

2017

# HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OVERVIEW

PEOPLE IN NEED

2M

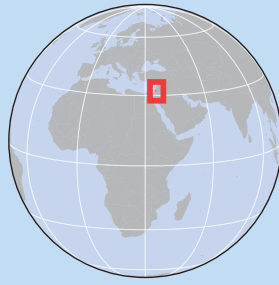
NOV 2016



**OCCUPIED  
PALESTINIAN  
TERRITORY**

PEOPLE IN NEED

2M



Lebanon

Occupied Golan Heights  
(Syria)

Syria

Acre

Haifa

Tiberias

Nazareth

Al Qunaytirah

Jordan River /  
Sheikh Hussein

Irbid

Jenin

58,798

Tulkarm

33,000

Tubas

17,029

Qalqilya

25,931

Nablus

90,000

Salfit

22,671

Tel Aviv-Yaffo

West Bank

81,057

Ramallah

17,000

Jericho

Jerusalem

209,613

Bethlehem

59,672

Hebron

218,101

Ajloun

Balqa

Amman

Madaba

Jordan

Karak

Israel

Be'er Sheva

Ashdod

Gaza

522,316

North Gaza

218,733

Khan Yunis

183,000

Middle Area

130,000

Rafah

150,000

Gaza Strip

Rafah

Al 'Ojah / Nitzana

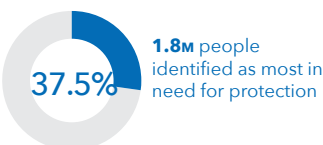
# HUMANITARIAN NEEDS



## 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.

All  
**4.8m**  
Palestinians in oPt are affected by Protection risks



including:

**265,000**  
children in need of psychosocial support and child protection interventions and **1,200** Palestinian boys arrested by security forces in the West Bank need legal support.

**3,022**  
Palestinians injured; **91** killed by Israeli forces and settlers in the West Bank and Israel in 2016 (to end October) including 24 children.  
**8** killed in Gaza (conflict related) including 3 children.

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

**294,000** women in need of GBV services, including legal assistance, psychosocial support and health.



## 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.

Internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Gaza

**100,000**  
had their homes destroyed or severely damaged.

**65,000**  
still displaced (August 2016) 37,500 in need of temporary shelter cash assistance.

**11,000**  
demolition orders in Area C of the West Bank affecting 13,000 structures – need for legal assistance and advocacy to prevent displacement of affected Palestinians.

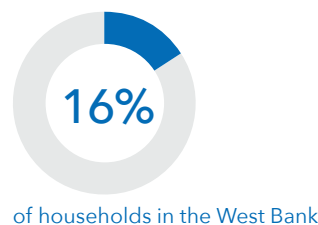
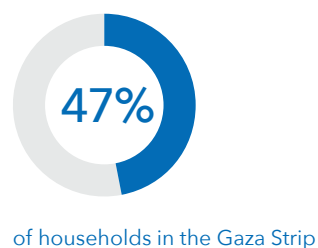
**8,000**  
people live in 61 communities in the West Bank at high risk of forcible transfer – 65% are refugees.



## 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.

**1.65m**  
people in oPt (27% of all households) are moderately to severely food insecure:



**Food insecurity** across oPt is higher for:

- Female headed households at 32%.
- 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

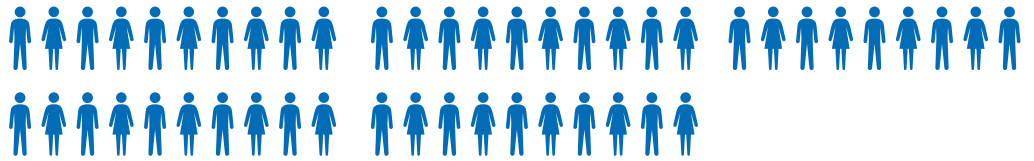
**40%**  
of Gaza's 1.9 m population receive just 5 to 8 hours of water supply every 3 days.

**1.0 m**  
people, including 655,000 refugees in camps face restricted access to basic healthcare, including reproductive health, emergency services, rehabilitation for people with disabilities and GBV referral.

**504,000**  
School children in the oPt require humanitarian assistance to access quality education in a safe, child friendly environment.

## TOTAL POPULATION

4.8M



## NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO NEED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

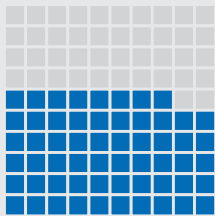
2.0M



## BY AREA

## GAZA STRIP

1.2M



## WEST BANK

0.8M

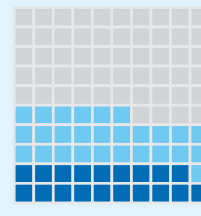


EAST JERUSALEM 213K  
AREA A&B 318K  
AREA C 269K

## BY AGE &amp; SEX

## CHILDREN (&lt;18 YEARS)

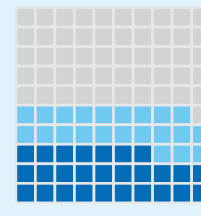
800K



408K Boys  
392K Girls

## ADULT (18-59 YEARS)

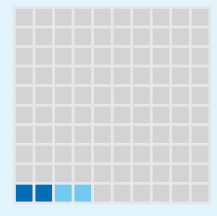
1.14M



581K Men  
558K Women

## ELDERLY (&gt;60 YEARS)

60K

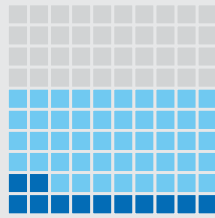


30K Men  
29K Women

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## REFUGEES IN NEED OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

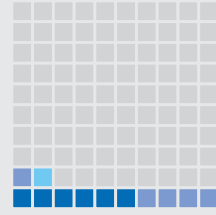
1.2M



GAZA REFUGEES IN NEED 922K  
WEST BANK REFUGEES IN NEED 255K

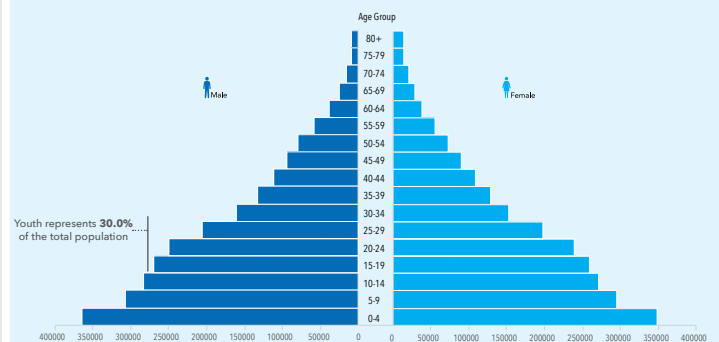
## REFUGEES

## WEST BANK - 255K GEOGRAPHIC BREAK DOWN



EAST JERUSALEM 20K  
AREA C 115K  
AREA A&B 120K

## DEMOGRAPHIC PYRAMID

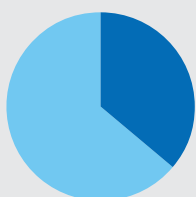


Source: PCBS 2015

## BY CATEGORY

## FOOD-INSECURE PEOPLE

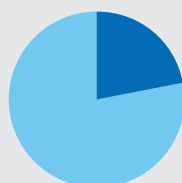
1.65M



West Bank  
Gaza

## REFUGEES IN NEED

1.2M



## CHILDREN IN NEED OF PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

265K



## INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE

65K





# IMPACT OF THE CRISIS

## OVERVIEW

The humanitarian context of oPt is unique amongst today's humanitarian crises and remains directly tied to the impact of Occupation, now in its 50th year. A protracted protection crisis continues. The first challenge is **the continuing need for protection measures** for at least 1.8 million Palestinians experiencing, or at risk of, conflict and violence, **displacement** and denial of access to livelihoods, among other threats. Second, is the need to ensure **delivery of essential services** such as water and health care for the most acutely vulnerable households, currently denied or restricted in access. And third is the need to **support vulnerable households to better cope** with the prolonged nature of the humanitarian crisis and the recurrent cycle of shocks, natural and manmade. These dynamics are significantly magnified in the Gaza context by the ten-year long blockade, imposed by Israel citing security concerns after the takeover of Gaza by Hamas, and three major escalations of hostilities in six years: combined these factors have devastated public infrastructure, disrupted the delivery of basic services and undermined already vulnerable living conditions. Across the oPt, one in two Palestinians, or roughly two million people, will need some form of humanitarian assistance in 2017.

## GAZA STRIP

In the Gaza Strip, the August 2014 ceasefire has largely held, as reflected in the relatively low number of Palestinian fatalities and injuries in 2016 and no further conflict-related displacement. International support and some relaxation of import restrictions by the Israeli authorities have resulted in progress in the rehabilitation of damaged health, education and WASH infrastructure but as of September only 1,300 out of the totally destroyed 11,000 housing units have been reconstructed, although work on an additional 3,200 is underway. Over 60,000 remain displaced with negative consequences for access to services and livelihoods.

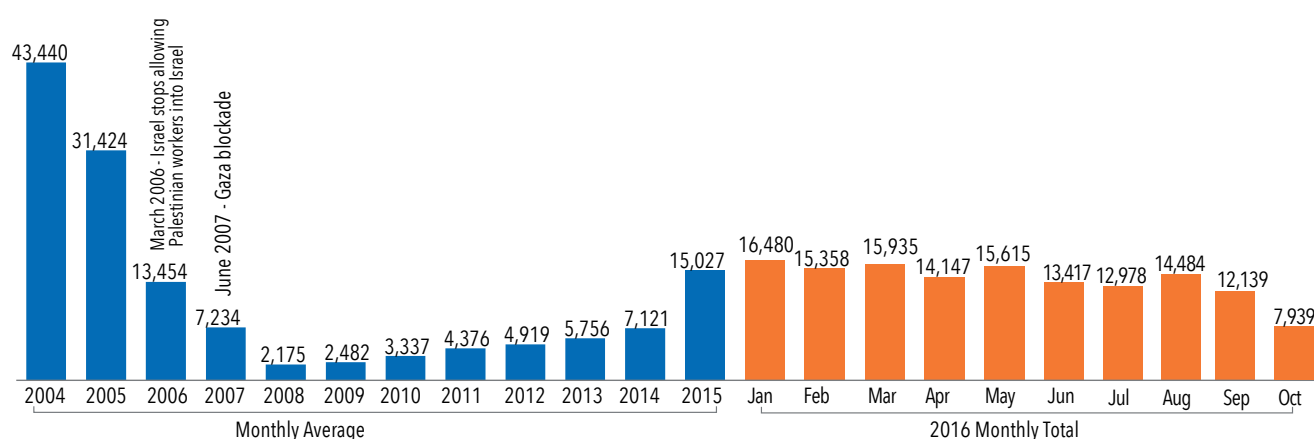
While 2016 initially witnessed a continuation of the relaxation of restrictions on Palestinian movement to and from Gaza by the Israeli authorities, recent developments have reversed this trend. Since March 2016, almost half of the Gaza business people who held Israeli-issued permits have had them cancelled or not renewed. This year has also witnessed a decline in the approval rate for medical patients and their companions seeking permits to leave Gaza, while rejections for staff who

hold Gaza ID cards working with international organizations increased from three per cent in January to 41 per cent in September. Access restrictions have been exacerbated by the almost continuous closure of the Rafah passenger crossing by Egypt since October 2014.

The provision of basic services remains severely hampered by the longstanding electricity deficit. Talks to resolve the intra-Palestinian divide have achieved no progress, with the lack of a resolution to the longstanding salary crisis affecting tens of thousands of public employees in Gaza and further impairing basic service delivery. The World Bank estimates that \$1.6 billion of the \$3.5 billion pledged for Gaza at the October 2014 Cairo conference have been disbursed and that "GDP losses in Gaza, since the blockade of 2007, are above 50 per cent - in addition to large welfare losses."<sup>1</sup> Unemployment, at 42 per cent, is more than twice as high as in the West Bank while youth unemployment in Gaza currently stands at 58 per cent. Although the economy in Gaza has expanded by 21 per cent in the first quarter of 2016 due to an upsurge in construction activity, the World Bank warns that "this is not sustainable without efforts to improve economic competitiveness" and that

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## EREZ : NUMBER OF CROSSINGS FROM GAZA INTO ISRAEL



the “resumption of armed conflict cannot be ruled out and if this happens, the Gaza economy is expected to slip back into recession.”<sup>2</sup>

## Protection

Although the 2014 ceasefire has held, pervasive insecurity and the continuous threat of violence remain. Casualties from conflict in Gaza remained relatively low in 2016, with eight Palestinians killed and 157 injured by Israeli forces to end-September. Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and other hazards from 2014 and previous hostilities continue to pose a serious threat, with 15 killed and 113 injured (including two children killed and 45 injured) since August 2014. The protection cluster continues to identify accountability for violations during the Gaza hostilities in 2014, by all sides, and for violations during the daily enforcement of restrictions in the Access Restricted Areas (ARA) as an urgent priority.

Especially vulnerable groups include people with disabilities, the elderly, and women and girls who face additional barriers in accessing protection and other humanitarian responses, particularly during emergencies. Others most in need of protection interventions include individuals and families who live or work in the ARA; those affected by freedom of

movement restrictions, including medical patients; IDPs living in temporary accommodation and those whose homes were destroyed and confronted by challenges of housing, land and property rights (HLP) documentation; women and children at risk of gender-based violence (GBV); children in need of psychosocial support and case management and those requiring ERW awareness; and refugees from the region lacking documentation and better access to services.

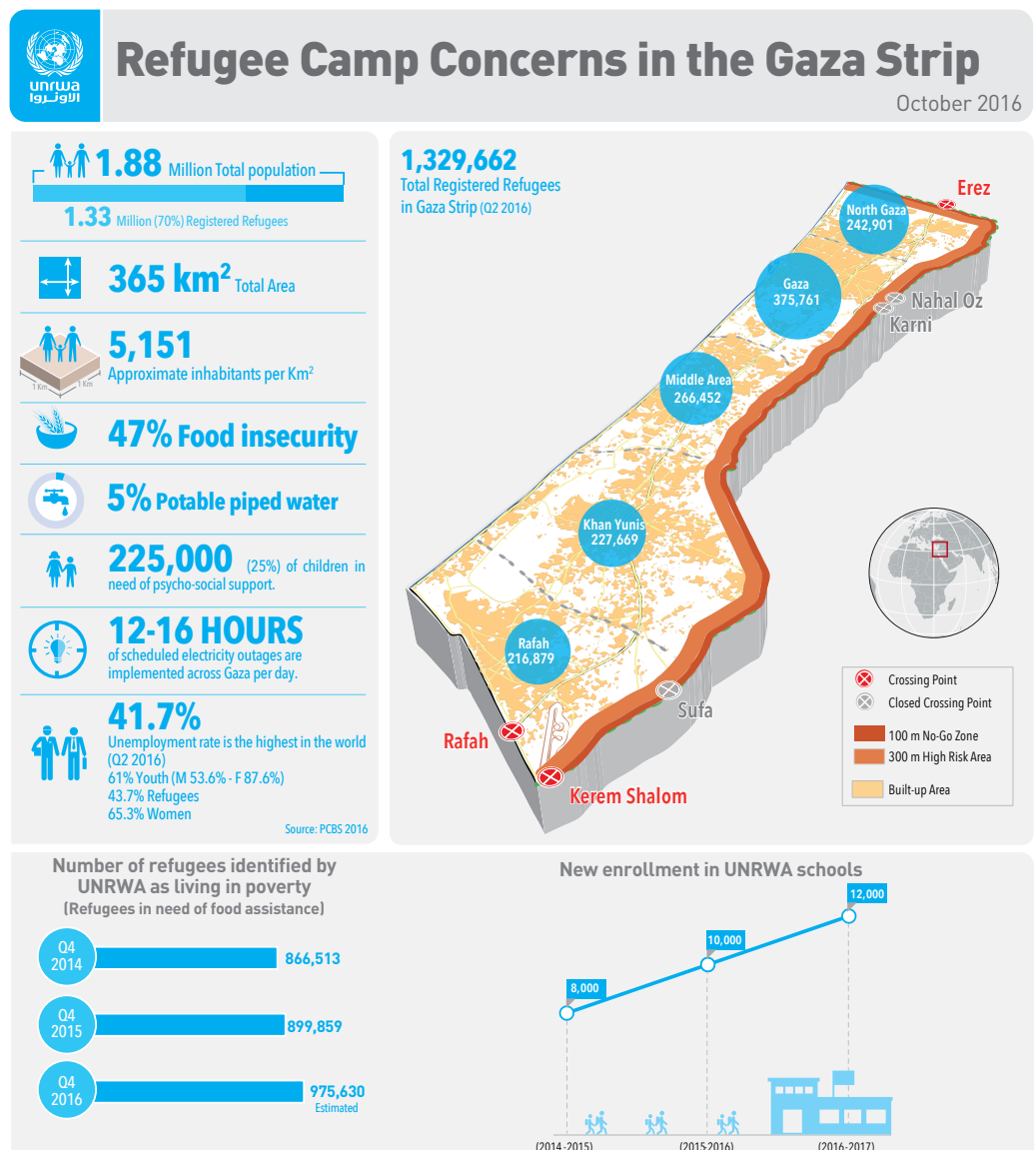
## Displacement

No major displacement was recorded in Gaza during the course of 2016. However, more than two years after the 2014 conflict, over 60,000 people remain displaced, awaiting the reconstruction of their homes. As of September 2016 only 1,308 of the 11,000 housing units that are totally destroyed have been reconstructed, and nearly 60,000 of the approximately 150,000 homes that suffered various degrees of damage have yet to

receive assistance. Israel continued facilitating the controlled entry of vital construction materials, in the context of the Gaza Reconstruction Mechanism (GRM). As a result, the volume of goods that entered Gaza via Israel in 2016 was the highest since the imposition of the blockade in 2007. However, the quantities of cement allowed have been insufficient to match the increasing needs for reconstruction, resulting in delays in rebuilding and prolonged displacement. According to the Israeli authorities, 5-7 per cent of the cement that enters Gaza is diverted by Hamas from the intended beneficiaries. Durable solutions for displaced families have also been delayed by slow access to funds and a lack of assistance to end displacement, such as technical support, planning and land ownership issues. In addition, chronic housing shortages and the dire economic situation have compounded concerns for adequate shelter protection for acutely-vulnerable families.

