The humanitarian context of the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt) is unique amongst today’s crises and remains directly tied to the impact of the occupation, which marked its 50th year in June 2017. Across the oPt, one in two Palestinians, or roughly two and a half million people, will need some form of humanitarian assistance in 2018. The protracted nature of the crisis in the oPt demands greater coherence and synergies between humanitarian and development assistance. The humanitarian community in the oPt therefore endeavored to provide a deeper analysis of vulnerability in the 2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO), identifying the categories of vulnerable groups and drivers of vulnerability that are common to both the humanitarian and development sectors. The analysis and figures presented in the 2018 HNO and below are based on the cluster data collection conducted in the last quarter of 2017.

**Protection of Civilians**

Violations of international humanitarian and human rights law are a driver of severe protection threats against Palestinians and high levels of acute vulnerability across Palestinian communities.

4.95M Palestinians in oPt are affected by protection risks

1.9M people identified as most in need for protection

37.5%

Over 3,600 Palestinians injured. 47 Palestinians killed by Israeli forces and settlers in the West Bank and Israel in 2017 (to end November) including 12 children. 17 killed in Gaza (conflict related) including 2 children.

350,000 people living in 67 communities in the West Bank vulnerable to settler violence.

867,000 young people are at risk due to psychosocial stress and absence of economic livelihoods.

**Forced Displacement**

Thousands of Palestinians remain displaced as a consequence of the 2014 escalation in hostilities between Israel and Palestinian armed groups in the Gaza Strip. Demolitions, along with a broad range of other practices and policies, contribute to a coercive environment in the West Bank, particularly in Area C and East Jerusalem, that is leading to forced displacements and the risk of forcible transfer.

23,500 Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Gaza (November 2017) 20,000 in need of temporary shelter cash assistance.

13,000 Demolition orders in Area C of the West Bank affecting 15,000 structures.

Over 10,000 people live in 63 communities in Area C of the West Bank at heightened risk of forcible transfer – 62% are refugees.

**Erosion of Resilience**

High unemployment, low household incomes, the high cost of living (particularly for food) and the erosion of livelihoods have resulted in continued high levels of food insecurity in oPt.

1.6M people in oPt (31.5% of all households) are moderately to severely food insecure:

- Female headed households at 46%.
- Refugee households at 35%, rising to 39% in refugee camps.

**Access to Essential Services**

Access to essential services including WASH, healthcare, education, energy and housing is severely restricted for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

40% of 1.9 m people in Gaza receive just 4 to 6 hours of water supply every 3 to 5 days.

Over 96% of water extracted from Gaza aquifers is unfit for human consumption.

270,000 Palestinians are directly affected by the Israeli restrictions and control over WASH infrastructure.

40,000 Children suffering from micronutrient deficiencies in Gaza.
In the context of a protracted protection crisis in the occupied Palestinian territory (oPt), the Humanitarian Response Strategy for the period 2018-2020 aims to move beyond single year operational planning, and to adopt a longer term planning lens. The multi-year strategy strives to enhance linkages and synergies with other strategies for assistance to the Palestinian people, including development assistance, with the aim to progressively address the underlying vulnerabilities and root causes of humanitarian need in oPt. The strategy remains however first and foremost a humanitarian strategy, one that maintains the humanitarian integrity of all programmatic interventions and is underpinned by adherence to and promotion of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence. The multi-year strategy for 2018-2020 encompasses multi-year strategic objectives and cluster objectives, accompanied by a single-year Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for 2018, with single-year financial requirements, and single-year target population figures, which will be revalidated or updated on an annual basis.

### Strategic Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategic Objective</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The rights of Palestinians living under occupation, including those living under the blockade and other restrictions, are protected, respected and promoted in accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL), while duty-bearers are increasingly held to account.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The basic needs of vulnerable Palestinians living under occupation are met through the provision of quality basic services and improved access to resources, in accordance with the rights of protected persons under IHL.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The capacity of vulnerable Palestinians to cope with and overcome protracted crisis, including from environmental threats, is supported, while solutions to violations and other root causes of threats and shocks are pursued.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In order to take advantage of the opportunities associated with a multi-year timeframe, the following approach will guide how the humanitarian response in the oPt will be implemented over the next three years.

