNRWA's Coordination and Capacity Development for \$8.9 million has received only 24% of funds to date. As a result, UNRWA's coordination and management budget line will remain critical for its humanitarian operations and key interventions.



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