## Access to essential services

The provision of basic services in Gaza remains a key humanitarian concern. The blockade imposed by Israel since 2007 and recurrent hostilities have inflicted large-scale destruction on Gaza's infrastructure and productive assets while the Israeli-imposed restrictions on the import of goods it considers as having a 'dual' military and civilian purpose,



particularly equipment and spare parts, continue to impede basic service delivery. Service delivery is also affected by the continuing non-payment of salaries by the Palestinian authorities to tens of thousands of public employees since April 2014 and by the chronic electricity deficit.<sup>3</sup>

Although most of the schools damaged during the 2014 hostilities have been repaired, the educational system faces chronic challenges, in particular overcrowded schools resulting in widespread double shifts. Student performance, which is falling behind that of the West Bank, is also affected by recurrent power outages and electricity rationing, poor shelter and living conditions, and economic deprivation. These factors, as well as the internal Palestinian divide, have also led to a serious deterioration in the availability and quality of health services, compounded by ongoing Egyptian restrictions on the Rafah crossing, which is affecting patient referrals. The destruction of three primary health centres during the 2014 hostilities, which still await reconstruction, has impacted 80,000 people. The chronic electricity deficit, together with shortages of essential drugs, medical spare parts and disposables, have also impacted hospitals and medical equipment. Psychosocial services are also struggling to cope with the estimated 229,000 children who require some form of mental health support or psychosocial intervention.<sup>4</sup>

Reconstruction of damage to WASH infrastructure from the 2014 conflict, and the implementation of longer-term solutions, has also been delayed due to the slow implementation of the GRM and restrictions on the import of over 5,000 WASH items, such as pumps, drilling equipment and disinfectant chemicals, which Israel also considers as having a 'dual' military-civilian use. The chronic electricity deficit further disrupts the delivery of basic WASH services, affecting more than 300 water and wastewater facilities, resulting in an inadequate and irregular water supply and in untreated sewage overflowing into the streets or into the sea. Up to 40 per cent of the Gaza Strip population receive domestic water supply just twice a week or less. In addition, an estimated 85 per cent source their drinking water from 154 public or private producers, whose production, supply chain, and household storage results in potential contamination, exposing around 60 per cent of the population to potential public health risks.

### Erosion of resilience

Recurrent hostilities, the blockade and degraded infrastructure have impaired economic growth and perpetuated high levels of unemployment, food insecurity and aid dependency. Although food is available it is priced out of reach of many. One million Palestinians in Gaza are now moderately-to-severely food insecure, even though many already receive food assistance or other forms of social transfers - resulting in low resilience and high vulnerability to shocks. Food and livelihood assistance enables scarce cash resources to be spent on other essentials, preventing a further deterioration of food security and

livelihood status, and reducing the impact of negative coping mechanisms: a 2016 IDP survey revealed that purchasing food on credit was the most utilized coping mechanism, often involving incurring debts to retailers and a decrease in food consumption and diversity.<sup>5</sup>

The 2014 conflict also resulted in the physical destruction of essential agricultural assets and the pace of reconstruction and rehabilitation of these assets has been very slow. The enforcement of the ARAs on land and sea severely impacts the livelihoods of farmers and fishers. In March 2016, the fishing zone along the southern Gaza coast was expanded from six to nine nautical miles, with positive impact on the fishing catch, but the six mile limit was re-imposed after less than three months, citing security considerations.<sup>6</sup> Economic activity is also undermined by the longstanding electricity deficit.<sup>7</sup> As outlined by the UN Country team (UNCT), even if the political situation were to dramatically improve, Gaza faces severe challenges to its resource base approaching the year 2020. This is primarily due to the increasing population, projected to reach over 2.1 million in 2020, and unsustainable demands on its sole water source due to systematic over-extraction of the underlying coastal aquifer which has resulted in the intrusion of seawater and has resulted in 96 per cent of the groundwater in Gaza considered unfit for human consumption.<sup>8</sup>

### WEST BANK

Palestinians in the occupied West Bank continue to be subject to a complex system of physical and bureaucratic barriers, imposed by Israel citing security concerns, which restrict their right to freedom of movement, undermine livelihoods, and increase dependency on humanitarian aid.<sup>9</sup> The expansion of settlements, which are illegal under international law, continued in a framework of impunity, with settlement expansion witnessing a 40 per cent increase in new housing units in the first six months of 2016. The retroactive legalization of unauthorized outposts under Israeli law, the policy of land seizure and declarations of state land also continued. Linked to this is settler harassment and violence against Palestinians and their property: while since mid-2015 there has been a sharp decrease in the number of incidents recorded, largely due to preventive measures adopted by the Israeli authorities, concerns remain regarding lack of accountability for perpetrators.<sup>10</sup>

In 2016, there was a sharp increase in the demolition of Palestinian-owned structures and displacement in Area C and East Jerusalem, where the restrictive and discriminatory planning regime imposed by the Israeli authorities prevents Palestinians from planning their communities and building homes and infrastructure.

The wave of violence which erupted in October 2015 continued into 2016, at a reduced level, leading to increased restrictions on Palestinian movement throughout the West Bank. Security considerations notwithstanding, concerns remain over possible

excessive use of force and extra-judicial executions by Israeli forces in their response to Palestinian attacks or suspected attacks as well as the lack of sufficient accountability regarding these cases. Also of concern is the continuous spreading of incitement to violence against Israelis, particularly on social media.<sup>11</sup>

## Protection

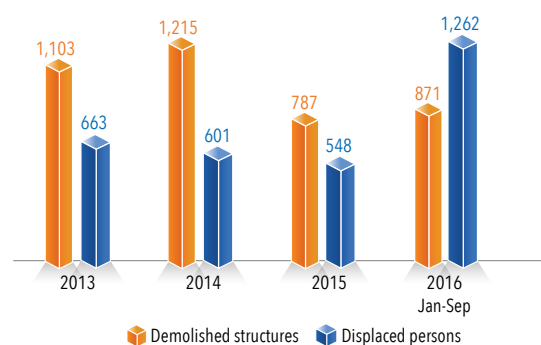
Palestinians in the West Bank continue to be subject to threats to their lives, physical safety and liberty from policies and practices related to the Israeli occupation, including settler violence. Since the wave of violence which erupted in October 2015 in the West Bank and Israel, to end-September 2016, 205 Palestinians have been killed and 14,942 injured by Israeli forces in the context of attacks/ alleged attacks, demonstrations and clashes. During the same period, 36 Israelis, including 30 civilians, were killed, and 312 injured by Palestinians. Refugee camps continue to be sites of concern, with 25 refugees killed (including three children) and 335 injured (including 56 children) in and around refugee camps up to end-September 2016. More than 455 Palestinians have been shot and injured with live ammunition since the beginning of the year, including cases involving long-term disability. Accountability for these incidents is urgently required: since October 2015, only 24 criminal investigations have been opened regarding 190 Palestinians killed.

Those most in need of protection include 61 Palestinian Bedouin and herder communities (of whom the majority are refugees) at high risk of forcible transfer; those vulnerable to forced eviction and destruction of property in Area C, half of whom are children; those affected by demolitions, forced evictions and revocation of their residency rights in East Jerusalem; communities affected by settler violence and harassment, including in the H2 area of Hebron, the Nablus area and in certain neighbourhoods of East Jerusalem; and refugee camps most affected by Israeli security operations. Some 2,412 incidents of grave violations against children were documented in October 2015-June 2016 compared to 1,298 between January-September 2015 and the number of children in detention has shown a similarly disturbing increase.

## Displacement and the risk of forcible transfer

Many Palestinians throughout the West Bank are at risk of displacement and/or forcible transfer due to a coercive environment generated by Israeli policies and practices, which create pressure on many residents to leave their communities. These practices, which include the demolition or threat of demolition of homes, schools and livelihood shelters; plans

### Demolitions in West Bank



Source: OCHA, 2015

to relocate communities to urban townships; restrictions on access to natural resources; the denial of basic service infrastructure; and the lack of secure residency, among others, are often implemented in connection with the establishment and expansion of Israeli settlements. Palestinian Bedouin and herding communities across Area C, with a population estimated at 30,000, as well as many Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, are among those most at risk of forcible transfer, due to the coercive environment to which they are subjected. A key component of the coercive environment is restrictive and discriminatory planning regime which makes it virtually impossible for Palestinians to obtain the requisite Israeli building permit.

2016 witnessed a sharp increase in Palestinian-owned structures destroyed, dismantled or confiscated (720) by the Israeli authorities for lack of building permits in Area C, and in the number of Palestinians displaced as a result of these demolitions (1,052, to end-September). The demolition rate in East Jerusalem to end-September (151) is the highest since OCHA began documenting these trends in 2008. Of additional concern, the number of donor-funded, humanitarian assistance structures demolished or confiscated in 2016 (242) is also unprecedented. Punitive demolitions targeting the family homes of perpetrators of attacks against Israelis also continued during 2016, with 24 homes targeted to end-September.<sup>12</sup> To date, 110 local outline plans for communities in Area C have been prepared, which, if approved, would significantly enhance the ability of community residents to obtain building permits. However, only three have been approved by the Israeli Civil Administration (ICA), out of the 95 submitted.



## Access to essential services

Palestinian movement throughout certain areas of the West Bank, including into East Jerusalem, remains restricted by physical and administrative measures, undermining access to basic services, as well as hindering the ability of humanitarian organizations to deliver relief. The Palestinian Authority (PA) continues to have only limited ability to provide education and health services in Area C and in East Jerusalem.

In the first half of 2016, there were 127 recorded incidents of education-related violations, the overwhelming majority in Area C, the H2 area of Hebron and East Jerusalem, affecting almost 15,000 children. Students can pass any one of 60 checkpoints, face incursions and tear gas and rubber bullets in their schools, or risk confrontation, intimidation and violence by settlers. Students in Area C face the risk of demolitions and a shortage of school infrastructure, particularly in Bedouin communities, while students in remote communities can walk long distances to reach school. In addition, 51 schools in Area C and East Jerusalem are at risk of stop-work or demolition orders, preventing the maintenance and expansion of school infrastructure. Key challenges in education service provision in East Jerusalem include inadequate facilities and classroom shortages, lack of financial support and the imposition of an Israeli curriculum, through financial incentives and other methods.

## Palestine Refugees

The 19 refugee camps throughout the West Bank were established as temporary tented sites for Palestine refugees driven from their homes due to the 1948 conflict, and who remain in forced exile to this day. Today, these camps have developed into urban areas, home to more than 237,034 people, with the population in each camp varying from 2,500 to 27,000. The camps are characterized by humanitarian needs related to overcrowding, high levels of unemployment and food insecurity, and ongoing violence related to Israeli forces incursions in the camps.



## REFUGEE CAMP CONCERNS IN THE WEST BANK

January - September 2016

Approximately  
**800,637**  
registered refugees in West Bank

Camp population, estimated over  
**238,652**  
inside camps

Residing in  
**19**  
refugee camps



### PROTECTION ISSUES



**5 refugees killed**  
due to ISF operations in camps including 1 child



**306 refugees injured**  
due to ISF operations in camps including 57 child



**522 incursions** by ISF in camps



**263 confrontations**

### Al Fawwar and Ad Duheisha Camps

Are two of the camps highly affected

- Population estimated more than 26,000 refugees residing in the two camps
- **89** camp incursions by Israeli forces
- more than **52** clashes between refugees in two camps and Israeli forces
- **One** refugee killed and **104** injured (including 23 refugee children) by Israeli forces



### FOOD SECURITY

**29%**

Of refugees residing in camps are food insecure in the West Bank

(source: unpublished SEFSec data)

**19.5%**

Unemployment rate in refugee camps in West Bank in the first half of 2016, compared to 17.1% in other urban areas.

PCBS, 2016. Labour Force Survey Q1 and Q2, 2016

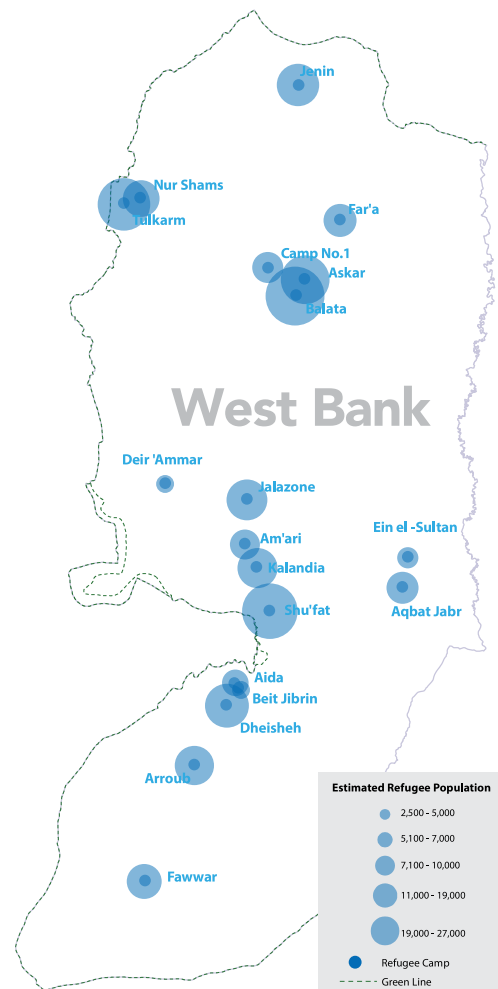
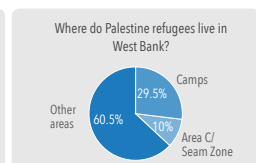


### OVERCROWDING

**5 out of 19**

Camps with population density above 100,000 persons per square km

Results in poor living conditions and social problems associated with overburdened infrastructure, environmental health concerns, lack of privacy and severely limited spaces for safe play and recreational activities.



Source: UNRWA, 2016



Access to health services is also restricted in the West Bank, specifically in Area C, H2 (Hebron) and the Seam Zone. Checkpoints, proximity to settlements, long distances to clinics, rocky roads and mountains, a scattered population and lack of public transportation are all factors which hamper the access of patients, health personnel and ambulances. In addition, the Barrier and permit regime are preventing patients who hold West Bank ID cards from accessing specialized services in the main Palestinian referral hospitals in East Jerusalem.

In the West Bank, the provision of WASH services is curtailed by a permit regime for WASH infrastructure and limits on water abstraction, among other constraints. In Area A and B, an estimated 445,000 people are either disconnected or receive water once a week or less, with a further 150,000 in Area C communities. On average, Palestinians use eight per cent of their monthly expenditure on purchasing water, compared to the world average of 3.5 per cent. Water consumption can be as low as 20 litres per person per day in some communities without water infrastructure. Similar obstacles have limited the development of wastewater and solid waste infrastructure in the West Bank, with just 38 per cent of the population connected to the network and 43 per cent using porous cesspits. Communities in Area C have limited ability to repair, rehabilitate and construct basic water and sanitation infrastructure at community or household level, resulting in inadequate water for drinking, domestic and livestock consumption in many communities. In addition, the demolition of WASH structures in Area C has led to displacement, increased poverty and the risk of disease and illness. Together these conditions increase women's care burden, as they are mostly responsible for water and health within the household. In East Jerusalem, disproportionate investments in infrastructure and a lack of building permits result in an estimated 36 per cent of the population with vulnerable illegal connections, and up to a third lacking sewage connections. Furthermore, some locations have been severed from the municipal centre by the Barrier and face particular difficulties in accessing WASH services.