- Address the core vulnerabilities of people in need by mobilizing actors operating outside the scope of humanitarian interventions, in strict adherence to humanitarian principles.
- Expand local action, ownership and partnerships.
- Improve the impact and efficiency of humanitarian action.

### 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan

#### People in Need

- **People in Need**: 2.5M

#### People Targeted

- **People Targeted**: 1.9M

#### Funding Requirements (US$) by Geographical Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Funding Requirements (US$)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Jerusalem</td>
<td>$133M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area C</td>
<td>$406M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area B</td>
<td>$133M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaza</td>
<td>$406M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of Gaza</td>
<td>$133M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total West Bank</td>
<td>$406M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Gaza</td>
<td>$406M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Areas A &amp; B (Food Security)</td>
<td>$406M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaza Access Restricted Areas (ABBs)</td>
<td>$406M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2018 HRP Projects Gender Marker Scores

- **HRP Projects Gender Marker Scores**: 93%
- **Scored 2A**: 14%
- **Scored 2B**: 79%

- **HRP projects were given either a 2A or 2B gender marker score**: 79%

### Requirements (US$)

- **Total Requirements**: $539.7M

#### National NGO Participation in the 2018 HRP

- **240 Projects**
- **74 NGOs**
- **105 INGOs**
- **61 UN Agencies**

The funding requirements by geographical area are based on partner estimates rounded to the nearest tenth per cent.
**CLUSTER OBJECTIVES**

**PROTECTION**
- Increased respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and accountability for violations.
- Protection response mechanisms are in place to prevent and mitigate the effects of the occupation and conflict related violence.

**WASH**
- Ensure equitable, affordable and sustainable access to safe and sufficient WASH services with dignity for the unserved, underserved and most vulnerable Palestinians living under occupation in Gaza and the West Bank.
- Strengthen WASH preparedness and response capacity to the unserved, underserved and most vulnerable Palestinians living under occupation in Gaza and the West Bank, to reduce threats and to cope with emergencies and shocks.
- Strengthen national WASH governance system in accountability, advocacy, evidence-based planning, and inter/intra sectoral coordination.

**HEALTH & NUTRITION**
- Ensure access of vulnerable communities in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank to quality and affordable health services ensured, referral of victims of violence to protection organizations.
- Vulnerable communities in the West Bank and Gaza are better prepared to cope with the impact of current and potential man-made and natural disasters.

**FOOD SECURITY**
- The resilience, food security and productive capacity of vulnerable households are restored/enhanced and livelihoods protected.
- Households suffering from limited access to food and to income opportunities are able to meet their basic food needs.
- FSS activities, including advocacy and awareness, are planned and implemented in a coordinated manner, and partnership with key national ministries is strengthened.

**EDUCATION**
- Strengthen reporting, documentation and advocacy on education-related violations in support of children’s right to safe education.
- Increase equitable and safe access to inclusive, quality educational services for vulnerable children.
- All education stakeholders are better able to cope with and respond to emergencies through DRR preparedness, catch-up classes and school-based psychosocial services.

**SHELTER & NFIs**
- Displaced populations are provided support that mitigates immediate harm and ensures adequate and safe temporary shelter solutions.
- Vulnerable households exposed to harsh weather and protection concerns are supported to meet basic needs and enhance their coping capacity.
- Capacity to respond to natural or manmade hazards in a timely, efficient and effective manner is increased.
This document is produced on behalf of the Humanitarian Country Team and partners.

This document provides the Humanitarian Country Team's shared understanding of the crisis, including the most pressing humanitarian need and the estimated number of people who need assistance. It represents a consolidated evidence base and helps inform joint strategic response planning.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in the report do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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