### Erosion of resilience

Among the factors which contribute to livelihood deterioration are the demolition and confiscation of homes and livelihood structures; restrictions on the maintenance and rehabilitation of productive assets; inadequate water or substandard water supply; movement restrictions, and settlement expansion. Additional restriction on West Bank farmers include the requirement for special permits or prior coordination arrangements to access their farming land in the "Seam Zone" as well as in the vicinity of settlements. In 2016, the level of demolition and confiscation of agricultural assets remains high, with approximately 110 cases recorded as of September 2016. Bedouin women who typically engage in herding and subsistence agricultural activities are significantly impacted. The livelihoods of Bedouin communities in Area C are at very high risk, as their productive and personal assets are subject to continued demolition and confiscation, which reduces their resilience to shocks. Up to October 2016, a total of 390 structures, including homes and agricultural assets, of which 150 were refugee-owned, were demolished in Bedouin communities in Area C. In addition, over 7,000 Bedouin and herder refugee households in Area C continue to be some of the most vulnerable populations in the West Bank in terms of both protection threats and food insecurity.

Overall in the West Bank, livelihoods are most impacted by restrictions in Area C, which holds the most significant land and natural resources for Palestinian development, including the bulk of agricultural and grazing land. According to the Vulnerability Profile Plus assessment, 163 communities reported a decrease in their access to land, almost 80 per cent of them in Area C or East Jerusalem. The World Bank reports that unrestricted Palestinian access to resources in Area C "could increase Palestinian GDP by 35 per cent and would be expected to lead to a 35 per cent increase in employment", primarily through growth in the agricultural sector and the exploitation of its natural resources such as the Dead Sea.<sup>13</sup>

## PRIORITY GENDER NEEDS



The humanitarian context in oPt has a differentiated impact on men, women, boys and girls. Applying the framework for analysis of gender based vulnerabilities included in the 2016 HNO<sup>14</sup>, the 2017 HNO identifies the following gender concerns and associated needs based on the differentiated impact of the humanitarian context on men, women, boys and girls, their differentiated access, and differentiated coping mechanisms:

### PROTECTION:

- Exacerbated impact of protection violations on women and children (safety, denial of rights, access to services, psychosocial wellbeing etc.).
- Trends of higher incidence of intimate partner violence, sexual abuse and early marriage in communities impacted by conflict, fragmentation and displacement (e.g. IDPs, refugee camps, Gaza) while dealing with limited availability and access to GBV services (legal aid and psychosocial support).
- Need for legal counseling and assistance with regard to residency rights and family reunification, inheritance and property rights, social rights and access to humanitarian assistance due to the absence of a Palestinian legislative system and the fragmented jurisdiction with regard to women's rights.
- Need for gender and age differentiated child protection psychosocial support, legal assistance and case management for children with complex protection threats.

### FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS

- Higher food insecurity (severely and moderately food insecure) amongst female headed households.
- Higher risk of malnutrition amongst women due to reproductive role.
- Depleted household resilience due to high female unemployment, women's limited access to resources, and concentration of women in economic activities that are directly impacted by protection violations such as herding, and harvesting.

### ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES:

- Restricted access to health facilities affecting maternal healthcare and high rates of chronic malnutrition amongst women in reproductive age.
- Increased need for health response to GBV cases (detection, treatment and referral).

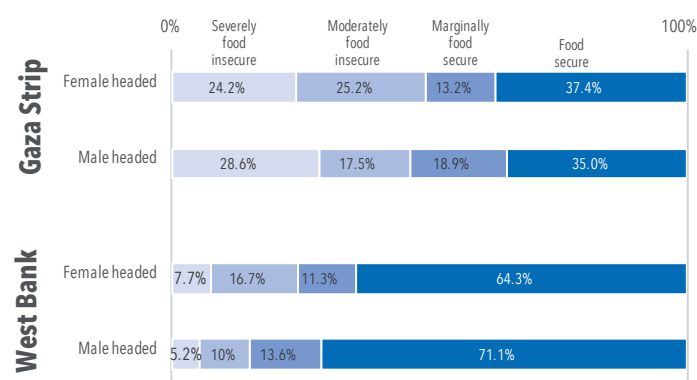
- Restricted access to education and exposure of school children to violence increase risk of school dropout especially amongst girls. Also, evidence points to increased risk of early marriage for girls and denial of right to education in acutely vulnerable communities in Gaza and in Area C (particularly in the South).<sup>15</sup>
- Displacement and poor conditions increase the vulnerability of women and children. Women who have partial or no tenure will be prioritized in humanitarian shelter assistance (such as women heads of households, separated, divorced or abandoned women and women victims of GBV and widows).
- Limited access to drinking water, domestic use water and wastewater and solid waste management in the Gaza Strip, Area C and East Jerusalem have significant impact on household spending, health and hygiene, and school attendance. Inadequate WASH facilities exposes women and girls to threats and burdens associated with meeting their personal hygiene needs, undertaking basic domestic chores, managing household water needs, and securing the needs of children, people with disabilities, the elderly and the chronically ill.

Gender analysis assists in identifying groups of the affected population which should be prioritized in the humanitarian response, defining their humanitarian needs based on the differentiated impact, and ensuring gender responsive humanitarian interventions that mitigate negative coping mechanisms prioritizing needs of people with disabilities, divorced or widowed women, adolescent girls and boys and elderly. Such an analysis also has implications for defining household level vulnerability to expand the focus on female headed households to include different types of households including households with high dependency ratios, headed by a person with disability/person in detention, married women who are in a separated or polygamous marriage, and widows and divorcees without secure tenure rights. Over the course of 2016, a number of clusters have made significant efforts to deepen understanding of gender based vulnerabilities and ensure a more gender sensitive determination of humanitarian needs. Nonetheless more efforts are still needed to improve quality of sex and age disaggregated data, and systematically collect information of impact of gender based vulnerability using participatory and inclusive needs assessment tools.



### FOOD SECURITY LEVELS

by gender head of household in West Bank and Gaza Strip, 2014



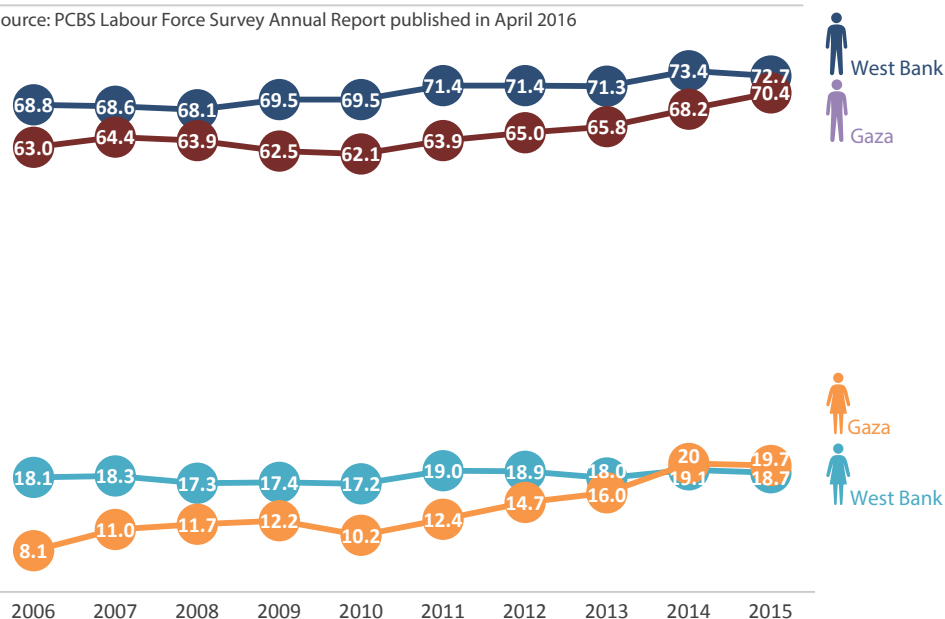
## GENDER AND RESILIENCE

Access to income, food, services and assets are amongst the key components of resilience. Women in the oPt are particularly disadvantaged with regard to these components given their limited share of agricultural holdings, their restricted access to services, and the limited economic opportunities available for women to generate income. This disadvantage restricts women's ability to contribute to household resilience and food security and also increases the vulnerability of women and female-headed households to food insecurity and malnutrition.

The framework for Action for Food Security and Nutrition in Protracted Crises endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in October 2015 recognizes gender equality as one of pathways to addressing the underlying causes of food insecurity and undernutrition in protracted crises and calls for the removal of obstacles to women's access to productive resources, assets, services, and income generating opportunities.

## LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION\*

Source: PCBS Labour Force Survey Annual Report published in April 2016

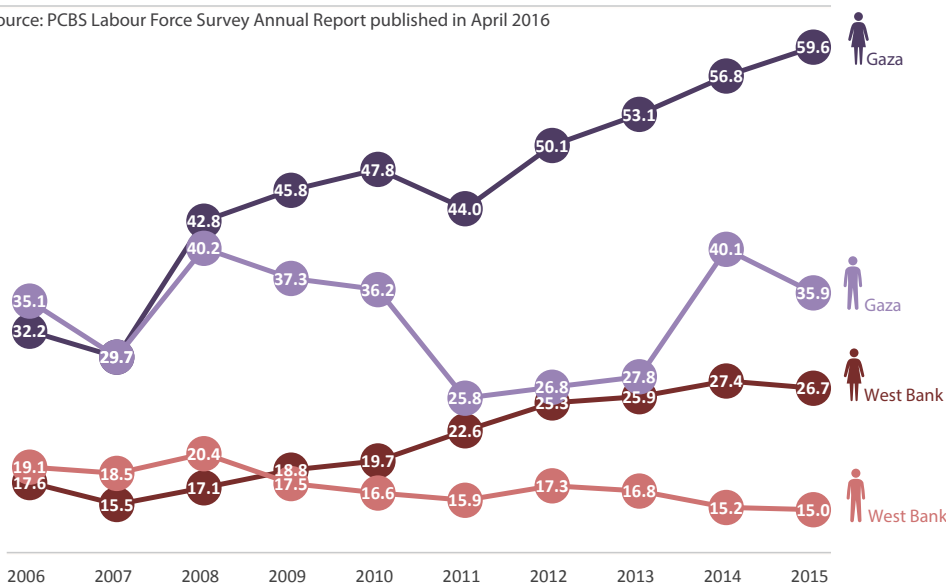


\* Includes people above 15 who are either employed or actively seeking a job (unemployed)

No progress has been made in bridging the severe gender gap in labour force participation in Gaza and the West Bank since 2006. Women's labour force participation in West Bank is slightly higher than Gaza and is significantly better for men in both Gaza and West Bank.

## UNEMPLOYMENT BY GENDER AND STATUS

Source: PCBS Labour Force Survey Annual Report published in April 2016

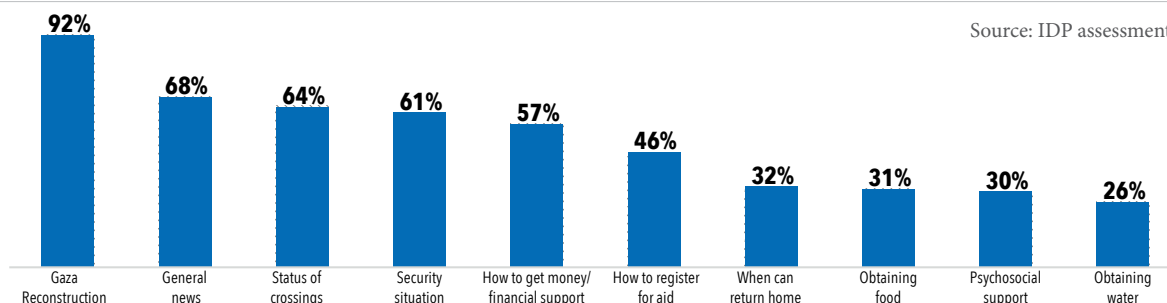


Almost 60 per cent of women in the labour force in Gaza are unemployed. Since 2007 female unemployment in Gaza and West Bank has been increasing and is driving total unemployment rates in oPt upwards. Female unemployment in Gaza is double that in the West Bank. The highest female unemployment rate in the West Bank is in Tulkarm standing at 32 per cent and in Rafah at 63 per cent (2015 data).

## COMMUNICATION WITH COMMUNITIES

As the protection crisis continues to affect communities throughout the oPt, vulnerable populations need timely and accurate information in order to cope with repeated shocks. As part of a recent IDP profile exercise in Gaza, displaced people identified the need for information on reconstruction, the status of crossings, the security situation and how to received financial support/aid. Preferred communication channels included television, mobile phones and radio. Communication and information needs of affected people in oPt will differ greatly according to age, gender and location.

## IDP INFORMATION NEEDS



Source: IDP assessment 2015

## BREAKDOWN OF

## PEOPLE IN NEED













An estimated 2 million people, including 1.2 million refugees are in need of humanitarian assistance in the oPt, mostly in the Gaza Strip, Area C of the West Bank and East Jerusalem.























The largest number of people in need are in the Gaza Strip (1.2 million people or 60 per cent of Gaza's population) and there is a high level of need across most sectors. The Gaza caseload includes 65,000 people still displaced from the 2014 conflict. The highest number of people in need as a proportion of the total population of that area (90 per cent) are in Area C of the West Bank where protection and health needs are particularly high. For East Jerusalem, the greatest need is for protection interventions – of which some 80 per cent of the East Jerusalem population is in need.

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED

2.0M

## BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR (MILLIONS)

CLUSTER	Gaza Strip	WB (AREA C)	WB (Areas A,B)	WB(East Jerusalem)	People in need of assistance	
 Protection	1.03M	268.8K	335.5K	213.4K	1.8M	
 WASH	1.30M	150.0K	470K (not included in the total)	1.8K	1.5M	
 Food Security	1.085M	68K	487K	10K	1.5M	
 Health/ Nutrition	.83M	209.1K			1.0M	
 Education	.47M	31.9K	8.7K	13.1K	.5M	
 Shelter and NFIs	.22M	45.5K		6.0K	.3M	

GOVERNORATE	 EDUCATION	 FOOD SECURITY	 HEALTH/ NUTRITION	 SHELTER AND NFIS	 WASH	 PROTECTION
 BETHLEHEM	3.8K	55.0K	21.8K	3.3K	25.8K	59.7K
 HEBRON	18.8K	208.0K	43.1K	9.1K	67.4K	218.1K
 JENIN	6.7K	55.0K	21.4K	3.2K	10.4K	58.8K
 JERICHO	1.8K	17.0K	7.3K	2.7K	5.0K	14.6K
 JERUSALEM	12.7K	52.0K	80.6K	9.6K	36.8K	209.6K
 NABLUS	1.2K	90.0K	7.2K	6.9K	4.8K	77.6K
 QALQILIYA	2.0K	20.0K	9.5K	1.9K	4.8K	25.9K
 RAMALLAH	3.2K	38.0K	14.5K	5.5K	21.0K	81.1K
 SALFIT	1.2K	8.0K	15.7K	1.7K	5.9K	22.7K
 TUBAS	1.8K	17.0K	7.2K	6.3K	1.4K	17.0K
 TULKARM	.6K	33.0K	25.5K	1.4K	8.8K	32.6K
 NORTH GAZA	84.6K	215.0K	166.0K	40.2K	218.7K	203.4K
 GAZA	161.5K	379.0K	282.2K	71.1K	374.2K	522.3K
 KHAN YUNIS	93.3K	183.0K	157.7K	33.3K	158.6K	75.5K
 MIDDLE AREA	63.6K	130.0K	124.5K	43.4K	111.2K	88.3K
 RAFAH	64.9K	150.0K	99.6K	31.5K	135.4K	141.5K

0.5M

1.65M

1.1M

0.3M

1.45M

1.8M

Food Security numbers of people are elaborated from the SEFSec survey, which is a statistical exercise providing percentages of households. Therefore a margin of approximation is factored in when extracting absolute figures. The aim of the SEFSec is to indicate the magnitude and the trend of the food insecurity problem rather than providing the exact counting of people in need.



## KEY

# ISSUES

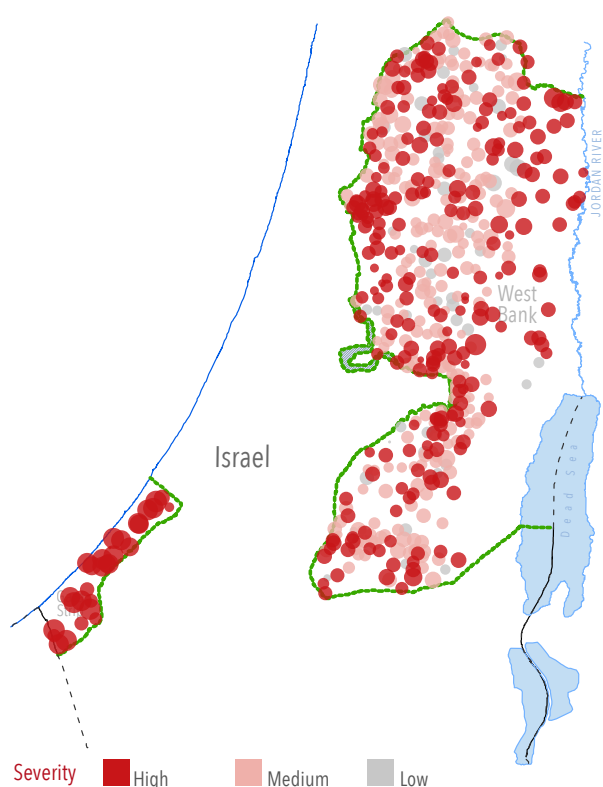
(as seen by the affected population)

**Top priority problems/issues:** Key informants in 370 localities (70 per cent) identified poverty and unemployment as priority problems that require a response in the oPt. 35 per cent identified planning and zoning as a second underlying factor, followed by access restrictions (29 per cent) and settler violence (19 per cent).

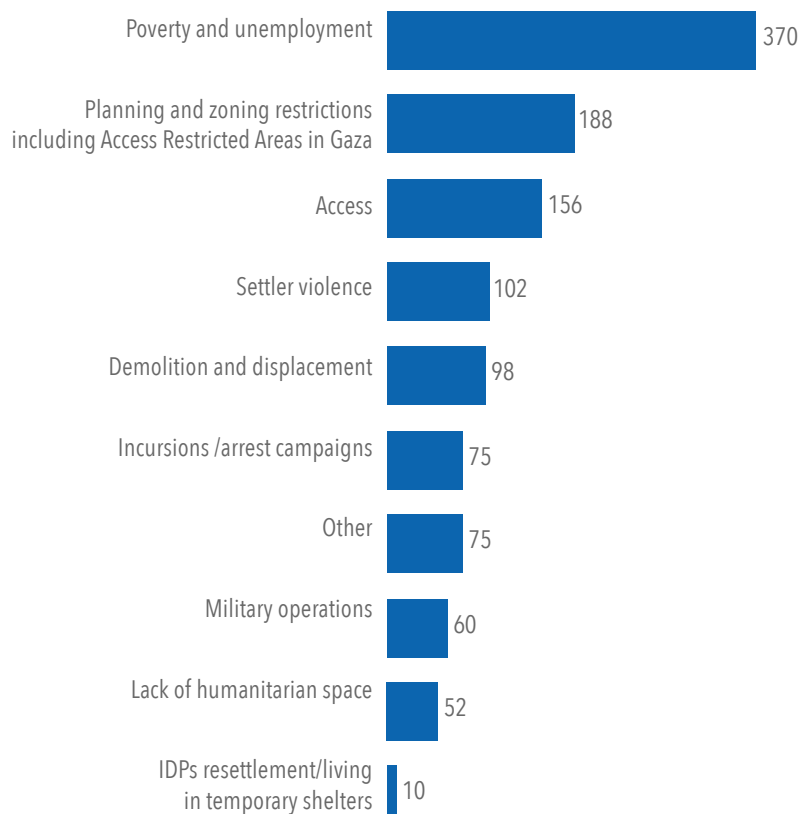
The overall severity map is based on a vulnerability ranking average generated by the Vulnerability Profile Project 2015 (VPP+). Cluster questions were given weights, where individual communities were ranked based on the level of vulnerability (high, medium and low). To produce the overall severity map, the individual vulnerability ranking of each cluster was added up and averaged. To give a more realistic reflection of the vulnerability level, the map was normalized by the percentage of people in need.

## VPP 2015- Humanitarian needs

Severity map



Humanitarian Concerns



## ANNEX I: INFORMATION BY SECTOR



Protection



Food Security



Shelter



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Health & Nutrition



Education



Disaster Risk Reduction

## ANNEX II: INFORMATION SOURCES AND METHODOLOGIES

## ANNEX III: INFORMATION GAPS AND ASSESSMENT PLANNING

## PROTECTION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



### OVERVIEW

The upsurge in violence and concerns related to attacks by Palestinians and excessive use of force by Israeli forces continued in 2016, with 92 Palestinians killed, including 27 children, and 2,824 injured, including 1,069 children, in the context of clashes, attacks and alleged attacks to end-September in the oPt and Israel. West Bank refugee camps continue to be vulnerable: up to end-September, twenty-five refugees (including three children) were killed and 335 injured, including at least 56 children, in and around refugee camps. There is a continuing lack of accountability throughout the oPt, both for the violations which have occurred in the West Bank since the start of the current escalation of violence in October 2015 and for violations in the Gaza Strip during the 2014 hostilities.

In Gaza, over 60,000 people remain displaced as a result of the 2014 and previous hostilities and remain vulnerable to a range of protection threats. In the West Bank, demolitions, along with a broad range of other practices and policies, contribute to a coercive environment, particularly in Area C, H2 and East Jerusalem, that is leading to risks of or actual forced displacement and forcible transfer. Settlements continue to be a source of multiple protection concerns and settler violence remains a related protection concern. Human rights actors across the oPt have experienced growing pressure in 2016, undermining the protective environment for all Palestinians; the protracted protection crisis has also exacerbated GBV in all its forms.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

All Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank including East Jerusalem are currently affected by the lack of respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Human Rights law (HRL) and the lack of accountability for violations of these laws. The current policies and practices and the protracted nature of the Israeli occupation prevent Palestinians' full enjoyment of their human rights.

In Gaza, those most in need of protection include individuals and families who live or work in the ARAs; those affected by freedom of movement restrictions, including medical patients;

### PEOPLE IN NEED



*Normalized by population density*

those IDPs living in temporary accommodation and those whose homes were destroyed and lack HLP documentation; women and children at risk of GBV; children in need of PSS and those requiring ERW awareness; and refugees from the region who lack documentation.

In the West Bank, these include 61 Palestinian Bedouin and herder communities, where 65 per cent are refugees, at high risk of forcible transfer; those vulnerable to evictions and destruction of property in Area C, half of whom are children; those affected by demolitions and revocation of their residency rights in East Jerusalem; communities affected by settler violence and harassment, including in H2 and certain communities in East Jerusalem; in particular the Old City and Silwan, and refugee camps most affected by Israeli security operations.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- **Respect for IHL and HRL and accountability for violations.** The protection cluster continues to identify accountability for violations during the Gaza hostilities in 2014 by all sides, and those which have occurred in the West Bank since October 2015 as an urgent need.<sup>9</sup> Accountability is prioritised as an immediate concern, both because individuals have a right to justice and because failure to address these past violations is creating cycles of impunity that have the potential to feed future conflict. Related to this is the need to prevent and mitigate the impact of violations, including through monitoring and documentation, advocacy and interventions with Israeli authorities and other relevant actors, the provision of legal aid and services to support access to justice and child protection services

including detection and case management and response to child arrests and detention. In 2017, priority will be given to the needs (monitoring and documentation, legal aid and psychosocial) of communities facing a growing risk of forcible transfer and to engage in strategic advocacy to prevent this violation.

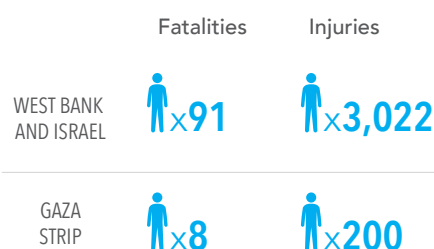
- **Risk assessment, clearance and awareness raising on explosive remnants of war (ERWs).** Palestinians in Gaza continue to be affected by the presence of ERWs which pose a serious threat to life and which impede efforts of IDPs to return home, delaying reconstruction and restricting access to livelihoods.
- **Protective presence and targeted advocacy on settlement related concerns.** Settlements, illegal under international law give rise to a wide range of protection concerns including settler violence (attacks against persons and property); settler harassment (including against children going to school and farmers) and related negative impact on the psychological well-being of affected Palestinians; loss of access to land, natural resources and transport routes affecting livelihoods; and access to basic services; impunity for settler and settlement violations and contributing to the threat of forcible transfer in some localities. In 2016 settlement expansion continued unabated in the context of impunity – there was a 40 per cent increase in construction of new housing units in the first six months of the year compared to the previous six months. The push to retroactively authorize outposts continued (as of August 2016, 32 of 100 outposts had been retroactively authorized or were undergoing this process), while policies to take over Palestinian land through land seizures and declarations of state land continued. Communities and individuals at greatest risk are in need of protective presence, legal aid, psychosocial support and on-going monitoring and documentation to feed targeted advocacy.
- **Provision of Gender-based violence (GBV) services:** The protracted protection crisis resulting from decades of Israeli occupation together with the prevailing patriarchal culture in Palestinian society has exacerbated GBV in all its forms, including sexual violence, domestic violence and early marriage. The State of Palestine has the legal obligation to adopt preventive measures, support victims and ensure accountability. Its progress in implementing these obligations, however, has been overall very limited. This is partially related to occupation related policies and to the Palestinian political divide, which have undermined the capacity of local authorities to respond in a holistic manner to these issues. Across Gaza, Area C and East Jerusalem, fragmentation of legal systems and law enforcement authorities often result in impunity of perpetrators of GBV. Constraints on the provision of, and access to GBV services has resulted in unmet needs in regard to health, legal and psychosocial support to GBV victims.
- **Protection for human rights defenders (HRD):** 2016 witnessed growing pressure on human rights actors, including civil society, which undermines the protective environment for all Palestinians and should serve as an early warning indicator for further deterioration. Concerns were raised regarding both Israeli and Palestinian authorities

(in Gaza and the West Bank) and included reports of arrests, detentions, harassment (including death threats). Of particular concern are efforts by the Israeli authorities to discredit Human Rights organizations and their work, failure to protect HRDs from attack, in particular by Israeli settlers and extremists. As much of the humanitarian protection work in Palestine relies on these actors for monitoring, documentation, reporting, advocacy and other related accountability actions, there is a need to strengthen protection (including legal aid), raise awareness about the ongoing threats and engage in advocacy with relevant authorities.

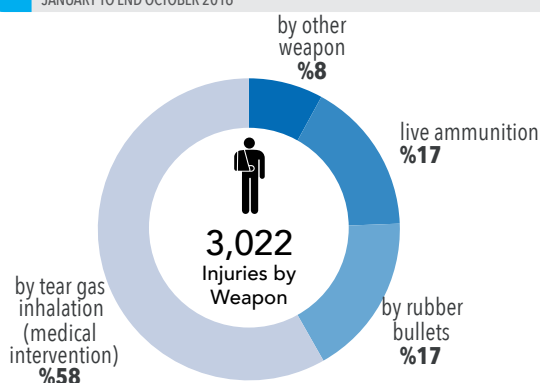
- **Mainstreaming of protection:** The cluster identifies the need to continue to strengthen preparedness measures for future large-scale displacement and to ensure that protection is mainstreamed in emergency responses for IDPs. Persons with disabilities and the elderly remain especially vulnerable and at risk of exclusion from humanitarian and basic services; there is a key ongoing need, especially in Gaza, to ensure these vulnerable groups are able to access needed services during an emergency. Special consideration is also required regarding the different impact of demolitions and displacement on women, men boys and girls.



#### PALESTINIAN CASUALTIES IN THE OPT AND ISRAEL JANUARY TO END OCTOBER 2016



#### PALESTINIAN INJURIES IN THE OPT AND ISRAEL JANUARY TO END OCTOBER 2016



Protection  
of Civilian database  
<https://goo.gl/sXJwwV>

## DEMOLITIONS

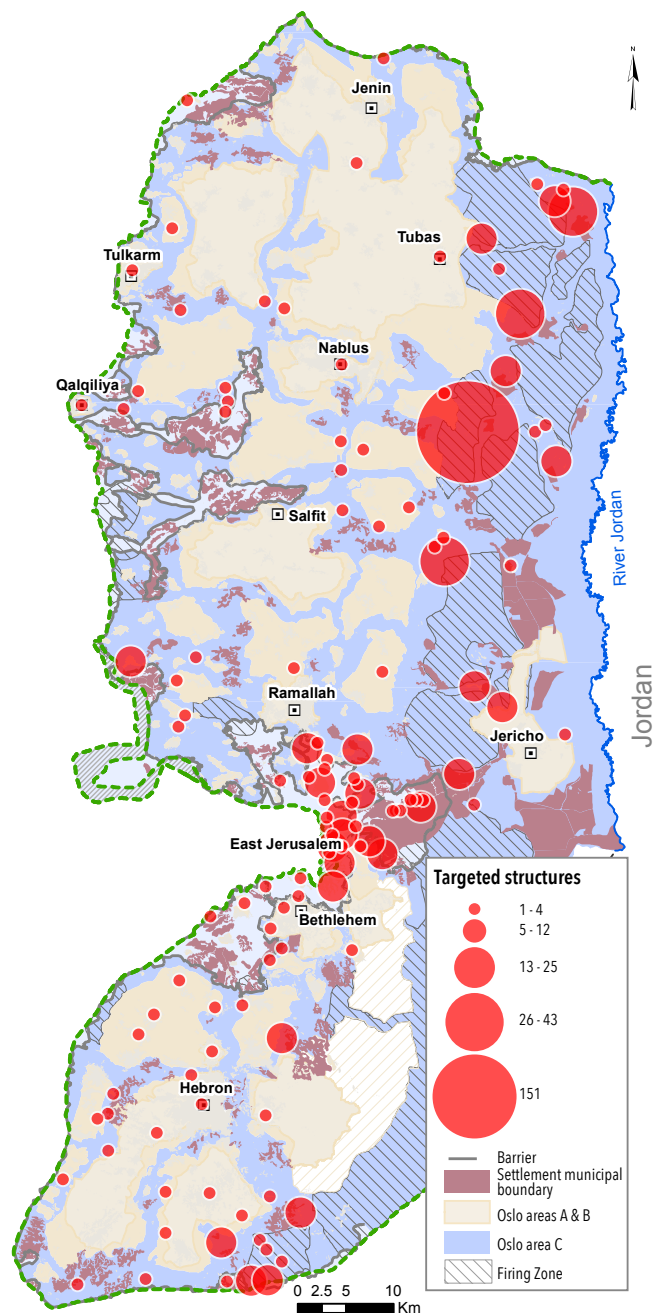
## WEST BANK

2016 witnessed a sharp increase in Palestinian-owned structures destroyed, dismantled or confiscated by the Israeli authorities for lack of building permits in Area C, and in the number of Palestinians displaced as a result of these demolitions. The demolition rate in East Jerusalem is the highest since OCHA began documenting in 2008. Of additional concern, the number of donor-funded, humanitarian assistance structures demolished or confiscated by end-September (242) is also unprecedented.



## DEMOLITIONS IN THE WEST BANK

(1 Jan - 26 Oct 2016)



## DEMOLITION AND DISPLACEMENT IN WEST BANK

JANUARY TO 26 OCTOBER 2016



**787** structures demolished in Area C  
**150** in East Jerusalem



**1,120** people displaced Area C including **532** children  
**212** People were displaced in East Jerusalem including **110** children.

Demolition Database  
<https://goo.gl/WGtB7F>



Source: OCHA



## CHILD PROTECTION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



# 265,000

### OVERVIEW

The protracted protection crisis in the oPt continues to have a significant impact on the well-being of children and families. In the Gaza Strip, the blockade and recurrent rounds of hostilities have eroded families' resilience. Children are growing up in a society permeated with restrictions, hardship, and the ongoing threat of a new escalation, leaving them with a deep sense of insecurity, fear and hopelessness. In the West Bank, the surge in violence since the end of 2015 has exposed children and families to high levels of harassment and violence and raised concerns about excessive use of force, and disproportionate responses to attacks by Israeli forces.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

In Gaza, recurrent rounds of hostilities, in particular the 2014 escalation which resulted in the death of 551 and injury of 3,370 children, have had a deleterious impact on children. Children are also affected by high levels of violence in the home, at school and in the community, high unemployment, increased poverty, and increased negative coping mechanisms, including school dropout, child marriage and child labour.

In the West Bank, East Jerusalem, the H2 area of Hebron, refugee camps and Area C are the worst affected areas for child protection concerns. Children in H2 live in a highly stressed and controlled environment where the possibility of exposure to violence and harassment or injury particularly at checkpoints, or as a result of random settler violence, is consistently present. In Area C, children are exposed to all the elements of the coercive environment (demolitions, violence/ harassment, movement restrictions, lack of services) and are particularly affected by issues that impede access to education. Almost 60% of women in the labour force in Gaza are unemployed.

In East Jerusalem there are high levels of child arrests and detention, including house arrests.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- **Structured psychosocial services and child protection interventions, including life skills programmes for 228,966 children in Gaza and 35,846 children in the West Bank.**
- **Structured psychosocial services for 149,302 adult caregivers in Gaza in 8,750 the West Bank.**
- In Gaza, despite the provision of mental health and psychosocial support services to 183,440 children in 2015 and 63,008 children to date in 2016, children and their parents, teachers and carers remain distressed. In the West Bank, particularly since the escalation of violence since late 2015, children and their families have been exposed to high levels of harassment and violence, resulting from clashes and contact with Israeli forces, high levels of arrest and detention and settler violence.
- **Individual child protection case management for the most vulnerable 8,962 children in the West Bank, and 6,540 children in Gaza.** Some 2,412 incidents of grave violations against children were documented in October 2015-June 2016, compared to 1,298 between January-September 2015. In total in the oPt, there have been 3,700 documented incidents between 1 January 2015-30 June 2016 affecting 70,708 children. These incidents include killings and injuries, attacks against schools and health facilities, denial of humanitarian access, and demolitions and child recruitment.
- **Legal assistance for 1,200 children affected by arrest and detention, ill treatment and grave violations.** Data from the Israeli Prison Service indicates that the number of children in detention for security-related offences more than doubled from 166 on average from January-September 2015 to 405 from October 2015- April 2016. This is of a particular concern for teenage boys (although girls are increasingly affected) and places enormous strain on families, creates a feeling of consistent fear that results in a need for legal aid, advocacy, psychosocial and child protection support.
- **UXO awareness for 251,802 children in Gaza.** The threat and presence of ERWs affects all children in Gaza, giving rise to the need for risk education. Of 266,162 children identified in need of ERW awareness raising, 148,500 (51 per cent) were reached by end-September 2016.

## FOOD SECURITY

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED

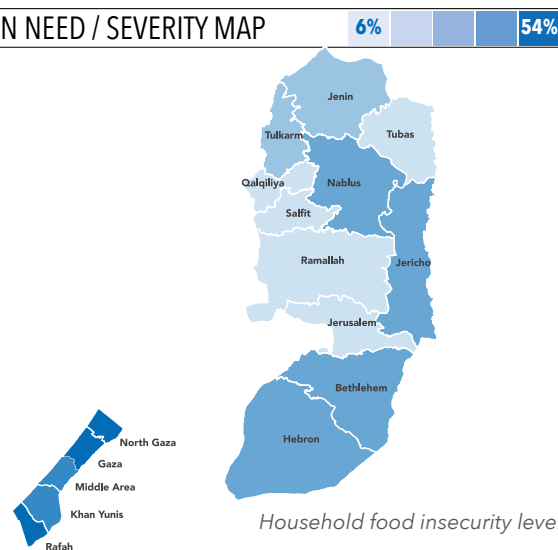


### OVERVIEW

Food Security in Palestine continues to be affected by the protracted nature of the crisis, repeated shocks and continued restrictions on freedom of movement, constrained productive capacities and a lack of economic opportunities, resulting in high unemployment and low household incomes. Together with a high cost of living – particularly for food – these factors make 1.6 million Palestinians (27 per cent of households)<sup>10</sup> food insecure, even though many already receive food assistance or other forms of social transfers from Palestinian governmental bodies or international organizations. With poor food insecure families spending half their incomes on food, livelihood and food assistance enables scarce cash resources to be spent on other essentials, preventing a further deterioration of food security and livelihood status. Poor food utilization due to low quality water, sanitation and hygiene, limited access to health care, and the declining quality of diets also contribute to food insecurity

Humanitarian needs remain high across the Gaza Strip due to the blockade, the residual impact of the 2014 hostilities and continued internal political divisions. The enforcement of the ARAs by the Israeli authorities still impedes free access to land and sea by farmers and fishers, severely affecting their livelihoods. Farmers in Gaza cannot rely on the power grid for continuous electricity supply, further increasing inputs costs and obliging farmers to opt for costly and environmentally

### PEOPLE IN NEED / SEVERITY MAP

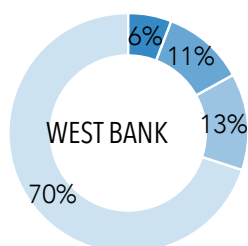


unfriendly solutions like generators. The high water salinity is threatening the existence of certain varieties in the Gaza Strip like guava, palms and citrus.

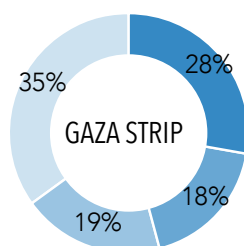
In the West Bank, livelihoods are particularly impacted by restrictions in Area C, which holds the bulk of agricultural and grazing land. Demolitions of homes and other structures, confiscations and restrictions on maintenance and rehabilitation of productive assets, as well as forcible transfers, movement restrictions, and settlement expansion all contribute to livelihood deterioration. In 2016, the level of demolitions and confiscation of agricultural assets remained high, with approximately 110 cases as of September 2016. Across the oPt, the overall result is a decrease in resilience and an increased dependency on products imported from Israel, with repeated interventions of humanitarian aid to vulnerable beneficiaries.



### FOOD SECURITY

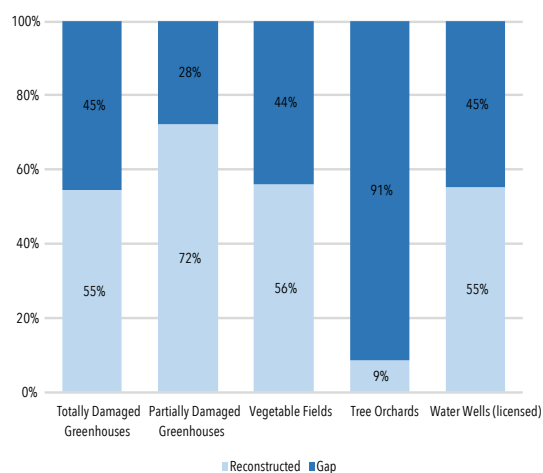


- Severely Food Insecure
- Moderately Food Insecure
- Marginally Food Secure
- Food Secure



- Severely Food Insecure
- Moderately Food Insecure
- Marginally Food Secure
- Food Secure

### AGRICULTURAL RECONSTRUCTION, GAZA STRIP



## AFFECTED POPULATION

Restrictions on the movement of people and goods, along with persistently high unemployment rates as well as low wages, are the most important factors driving food insecurity in Palestine, which affects 47 per cent of households in Gaza and 16 per cent in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

In the Gaza Strip, food insecurity levels are high in all areas with 46 per cent of affected households living in refugee camps, 41 percent in rural areas, and 47 percent in urban areas. Food insecurity among refugees increased by 2.9 per cent when comparing the last two food security surveys, with 45 per cent of households affected, compared to 49 per cent of non-refugees households. Unemployment rates in Gaza continue to be higher amongst refugees (at 43.7 per cent compared to 37.8 per cent for non-refugees), especially unemployment among youth refugees (63.1 per cent compared to 57.5 per cent for non-refugees). There is an emerging issue related to a small group of non-Palestinian refugees in need of assistance (approximately 500 households) from countries such as Yemen, Libya, and Syria.

In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, 22 per cent of Palestinian refugee households are food insecure, compared to 14 per cent of non-refugees. The estimated 237,034 refugees living in camps are particularly affected, with 29 per cent of households being food insecure, followed by 20 per cent of rural households, and 14 per cent of urban households. Refugee unemployment levels continued to be high reaching 19.5 per cent in camps in the first half of 2016, contributing to extremely high rates of food insecurity (29 per cent). The unemployment rates of youth refugees is also high at 32 per cent.

The livelihoods of Palestinian Bedouin communities in Area C of the West Bank are at very high risk, as their productive and personal assets are subject to continued demolition and confiscation, which reduces their resilience to shocks. In addition, over 7,000 refugee Bedouin and herder households in Area C continue to be some of the most vulnerable populations in the West Bank in terms of both protection threats and food insecurity.

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- **Food assistance, livelihood support and cash-based assistance.** Twenty-seven percent of Palestinian households are in need of such assistance to prevent a further deterioration in the food insecurity situation and to strengthen resilience of vulnerable households. In Gaza, specifically, food assistance needs to be continued given the deteriorating economic situation, the continuing blockade, and the continuing impact of the 2014 hostilities.
- **Support to females in food insecure households to produce nutritious and diversified food for both household consumption and the local markets.** Women own or co-own only 7.2 per cent of agricultural holdings, but they contribute more than 60 per cent to labour requirements in agriculture. In Gaza, households headed

## FOOD INSECURITY PREVALENCE WITHIN LIVELIHOOD TYPES

	AVERAGE FOOD INSECURITY	FARMERS	HERDERS	MIXED HOLDINGS
GAZA STRIP	47%	35%	70%	N/A
WEST BANK	16%	14%	34%	18%

by women face higher levels of food insecurity than men, 50 and 46 per cent respectively; in the West Bank the respective figures are 25 per cent and 15 per cent. In Gaza, female unemployment reaches as high as 59 per cent and is higher amongst younger age groups. Approximately 50 per cent of the Palestinian population suffers from more than one micronutrient deficiency but the situation is particularly alarming for female adolescents in Gaza with 72 per cent suffering from Vitamin D and 64 per cent suffering from Vitamin A deficiencies.

- **Assistance for agriculture-dependent livelihoods in Area C, including Bedouin and herder communities.** These communities' traditional income-generating activities are becoming unsustainable as even the most basic support for farmers is subject to increasingly stringent Israeli policies, e.g. the confiscation of pipes essential for the functioning of irrigation systems. Up to end-October 2016, a total of 390 structures, including homes and agricultural assets, of which 150 were refugee-owned, were demolished in Palestinian Bedouin communities in Area C. Pressures on these communities is compounded by the costly price of water for Palestinian farmers who are prohibited from drilling new wells and carrying out essential maintenance to deteriorated irrigation systems. Victims of demolitions and settler violence are in need of support in order to protect their traditional livelihoods and their very presence on their land.
- **Assistance and livelihood support for fisherfolk and farmers in the Gaza ARA to ensure the protection, livelihoods and resilience of these communities.**
- **Restoration of the productive capacity, stability of income for 25,000 to 30,000 farmers, herders, breeders and fishers in Gaza.** The restoration of productive assets and stabilization of rural livelihoods following the 2014 conflict has been dramatically slow to date. The failure to restore irrigation systems, greenhouses, soil fertility, and fruit orchards has increased dependency on short-term assistance. Delays and limitations of the import of items such as pipes and timber under the 'dual-use' mechanisms further constrains the ability to restore damaged and destroyed assets.

## SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



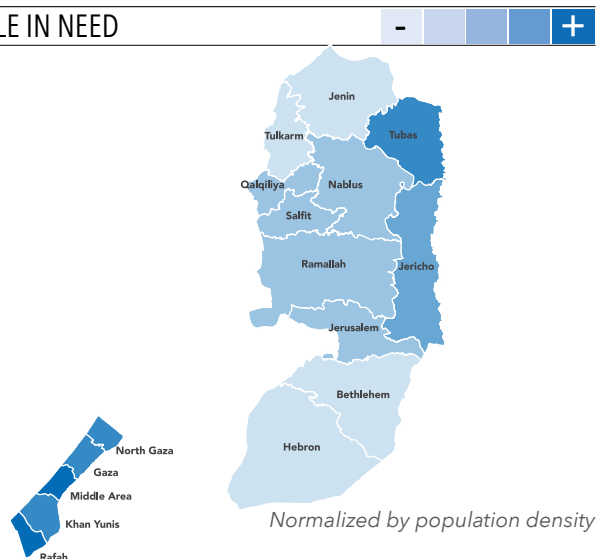
### OVERVIEW

An estimated 286,000 people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank are in need of shelter assistance and non-food items as a result of continuing displacement following the 2014 conflict, as well as latent exposure and protection concerns as a result of manmade and natural hazards. Shelter needs are exacerbated by the blockade and material restrictions imposed on Gaza, and an increasingly coercive environment and threat of demolitions in the West Bank. In Gaza, displacement following the 2014 escalation continues for over 60,000 people. While Israel, via the GRM, has facilitated the controlled entry of vital construction materials, the quantities of cement allowed to enter Gaza have been insufficient, resulting in delays in the construction process and prolonged displacement. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the sizeable increase in demolitions in 2016 reflects heightened protection and shelter risks as a result of a coercive Israeli policy and planning restrictions that undermine the shelter needs of the Palestinian population in some 70 per cent of Area C. Across the oPt, winter storms and localized flooding continue to impact those in high risk areas and inadequate shelters.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

As reconstruction progresses the IDP caseload in Gaza is falling. However, at the start of 2017 over 50,000 people will still be in need of assistance to ensure adequate temporary shelter solutions such as rental accommodation or host families. This is expected to drop further pending access to sufficient materials for 2,600 units with identified funding carried over to next year; however, without a durable solution, currently over 20,000 people will remain displaced and require temporary support at the end of 2017. Out of 59,450 households who have not yet received assistance to repair conflict damage, 6,700 families are in urgent need of support due to poor conditions, high vulnerability and lack of resources, while 24,300 families are classified as abject poor overall. In addition, around 400 refugee families from Syria, Libya, Yemen and Iraq in Gaza face particular shelter concerns, while over 4,725 acutely-vulnerable families are living in sub-standard and unhygienic conditions that raise a range of humanitarian health and protection concerns. Of 83,000 families living in areas at risk of flooding, 3,000 are acutely shelter vulnerable and require emergency preparedness and response.

### PEOPLE IN NEED

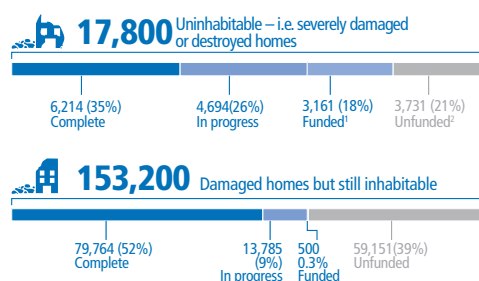


39,000 people in Area C and East Jerusalem are in need of consolidation and winterization for 7,760 inadequate structures across 87 herder or Palestinian Bedouin communities, particularly in Hebron and the Jerusalem periphery. Cluster partners estimate that some 1,330 people in Area C and East Jerusalem will need humanitarian support following individual demolitions.

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- Continued support for 10,000 internally displaced families in Gaza to enable access to appropriate temporary shelter solutions and ensure protection and stability, particularly for women and children who face increased vulnerability to GBV and greater burden of care. As of September 2016, only 1,308 out of the totally destroyed 11,000 housing units have been reconstructed (12 per cent) and 59,450 households have not yet received assistance to repair conflict damage. Durable solutions for displaced families have also been delayed by slow access to funds and lack of support for facilitative assistance to end displacement such as technical support, planning and land

### RECONSTRUCTION AFTER 2014 HOSTILITIES



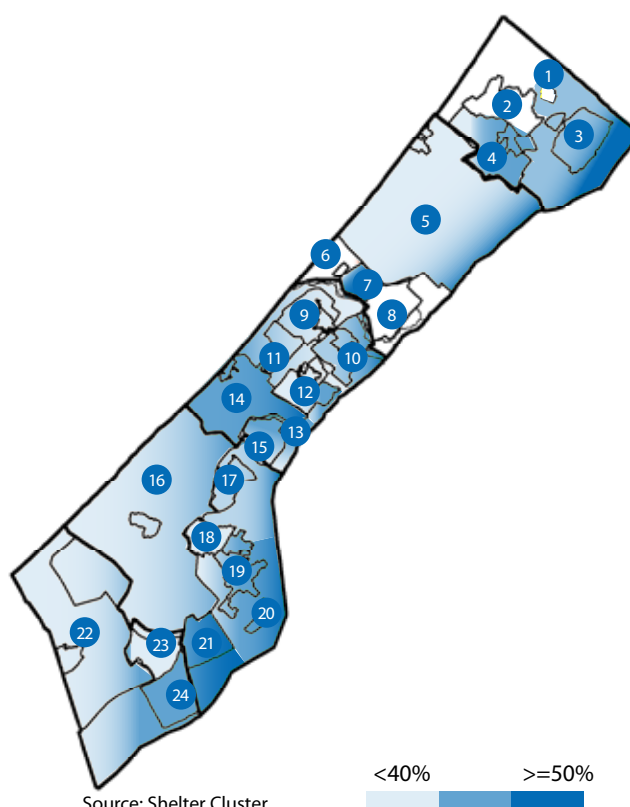
ownership issues, in particular for women without proof of property tenure or with partial tenure rights.

- **Protect the dignity, safety and security of people living in sub-standard, exposed or unhygienic conditions as a result of restrictive planning regimes and lack of access to materials.** In the West Bank, the planning regime in force in Area C and East Jerusalem restricts the construction of residential, livelihood and basic service infrastructure and results in the destruction of homes and other property. In Gaza, chronic housing shortages and the dire economic situation as a result of the ten-year long blockade, and three major escalations of conflict, have compounded concerns for adequate shelter protection for acutely-vulnerable families.
- **Preparedness and response for refugee and non-refugees families affected by single or mass demolitions.** Cluster partners estimate that some 1,330 people in Area C and East Jerusalem will need humanitarian support following individual demolitions, while up to 840 people are at risk of mass demolition (projections based on annual trends) requiring preparedness for timely response.
- **Shelter consolidation for marginalized areas and communities at risk of forcible transfer.** The mass displacement of high risk communities has become an increasing concern, with 61 communities identified at risk of forcible transfer, the majority of them refugees.
- **Timely and appropriate response to small-scale disasters, particularly the impact of harsh weather.** Approximately, 39,000 people in Area C and East Jerusalem are in need of consolidation and winterization for 7,760

inadequate structures across 87 herder or Palestinian Bedouin communities, particularly in Hebron and the Jerusalem periphery. Health and wellbeing concerns are also of concern in these communities where over half the shelters provide inadequate protection and increase burden of care, particularly on women.

- **Preparedness and contingency planning to ensure capacity to effectively respond in the case of large-scale disasters or conflict.** There is a need to strengthen and expand systems to ensure greater capacity to respond with emergency shelter/NFIs, including maintaining emergency NFI stocks. As a lessons learned from previous conflicts, the different clusters involved in designing and preparing appropriate collective centres will include WASH facilities, and address protection concerns, privacy and gender-sensitive NFIs.
- **Ensuring gender-equitable access to shelter assistance, including prioritized and appropriate support to people with disabilities.** Displacement and poor conditions have exacerbated the vulnerability of certain groups, particularly children, people with disabilities, the elderly and the chronically ill. Particularly impacted are women-headed households and women who lack secure tenure such as women who are separated, divorced or abandoned; widows and victims of violence. The displaced population and especially minors, women, the disabled and elderly people living in sub-standard shelters are most at risk from harsh weather conditions and lack of incorporated facilities, such as WASH.

## GAZA STRIP: PROGRESS AND OUTSTANDING NEEDS IN RECONSTRUCTION



Locality	# Housing Units Totally Destroyed	Remaining (not nominated for any fund)
1	169	82
2	429	117
3	1682	586
4	585	155
5	3481	884
6	38	12
7	7	4
8	440	174
9	226	63
10	218	68
11	89	26
12	97	30
13	125	38
14	354	112
15	154	48
16	327	99
17	345	106
18	261	57
19	441	59
20	427	102
21	107	40
22	588	139
23	39	6
24	371	106
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>3,113</b>



## BREAKDOWN OF SHELTER CLUSTER NEEDS BY CONCERN

Humanitarian concern/problem		People in need
Need for consolidation and upgrading of vulnerable populations in inadequate shelters	Herders and Bedouins in Area C	13,882
	Other people in Area C	18,226
	East Jerusalem	6,000
	H2 area	900
	Gaza substandard (4,725 hardship)	24,570
	Gaza minor repairs substandard (5,820 families)	30,264
	Gaza major and severe abject poor (875 families)	4,550
Support to IDPs	IDPs (7,500 families)	39,000
Damage and demolitions requiring immediate shelter assistance	Administrative demolitions, punitive demolition, self demolition and settler violence (262 units)	1,332
	"Mass demolition (when more than 50 % of community displaced)	840
Emergency response incl winterization	Medium/small scale emergency response (natural disasters)	15,600
Contingency planning and preparedness	Schools preparedness	14,000
	Large scale emergency response (conflict)	610,290

## WASH

## NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED

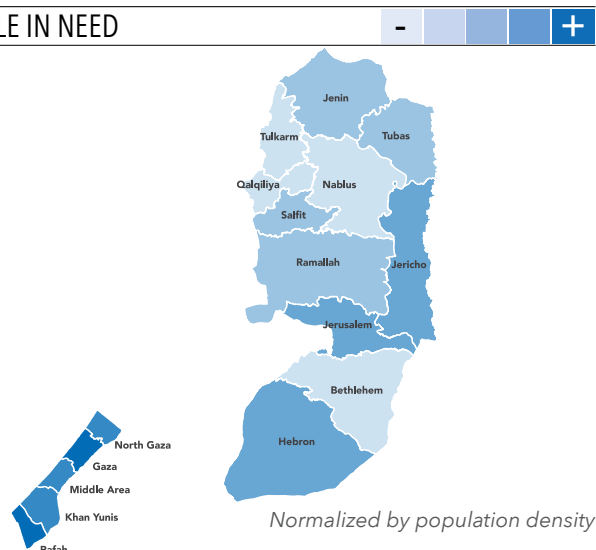


## OVERVIEW

In the Gaza Strip, an unsustainable water and sanitation situation exists, compounded by the blockade, the power deficit and exacerbated by periodic armed conflicts. Reconstruction of damage to WASH infrastructure from the 2014 conflict, and the implementation of longer-term solutions, have been delayed due to the slow implementation of the GRM and restrictions on the import of goods. Over five thousand WASH items such as pumps, drilling equipment, and disinfectant chemicals are treated as having a 'dual' military-civilian use, only selectively cleared to enter Gaza and include mobile pumps critical for flood mitigation and relief operations. The chronic electricity and fuel deficit has further disrupted the delivery of basic WASH services, affecting more than 300 water and wastewater facilities.<sup>16</sup> Most facilities are equipped with backup generators, but inadequate power and fuel supplies for water and wastewater utilities results in an inadequate and irregular water supply and in untreated sewage overflowing into the streets and the sea. Up to 95 million litres of partially treated or untreated raw sewage is discharged into the Mediterranean Sea every day, and sewage infiltration and unsegregated solid waste leachate results in severe contamination of the groundwater below urban areas. This is compounded by over-extraction and seawater infiltration, resulting in 96 per cent of the groundwater available in Gaza being unfit for human consumption.

In the West Bank, the restricted permit regime for WASH infrastructure, limits on water abstraction, and the political situation and institutional framework, have curtailed the authorities' ability to deal with a more than 50 per cent increase in population since 1995. While just seven per cent of the population remain unconnected, only 51 per cent of those connected receive a daily service.<sup>17</sup> Twenty-five per cent receive water once a week or less, notably in the south (60 per cent), where 44 per cent of the population supplement or depend on tankered water.<sup>18</sup> Average water consumption of 79 litres per capita per day is below the WHO recommendation of 100 litres and significantly lower than amongst the Israeli population, with some estimates suggesting disparities of up to 400-600 per cent.<sup>19</sup> In addition, average monthly expenditures for water is around eight per cent, compared to the world average of 3.5 per cent. Similar obstacles have limited the development of wastewater and solid waste infrastructure in the West Bank, with just 38 per cent of the population connected to the

## PEOPLE IN NEED



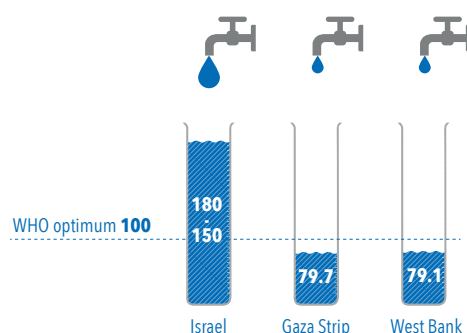
network and 43 per cent using porous cesspits which, coupled with insufficient wastewater treatment capacity, contribute to groundwater contamination and wide-reaching environmental pollution.

Communities in Area C also face great WASH challenges with their limited ability to repair, rehabilitate and construct basic water and sanitation infrastructure at a community or household level, resulting in inadequate water for drinking, domestic and livestock consumption in many communities. As a result, Area C communities are frequently at greater risk of water shortages during the summer months, notably in the poorly-served areas of the north and south, contributing to the erosion of resilience. The demolition of WASH structures in Area C and East Jerusalem communities has led to displacement, eroded coping mechanisms and increased the

## WASH NEEDS BY PEOPLE AFFECTED

	Gaza Strip	WB (AREA C)	WB (Areas A,B)	East Jerusalem	Total
<b>Lack of sewage connection</b>	310,000	290,000	1,485,000		<b>2,085,000</b>
<b>Poor quality water</b>	1,090,000	150,000	100,000		<b>1,340,000</b>
<b>Lack of access to Water</b>	195,000	130,000	490,000	1,800	<b>816,800</b>
<b>Affected by winter floods</b>	505,000				<b>505,000</b>
<b>Lack of sufficient access to sanitation</b>	205,000	9,000	26,000	1,800	<b>241,800</b>
<b>Lack of water Storage Facilities</b>	85,000	80,000			<b>165,000</b>
<b>High Cost of water (&gt;=20 NIS)</b>		55,000			<b>55,000</b>

## DOMESTIC WATER CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA



Source: WASH Cluster

risk of illness and disease. In East Jerusalem, disproportionate investment in infrastructure and lack of building permits result in an estimated 36 per cent of the population with vulnerable illegal connections, and up to a third lacking sewage connections.<sup>20</sup> Certain East Jerusalem locations have been cut off by the Barrier and face particular difficulties in accessing WASH services.

## AFFECTED POPULATION

In the Gaza Strip, the impact on the population is widespread. Up to 40 per cent of the Gaza population receive water only twice a week or less, resulting in a high requirement for domestic water storage. Furthermore, up to 85 per cent of the Gaza population source their drinking water from 154 public or private producers, whose production, transportation and storage result in the potential contamination of up to 68 per cent of household drinking water supplies, exposing nearly 60 per cent of the population to public health risks. Although access to toilets is the norm, up to 11 per cent have inadequate access, given overcrowding or the sharing of facilities. In addition, 15 per cent of the population live in proximity to accumulations of solid waste. Poor storm water drainage and power cuts also place up to 500,000 people at risk of winter flooding. Consequently, WASH concerns are wide-ranging and are linked to relatively-high incidence rates of diarrheal, skin and other WASH-related diseases across the population.

In the West Bank, there are approximately 620,000 people either unconnected to a water network or receiving water only once a week or less – 470,000 in Areas A and B, with an estimated 150,000 located in Area C, of which 35,000 also pay over 20 NIS / m<sup>3</sup> for tankered water.<sup>21</sup> Certain Area C communities also face protection-related restrictions in physical access to water supplies, in addition to continued demolitions of WASH infrastructure. In East Jerusalem, a lack of building permits results in roughly one third of the population without legal connections to the water network, and unconnected to the wastewater networks. In addition, an estimated 1,800 people in East Jerusalem lack access to basic WASH services.

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- **Ensure the stability of the current level of WASH services in Gaza.** Slow implementation in repairing, upgrading and extending infrastructure has resulted in up to 60 per

cent of the population exposed to the risk of sub-standard drinking water quality, 40 per cent receiving domestic water twice a week or less, and an estimated 28 per cent unconnected to sewer lines. There is also a continuing need, to make targeted improvements in pockets of particular need, including maintaining flood prevention and response capacities and targeted improvements in storm water drainage. While a priority can be placed on conflict affected households, a secondary priority must include underserved or unconnected areas and vulnerable households.

- **Support for Vulnerable and IDP households to improve WASH conditions.** Such assistance includes increasing drinking and domestic water storage capacity, installing toilets and sewerage connections, installing or repairing household WASH facilities, promotion of water storage maintenance and personal hygiene practices, and providing hygiene material support to the most vulnerable. A secondary priority must include underserved or unconnected areas and vulnerable households who are often on a par or worse-off than conflict-affected households. In both Gaza and the West Bank, poor infrastructure coupled with the blockade and the occupation have exacerbated the vulnerability of certain groups, particularly women who bear much of the burden of household care, but also children, people with disabilities, the elderly and the chronically ill, who face particular issues in accessing basic services, and ensuring good personal and household hygiene.
- **Support for communities at risk of displacement in Area C.** Basic WASH services are an important staying factor for the estimated 150,000 people in Area C disconnected or receiving inadequate water. Especially vulnerable are the 35,000 facing water shortages, especially during the summer months, who can spend up to half of their monthly expenditure on expensive tankered water and whose water consumption can be as low as 20 litres per person per day. The demolition of WASH structures in Area C and East Jerusalem – 90 structures (including cisterns, latrines and tanks), affecting 778 people to the end of September 2016 – also requires improved response capacity, particularly for larger-scale infrastructure demolitions that exceed the scope of immediate response interventions.
- **Awareness-raising for safe water storage, handling and household level treatment.** An estimated 50 per cent of household water stores are faecally contaminated. Adequate sanitation access and safe household and personal hygiene is also a concern, particularly in those communities facing water shortages, and amongst vulnerable households. Most Area C residents depend on on-site sanitation options, and frequently cite wastewater as a problem, including wastewater from nearby settlements. The broader WASH context also impacts other basic services – despite improvements, access to WASH facilities in schools is below national and international guidelines, with 47 per cent of Gaza students and 31 per cent of West Bank students refusing to use poorly maintained toilets, with a larger impact on girls. Consistent and safe water supply also remains a concern with 20 per cent of schools in Gaza and 10 per cent in the West Bank facing extended water cuts of two weeks or more.

## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



### OVERVIEW

Access to essential health and nutrition services remains limited for Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem and its peripheries, Area C, closed military areas, and the Seam Zone.<sup>22</sup> Continued restrictions on the movement of patients and health staff, widespread insecurity in the West Bank and Gaza, and restrictive planning and zoning policies in Area C hamper the access of vulnerable Palestinian communities to quality essential health and nutritional services.

The health system in Gaza continues to deteriorate due to shortages of drugs, medical disposables and laboratory materials while the destruction of key health facilities during the 2014 hostilities has placed significant strain on certain communities. This deterioration increases the need for the referral of patients outside of Gaza yet the approval rate for referrals through the Israeli-controlled Erez Crossing is also declining dramatically.

High-risk pregnancies and the first 28 days of life - the neonatal period - are also particularly vulnerable. Forty-five per cent of child deaths under the age of five take place during the neonatal period and therefore, safe childbirth and effective neonatal care are essential to prevent mortality and morbidity rates.<sup>23</sup> In Gaza, the MoH NICU's are overburdened and under-resourced and the ongoing conflict has increased maternal and mortality rates in the region.<sup>24</sup> Children who make it past the neonatal period can suffer from chronic malnutrition. In total, approximately 287,000 neonates and children are identified as in need and vulnerable, in addition to 60,000 pregnant women.

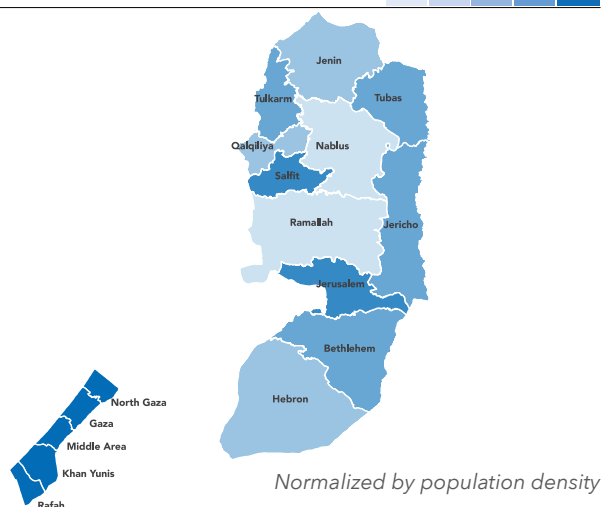
In the West Bank, the key concern is the lack of access to quality and affordable health services, with 172,104 people in Area C and H2 in need of primary health care (PHC) services. In addition, the Barrier and permit regime are preventing patients who hold West Bank ID cards, especially patients with non-communicable diseases from accessing specialized services in the main Palestinian referral hospitals located in East Jerusalem.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

In 2016, an estimated 1 million people are in need of humanitarian health and nutrition interventions; 830,000 (F: 456,500, M: 373,500) people in the Gaza Strip and 209,104 (F: 115,007, M: 94,097) in the West Bank.

Health and Nutrition Cluster partners have identified vulnerable populations based on the lack of PHC services,

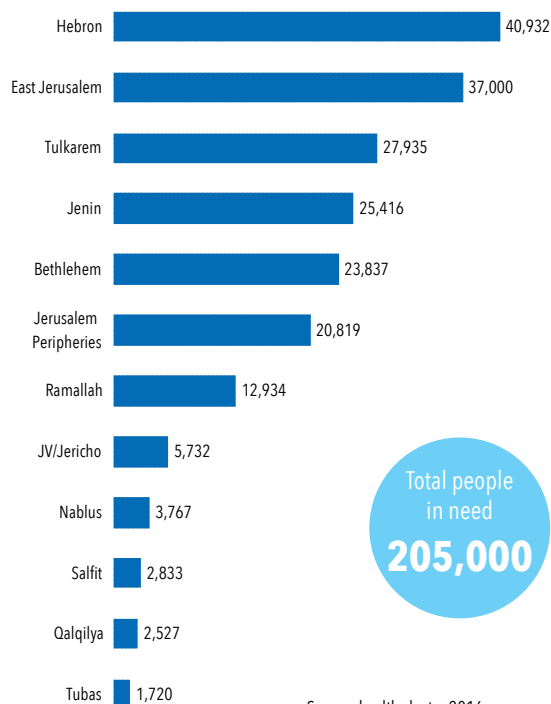
### PEOPLE IN NEED



emergency preparedness and mental and psychosocial health services, to include:

- All Gaza communities, particularly those with limited access to PHC, or due to shortages of drugs and disposables, fuel and specialized health services.
- Communities in Area C with restricted access to PHC level 2m due to geographical distance, settler violence, checkpoints and/or barriers.
- Palestinians living in East Jerusalem in need of mental health services and psychosocial support services.

### NO. OF PEOPLE IN NEED OF MOBILE HEALTH SERVICES IN AREA C



Total people in need  
**205,000**

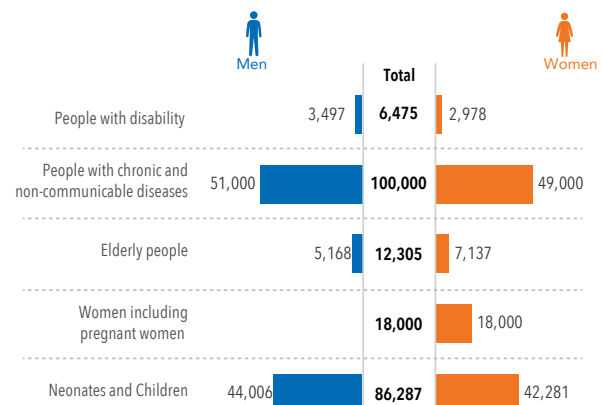
Source: health cluster 2016

The most vulnerable groups include neonates, children under the age of five, women, victims of GBV, patients with chronic illnesses, the elderly and people with disabilities. Refugees in the West Bank residing outside camps, particularly Bedouin refugee communities in Area C, the Seam Zone and East Jerusalem, also experience multiple obstacles to accessing healthcare, as a result of the Barrier and other Israeli-imposed movement restrictions.

## HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- **Ensuring access to quality and affordable primary health care and nutrition services, including basic rehabilitation for vulnerable communities in Area C.** Checkpoints, proximity to settlements, long distance to clinics, rocky roads and mountains, a scattered population and lack of public transportation are all factors which hamper the access of patients, health personnel and ambulances.
- **Provision of quality and affordable health care services in Gaza, particularly in the catchment area of Atta Habeb, Khuza'a and Juhor Dik PHCs.** The primary health centres in these communities were completely destroyed in the 2014 hostilities and have still not been replaced, impacting 80,000 people who must now travel to surrounding areas to access PHC services.
- **Meeting deficiencies in emergency preparedness and resilience at a community level in Area C, East Jerusalem and Gaza.** Across the oPt, there is a gap in the emergency preparedness capacity to respond to manmade emergencies, particularly in the management of mass casualties, and rescue and first aid and trauma care in such emergencies. The Health and Nutrition Cluster will also work to increase the capacity of health service providers to detect/respond and refer survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) through various prevention activities, such as awareness raising, and appropriately detecting, treating and referring cases to specialized GBV services.
- **Provision of chronic lack of drugs, medical disposables and laboratory reagents/ fuel shortages for back-up electric generators in Gaza hospitals.** Severe fuel shortages and prolonged electricity cuts are leading to delays in patient treatment, particularly those patients in need of critical care in hemodialysis units, Intensive Care Units (ICU), Emergency Room (ER) and Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICU). In August 2016, the number of zero stock drugs had reached 27 per cent (131 items) and 336 items of medical disposables (37 per cent), and 35 per cent of laboratory material are unavailable in Gaza. Many of these items are lifesaving and without them critical cases can result in mortality or permanent morbidity.
- **Support for mental health and psychosocial services in East Jerusalem.** High levels of acute and chronic stress due to the protracted occupation and related political violence are taking a heavy toll on mental health in East Jerusalem. Around 37,000 are in need of mental health services, psychosocial support and emergency preparedness: however, geographic, language and cultural barriers hinder

## VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN NEED TO ACCESS HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN GAZA STRIP

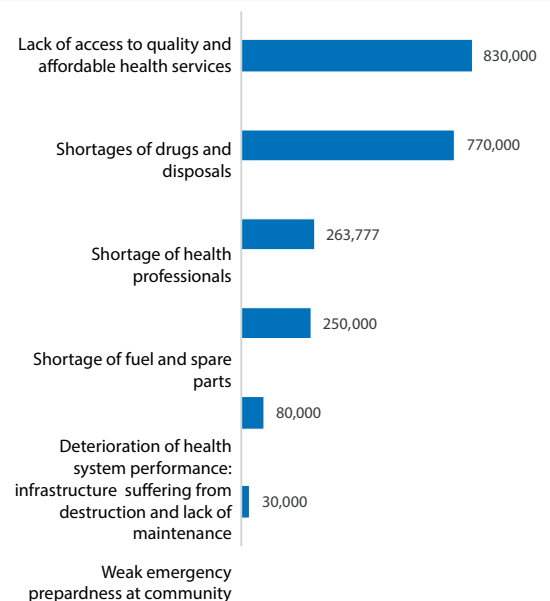


Source: Health Cluster 2016

the access of Palestinians in Jerusalem to mental health services provided by Israel.

- **Advocacy for patients from West Bank and Gaza to access referral destinations.** The number of Gaza patients seeking permits from to access health care outside the territory has more than doubled since 2012, but approval rates have steadily decreased, from 92.5 per cent in 2012 to 77.5 per cent in 2015. Israel has also imposed restrictions on the age of the companions which has made it extremely challenging for many young mothers/fathers to accompany their children.<sup>25</sup> Many of the patients in need of referrals are patients who suffer from a chronic disease such as oncology. Previously, Egypt was a lifeline for patients who were refused permits by the Israeli authorities, but the virtual closure of the Egyptian-controlled Rafah border crossing since October 2014 has left many patients with no recourse to treatment.

## PEOPLE IN NEED BY CONCERN



Source: Health Cluster 2016



## EDUCATION

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN NEED



### OVERVIEW

In the oPt, access to education has been compromised due to the protracted conflict and the occupation. In the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the situation has been deteriorating since October 2015, with children facing attacks on education from Israeli forces and settlers. In the Gaza Strip, armed conflict, military incursions and the resulting damage and destruction of facilities and property have severely disrupted services and impacted the psychosocial wellbeing of children and teachers.

### AFFECTED POPULATION

Over half a million school children in the oPt require humanitarian assistance to access quality education in a safe, child-friendly environment. The overwhelming majority of education-related violations recorded in the first half of 2016 occurred in Area C, the Hebron H2 area and East Jerusalem, affecting 14,751 children (8,171 males and 6,580 females).<sup>26</sup> In the West Bank, access to education is also heavily compromised by the increasing detention of children and teachers (91 students in the first six months of 2016); military and armed group activities; and settler-related incidents in 2016. Checkpoints and the Barrier impede access to education for children living in East Jerusalem communities located on the “West Bank” side of the Barrier, where children are exposed to conflict-related violence and delays, which can lead to higher school dropout rates.

The ongoing blockade of the Gaza Strip and recurrent conflict have affected all 583,398 basic, secondary and kindergarten (KG) students, with student performance in Gaza falling behind that of the West Bank. Of particular concern are students in the North Directorate (107,212), East Gaza Directorate (86,554) and East Khan Yunis Directorate (52,265), which were most intensely affected by the 2014 conflict. The 4,517 students who attend the 13 schools in the Access Restricted Area (ARA) also face Israeli military incursions, cross fire and activity by armed Palestinian groups.

In the West Bank students, especially girls, face a high risk of school dropout due to parents’ fear of harassment of children by Israeli settlers or soldiers while commuting to school.<sup>27</sup>

### PEOPLE IN NEED



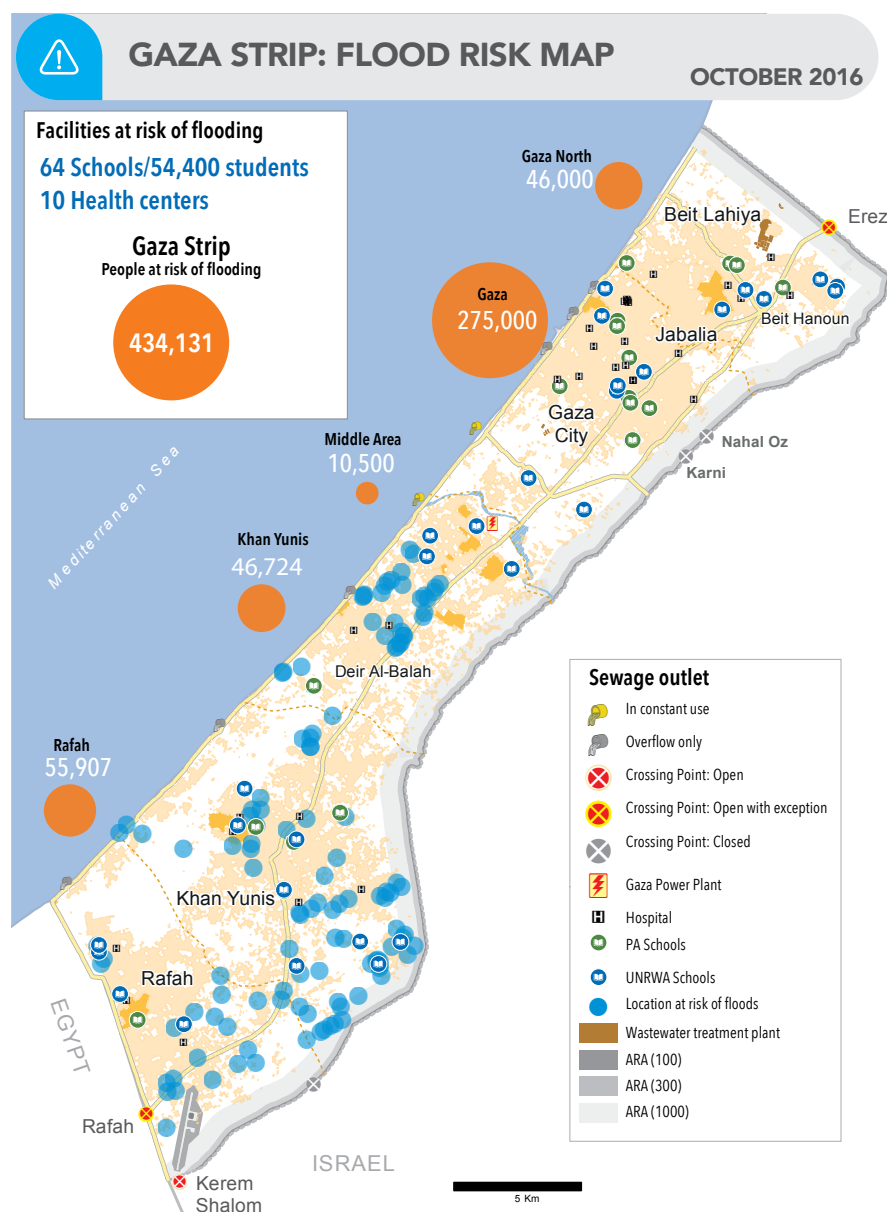
In addition, acutely vulnerable communities - such as IDPs, food-insecure households, and communities at risk of forcible transfer - resort to negative coping mechanisms (child labour, early marriage,) disrupting the right to education for boys and girls. There are indications of increased risk of early marriage for girls and the denial of the right to education in acutely vulnerable communities. In Gaza, one in three women who were married in 2015 were below the age of eighteen, while in Hebron, one out of four women were married before the age of 18.<sup>28</sup>

### HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

- **School-based psychosocial support for children in Area C and East Jerusalem who face regular attacks and harassment going to, from and during school, and for children still dealing with psychological distress.** In the West Bank, tear gas and rubber bullets are frequently fired at students, and Israeli forces make regular incursions onto school grounds. Children on their way to and from school must pass through one of 59 checkpoints, where they are subjected to bag and/or body searches, and at times harassment and detention.<sup>29</sup> Students also risk confrontation, intimidation and violence while walking past settlements or buildings occupied by settlers.
- **Protective measures for schools, including material support (e.g. caravans, tents, stationary, fuel, winterization materials and security cameras) for vulnerable schools and a protective presence for students and teachers.** Students in Area C face the risk of forced displacement, demolitions and a shortage of school infrastructure, particularly in Bedouin communities.

Some 51 schools in Area C and East Jerusalem are at risk of stop work or demolition orders, preventing both the maintenance and expansion of school infrastructure. Students in remote communities often must walk up to 10 kilometres to get to and from school, putting their safety at risk.

- **Advocacy, reporting and legal support, to address the increasing trend of attacks against education across the West Bank, where there is little or no accountability for perpetrators of violations.** According to the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) of Grave Violations against Children, in the first half of 2016 there were 127 incidents of educated-related violations in the oPt, an alarming increase compared to 2015 when there were 108 attacks against schools.<sup>30</sup>
- **Coordinating and implementing essential education activities in Area C and East Jerusalem, where the Palestinian Authority has limited access.** In the West Bank, the PA has only limited access to schools and students in Area C (48,258 students) and East Jerusalem (104,567 students). In East Jerusalem, the fragmented education system has left the PA with control of only 12 per cent of the education system, and building restrictions hamper the rehabilitation and expansion of educational facilities. Challenges to recruit teachers and staff with West Bank ID cards, due to access restrictions, also strongly impact capacity within the teaching cadre in East Jerusalem.
- **Preparedness of the Ministry of Education for contingency planning, emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction (DRR) including lifesaving skills related to the education sector.**



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

### RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES

In addition to concerns related to occupation and conflict, detailed in this Humanitarian Needs Overview, the oPt is also highly vulnerable to other manmade and natural disasters, and to complex situations where several of these may interact. The most recent overall assessment of risks in the oPt identified the following main risks; natural hazards: earthquakes, floods, droughts and landslides; and conflict escalations, particularly acute in the Gaza Strip, as well as in the West Bank; and other man-made hazards, such as ongoing natural resource stress and environmental degradation resulting in a crisis.<sup>31</sup>

Given its potentially severe impact, the risks related to earthquakes should be particularly highlighted. There is a long catalogue of recorded earthquakes in the region, an average of one major (+7 Richter) every thousand years, and a large one (6-7 Richter) every 80-120 years. While exact locations of future earthquakes are impossible to predict, it can be noted that all major urban centres in the West Bank are located very close to the Dead Sea Transform (DTS), where geodynamic processes affects seismic activity.

The level of vulnerability that increase the consequences of a disasters, are classified as high to very-high in the oPt. The main vulnerability, which affects almost all aspects of disaster preparedness and mitigation, is access and movement restrictions related to the occupation, which impacts both disaster-resilient development and national and international rescue and relief assistance. Other important factors that increase vulnerability include rapid population growth; a rapid and largely unregulated urbanization; Palestinian political division, as the continued absence of a unified authority impacts unified disaster risk management; infrastructure vulnerabilities, such as non-safe buildings; a transportation infrastructure where Palestinian use of certain roads is restricted; and social and economic vulnerability.

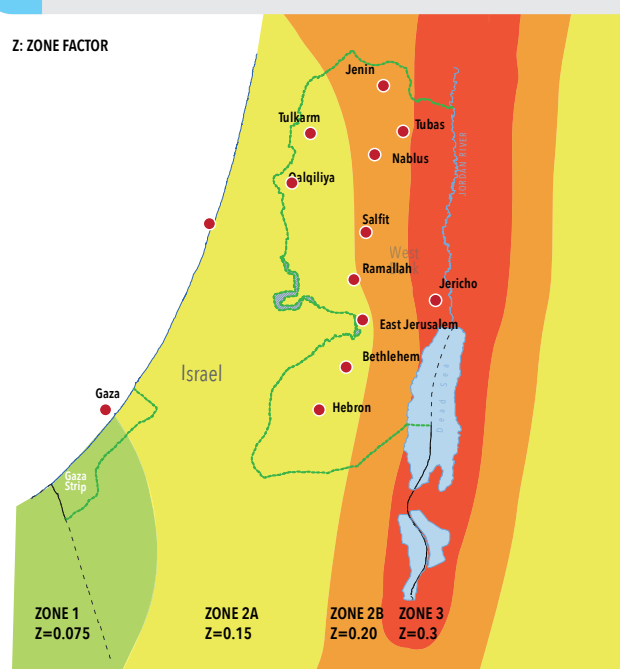
Based on the latest community assessment of perceptions of hazards and vulnerabilities, and disaster preparedness at the local level, the main hazards identified by communities were related to floods and deteriorating infrastructure. The most vulnerable communities – in addition to large parts of the population in Gaza – were identified in the Hebron governorate, due to potentially composite exposure to winter storms, floods and weak infrastructure, and access restrictions.<sup>32</sup>

### NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE CAPACITY

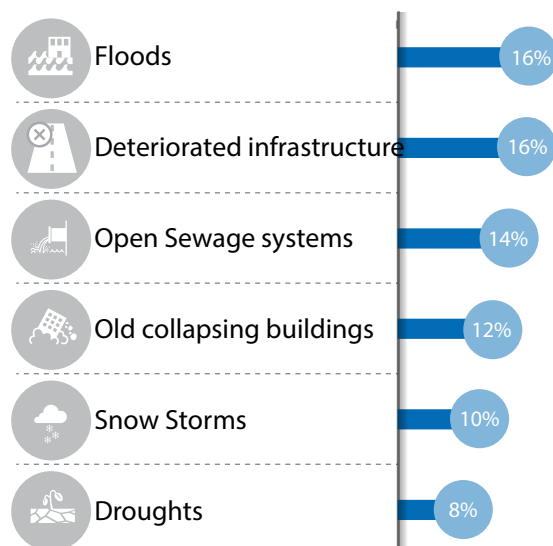
A planning process for new national legislation and an institutional framework to govern disaster risk management has been initiated by the authorities, but disaster risk management still lacks over-all coherence and

### SEISMIC HAZARD MAP FOR BUILDING CODES

Z: ZONE FACTOR

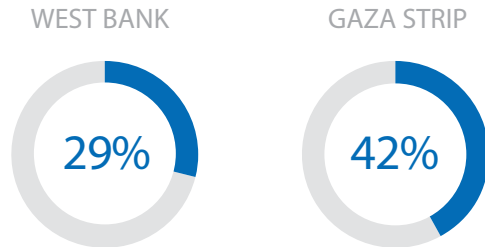


### MAIN PERCEIVED RISKS AS SET OUT IN THE VPP+ SURVEY

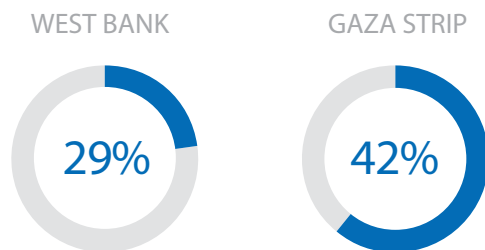


Source: VPP+ 2015

### DOES YOUR LOCALITY HAVE A TRAINED TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS (PRCS AND / OR



### PRESENCE OF ESTABLISHED RESPONSE PLANS



Source: VPP+ 2015

comprehensiveness. Because of administrative fragmentation and access restrictions, the majority of communities are not part of an established and tested comprehensive national response plan, and are to a large degree relying on local formal and informal structures, and on the presence of locally-based volunteers for emergency response. However, many localities, including refugee camps and other vulnerable communities, often have little in the way of disaster risk management planning in place at all, and this makes them particularly likely to face severe consequences from even moderate natural disasters.

Due to operational and access restrictions, Palestinian communities and civil society - and primary service providers such as the authorities - have a proven history as primary responders, and volunteers and community-level response will, in all likelihood, remain crucial for an efficient response, given existing access and movement restrictions. The competencies, good practices and networks developed at the local level in providing response need to be supported and built into the enhanced national disaster risk management system, so that specialized national institutions can support and further develop gender, age and socially- inclusive resilience, preparedness and response capacity for disaster events, taking into account existing needs, knowledge and capacities.

Given the oPt context of a long history of international assistance the international community has already in place many key components for an effective emergency preparedness system and has a proven track record of providing support to recurrent emergencies linked both to the on-going conflict and, to a lesser degree, to extreme weather events, through mobilization of in-country and international resources. However, some aspects of overall disaster preparedness, such as inter-agency coordination structures, national-local coordination and



coordination with national and local authorities for different types of scenarios, remain only partly completed.

Given its responsibility for the refugee population, UNRWA continues to strengthen emergency preparedness and capacity in the refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza, including capacity building, external coordination and central and area operation rooms which can be activated in crises. In Gaza, UNRWA is the primary responder in emergencies with the capacity to meet the basic needs of both refugees and non-refugees in emergencies.

As in previous years, the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), preparedness and resilience were included in the objectives and activities undertaken within the joint analysis and planning process, and implemented by UN agencies and NGOs. OCHA oPt, clusters and implementing partners have also worked together to ensure changes at the programmatic level for affected and vulnerable people. Most clusters have introduced preparedness, DRR or resilience activities in their objectives in the 2016 HRP.

Building on efforts made so far, further progress to integrate preparedness, resilience and contingency planning will continue at the regional level, through the support of Palestinian participation in regional coordination processes, and at the national level with the ongoing support provided to the National DRR Team, by continuing to monitor implementation, and readjustment of the recommendations of the 2014 UNDAC Assessment Mission. With its humanitarian partners, OCHA oPt will continue to seek further integration of emergency preparedness, DRR and resilience in the clusters and project planning.



## INFORMATION SOURCES AND METHODOLOGIES

### METHODOLOGIES

**People in need:** Overall number of people in need was calculated by aggregating the highest cluster caseload by governorate in order to provide a conservative estimate while minimizing the margin of error by using estimates provided by several clusters. Clusters estimate of people in need are based on a variety of sources including cluster partner data and the VPP+.

**Cluster severity maps:** are based on people in need figures provided by clusters at the governorate level, and normalised by population density.

**Overall severity map:** is based on vulnerability ranking averages provided in the VPP+. Cluster questions were given weights and based on this, individual communities were ranked based on their level of vulnerability (high, medium and low) as per the answers to the questions. To produce the overall severity map, individual vulnerability rankings of each cluster were added and averaged. To give a more realistic reflection of the vulnerability level, the map was normalized by the population in need for each and every community. It is important to note that the map should not be used to quantify the people in need but to provide a proxy indicator of the geographic dispersion of vulnerability.

### KEY DATA SOURCES

#### Protection of Civilian Database

The OCHA oPt Protection of Civilians database (PoC) includes datasets regarding direct Israeli-Palestinian conflict, internal Palestinian conflict, and casualties that are indirectly related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The database has been in place since 2005 and is provided on a weekly basis with geographical breakdowns for the governorates and locality level.

<http://www.ochaopt.org/reports/protection-of-civilians>

#### IDP re-registration and vulnerability profiling exercise

This is a multi-cluster/ multi-agency exercise which provides in-depth analysis of the current living situation and vulnerabilities of the over 100,000 people who remained displaced after the 2014 conflict during the time period of the assessment. Data is being collected at the household level throughout the Gaza Strip. The exercise identifies IDPs' protection and other needs, vulnerability and areas of concentration as well as supporting emergency preparedness.

<http://data.ochaopt.org/idp.aspx>

<http://data.ochaopt.org/idps/index.aspx?id=151215>

#### Demolition Tracker

The Demolition System is an inter-agency tool which tracks Israel's demolitions and confiscations of Palestinian property in the West Bank. It is designed to monitor humanitarian needs emanating from such incidents to allow timely and targeted humanitarian response.

The system features up-to-date assessed information, including the full assessment and the summary of needs for each incident. Information on responses is logged every two weeks. The system includes three customized dashboards to enable users to monitor responses and identify gaps.

<http://data.ochaopt.org/demolition-sys.aspx>

#### Socio-economic and food security survey (SEFSec)

The SEFSEC is a joint effort between the PCBS, FAO, UNRWA and WFP to assess the socio-economic and food security situation in the State of Palestine. The new methodology considers poverty indicators, economic vulnerability and food insecurity.

[http://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/sefsec2014\\_report\\_all\\_web.pdf](http://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/sefsec2014_report_all_web.pdf)

#### Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS)

PCBS data has been used for population figures throughout this document, based on PCBS 2016 population projections. PCBS data is also used for labour participation and employment.

In addition, numerous cluster and agency sources of information have informed the HNO, as well as OCHA own data. The assessment registry contains a detailed list of relevant assessments, databases and reports.

#### The Vulnerability Profile Project (VPP) 'plus'

In 2015, OCHA coordinated a multi-cluster/ multi-partner nation-wide vulnerability assessment that captured information on a wide range of humanitarian indicators related to physical protection, access to land and livelihoods, water and sanitation, education and health. The methodology is based on perceived vulnerability as expressed by Key Informants at the community level. The aim of the assessment is to make vulnerability information accessible to the humanitarian and development actors, general public and decision makers to understand humanitarian needs, vulnerabilities and risks at a deeper level. The VPP+ was conducted in partnership with the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) and clusters.

##### General:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015N/Vulnerabilityprofile2015?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015N/Vulnerabilityprofile2015?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Food:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Food/Food?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Food/Food?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Health:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Health/health?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Health/health?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Shelter:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-shelter/Shelter?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-shelter/Shelter?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Education:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/publish/VPP2015-Education/Education#!/publish-confirm>

##### WASH:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-WASH/WASH?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-WASH/WASH?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Protection 1:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Protection1/Protection1?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Protection1/Protection1?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Protection2:

[https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Protection2/Protection2?:embed=y&:display\\_count=yes](https://public.tableau.com/views/VPP2015-Protection2/Protection2?:embed=y&:display_count=yes)

##### Settler Violence:

<https://public.tableau.com/profile/ocha.opt#!/vizhome/VPP2015-Settlerviolence/Settlerviolence>



## INFORMATION GAPS AND ASSESSMENT PLANNING



### GENDER (CROSS-CLUSTER)

#### GAP

In many cases, data disaggregated by sex and gender has not been available and a number of key assessments (ongoing or planned) are missed opportunities for collecting and analysing sex-disaggregated data. Gender issues are rarely prioritized in data collection and analysis beyond basic sex disaggregation in quantitative assessments. However, gender issues should be considered as integral elements of humanitarian assessments in order to assess gender-based sectoral vulnerabilities for which information is lacking such as gender biases in property rights, invisibility of women's contribution to livelihoods and food security, protection concerns related to adolescent boys and girls, biases facing women with disabilities, vulnerability of widows, impact of displacement on protection of women and girls, impact of lack of water and energy on women's livelihoods and health.

#### PLAN

A number of assessments and reviews are underway to inform humanitarian and development interventions:

-Shelter cluster is conducting a study on gender needs identification and integration in Shelter Cluster partners interventions in the WB and Gaza in order to be able to have a more sophisticated understanding of gender vulnerabilities to be addressed in shelter projects.

-GVC, a member of the WASH Cluster, is conducting a series of focus group discussions on women's WASH needs in the West Bank and in Gaza. This information will be used to develop a toolkit on Gender concerns in WASH in oPt that will support all WASH Cluster members in mainstreaming gender in their WASH actions.

-UN Women is conducting an assessment in five communities in the West Bank to identify gender based vulnerabilities

-The protection cluster will collect information on the gender differentiated impact of protection violations where protection consultations or inter-cluster assessments take place in communities affected by demolitions, settler violence, restrictions on access to basic services and other protection concerns. This is done by ensuring participation of women, men, boys and girls in consultations and in designing and planning humanitarian response.



### FOOD SECURITY

Food insecurity data is not available at locality level. This year due to the lack of funding for the 2016 SEFsec no new needs analysis and data on the food security situation in the oPt has been carried out.

#### PLAN

SEFSec 2017 dependent on funding.

The food security sector depends on organizations program databases. The sector uses the PMTF to determine families eligible families for targeted food assistance.



### HEALTH AND NUTRITION

#### GAP

Impact of lack of health services in Area C of the West Bank on vulnerable groups.

#### PLAN

Building on previous efforts plan to review existing 4W's in the area and conduct a health needs assessment.

#### GAP

Number and cases of GBV survivors and victims who are referred for specialised services.

#### PLAN

An assessment will be conducted in Area C. Technical support needs to be available to partners to ensure that GBV is mainstreamed and data is being collected.

#### GAP

Review of the health sector response, review of existing emergency preparedness and response plans to support improved emergency preparedness planning.

#### PLAN

Gaza Strip and West Bank – to be planned

#### GAP

The numbers of population (demographic) in need of mental health services in East Jerusalem .

#### PLAN

Gaza Strip and West Bank – to be planned

**PROTECTION**

<b>GAP</b> Outreach to marginalized communities lacking CP and MHPSS services where no Community- Based Organizations are available.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza Strip and West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Analytical research related to GBV situation during emergencies.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Monitoring and documentation for GBV violation during emergencies.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Women needs during emergencies.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Information and data on child labor.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Information and data on sexual abuse.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza & West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Information and data on child Marriage.	<b>PLAN</b> Gaza & West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Needs assessment and data analysis to understanding of settler violence in H2 and East Jerusalem.	<b>PLAN</b> West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Research/report on Government of Israel's settler agenda.	<b>PLAN</b> West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Systematic analysis, monitoring and documentation of settlement expansion.	<b>PLAN</b> West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Assessment on Quality of Services provided to GBV.	<b>PLAN</b> West Bank - to be planned
<b>GAP</b> Assessment on how to better integrate GBV services with Child Protection services (family protection approach).	<b>PLAN</b> West Bank - to be planned

**SHELTER AND NFIS**

<b>GAP</b> How TSCA in Gaza is being used by recipients (i.e. rent/self-build/ host) and level of continued need for assistance.	Shelter interventions evaluation/Phase 2 through Reach/Impact assessment
<b>GAP</b> Substandard units in Gaza and identification of hardship cases for shelter improvement and upgrade.	Field assessment study
<b>GAP</b> Shelter vulnerabilities in East Jerusalem, Area A & B.	Field assessment study

**WASH**

<b>GAP</b> Data on Hygiene status and awareness covering all communities/localities in the West Bank.	<b>PLAN</b> A survey to assess hygiene status, and planning hygiene awareness campaigns, as a prelude to providing integrated WASH services under the lead of PWA.
<b>GAP</b> Desludging practices covering all communities/localities Gaza Strip.	<b>PLAN</b> A survey to understand the current practices to plan appropriate interventions / support
<b>GAP</b> Data on WASH conditions including medical waste management	A survey to understand WASH conditions including medical waste management in Health Centers
<b>GAP</b> Data on impact of WASH conditions	<b>PLAN</b> A survey to understand the impact of WASH conditions on Health

1. World Bank, Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, 19 September 2016, p.5.
2. Ibid, p.7.
3. In the Ad-Hoc Liaison Committee (AHLC), a high-level donor meeting held in September 2016, the Israeli authorities announced their intention to establish a new electricity line into the Gaza Strip. The line could supply an extra 100 megawatts (MW) of electricity, almost doubling the current supply from Israel.
4. This estimate was made using the population residing in the 27 vulnerable areas identified based on their proximity to the ARA, existence of IDP population and socioeconomic situation, and using children rate of 49.57% of the population. Only children aged 5-17 have been accounted for using the ration of under 5 children of 16.83%. Young children are usually cared for through support/guidance provided to their caregivers.
5. OCHA, Gaza: Internally Displaced Persons, April 2016.
6. According to the Government of Israel, " Hamas has established naval forces with significant military capabilities, as seen during operation "Protective Edge", when Hamas naval commando infiltrated into Israel and were detected near an Israeli village. This situation required Israel to tighten its security restrictions at sea to prevent similar future attacks."
7. According to a recent report on the performance of the private sector in the Middle East and North Africa region, losses due to power outages in Gaza are the highest among the eight economies surveyed and constitute 22 per cent of annual sales. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, World Bank Group: What's holding back the private sector in MENA? Lessons from the Enterprise Survey, p. 128.
8. United Nations Country Team, Gaza 2020: a liveable place? August 2012.
9. Relaxation measures introduced by Israel since 2008 have improved the connectivity between the main urban centers in the West Bank. However, access to large West Bank areas remain highly constrained, including East Jerusalem, the "Seam Zone", the Israeli-controlled area of Hebron city (H2), firing zones, the Jordan Valley border area, settlements' municipal areas, and restricted roads. Movement between the West Bank and Gaza remains largely banned.
10. The monthly average of settler attacks resulting in Palestinian casualties or damage to their property declined from 27 in 2014, to 8 in 2016 (OCHA's Protection of Civilians Database).
11. See: Report of the Middle East Quartet, 1 July 2016.
12. According to the Government of Israel, these demolitions have been found effective in deterring Palestinians from carrying out attacks against Israelis.
13. World Bank, Economic Monitoring Report to the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, 19 September 2016, p.5.
14. The framework captures the gender differences with regard to the following: vulnerabilities related to the gendered patterns of protection violations related to the occupation; livelihood related vulnerabilities determined by gender gaps in access to economic resources and opportunities; vulnerabilities related to gender roles including women's reproductive and care roles; vulnerabilities related to preexisting discriminatory gender norms expressed in gender based violence including denial of rights (whether supported by formal and informal systems); and vulnerabilities associated with risk of gender bias in the design and delivery of humanitarian assistance.
15. MICS 2014, Gaza Sharia' Court Records 2015, Oxfam Household Survey in Area C (2014)
16. As reported by the CMWU / PWA in Gaza.
17. PCBS (2015). Household Environment Survey.
18. Ibid.
19. Al Haq (2013). Water for one people only.
20. ACRI (2015). East Jerusalem Facts and Figures.
21. According to an ongoing UNICEF/GVC programme
22. Access to health is a universal human right which includes non-discrimination, economic accessibility, information accessibility and physical accessibility.
23. Global Health Observatory (GHO) data, WHO.
24. UNFPA Situation Report: One year after the 2014 Gaza War.
25. WHO Gaza Fact Sheet August 2016.
26. Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism database, 2016.
27. According to a mapping exercise by the Education Cluster and Child protection Working Group on "Access to Education" there is direct correlation between girls' school dropout and the presence of IDF soldiers at checkpoints. UN Hebron Strategy September 2016.
28. UN Women report 2015.
29. Thirty-three communities in the West Bank's most affected areas indicated that at least 20 per cent of students in the community must pass a checkpoint to reach school. OCHA and partners Vulnerability Profile Plus project 2015.
30. Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism database, 2016. Violations include attacks on schools such as activities by military or other armed groups, occupation or military use of the premises, and settler-related incidents and also include denial of access incidents. According to the Israeli authorities, "security forces in the West Bank are instructed as a matter of policy not to disrupt educational activities at any educational institution, from kindergarten and elementary schools up to high schools and universities." However, many educational institutions serve as "a center for organizing violent activities which threaten public security" and "the security forces are left no option but to enter the schools" in order to confront these threats.
31. UNDAC Disaster Response Preparedness Mission to the State of Palestine, 22 March to 05 April, 2014, Draft, 26 June
32. OCHA Vulnerability Profile Project+ (2015).

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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